

**Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents**

*Promoting Local History through Education and Research*



January-February, 2010  
Volume 16, Number 1

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- A Free Series of History Classes, "From Wagon Roads to New South City" offered by the MHA Docents Saturdays: January 30, February 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2010, from 9:30 to noon. Sign up now.
- Holly Bend Plantation, a "new" historic site.
- A visit to the White Homestead in Fort Mill.
- 18<sup>th</sup> century cooking class at Colonial Williamsburg.
- Escaped Slave Reward Poster on Exhibit at Rosedale

*From the Chairman*

Happy New Year! I hope all your hopes and dreams will come to fruition, winning the lottery being the least of these. Well, one can hope can't one?

The Docent Tea was a great success and Mary Kratt was as delightful as we expected. Goodness gracious great food! Yum hardly covers it.

The Docent Executive Board will hold a retreat January 11 and 12, plus the 13<sup>th</sup> if needed, meeting in the Board Room at Sugaw Creek from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is located next to the church secretary's office. Our last order of business will be the budget, so please make sure your requests have been made prior to January 8, 2010, to Valerie Jones or Jo Anne Dickens. If you need to speak to the Board during the retreat, call Jo Anne Dickens at 704-547-8410 to be scheduled. The Fashion Show has requested 1:00 p.m. on January 11. All other time slots are open.

The education classes will begin January 30 and continue each Saturday in February, ending the 27<sup>th</sup> at Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church, where our regular meetings are held. Information on registration and help needed will be elsewhere in this newsletter.

My husband and I have just returned from the Opryland Hotel in Nashville TN seeing several shows and getting the Christmas spirit. It was just wonderful, fun, entertaining and exciting. The Rockettes are still amazing and Louise Mandrell was marvelous. We saw all the Charlie Brown characters carved from ice in a 9 degree room. We were given polar coats to wear and they really worked. If you get the opportunity to take advantage of Christmas at the Opry, don't hesitate! Over 2,000,000 lights make it so festive. I look forward to next year, the wonderful projects we have on the schedule and hope you can all take advantage of the education lectures, the fashion show on March 20 (mark you calendar) and the BIGGIE celebration on May 20.

Jo Anne Dickens, Docent Chairman

*Newsletter Deadline*

The deadline for the March/April issue of the Dandelion will be February 12. Our e-mail subscribers now number well over 550, so articles printed here allow us to reach a large segment of local history enthusiasts. Send submissions to Ann and Jim Williams at 1601 S Wendover Road, Charlotte, NC 28211; or email [mhadandelion@mindspring.com](mailto:mhadandelion@mindspring.com).

*January and February Programs*

Both meetings will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Refreshments at 9:30 am, business meeting at 10, program at 11. Visitors are always welcome.

**Tuesday, January 5, 2010**  
**Early Botanists in the Carolinas**

Start the new year with a botanical bang! Join us for an illustrated talk by Dr. Larry Mellichamp of the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens. Larry will talk about botanists and naturalists and their surprising plant discoveries during early travels in the Carolinas. He will begin with John Lawson in 1700 and go through Andre Michaux in the early 1800s. Come to learn, to be amazed, and to be entertained. Larry can do all that.

**Tuesday, February 2, 2010**  
**Love Tokens**

Ever wonder why we give paper greetings to folks that we love in the middle of February? Or how this all got started? Is this, perhaps, some diabolical marketing plot by a big greeting card syndicate in the mid-west? Exactly what is a love token and how does that fit into this seemingly modern 'tradition'? February's program will attempt to answer these questions and clarify what seems to be an extravagant modern exercise in gift giving mostly for the benefit of the distaff side of the world. And, finally, you will create your own love token to be shared with someone you love this February 14<sup>th</sup>. This program will be presented by our very own treasurer, Valerie Jones.

*MHA Docent Dues*

As the New Year rolls in, it is time to pay your Mecklenburg Historical Association dues. I realize that it seems like we just finished dealing with this, but the truth is an entire year has passed. (Our MHA year runs from January 1 to December 31.) Since we docents are a committee of the Mecklenburg Historical Association, we pay our dues to that parent organization. But, to facilitate *our* record keeping, the docent board asks that you pay your dues *through* the docents. The docent treasurer then will remit one large check, along with a detail sheet listing who has paid dues and at what level, to the MHA treasurer. You may receive a dues notification from MHA later this year; if you have already paid your dues, disregard the letter. If you have not yet paid, regard the letter as a reminder to submit your dues to the docent treasurer. **Again, please do not send your dues directly to MHA as this makes it difficult to determine for our records if your dues have been paid.**

Please make checks payable to **MHA DOCENTS** and give them to Valerie Jones, your docent treasurer. If you cannot be at the monthly meetings, please mail your check to Valerie at 4700 Coronado Drive, Charlotte 28212. And if you have any questions, email her at [vvjones@carolina.rr.com](mailto:vvjones@carolina.rr.com) or call at 704-567-0599.

## Levels of MHA Membership

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Couple</u>
General	\$30.00	\$50.00
Senior (60+)	\$15.00	\$25.00
Patron	\$60.00	\$100.00
Life (single payment)	\$300.00	\$500.00

NOTE: If you are not a docent, but a member of MHA, and would like to pay your dues, please make your check payable to *Mecklenburg Historical Association* and send it to the MHA Treasurer at

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

*Gentle Reminders*

The little money basket on our refreshment table is our hospitality fund. It is used to replenish our supplies of coffee, tea, paper products, etc, and the greeting cards sent to those who are ill or celebrating birthdays. Our dues do not cover these expenses. Please contribute from time to time. If you rarely have one dollar bills, put in a larger bill, and consider yourself paid up for the appropriate amount of time.

Our weather cancellation policy is to not meet when the Charlotte Mecklenburg schools are closed due to ice or snow. If the schools are open, but the church is not, you will be notified by telephone or email.

*Docent Book Club*

The Docent's Book Club will meet in January. Ann Williams has provided us with a copy of a short diary and it is being circulated. Those of us who have read it will lead a short discussion and make it available to others who would like to read it. Please return any borrowed books to our meeting. Also, bring any ideas for reading in the New Year, we will work on our schedule and try to include 'reading time' of a couple of months. See you there.

Rachel Abernathy

*A Free Series of History Classes***From Wagon Roads to New South City**

offered by the MHA Docents

Saturdays: January 30, February 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2010, from 9:30 to noon

Locations and topics of study

**January 30 Charlotte Museum of History:** Native Americans and Early Settlement presented by Ann Evans, Curator at Wm. Elliot White Homestead

**February 6 Charlotte Museum of History:** Charlotte's Beginnings presented by Leslie Kesler, CMH Historian and Curator; Tom Phlegar, CMH Docent; and the Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley

**February 13 Levine Museum of the New South:** 19<sup>th</sup> Century Charlotte presented by Dr James Hogue, UNCC History Dept.; and Ann and Jim Williams, MHA Docents

**February 20 Levine Museum of the New South:** 20<sup>th</sup> Century Charlotte presented by Dr. Thomas Hanchett, Historian, Levine Museum

**February 27 Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church:** Historical Interpretation and Tour of the Church presented by the MHA Docents

Series based on *Charlotte, North Carolina: A Brief History* by Mary Kratt

**To register by January 25 leave name and contact information with**

Alice Bostic 704-527-3251 [alice.bostic@cpcc.edu](mailto:alice.bostic@cpcc.edu)

Camille Smith 704-334-2201 [CSmith10@carolina.rr.com](mailto:CSmith10@carolina.rr.com)

Docents who did not attend the 2008 course are strongly urged to attend these sessions. This time we have more spacious meeting rooms, and can accommodate everyone. We also encourage site staff and volunteers to attend. This course on our shared community history is a great supplement to site specific training. Mary Kratt's book will be our textbook. It is highly recommended that participants read it. It will be available for \$24 at the gift shops at the Charlotte Museum of History and the Levine Museum of the New South. The public library also has a number of copies.

*Holly Bend*  
A "New" Historic Site



This fall the History Community was very excited. Mecklenburg County announced their purchase of land on Neck Road which included the house known as Holly Bend. Parks and Recreation will administer the site and they are in the process of deciding exactly what to do with it. The purchase also included 212 acres, one of the largest parcels of undeveloped land in Mecklenburg County. It is adjacent to Rural Hill and the Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge on Mountain Island Lake and so greatly increases the area under protection on the lake that provides Charlotte's drinking water.

Holly Bend was built in 1795-1800 by Robert Davidson, known as Robin. The land had been given to him by his father, Major John Davidson of Rural Hill. On New

Year's Day, 1801 he married Margaret Osborne, known as Peggy. The family story is that Peggy had no toes. Robin and Peggy never had any children. However, they were exceedingly generous in taking in and educating several nieces and nephews. Robin, one of the richest men in the county with 115 slaves, died in 1853. Peggy outlived him by 11 years and continued to take in and educate a number of relatives.

Holly Bend is in excellent condition and even has one working fireplace. The previous owner was L. Garner Eakes who used it as a hunting lodge for many years before doing a complete restoration, guided by the late Jack Boyte. They did a wonderful job. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century a number of extensions were made to the back of the house and these still remain. Whether they will be restored or removed is yet to be determined.

Holly Bend is two full stories plus an attic. There is a central hall and two rooms on the first floor, a stair in one corner of the hall, and four rooms on the second floor. These may have been two rooms originally that were later divided into the current four rooms. There is an original permanent staircase to the attic.

A casual observation of the house indicates a number of interesting points:

- The windows and doors appear to be identical to those at Latta Place. Measurements and detailed observation may confirm this, in which case it will be logical to conclude that the two houses were built about the same time and perhaps by the same carpenters.
- The windows have a unique spring mechanism which, combined with notches in one side of the lower sash, provide for holding the windows in a number of open positions (see photo). Latta also has spring latches on the windows on the first floor.
- The banister railing on the staircase is exceptionally low. You don't notice it very much going up, but coming down there is nothing to hold onto.
- The scroll work below the banisters is similar or identical to that at Latta.
- There is a porch spanning the entire front of the house. The siding below the porch is flush, not lapped. Perhaps this indicates that the wide porch is original to the house, which would be very unusual for 1800.



Note the notches on the windows

In an amazing coincidence, just as the county was buying Holly Bend, the MHA received a letter from a lady in Texas who was quite upset. Her late husband was an Osborne and was related to the Rev. Edwin Augustus Osborne who was an Episcopal Priest and a founder of Thompson's Orphanage. On a business trip to Charlotte she went to see St. Mary's Chapel, the last remaining building of the orphanage, which is now owned by Mecklenburg County Parks and Rec. No one at the site knew anything about the Orphanage or about Rev. Osborne. In conversation with her, we found out that she had a copy of Edwin Osborne's manuscript autobiography and that he had walked from Texas to Mecklenburg in 1859 so that his "Aunt Peggy" could support him and put him through school. Yes, that Aunt Peggy. Mrs. Osborne sent us a copy of the transcription of the autobiography and we will take steps to insure that there is information at St. Mary's on the Orphanage and Rev. Osborne.

### *Sarah Polk's Bible*

The Bible on which the President places his hand when taking the oath of office is an important icon of American democracy. Polk's inaugural Bible was presented to Sarah by the chief marshal of the District of Columbia. He inscribed the book to her, saying, "United with your distinguished husband and in the enjoinder of the utmost favor of his country and the highest station which their votes and their confidence can bestow, when time shall have passed and the troubles and the honors of this life shall have known their termination, may your union still continue undisturbed..." Mrs. Polk cherished the book for the rest of her days.

Reprinted from "Provisions & Politics"

Published by the James K. Polk Memorial Association, Columbia, TN

Jim Reece

### *The Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley*

Members of the Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley traveled to the annual Festival at Hart's Square on October 24. Guild members Barbara Goodwin, Carolyn Dilda, Cathy Davis, Erica Blake, Leila Merims, Mary McGinn, Olga Sims, Patti Veale, and Quinn Moore cooked tavern fare on the hearth. Visitors sampled root vegetable soup and pumpkin bread and watched the open hearth cooking demonstration of seasonal food: spit roasted birds, whole roasted pumpkin, and fried cabbage and apples.

Visitors were also shown to the sleeping room where men only slept, up to 3 in a bed. Ladies were accommodated in local respectable homes. Hart's Square has so many different types of buildings and the presence of the artisans and docents made it feel like a true village, complete with everything needed for truly living in the past. Erica Blake

### *Bringing Virginia's Bounty to the Royal Governor's Table*

#### **Foodways in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century at Colonial Williamsburg, November 8-11, 2009**

I have come away from the Governor's table completely sated. Indeed, I still need time to digest all that I have heard, seen, smelled, and tasted. Such a performance this was. In Williamsburg's foodways fashion, many areas worked together to create this marvelous conference. Where else could such a bounty be found than Virginia's Chesapeake Bay? Virginia is the best place to eat. It has a long growing season; plenty of wetlands and bays for fish, shellfish, and water fowl; forested lands for hunting; and the Chesapeake Bay for ships bringing wares from around the World. The Royal Governor Lord Botetourt had the best at his fingertips and his table showcased it. His staff showed their 'skills' and 'time' to create unforgettable feasts with First Course, Second Course, and Dessert tables. The guests dined leisurely while talking about the social and political issues of the time.

What did I experience? I heard Ivan Day speak on 'Elegant Dining in 18<sup>th</sup> C. England.' Then talks on foods in the Governor's inventory, food lists of the head cook, historic gardening, 'remains of past meals' (survey of bones by



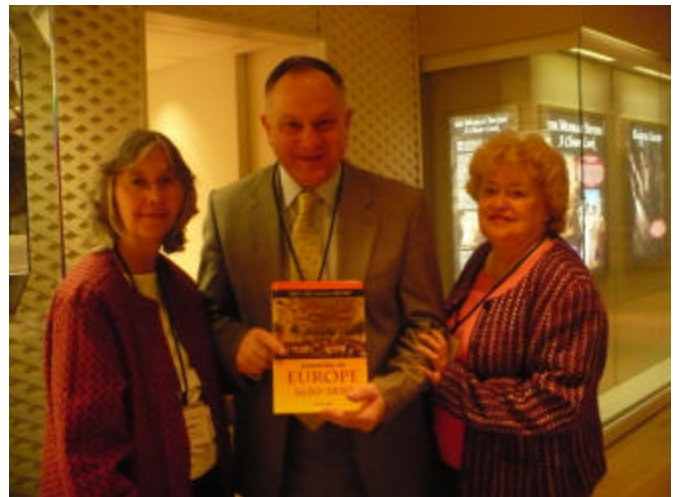
Audrey and Carolyn cooking cabbage and onion cakes

the zooarcheologist), and planning the menu. I saw the staff set a table for a meal, including linens, dishes, furniture, and manners! (This was by means of a skit of 4 people at the table, eating a meal, but using bad manners for the time. Hilarious!!) I also saw the cook skin a dead rabbit on center stage!, keeping the feet and head on to tell that it was a rabbit; and in the Randolph kitchen I saw a dead pigeon defeathered, with its head and feet on. I smelled beer being made; chocolate beans being roasted; and Christiana Campbell's sweet potato muffins. I tasted 'down hearth' cooking at the Randolph kitchen. Carolyn Dilda and I were among the 20 cooks that rainy day. We prepared numerous dishes for First course and Second course – all on 2 giant hearths. We cooked hard but ate our endeavors.

Do I need to say, that we were full!  
Respectfully written, Audrey Mellichamp



Second course dishes



Audrey and Carolyn with Ivan Day, holding his new book, *Cooking in Europe, 1650-1850*

### *An Artist Among Us*



MHA's immediate past president, Judge Chase Saunders is also an artist! His new painting "Lunchtime at Price's Chicken Coop" is now available as a signed limited edition gicl'ee reproduction. Price's Chicken Coop has become a Charlotte landmark. It is loved for its Southern fried chicken, biscuits, fries, and slaw, and has fed every class of folks since 1962.

Chase's art work can be seen on CPCC's "Charlotte Arts" series on channel 17, and will be displayed at The Trolley Museum on February 5<sup>th</sup>. For more information visit his website at [chasesaundersart.com](http://chasesaundersart.com).

*A Visit to the White Homestead*



The White Homestead

On November 2 the MHA Docents held their regular monthly meeting at the White Homestead near Fort Mill, SC. We got a wonderful tour from the resident curator, Anne Evans who knows everything there is to know about the Springs clan and told it to us enchantingly.

The White Homestead was built by William Elliott White and his wife Sarah Wilson in 1831. A copy of a manor in Yorkshire, England, it originally had four rooms and a central hall on each of two floors plus a basement kitchen and full attic. They lived there, and raised their children there, until moving to Charlotte in 1857. The last meeting of the Confederate Cabinet occurred on the Homestead grounds. (This was one of at least 27 “Last Meetings of the Confederate Cabinet” yet known about – two of them occurred in Charlotte.)

The White and Springs families combined to build one of the largest textile companies in history. At one time there seemed to be a Springs Mill in every little Carolina town. Now they are owned by a Brazilian firm.

Ownership of the Homestead has remained in the family ever since, although it was unoccupied or lived in by overseers for many years. In 1952 Capt. Elliott White Springs, an Ace pilot and hero of World War I, remodeled the Homestead, adding various rooms in keeping with the original. With his wife, Frances Ley, they raised their two children in the house and entertained lavishly.



Combination Greenhouse and Swimming Pool

Captain Springs holds lasting fame as the man who invented modern advertising, including most famously his series of semi-risque ads for Spring Maid products. You may remember “A Buck well-spent on a Spring Maid Sheet” featuring a tired looking Indian buck standing by a smiling nubile young Indian girl relaxing in a hammock, presumably on a Spring Maid sheet.

In 1991 the Springs family did a complete renovation of the house, restoring the original paint colors, marbling and wood graining. Although Anne Evans is an expert curator and the Homestead is often used by researchers, it is not a museum. Rather it is the ancestral home of the White and Springs families and is filled to overflowing on holidays with four generations of the descendents of William Elliot White.



Main Hall Staircase  
(Note the marbled wood risers)

*Escaped Slave Reward Poster on Exhibit at Rosedale***Sometimes Artifacts Walk in the Door**

In October a man walked into Historic Rosedale and asked to speak to the director. He had an item that might be related to the site and wanted to find out more about it. He met with Deborah Hunter and showed her a reward poster from 1857. It mentioned the name of W F Davidson of Charlotte. Who was W F Davidson and was he related to anyone at Rosedale? Deborah didn't know but told him that if he left the poster with her, she would find someone who might be able to find out about it.

Deborah emailed us about this and I went out to Rosedale and picked up the poster. It is owned by Jim Allen of Charlotte who bought it from a dealer many years ago. It is very nicely framed with glass on both sides so that the reverse can be observed as well as the front.

This is a reward poster issued on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1857 by the jailor of Washington County, Virginia and offers a reward of \$300.00 for the apprehension of three escaped slaves. The slaves Shadrach, Lewis and Buster were the property of W F Davidson of Charlotte, NC. It appears that they had escaped from Mr. Davidson, were apprehended and jailed in Abingdon, the county seat of Washington County, and then escaped from that jail.

W F Davidson was William Archibald Frew Davidson, the brother of Harriet Davidson Caldwell, and brother-in-law of Doctor David T. Caldwell of Rosedale. A search of Mecklenburg County records did not reveal any other details of this incident, perhaps indicating that the three slaves made good their escape to a northern state or possibly even to Canada.

The reverse side of the poster reveals that it was folded and mailed to someone in Seven Pines, Virginia, just east of Richmond. The postage stamp is for one cent.

The framed poster is now on display at Historic Rosedale, courtesy of the owner.

Transcription:

Three Hundred Dollars Reward! The undersigned will give One Hundred Dollars and he understands the owner will give Two Hundred, for the apprehension of Three Negro Men, who escaped from the Jail of Washington county, on Thursday night last. Their names are Shadrach, Lewis and Buster.

Shadrach is a bright mulatto, about 45 years old, near 6 feet high and slender, and has a large patch of wool shaved off each side of his head, where he received wounds when he was apprehended.

Lewis is about the same age, very black, somewhat bald, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high.

Buster is a very bright mulatto, with long straight hair and moustache, and assumes a foreign brogue. He is about 20 years old, and attempted to pass himself as a foreigner. He says he belongs to W. F., Davidson, of Charlotte, N. C. His name is perhaps assumed.

November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1857.

C. W. Webb, Jailer W. C., Va.



## *Matthews Historical Foundation*

The Matthews Historical Foundation which owns and manages the Reid House is now raising funds to restore the Massey-Clark house. In November they hosted a dinner and auction and raised \$6,500 toward this project. Matthews' outgoing mayor Lee Myers was honored and presented with a clock in appreciation of his efforts and accomplishments to preserve the history of Matthews.

The Reid House is the beautifully restored 1890 Victorian home of Dr. Thomas Reid. It remained in the family until 1987; the last resident was Dr. Reid's daughter Nancy Reid who died in 1986. The house can be rented for special occasions. For more information on the Massey-Clark House project, the Reid House, or the foundation's upcoming events see their website, [www.matthewshistoricalfoundation.org](http://www.matthewshistoricalfoundation.org)

### *Library Exhibit*

"City of Canvas" is a new exhibit about Camp Greene, Charlotte's WWI Army Cantonment, and highlights the donations of Charlotte author, Jack Dillard. The exhibit will be up through January 31<sup>st</sup> in the Carnegie Gallery on the third floor of the main library, adjacent to the Carolina Room.

### *The History Calendar*

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted.

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>

#### **A Family Reunion for Black History Month, Saturday, February 6, from 11 am to 1 pm.**

The descendants of slaves that were once such a very important part of Rosedale plantation are invited to attend this family reunion to share their oral history. We will gather contact information and schedule meetings with the individual descendents to record their oral histories and traditions. Afterwards there will be a complementary tour of the home for descendents.

### *Latta Plantation*

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

#### **Civil War Winter Quarters and the Home Front.**

**Saturday, January 9, from 10 am to 4 pm; Sunday, January 10, from 1 to 4 pm.**

See how soldiers survived brutal winters encamped with the armies, and how families survived back home.

#### **Back of the Big House. Saturday, February 6, from 10 am to 4 pm.**

Learn about life of those enslaved on a 19<sup>th</sup> century North Carolina cotton plantation. Local interpreters will introduce you to Suky, Peter, and others who lived at Latta through first person interpretation and living history.

#### **Sweetheart Tours. Saturday, February 13, from 11 am to 4 pm; Sunday, February 14, from 1 to 4 pm.**

Step back in time with your sweetheart, as you tour the Latta home and hear "sweetheart" stories from the past. Tours begin every hour.

**Latta Winter Workshops**

For all workshops contact Blair Elder at 704-875-2312, or [belder@lattaplantation.org](mailto:belder@lattaplantation.org).

**Open Hearth Cooking Workshop. Saturday, January 16, from 10 am to 4 pm.**

Learn the basics of 19<sup>th</sup> century hearth cooking using period utensils, tools, and recipes while preparing a meal in the Latta kitchen. \$30 per person.

**Costuming Workshop. Saturdays, January 23 & 30, from 10 am to 4 pm.**

This two day workshop will cover research, design, and creation of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century women's clothing. Participants will have expert guidance to select a project on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and to begin sewing on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Knitting Workshop. Saturday, February 27, from 9 am to noon, or 1 to 4 pm.**

Learn the basics of knitting or solidify your skills. The \$35 fee includes yarn and knitting needles to keep.

*The Charlotte Museum of History*

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

**Twelfth Night. Tuesday, January 5, from 6 to 7:30 pm**

For colonial North Carolinians, December 25 marked only the *start* of the twelve days of Christmas. The twelfth day was a popular time to hold a party. Join us for our annual Twelfth Night event, which mirrors the original festivities. Participate in the cutting of the Twelfth Night cake and other activities.

Enjoy an evening tour of the 1774 Hezekiah Alexander Homesite. Drop by the kitchen to see colonial cookways. Refresh yourself in our "Colonial Tavern," while enjoying the sounds of live colonial music. Advance reservations guarantee a piece of the Twelfth Night cake.

**Paper Marbling Workshop. Monday, January 25, from 7 to 8:30 pm.**

Paper Marbling is a method of placing paint on top of water on which to lay sheets of paper, producing patterns similar to marble. This decorative material was used in the 18<sup>th</sup> century as a cover for items such as books, chests, and drawer liners. In this class you will make several marbled sheets of your own. \$15 for museum members; \$20 for non-members. Recommended for adults, ages 18 and up. Space is limited. To register, contact Angelica Docog at [adocog@charlottemuseum.org](mailto:adocog@charlottemuseum.org).

*President James K. Polk State Historic Site*

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

[www.polk.nchistoricsites.org](http://www.polk.nchistoricsites.org)

**Movie Night at the Polk Site. Tuesday, January 5, at 7 pm**

This is the first in a series of movie nights presented by the President James K. Polk State Historic Site and the Polk Memorial Support Fund. Our first movie screening will feature the 2004 version of "The Alamo." This film is rated PG-13 Admission: **Free**

**Presidents' Day: Vice-Presidents of the Three Carolina Presidents. Saturday, February 13, at 10 am**

This lecture, in conjunction with the staff of the Andrew Jackson State Park, will focus on the Vice-Presidents of the Three Carolina Presidents. This program will take place at Andrew Jackson State Park. For information or directions please phone (803) 285-3344. Admission: **Free**

*Rural Hill*

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

**First Footin'. Friday, January 1, at 11 am lasting until about 2 pm**

It is a Scottish tradition to walk around the property each year to check the fences and see if there have been any intruders on our property. We will have a "Stone Soup" lunch and we ask that visitors bring something to add to our huge soup pot or bring some deserts or breads to share. It is a great time to get out for some fellowship and fresh air and start the year off properly.

*Schiele Museum*

1500 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, N.C. 704 866 6900 <https://www.schielemuseum.org>

**Scherenschnitte – the Art of Paper Cutting, Saturday, January 30, 10 am to noon**

Come and see some beautiful examples of the German art of Scherenschnitte, or paper cutting. Learn about the history of this traditional art and try your hand at cutting-out a Scherenschnitte design of your own!

*Historic Brattonsville*

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

<http://www.chmuseums.org/ourmuseums/myco/index.htm>

**Brattonsville by Firelight, Saturday, January 30, from 10 am to 7 pm, Historic Brattonsville**

Have you ever considered life without fire? For those who inhabited the Carolina Backcountry in the 18th century, fire was a matter of life or death. Costumed interpreters will demonstrate the role fire played in the lives of those who came before us, from smoking meat in the smokehouse to cooking and washing laundry. After the sun goes down, torches and musket fire will light up the night.

*Cowpens National Battlefield*

I-85 South Carolina Exit 83, follow signs, 864-461-2828

[www.nps.gov/cowp](http://www.nps.gov/cowp)

**229<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens****Saturday January 16, from 9:30 am to 8 pm, Sunday, January 17 from 9:30 am to 5 pm**

Guided battlefield walks, lantern walks after dark, musket firing demonstrations, lectures and book signings, and an appearance by Lord Cornwallis.

*Fort Dobbs State Historic Site*

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

**250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Dobbs.****Saturday and Sunday, February 27 & 28, from 10 am to 4 pm.**

On February 27th, 1760, the garrison of Fort Dobbs defended their post against a force of more than 60 Cherokee warriors. Battlefield tours and musket and cannon demonstrations will be featured, as well as on-going demonstrations of 18th Century military and American-Indian camp life. A special program commemorating the battle will be offered Saturday evening at 7:00 pm.

*Southern Campaign of the American Revolution*

<http://www.southerncampaign.org/cod.php>

**Blood Be Upon Your Head, Tarleton and Buford at the Waxhaws, February 27, Lancaster, South Carolina**

This conference will be held at the University of South Carolina-Lancaster with an afternoon tour of Buford's Defeat battleground. Examine the research and the myths surrounding this clash between units of British cavalry and American infantry to understand why scholars have been debating this battle for 230 years.

Presenters include British Legion expert Todd Braisted; author and professor Jim Piecuch of Kennesaw State University; author David McKissack, expert on the Virginia Continental Line; and author Scott Miskimon, expert on the Battle of the Waxhaws. Bill Anderson will map the movement of the troops involved. Archaeologist Scott Butler will lead a battlefield tour to explain the archeology of the battleground.

Early registration is \$50 per person or \$85 per couple. After February 1 the fees are \$65 per person or \$120 per couple. On-site registration starts at 8:30 a.m. and the conference begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Bradley Building on the USC-Lancaster Campus. Lunch will be provided. For more information and registration, contact Andrew Jackson State Park (803) 285-3344 or [andrewjackson@scprt.com](mailto:andrewjackson@scprt.com)

*Duke Mansion*

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704 714 4448

<http://www.dukemansion.com>

**Charlotte and the Depression. Sunday, January 31, at 3 pm, Free**

Tom Cole will start our series on how economic transition have been the key to the region's growth and can be again. Besides the historical interest, he hopes it will be an uplifting message in a time of economic dislocation. Tom is the chief historian of the Robinson-Spangler Carolina room at the downtown Library and a former professor of history.

MHA Docents  
Jim and Ann Williams  
1601 South Wendover Road  
Charlotte, NC 28211