

Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents

Promoting Local History through Education and Research

<http://www.meckdec.org>



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Look Inside This Issue

- Teacher, Traitor, Marshal Ney?
- Historic Mapping Congress Annual Meeting – Charlotte 250th
- Revolutionary War Reenactment at Camden, SC
- A Christmas “Candle Tea” at the Little Church on the Lane,
- SAR Rev War Memorial Dedication at Centre Church
- Now is the Time to Renew your MHA Membership
- Latta Welcomes New Executive Director

Teacher, Traitor, Marshal Ney?

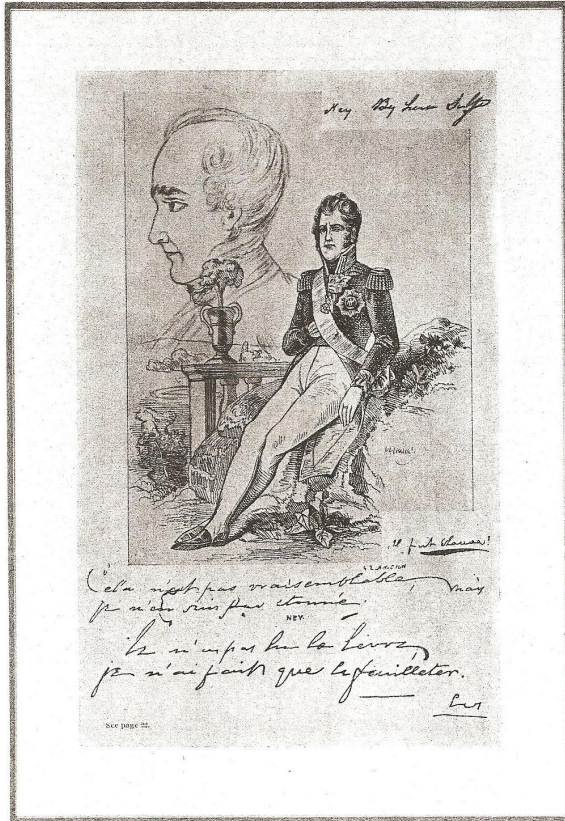
One of the most enigmatic characters to set foot in North Carolina was a country schoolteacher named Peter Stewart Ney. Or was he really Michel Ney, Napoleon’s Marshal of France? Michel Ney was born in 1769 on the border between France and Germany. His father’s name was Peter and his mother’s maiden name was Stewart. As a young man he enlisted in Napoleon’s army. Napoleon quickly recognized Ney’s military brilliance, and within a dozen years he achieved the rank of Marshal, the highest in the army. He thrived on the dangers and glories of war, fighting alongside Napoleon, suffering many wounds, and enduring the disastrous attempt to take Russia in 1812. Napoleon dubbed him “Bravest of the Brave!” Yet after Waterloo, Ney was blamed for the loss, tried for treason, and in 1815 was executed by firing squad. Or was he? The place of execution was changed at the last moment. The firing squad consisted of Ney’s own men. It was claimed that an animal bladder filled with red dye was found where the body fell. His family did not attend the funeral. His unmarked grave was neglected. His wife appeared not to grieve, and lived out her life in great luxury.

Not long after the “execution” a gentleman claiming to be a schoolteacher from Scotland boarded a ship in France sailing for South Carolina. His name was Peter Stewart Ney. By early 1816 he was in Georgetown, South Carolina where a passer-by on the street exclaimed, “It’s Marshal Ney, I would know him anywhere!” The schoolteacher bore an uncanny resemblance to Marshal Ney, unless of course they were the same man. God forbid that Marshal Ney be discovered among the living; his allies in France could be prosecuted for conspiring to spare his life and whisk him out of the country. He moved to Charleston where his identity was again challenged, and then to Florence, and later on to North Carolina.

It was never a secret that the schoolteacher was an expert swordsman; he could out-duel several men at a time using only a cotton umbrella. He was preoccupied with military tactics, and bore prominent saber scars. His erect soldierly posture, especially on horseback, was often commented upon. Ney had a fondness for brandy, and when deep in his cups talked in detail about the Napoleonic wars. When sober he denied any knowledge of the subject.

He frequented Davidson College, where he was consulted about designing an official seal. He made a quick sketch which was accepted. Later, it was said, a goldsmith in France saw the seal and insisted it was identical to a medal Napoleon had commissioned for Marshal Ney. At the college library he wrote in the margins of books on French history, apparently disagreeing with the author’s version of events. In one book he was so outraged by a portrait of Marshal Ney, he drew his own likeness on the corner of the page and wrote in English “Ney by him Self”, and in French “This is not a true resemblance.” He signed it Peter Stewart Ney in his own version of shorthand. The book is now in the Davidson College archives.

Among Ney’s many local scholars were several children of James Torrance. In 1839 Dick Torrance along with three older sisters attended Ney’s school near Statesville where they boarded with an uncle. Dick who was only seven often curled up on his bench and fell asleep. His father quickly removed him from school. By 1843 Ney had moved his school to Lincoln County. Dick, at the more suitable age of ten, attended several sessions; his brother John attended at least one. Copybooks Dick kept at school, and letters Ney wrote to his parents are extant.



Ney's Artwork at Davidson

Years later in his 80s Dick wrote a memoir penning vivid memories of Ney. Each Monday morning Isaac, a slave about Dick's age, took him on horseback to the river where he was met by the farmer who hosted Ney's school. Dick joined the farmer on his horse, crossed the river, and rode on to school. On Friday afternoons the journey was reversed. Dick boarded in a shed room next to his teacher. Ney imbibed freely in the evenings, and when the spirits were gone, he "tapered off from his jamborees" with French cologne. It was among Dick's chores to refill a small cologne vial from a larger bottle. Dick sometimes carried Ney's letters to the post office, letters with French addresses. One night while struggling to undo his tutor's cravat Ney said, "My little son in the army in France used to do this for me less awkwardly."

Dick had quite a scare while returning to school one evening. Ney had taken dinner at the Torrance home and consumed ample quantities of wine. While fording the river Ney reeled in his saddle, and Dick feared his tutor would tumble into the river. Ney was powerfully built, and the prospect of rescuing him from drowning was frightening. Perhaps it was this or a similar incident that caused James to remove his sons from Ney's school. Nevertheless Ney gave Dick and other of his scholars a fine preparation for college.

Ney moved one more time, to Rowan County, North Carolina where he fell ill. A doctor was summoned, and the man, who could offer no cure, was startled by the number of saber scars on Ney's body. Those on his forehead were well

known, but no one had expected to see so many remnants of past carnage.

In his delirium Ney called out for his wife. Peter Stewart Ney had never married, but Michel Ney had. During his last night it is said the doctor asked him several times who he really was, and with his dying words the country schoolteacher admitted to being Marshal Ney of France. Ney is buried at Third Creek Presbyterian Church in Cleveland, NC. His gravestone reads: "In memory of Peter Stewart Ney, A native of France and Soldier of the French Revolution under Napoleon Bonaparte, who departed this life November 15th, 1846, aged 77 years."

In 1927 J. Edward Smoot interviewed Dick Torrance who was Ney's last living scholar for a biography he wrote: *Marshal Ney, Before and After Execution*. Dick died at 93 just a few days after Smoot's interview was completed. Much of this account is taken from Dick's memoir and Smoot's book, both boyhood memories of an old man. Like many of his contemporaries Dick was a true believer that his tutor had been Napoleon's Marshal, yet to some historians the theory of double identities is simply a myth.

Ann Williams

From the Chairman

Every other month I have had the pleasure of addressing the General Meeting of the MHA Docents and welcoming them all. Our meetings are prepared with care, and we make a serious effort to entertain, educate, and tempt you with our refreshments and coffee. All this is made possible by the efforts of the Executive Board. We have recently made an effort to fill the offices represented on the Board, and are so happy that we have a new group in place. The newly elected board has been mentioned previously in your Dandelion; they will be inducted and ready to go in January, 2019. Best wishes to them! Please support your new Executive Board, and thank you for supporting our current board. MHA Docents are a great group to work with and for!

Sincerely, Rachel Abernathy

MHA Docent Programs

Tuesday November 6, 2018

Eminent Charlotteans

This meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Refreshments at 9:30, business meeting at 10, and program at 11. Free, visitors are always welcome.

Scott Syfert will present his latest book, *Eminent Charlotteans*, which was published in March by McFarland Press. It describes the lives and times of 12 important figures from Charlotte's storied history, including King Haigler, leader of the Catawba Indian Nation during the 1700s; Joseph Graham, a Scots Irish settler who led the patriots in the Battle of Charlotte; Ishmael Titus, an African-American slave who fought against the British for the freedom of America, and Dr. Annie Alexander, the first female physician in North Carolina.

Scott Syfert is a lawyer, a native Charlottean and co-founder of the May 20th Society which is dedicated to celebrating Charlotte's revolutionary spirit. He is the author of *The First Declaration of Independence? The Disputed History of the Mecklenburg Declaration of May 20, 1775* which has met with critical acclaim.



Tuesday, December 4, 2018

A Moravian Christmas Tea and Luncheon

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church for the MHA Docents' December Tea and Luncheon, our gift to the history community to share with friends both old and new. The business meeting is at 9:45 am; the program at 10 will be followed by the tea. This year we will again accept donations for the Toys for Tots program. To participate bring a new, unwrapped toy.



Our program featuring Moravian Christmas traditions will be presented by Joyce Vance. She will explain the historic context that gave rise to the Moravian star, candle, Candle Tea, love feasts, and the Putz. A Putz is the custom of telling a story through a scenic arrangement of figurines; the Nativity Scene that we are all familiar with is a form of Putz. Our Mecklenburg ancestors had close ties to the Moravian settlement of Salem, NC as many of their daughters were educated at the Salem Female Academy, probably the finest school of this type in the state. The village of Salem was also known for its fine craftsmen and as a good place to trade and shop. We will feature some of the Moravian traditions in our food and décor.

Joyce Vance is director of Christian Education at Peace Moravian Church, and will have a lot of information to share.

Docents: Please be at the church by **9:30** to arrange your dishes on the serving table. All docents should bring a dish to share for our Tea/Luncheon. We will be joined by many of our friends in the history community, so do be generous.

MHA North Branch Meeting

Charlotte is having a birthday!! To celebrate Charlotte's 250th, North Branch MHA will hold a trivia night on November 13 at 7 pm at Boat Yard Eats in Cornelius. Study up on Charlotte history and join us.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the January/ February Dandelion is Tuesday, December 11. Send articles to Jim and Ann Williams at mhadandelion@mindspring.com

MHA Dinner Meeting

Monday, November 19

Appalachia in the Trenches: German Internment in WWI America

Trinity Presbyterian Church. Dinner is at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:15. Those not having dinner may enjoy the program at no charge. To make a reservation for dinner use the order form in your MHA Newsletter or contact Barbara Taylor at 308 Braxton Dr., Indian Trail 28079, btaylor797@aol.com or 336-404-1751.

Please note that the Fellowship Hall at Trinity has been extensively renovated. It is no longer accessible from the parking lot at the rear of the building. The entrance is now at the front of the building; a new, more accessible parking lot is located there.

When America declared war in April 1917, all German nationals visiting – or even already settled in – the United States suddenly found themselves re-labeled as "enemy aliens". Amidst waves of anti-German hysteria and spy-mania, the federal government rounded up 2,200 of these newly labeled enemies and, after some searching, ultimately relocated them to a hastily constructed internment camp in the Pisgah National Forest in western North Carolina. There these civilians were imprisoned for some 18 months – months spent gardening, playing tennis, swimming – alternately charming and alienating the local residents of the fading resort town of Hot Springs. In this presentation our speaker Dr. Perry examines the social, economic, and political impacts of the WWI internment camp at Hot Springs, and demonstrates how global events occurring far from the Appalachian region could significantly impact the daily lives of an isolated mountain community.

Dr. Heather Perry is an adjunct professor of history at UNCC. She specializes in the history and culture of the First World War with an emphasis on how warfare has impacted society, culture, medicine, and science in modern times.



Historic Mapping Congress.

“Charlotte 250: Mapping Old Mecklenburg,” Friday, November 2 from 10 am to 4 pm, and Saturday, November 3 from 1:30 to 4 pm, The Charlotte Museum of History, 3500 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, Free. The year 2018 marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the town of Charlotte in 1768. In celebration of this anniversary, the Historic Mapping Congress will meet to discover and document the roads, fords and ferries of Mecklenburg County as they were at the time of the American Revolution. The program is free and open to the public, so come join us.

On Friday, November 2, professional and amateur historians and others interested in old roads will meet at The Charlotte Museum of History from 10 am to 4 pm. Many of these historians will present the results of their investigations of the old roads. We will use new mapping technologies and examine the old maps ranging from 1775 to 1808 to identify the roads on those maps. At the end of the day, we will build a composite map showing the results of our research.

On Saturday, November 3, from 1:30 to 4 pm, the public is invited to view the composite map, hear a presentation about new mapping technologies and see the results and conclusions of the historian's research. This will also take place at The Charlotte Museum of History hosted by the Historic Mapping Congress and is free and open to the public.

Further information about the Historic Mapping Congress is at: <https://www.historicmappingcongress.org/> and about The Charlotte Museum of History is at: <http://charlottemuseum.org/>



MHA Dues

The time has come to pay your Mecklenburg Historical Association Dues for 2019; our fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31. This one payment entitles you to be a member of MHA as well as an MHA Docent. Membership letters are going out now, so it is not too early to pay your dues for next year. If you are not sure whether you have already paid your dues, send an email to mhadandelion@mindspring.com and we will check and let you know. Otherwise select a membership level from the list below.

If you are an MHA member, or would like to become one, and NOT an MHA Docent, use the form below (or the one from the MHA newsletter), make your check payable to *Mecklenburg Historical Association*, and send it to:

Mecklenburg Historical Association
P. O. Box 35032
Charlotte, NC 28235

If you are an MHA Docent member, or would like to become one, pay your dues directly to the docent treasurer who will remit them to the treasurer of MHA, our parent organization. Do not send your dues to the P.O. Box above, as that makes our record keeping of dues-paying docents difficult to maintain. Make your check payable to the *MHA Docents* and give your check with the form below to Valerie Jones at one of our meetings, or mail them to her at: 4700 Coronado Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212.

Levels of MHA Membership

	Single	Couple
General	\$30.00	\$50.00
Senior (60+)	\$15.00	\$25.00
Patron	\$60.00	\$100.00
Life (single payment)	\$300.00	\$500.00
Student	free	n/a

MHA Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Please check one or more as appropriate

General _____ Senior _____
MHA Docent _____ North Branch MHA _____
Patron _____ Life _____

Please send my MHA Newsletter by:

Email _____
US Mail _____

If you have access to email, we would prefer to send the newsletter to you that way.

This saves considerable time, effort and expense for MHA.

History News

A New Monument will be Dedicated at Centre Church on Saturday, November 3 at 10 am.

The Mecklenburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution have donated a monument to Centre Presbyterian Church in Mooresville honoring the 35 American Revolutionary War Patriots buried in the church's old graveyard. The monument will be dedicated with great pomp and ceremony on the morning of Saturday, November 3, beginning at 10 am with a talk by Dr. Anthony Zeiss in the church's sanctuary, then an outdoor ceremony around the monument starting at 11 am. All are welcome, particularly descendants of the 35 who are listed on the church's website at www.thecentrechurch.org.

Revolutionary War Field Days, Saturday and Sunday, November 3 and 4 from 10 am to 5 pm, Historic Camden, South Carolina.

This battle reenactment has been held on the original ground every year since 1970. Hundreds of reenactors from across the country come to camp, reenact and celebrate the important battle that occurred here in 1780.

Visitors view a battle each day, walk through the camps to talk with the combatants and see demonstrations of Colonial crafts and skills. Colonial sutlers (merchants) and scholars giving talks about the war are on site as well. More than 3,400 spectators and 350 reenactors and demonstrators attended the 2017 event. For more information see

<https://www.historiccamden.org>



A Christmas "Candle Tea" at the Little Church on the Lane, Saturday, December 1 from 10 am to 2 pm, 528 Moravian Lane, Charlotte, Free.

There will be a short history presentation, followed by the display of a 12 scene putz, candle trim, star making, Advent wreath explanation, a variety of personal family putz and a sampling of homemade sugar cake and cider. (Putz is an old German word for decoration.)



Remembering A Mecklenburg Doughboy, Friday, November 9, from 7 to 9 pm, Fellowship Hall, Ray Hall Community Center, Aldersgate Retirement Community, 3800 Shamrock Drive, Free, donations appreciated, Old Mecklenburg Genealogical Society meeting.

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the World War I Armistice, nationally known storyteller Ellouise Schoettler will share the touching tale of her great uncle, John Walter Cobb, Jr., who fought and died with the 502 Engineers in France just days before the Armistice. Originally from Charlotte, Sergeant Cobb was buried in France, but will receive a special cenotaph stone in Elmwood Cemetery.

Camp Greene Lost and Found, Tuesday, November 13 from 6 to 8 pm, New South for the New Southerner Levine Museum of the New South, \$20.00 including dinner.

100 years ago Charlotte's huge Camp Greene made history as an Army training facility for World War I. How was it created? What happened to its lands after the war? The answers provide a fascinating window into the neighborhoods of Charlotte's west side. Charlotte native Rickey Hall, of the West Boulevard Coalition, joins scholar Mike Moore to share path breaking new research. Hosted by community historian Dr. Tom Hanchett. Admission of \$20.00 includes the program and a Southern chicken dinner from Mert's Heart and Soul, and there will be a cash bar. Space is limited, reservations required.

Site News

Latta Welcomes New Executive Director.

Historic Latta Plantation welcomes Annmarie Reiley-Kay as its new Executive Director. She was previously the Director of Programs and Exhibit at the Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage in Ridgeland, SC. Mrs. Reiley-Kay helped to open the museum in 2015 and managed the Center's daily operations, programs and exhibits. She came to the Lowcountry by way of Shelby, N.C., where she spent nearly six years at the Earl Scruggs Center: Music and Stories from the American South.

During her tenure at the Earl Scruggs Center, Reiley-Kay was responsible for curating the Earl Scruggs family estate artifacts. She managed 18,000 artifacts, assisted with daily operations, developed programs, created guides for docents and was responsible for temporary and traveling exhibits.

She holds a master's degree in museum studies from the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom, and a bachelor's degree in history from Southern Wesleyan University.



The History Calendar

Admission charged at most events unless otherwise noted.

Many of these events sell out so it is best to register at the web sites.

Check the Charlotte Regional History Consortium website for other events.

<http://www.charlotteregionalhistory.org>

Historic Rosedale

3427 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC, 704 335 0325, <http://www.historicrosedale.org>

Feast of The Hunter's Moon Dinner, Saturday, November 3 at 6 to 10 pm, Fundraiser, \$165.00.

Enjoy the open bar and butlered hors d'oeuvres on the lawn., then dinner at a candlelit table on the main floor of Rosedale. Experience a five-course Antebellum dinner, each with paired wine, and finished with a regional dessert.

***Glory Over Everything* by Kathleen Grissom, Thursday, November 15 or Saturday, November 17 at 11 am to 12:30 pm, Read It @ Rosedale.**

After a moderator-led discussion of this bestseller, enjoy a specially-designed house tour, bringing to life the past and literature, sharing oral history, and spotlighting artifacts rarely seen outside our archives. Reservations required.

Holiday Kickoff Celebration, Saturday, November 24 from Noon to 4 pm.

Join us the Saturday after Thanksgiving to start the season right. There will be live music, a photo contest, vendors and craft demonstrations. Photo contest judged by: Daniel Coston, Music by Maya Atkins and John Renwick with Trish Condon.

Greenery Workshop led by Jeff Drum, Saturday, December 8 at 10 am to Noon.

We will talk about many types of greenery for the holidays, and you will make and take home a nice bowl of greenery that should last through the season. Jeff, will show how to make a boxwood wreath and garlands for the house. Bring a pair of Hand pruners, and be ready to work and learn.

Historic Latta Plantation

5225 Sample Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 2312, <http://www.lattaplantation.org>

Basket Weaving Workshop, Saturday November 3 at 10 am to 1 pm.

Learn the basics of basket weaving and make a small split oak basket to keep. \$25.00, pre-registration required.

Victorian Christmas, Friday and Saturday November 23 and 24 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Step into an 1860s Christmas as you stroll through the plantation house, grounds, and outbuildings. Live Celtic Christmas music and local artisans with items for sale will be in the carriage barn. Stay all day and enjoy a hot meal from the food vendors.

Christmas Tours by Candlelight, Saturdays December 1 and 8. Tours at 6, 7 and 8 pm.

Join us for a Christmas tour of the plantation house by candlelight. The tour concludes with hot cider and cookies by the fire in the plantation kitchen. \$15.00, pre-registration required.

Old Fashioned Christmas Tea, Saturday and Sunday December 8 and 9 at 2 to 4 pm.

Celebrate Christmas in Mecklenburg's oldest log cabin. Learn about 19th century Christmas traditions, enjoy hot tea and sweet treats, and make a Christmas craft. \$30.00 per pair, pre-registration required.

The Charlotte Museum of History

3500 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC, 704 568 1774, <http://www.charlottemuseum.org>

"Charlotte 250: Mapping Old Mecklenburg," Saturday, November 3, from 1:30 to 4 pm, Free.

Celebrate Charlotte's 250th birthday with the Historic Mapping Congress. Through presentations from local historians, learn about recent efforts to use new technologies to create an updated map of roads around colonial and revolutionary Mecklenburg County. See page four, above, for more information.

Charlotte's Road to Revolution: Closing Reception, Thursday, November 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Free, Reservations Required.

This exhibit is composed of 17 original oil paintings by Charlotte artist Dan Nance with interpretive panels and eighteenth-century antiques. It tells the story of Charlotte's earliest days from its founding to its role in the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution. Meet Dan, see the exhibit for the last time, and mingle with other history enthusiasts.

Passport to the Queen City: Early Tech Day, Sunday, November 18 from Noon to 4 pm, Free.

The word "technology" conjures up images of space-age rockets, computers in the palm of your hand, and voice recognition devices, but technology has been around for thousands of years. The early people of the Queen City – including the Catawba who were her first residents – had a number of amazing innovations. Join us and our special guests to explore Native American textiles and pottery, learn about the chemistry of cooking, meet our bookbinder and see our blacksmith harness the power of fire.

Holidays at the Homesite, Saturday, December 15 from noon to 4 pm.

Celebrate the holidays in the backcountry and learn how different cultures observed the holiday season 250 years ago. Listen to music and take a selfie with Santa. Tour the 1774 Hezekiah Alexander Homesite, decorate a candlestick and make a candle to go in it.

Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site

9621 Reed Mine Rd., Midland, NC 28163, 704 721 GOLD (4653)

<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm>**A “Golden” Christmas, Saturday, December 1, from 10 am to 4 pm.**

See how miners in the early 1800s celebrated the holidays and the Germanic origins of some holiday traditions that have lasted through today. There will be a candlelit tour underground, demonstrations, locally produced crafts, refreshments from the Cabarrus County Extension and Community Association, and a hayride up to Mansion Hill.

Historic Brattonsville

1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells, SC, 803 684 2327

<http://www.chmuseums.org/brattonsville>**Soldiers, the Enslaved & Civilians: The Civil War and the Brattonsville Community, Saturday November 3 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday November 4 from 10 am to 3 pm.**

This special event presents three separate scenarios to tell the story of the Brattonsville community during and after the Civil War. A reenactment of a skirmish in Virginia early in the war provides a backdrop to that aspect of events. The enslaved contemplate a future free of bondage and the choices that would come with emancipation. Finally there is the impact of the war on the non-slave owning small farmers who made up a majority of the population in the south.

In addition there will be historical demonstrations of sewing, cooking, blacksmithing, civilian archery, and cannon and rifle firing with military drills for the children. On Saturday CHM historian Michael Scoggins will present two programs using Bratton family historical records to explore the war's impact on the Brattonsville community. There will also be original Victorian mourning artifacts, live music of the era and food concessions.

Christmas Candlelight Tours, Saturdays December 1 and 8 from 3 to 9 pm.

In the spirit of the season, enjoy 18th and 19th Century Candlelit Tours. Activities will include candle dipping, High society historic cooking demonstrations, 18th century dancing, a 19th century Father Christmas, Christmas stories in the barnyard around the campfire and meeting the animals on the plantation. Food concessions will be available.

*The Schiele Museum*1500 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, N.C. 704 866 6900 <https://www.schielemuseum.org>**Harvest Day, Saturday, November 17 from 10 am to 4 pm.**

Celebrate the harvest season at the 18th-Century backcountry farm. Cooks and bakers will be at work to prepare a traditional holiday feast in a spirit of thanksgiving for the season's harvest. Craftspeople and farm folk will demonstrate early American skills & crafts.

Colonial Christmas & Candlelighting, Saturday, December 8 from 2 to 6 pm.

Celebrate Christmas on the Carolina Frontier. Join in the “Procession of the Yule Log”, decorating with greenery, early American carols, and English country dancing, beautifully set amidst the backdrop of the 18th-century Backcountry farm. At dusk, gather with our Backcountry family for the traditional Candlelighting Service. Enjoy colonial hospitality with a taste of Christmas pudding and hot gingered apple cider.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

12031 Lancaster Hwy., Pineville, NC, 704 889 7145

www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

The Birth of a President will be Celebrated in Pineville, Saturday November 10 from 10 am to 4 pm.

At this 26th annual President Polk Birthday Celebration visitors will have a chance to see history in action.

In and around the historic log-cabins visitors will find costumed historic interpreters spinning yarn, creating lace, cooking on the open hearth and doing laundry. For children there will be history-inspired crafts, games and militia drills. Sign the president's birthday card with a feather quill pen and ink, and take a seat on the lawn to enjoy performances on the stage. Historic and modern vendors will be on site with a variety of goods to delight and inspire.

Our Workshops return for the Fall, led by a member of the Phun Knits Fiber Guild and including all of the necessary materials. Pre-registration required.

- Saturday, November 3, Natural Dying at 2 to 4 pm, \$10 + tax
- Saturday, November 17, Festive Autumn Basket Weaving at 2 to 4 pm, \$15 + tax

Mini-Makers: Storytime + Craft, Saturday, December 15 at 10 to 11 am, for pre-K through 1st grade, \$5 per child.

Look listen, and make at the museum. Come with your child to hear "Llama Llama Holiday Drama" by Anna Dewdney read aloud. Then craft an ornament for your holiday tree.

Holiday Ornament Workshop, Saturday December 15, at 2 to 4 pm, \$5 for one ornament, \$8 for two.

Craft your own fun and festive holiday ornaments with us. We provide the materials, and you provide your creative touch. Create one or two ornaments to take home.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

Military Timeline, Saturday, November 10 from 9 am to 5 pm, Sunday, November 11 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Reenactors representing soldiers from more than 300 years of NC history will present displays of uniforms and equipment and perform historical weapons firing demonstrations.

Winter on the Western Frontier, Saturday, December 15 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Learn what life was like for the garrison of Fort Dobbs as they prepared for the coming winter in 1755. There will be on-going displays of camp life and cooking, as well as scheduled musket and cannon firing demonstrations.

Matthews Heritage Museum

232 North Trade St., Matthews, 704 708 4996, www.matthewsheritagemuseum.org

Christmas Past, a New Exhibit, opens October 18 and runs until January 19.

Experience how we celebrated Christmas in years gone by with candles clipped to branches, fat multicolored bulbs and glass ornaments of balls, bells and birds. These colorful designs make the family tree a treasure of memories. Other memorable ways to celebrate Christmas with table decorations, cards and story books will also be on display.

Kings Mountain Historical Museum

100 East Mountain Street, Kings Mountain, NC (704) 739-1019

www.kingsmountainmuseum.org

Toys, Games & Trains Exhibit, open from November 23 through December 29, Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm, Free.

The Museum will be filled with model train displays, railroad memorabilia, and antique toys and games.

Toys, Games & Trains Exhibit Sneak Preview, Monday, November 19 at 5:30 pm, \$10.00.

Get a first look at the Holiday exhibit in the magic of the nighttime atmosphere, complete with festive snacks.

The Spirit of Christmas Past, Saturday, December 1 from 10 am to 8:30 pm, Free.

Step back into Christmas' past with antique toys, electric trains, roaring fires, historic games and crafts. The historic Barber House will be decked out for the holiday and open for tours.

Santa & Mrs. Claus Visit the Museum, Saturday, December 8 from 11 am to 1 pm, Free.

Come hear Mrs. Claus read "The Night Before Christmas" and take your picture with Santa Claus next to the Tree. There will be plenty of inspiration on what to ask Santa for with the variety of toys and games on display.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte

www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering & Jams, Friday, November 9, The Honey Dewdrops, Free.

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Avenue, Charlotte. 7:30 PM. Doors open 7:00 PM. Family-friendly & Free; donations appreciated. Free parking. Refreshments, song circle, songwriter's workshop, and jams follow concert. Accessible entry & elevator on ground floor. www.folksociety.org

Andrew Jackson State Park

196 Andrew Jackson Park Road, Lancaster, SC 803 285 3344

www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1797.aspx

Life in the Waxhaws Lantern Tour, Saturday, November 10. Tours every 30 minutes from 6 to 7:30 pm.

Spend an evening in the 18th-century. See what life was like for early settlers living in the Waxhaws and how the American Revolution affected our region. Experience life in our area during Andrew Jackson's time and watch costumed volunteers bring the events that shaped the community to life as they demonstrate the skills it took to survive in this backcountry settlement.

Mount Holly Historical Society

131 South Main, Mount Holly, NC <https://www.mounthollyhistoricalsociety.org>

Veterans Day Program at Mount Holly First Presbyterian Church, Sunday, November 11 at 3 pm, 133 S Main St. Mount Holly.

Both living and deceased veterans who are past or present Mount Holly residents will be individually recognized at this event. Please join us in honoring those who serve and protect America. Following the program, there will be a reception at the Historical Society Museum next door.

Historic Rural Hill

4431 Neck Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 3113, <http://www.ruralhill.net>

Hogmanay and First Footin', Tuesday, January 1 – New Years Day – from 11 am to 1 pm, Free.

Celebrate the Scottish New Year (Hogmanay) with a traditional walk around the farm (First Footin'). This vigorous walk around the farm's 2.25 mile trail will stop along the way to discuss the history and folklore of the site. Then at noon partake of stone soup. Bring along fresh or canned vegetables for the soup or bread or dessert to add to the feast.

If you do not think you are physically able to do the walk, please come anyway. It's a great time for fellowship at the Rural Retreat Cabin Site, which will be open for this occasion.

Lincoln County Historical Association

www.LincolnCountyHistory.com

(704) 748-9090

The Lives of Enslaved African Americans, Saturday, November 24 from 10 am to 4 pm, Historic Ramsour's Mill Battleground Park, Lincolnton, NC, Supported by a Grant from the North Carolina Arts Council.

At this day-long event public historian Nicole Moore will deliver a third-person presentation on the lives of enslaved African Americans during the institution of slavery. Living Historian Dontavius Williams will present "The Chronicles of Adam" a first-person account of the life of an enslaved African American blacksmith.

MHA Docents
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