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Who was Archibald Frew?

Archibald Frew was the builder of the house now known as Historic Rosedale Plantation, on Tryon Street, three miles north of the center of Charlotte on the waters of Little Sugar Creek. Today this house is a wonderful historic site, open to the public, still retaining 11 of the original 919 acres. Some accounts had the house built as early as 1780 but documentary evidence shows that it was built in 1815



That much we know. What we did not know is who, exactly, Archibald Frew was and where he came from. One story is that his father, also named Archibald Frew, married Mary McCulloh, sister of Henry Eustace McCulloh, a prominent figure in early North Carolina history. However, this account does not tally with the known facts about the McCulloh family and does not explain how Archibald Frew came to Charlotte. Here is what we know to be facts and what we can logically deduce from those facts.

First we need to know about Henry Eustace McCulloh. His father, Henry McCulloh, was originally from Northern Ireland and became a prominent London merchant. In 1736 and 1740 he was granted land in the North Carolina Colony totaling 1,200,000 acres. Henry McCulloh spent seven years in North Carolina, with his family, trying to develop and sell the land but was largely unsuccessful and they returned to England. Years later, in 1761, he sent his son Henry Eustace McCulloh over to finish the job and the young man had considerable success. Much earlier Henry McCulloh had sold one of the 100,000 acre tracts to Lord Selwyn who hired Henry Eustace McCulloh to survey the land and sell parcels to new settlers. This Selwyn Tract makes up much of the land that is Mecklenburg County today. Lord Selwyn never saw the land since he never left England.

Henry Eustace McCulloh was a rich and well educated young English aristocrat, and behaved as such. He was proud, arrogant and very much of a libertine. His existing letters reveal a man typical of his class at that time who knew he was better than others and expected them to acknowledge the fact, which in most cases they did. Henry Eustace had one sister, named Penelope who never left England and died in 1767. She could not have been the wife of Archibald Frew and mother of Archibald Frew (Jr.). We can conclude that the Mary McCulloh who married Archibald Frew was certainly not a sister of Henry Eustace McCulloh.

During the time that Henry Eustace McCulloh was in North Carolina he had many love affairs, as was expected a man of noble rank. His principal mistress was Mary Cook, called Molly, and she had a son by him, George

McCulloh, who was born on April 9, 1767, just after Henry left to return to England. Many noblemen, including the King, acknowledged their bastard offspring, educated them and eased their way into society. Of course these illegitimate children could not inherit property, money or title from their fathers. As Henry left North Carolina, he arranged for his cousin, James Iredell to look after son George. They corresponded often about the boy and Henry Eustace paid for his upbringing and education. Henry Eustace McCulloh never returned to North Carolina.

In their correspondence about young George, Henry and James Iredell discussed the probability of Molly marrying and Henry said that if that happened he would continue to educate the child, which he did. Henry Eustace McCulloh's land in North Carolina was sized after the war on the grounds that he was a Tory. He pursued his claims in US courts for many years with his son George acting as his agent. Eventually George moved to Salisbury where district court was held and there he married and settled down. He moved to Lincolnton in 1820 where he died in 1833.

If the mother of Archibald Frew was not Henry Eustace McCulloh's sister, then who was she? The evidence is circumstantial, but convincing, that she was, in fact, Molly Cook, the mistress of Henry Eustace McCulloh and mother of George McCulloh. Having an infant son named George McCulloh, and with Henry Eustace McCulloh safely in England, she probably called herself Molly McCulloh.

Family records show that Molly Cook McCulloh married Archibald Frew about 1770 but no official records of this marriage have been found. She was the mother of Sarah and Archibald Frew. According to family records, Molly died January 1, 1780 in Edenton, NC; and her husband died October 7, 1783 in Halifax. Sarah was 11 and Archibald 7 when their father died. We think that Sarah and Archibald were probably raised by Molly's brother, their uncle Isaac Cook. They appear in Charlotte about the time that Isaac Cook arrives. Relations with their half-brother George McCulloh were renewed when he moved to Salisbury.

In January 1783 Isaac Cook first appears in the Mecklenburg County court records being licensed to operate a tavern. This is the same tavern where George Washington stayed on his southern trip in 1791. There were a lot of other people in Mecklenburg named Cook at that time. From 1780 to 1800 only two people named Frew show up in the County Records – Archibald and Sarah.

In 1795, when Sarah was 23, she received a promissory note from Isaac Cook for £128, a lot of money in those days. At the same time, the note was secured by a mortgage on what looks like all of Isaac Cook's tavern gear. It included 3 dozen chairs, one dozen tables and four feather beds plus livestock and kitchen equipment. In 1783, when Archibald and Sarah's father died, the law required that guardians be appointed for them if they had inherited any property. If not, the orphans were put out to apprenticeship. If, in fact, the two children came to Charlotte to live with their uncle Isaac Cook, he was undoubtedly their guardian. He held their inheritance and gave it to them when they reached their majority. This would explain the £128 note. The fact that Isaac Cook gave Sarah a mortgage to secure the note, is not surprising. It only means that she was getting good financial advice and was smart enough to take it. The court records are full of such cases.

There are a number of other indications of the Frew-McCulloh connection in the historical record. These include visits back and forth in the next generation, names shared between the two families and financial arrangements. Archibald Frew guaranteed a loan for George McCulloh who had a child named Sarah Frew McCulloh. And there is a mention in the Journal of Sarah Frew Davidson of visiting her cousins, the McCullohs, in Lincolnton, NC.

We may never discover documentary evidence showing exactly where Archibald Frew came from, but all of the evidence we have points to the conclusion that his mother was Mary Cook McCulloh, the former mistress of Henry Eustace McCulloh.

Written by Jim Williams, research by Karen McConnell

From the Chairman

Happy Valentine's Day to everyone! I hope you were one of the lucky ones to hear all about love tokens at the last meeting of the Docents, presented by our own Valerie Jones. What great information. I, for one, am not going to be wearing the eyeballs. Creepy. Ask those of us who were there about that if you need more information. Thanks, Valerie, wonderful job. We are in the midst of our Educational Programs as I write this. I am sure further information will be in this or the next newsletter. 125 attended the class on February 6. We are so happy to have a place for everyone to sit this year and encourage all our members to reserve a chair through February 27.

If you must miss these terrific classes, or if you just can't stand it and want MORE STUFF then we have a treat for you to attend, which will expand your knowledge of WHAT EVER DID THEY WEAR? from 1700 - 1900. The Docent committee is sponsoring a fashion show of authentic garments on SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010, @ SUGAW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH @ 11:00 A.M. The cost is only \$35.00 per ticket and all tables will be reserved, so no need to worry about where you will be seated. Doors will open at 10:30 a.m. Parking is complimentary. A delicious luncheon will be served after the show and music by Duo Con Brio will be furnished throughout. Tours of the church will be available after the luncheon. What a great day to spend with the docents, in an historical building, having great food, learning so much about our ancestors and how they dressed, not to mention lovely music for the day. Bring your friends, enjoy the day with us. It has been nine years since we first put this show on and it was well received then. I know it will be terrific this time, too. We have chairpersons who have worked diligently (sleepless nights I am told) to make this a truly grand, fun, relaxed, delicious event. Ya'll come!! For tickets or more information, call Jo Anne Dickens @ 704-547-8410. Make your checks payable to MHA DOCENTS. The church is located on the corner of North Tryon and Sugar Creek Road. So easy to get to!
Jo Anne Dickens

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the May/June issue of the Dandelion is April 7th. We apologize for the early date. Your editors have a big grandchildren commitment during the last half of April, and need to get a step ahead. However, we will have odd bits of time when the little ones are occupied. If you can't meet the deadline, send your material as soon as you can, and we'll do our best to include it. Send items of interest to the history community to Ann and Jin Williams at 1601 S Wendover Road, Charlotte, NC; or email mhadandelion@mindspring.com.

We hope you like our new format. We decided to lead off with a feature article to pique your interest, then follow with docent business, other articles, and the calendar.

March and April Docent Programs

Both meetings will be held at Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Due to repair work in the fellowship hall the March meeting will probably be in the Scout Hut. Look for signage. In April we should be back in the fellowship hall. Refreshments at 9:30 am, business meeting at 10, program at 11. Visitors are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Tuesday, March 2, 2010
A Visit from a Surveyor**

Jim Daniel, a nationally known expert in most areas of the 18th century, will present a program on surveying as it was done in the early days. He will bring his antique and reproduction equipment and show us how towns and farms were carved from the wilderness. At the end of the program we will be invited outside for a hands-on look at how surveying was done.

Jim Daniel has studied the 18th century, and participated in living history events since the bicentennial. He has commanded numerous Revolutionary War battle reenactments and trained himself for many trades of the period. He presents programs in appropriate dress at historic sites throughout the southeast, including the Smithsonian Museum, Mount Vernon, and many at Colonial Williamsburg.

Tuesday, April 6, 2010
How Women Defended Themselves During the Revolutionary War

Patti Proctor will appear as a properly dressed backcountry lady during our War for Independence. War is harrowing for women when fought on native soil; something no modern American woman has experienced. This should be a most interesting adjunct to the more familiar accounts of soldiers and battles.

Patti Proctor has been interpreting various aspects of women's history for ten years. She has over forty programs she presents to civic groups, and contributes to programming at a number of local historic sites.

MHA Docent Dues

If you have not already paid your MHA Docent dues, now is the time to do so. Since we docents are a committee of MHA, our dues go to that parent organization. However to facilitate our record keeping, please send your check to docent treasurer Valerie Jones. Valerie will record your membership info, then pay our collective dues to MHA as a group.

Make your check payable to **MHA Docents** and mail it to Valerie Jones at 4700 Coronado Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212. If you have questions, or are not sure if you've already paid, call her at 704-567-0599, or vvjones@carolina.rr.com.

MHA Membership levels:

	<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

Docent Book Club

The Docent Book Club will meet after our regular meetings in March and April. In March we will discuss *Civil War Wives* by Carol Berkin. A review is elsewhere in this newsletter. Bring ideas for further study, and a lunch if you wish. Anyone is free to join in the discussion whether you've read the book or not.

In Memoriam

We are sad to report that Jama Mooney recently passed away. Jama became an MHA docent about ten years ago. She was young, friendly, and filled with enthusiasm. She was active for only a few years when she received a diagnosis of MS. It was not long before she had to curtail her activities with us, but she always enjoyed chatting on the phone with fellow docents and keeping up with our doings. We send our heartfelt sympathies to Jama's husband, Harry Campbell. We will all miss Jama and her sweet spark.

MHA Dinner Meeting

Monday, March 22nd; Trinity Presbyterian Church. Dinner is at 6:30 followed by the program at 7:15. Those not having dinner are welcome to enjoy the program at no charge. To make dinner reservations use the form in your MHA newsletter or contact Kathy Herran at 704-553-0936, or kathyherran@hotmail.com.

Dr. Tom Hanchett will give a slide talk
**JOHN NOLEN, NEIGHBORHOOD-MAKER:
 From Myers Park to Today's New Urbanism**

Nolen, one of America's leading landscape architects when he created Myers Park in the 1910s and 20s, is now an inspiration for a new generation of neighborhoods across the U.S.A.

Tom Hanchett, staff historian at Levine Museum of the New South, wrote the nomination for Myers Park to the National Register of Historic Places and is co-author of *Legacy: The Myers Park Story*, just out in a new edition from The Duke Mansion.



Historical Fashion Show

What Ever Did They Wear?

Presented by the MHA Docents
Saturday, March 20, 2010 – 11 am to 2 pm
 Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church
 101 W Sugar Creek Road



Celebrate fashion from the 18th to the 20th centuries! Authentic clothing will include garments of soldiers, tradesmen, servants, and children, as well as the aristocratic gentry. A narrative will describe the details of dress and how it fit the lifestyles of our ancestors. Volunteers will model reproduction garments from Mecklenburg's historic sites and private collections. The show will be followed by a delicious catered luncheon and music by Duo Con Brio. Afterwards there will be a tour of Sugaw Creek Church. Established in 1755, it is the oldest in Mecklenburg County. Don't be shy gentlemen, there are plenty of men's clothes to see, and there will be underwear. You'll see a bit of suffering for style, and come away with a smile, appreciating your comfy jeans.

Tickets are \$35 (make checks payable to MHA Docents); proceeds will benefit the Docent Lending Closet of period clothing. To reserve your seat, contact any docent or call Jo Anne Dickens at 704-547-8410. Reservations must be made by March 12th.

Docent History Classes

From Wagon Roads to New South City

Nature has not smiled on us. Two of our first three classes had to be cancelled due to ice and snow. The fourth class went off on schedule and we are sure to have favorable weather for the fifth and final class. Most of the antebellum portion from the third session will be presented on February 27th along with the program on Historical Interpretation. We're sorry that several interesting programs had to be missed. Mother Nature has yet to apologize for the inconvenience.

A timely contribution from Valerie Jones:

If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant:

If we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.

Anne Bradstreet, *Meditations Divine and Mortal*, 1655

John Lawson: A Carolinian's Life and Times

A symposium was held in Raleigh October 9-10, 2009 in conjunction with the opening of a new exhibit on John Lawson at the NC Museum of History. This year marks the 300th anniversary of the publication of *A New Voyage to Carolina*. Ten speakers, most from academia, discussed Lawson and his discoveries from different perspectives.

The exhibit was small. The most interesting display for me was the one with stuffed specimens of the Carolina parakeet and passenger pigeon. Since both are now extinct, it was interesting to see what they actually looked like, in comparison to the drawings and paintings that one sees from explorers such as Catesby. Having studied real estate law and examined old deeds, tools like those Lawson used as a surveyor caught my eye – the chains used to measure the boundary of properties and seen in old deeds as metes and bounds measures.

Lawson's writing fit right into a very popular genre of his day. There was a popular interest in foreign travel narratives and exotic flora and fauna. Lawson was fortunate enough to have his work printed by James Knapton as part of a series. For more details on how the printing of these types of narratives worked, I refer you to my written report of the symposium, submitted to the docent library.

Having read Lawson's book, I was familiar with his wonderful descriptions of the flora and fauna of North Carolina, but did not know very much about him as a person. One speaker put Lawson's life and work in context with what was going on in England and the colony of NC. For the most part, Lawson tended to ignore the political forces of his day, and just go about doing his survey job and collecting and describing the flora and fauna that he found. I was sad to learn that Lawson was kidnapped and killed by the Tuscarora Indians in 1711. His tragic demise holds a hint of irony, as Lawson had written and spoken favorably about the Indians, and was an advocate of inter-marriage with them.

Evidently if you are a botany fanatic you enjoy trying to figure out what Lawson was actually describing, since there was no formal nomenclature system yet established. Some of what Lawson described can readily be identified, but some cannot. Experts go to the Sloan Collection in London to look at the actual plant specimens Lawson sent back, and that helps, although these are not very well organized. Many other specimens from Lawson have been lost or destroyed over the years.

We tend to think of Lawson in terms of his journal and naturalist activities, but I learned that he founded the town of Bath and was involved in the founding of New Bern. He was the surveyor general of NC, which offered him wonderful opportunities to explore and observe. His journal had scientific value, but was also written to promote the settlement of Bath and of North Carolina. Being a land speculator and developer, Lawson's descriptions often

focused on the usefulness of plants and animals for agricultural purposes. However, the settlement of Bath that he laid out never really prospered because the Outer Banks were a barrier to large ships. Today Bath is a small, quiet town. Archeological digs have and are being done in the town, to discover more about Bath's role in the early days of the colony. It is believed that Blackbeard married a girl from Bath, and helped to supply the town with some nice items. There is a museum in Bath and a visit there would be worthwhile for those of us with an interest in early NC history.

Although his time as a naturalist was relatively short, Lawson made an important contribution in his detailed descriptions. They were relied on by naturalists that followed in his footsteps, such as Catesby and Michaux. These later explorers had drawing and painting skills and so Lawson's work became less popular, since he did not have these artistic skills. Lawson fans may read my report in the docent library for more details of the presentations given at this symposium in honor of Lawson.

Pam Dudeck

The Historical Cooking Guild of the Catawba

The cooking guild has recently admitted three new members to their circle, Olga Sims, Erica Blake, and Patti Veale. The guild limits itself to twelve members, as the workspace in a hearth kitchen is small. And their standards are high. Each applicant undergoes lengthy training in research and techniques followed by an apprenticeship. Graduates of their program are truly masters of the hearth. Congratulations Olga, Erica, and Patti!

Erica submitted the guild report in the form of a letter – what a great idea. We hope to see more correspondence from “Mary Sue” in future issues of the Dandelion.

February 11, 2010

Dear Anny,

I am still enjoying my stay with my sister here in Charlotte. I have found a group that focuses on late 18th century hearth cooking at the James K. Polk Historic site in Pineville. They research and cook food that was eaten at the time of the Polk's residence in NC. Members of the Guild are also active in other historical groups. There are many historical sites and interest groups in this area compared to what you find in N. Texas. So I am in heaven.

On the 6th of this month members of the Guild: Mary McGinn, Barbara Goodwin and Olga Sims presented information on Carolina Backcountry everyday food and beverages to a 100 plus audience who braved the almost bad weather to attend this seminar given by the Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents. Barbara talked about the kind of foods that were eaten and how they were obtained. Mary showed the kinds of utensils and tableware used for everyday and for good. The usual dishes are made out of red clay and have a glaze that looks like the clay at the Red River in N. Texas. Olga talked about drinks; water was the beverage of choice, rather than the small beer routinely drunk in Europe due to their bad water.

Yesterday, for a change, we cooked German food. While Germans were not prevalent in the Charlotte area some groups came down the Wagon Road from Pa. and some were in Old Salem, the Moravians. So we decided to cook German food this month. For me the highlight was sauerkraut cooked with raisins and sugar, along with other ingredients. What a surprise that was. Also had a fabulous molasses pie, without a crust! Great for the calorie conscious. Just sweet enough to make it interesting. Worth a repeat at my house. We will have another German meal in February, featuring rabbit and lentils.

In March we will cook French (Huguenot) food, as it was prepared by the folks in the area at the time, not today's French cooking. We will also cook Scots-Irish food, more representative of that prepared by the local population.

On the 27th, two of the ladies, Sharon Van Kuren and Carolyn Dilda will participate in a class at the old Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church. This is a very old church so the tour should be interesting. Presbyterians are big here.

Most of the members of the Guild will participate in a fashion show of period clothing on March 20th. I understand there will be a modeling of undergarments as part of this show, but they are not revealing at all, so there will be no heart palpitations in the male members of the audience.

That's all for now Anny. I will write again.

Mary Sue

Erica Blake

Book Review

Civil War Wives by Carol Berkin

Civil War Wives tells the stories of three women who lived on the cusp of drama during the Civil War period. They are Angelina Grimké Weld, Varina Howell Davis, and Julia Dent Grant. The book is composed of the three separate biographies surrounded by a preface and epilogue, plus extensive end notes, a bibliography, and an index. It was thoroughly researched.

Angelina Grimké was born hard-headed and spunky into South Carolina plantation gentry. As a child she recognized the evils of slavery, and rejected her parents' Episcopal faith. Her spiritual journey took her to a Quaker community in Philadelphia where she met abolitionists who rekindled her childhood abhorrence of slavery. She became an avid spokesperson for the cause, and her voice was championed. After all she was a southerner who had personally observed the horrors of slavery. For over a decade she traveled and lectured throughout New England, and wrote for abolitionist publications. However she touched a nerve in some of her fellows. She saw women's rights and abolition as one issue. Some of her detractors had no use for women rights, others insisted abolition was a single issue movement. Angelina eventually married, had children, and curtailed her activism, but she remained a forceful woman all her life.

Varina Howell was a child of Mississippi's rich Delta. She was still a teenager when she became enamored of the slightly morose widower Jeff Davis. They were both strong willed and opinionated and their marriage was stormy at times. The deaths of several children and the demands of the Civil War taught them life's hard lessons and brought them closer together. Before the war Jeff had been a US Senator from Mississippi and head of the US War Department, but nothing could prepare him for the presidency of the doomed Confederacy. He came to rely on Varina's wise council. At war's end their flight from Richmond was harrowing, with the exception of Varina's short stay in Charlotte. Jeff was captured and imprisoned for several years. Varina mounted a campaign to free him, and her efforts were finally rewarded with the help of their former enemy, Ulysses S. Grant

Julia Dent Grant, a mental lightweight, was in many ways the most interesting and delightful of this trio. Though her family were Missouri slave owners, she believed it her wifely duty to take Ulysses' view on the issue. And it would have been much too tedious to form her own opinion. She had no worries about her warrior husband. Angels she saw in dreams assured her no harm would come to him. The chickens on the Grant farm were Chinese and Indian breeds, and she thought they were remarkably bright as they perfectly understood English. After all they came when she called them to eat! She didn't know a thing about that "dreadful constitution" and wouldn't know where to find it if she did want to read it. Nevertheless Ulysses loved her immensely, and was charmed by her simplicity. Her naïve cheerfulness pleased almost everyone, especially the men. She endured the war blithely, even while suffering its hardships, and relished being an adored first lady.

All three women were born into slave owning families, yet it affected them differently. All three led fairly nomadic lives; Angelina because of her abolitionist mission, Varina and Julia because of their husbands' duties and the war. Varina and Julia wrote memoirs, and developed a late life friendship; Angelina wrote papers and lectures. All three left volumes of letters. Berkin had rich sources for her detailed research, and succeeded in bringing their unique personalities to life.

Ann Williams

Check out this Jacket

Do you remember the spectacular, gasp producing, needlework Jacobean jacket Valerie showed in a slide during her February program? It was stitched by several expert, and thoroughly juried, women for the Plymouth Plantation Museum. Valerie has since noticed the jacket is featured in a four page article in the April, 2010 issue of Early American Life magazine. One of the jacket's creators was Lucinda Thornburg. You may have seen Lucinda at work at the Schiele Museum or Hart's Square.

News from Latta Plantation

Latta welcomes new Executive Director Nicole Cheslak! Mrs. Cheslak has been a member of the Latta staff since 2007, serving as the Visitor Services Manager. On February 10th, 2010 she accepted the position of Executive Director.

Mrs. Cheslak graduated from UNC-Charlotte and is dedicated to historic preservation and interpretation. Already a respected member of the Latta staff, Mrs. Cheslak looks forward to leading a great site and staff into the future.

Mrs. Cheslak's contact information is:
Nicole Cheslak
704-875-2312, ext. 304
ncheslak@lattaplantation.org



Nicole Cheslak, Executive Director

News From Historic Rosedale

Rosedale will be holding a one-day volunteer training session on Saturday, April 3rd. Ann Williams will be conducting the class from 9 am to noon on that day. In the afternoon attendees are encouraged to accompany one of the trained docents on a tour of the house and grounds.

This is being held in conjunction with the MHA Docents History Course which ends on February 27th, and is designed to be an overview of the history of Rosedale and to serve as a basis for further study in the Rosedale handbook that Ann has newly revised. Anyone interested in Rosedale and it's history is encouraged to attend whether they plan to learn to do tours and volunteer as a docent or plan to volunteer at Historic Rosedale in some other capacity.

If you would like to attend, call or email Deborah Hunter or Sara Craig and reserve a spot.
704 335 0325
roseedu@historicrosedale.org

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>

*Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church***Good Ole' Fashioned Barbecue Fundraiser. Friday, March 5, from 11 am to 7 pm.**

101 Sugar Creek Road West (corner of Sugar Creek and North Tryon)

Norm's Barbecue will provide the awesome food. Proceeds will go the church's fund for the historical preservation of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. \$7 a plate; three sandwiches for \$7; desserts \$1. Dine in, carry out or pre-order. Pre-orders must be made by March 2nd. Fax your order to 704-596-8393.

Matthews Historical Foundation

www.matthewshistoricalfoundation.org

Programs held at the Matthews Woman's Club, 208 South Trade Street

Rebel Gibraltar, Tuesday, March 30 at 7 pm.

Local author Larry Walker will present a Civil War program on Fort Fisher and Wilmington, C.S.A. Mr. Walker has given presentations on Fort Fisher for over 35 years and his book, "*Rebel Gibraltar*", explores the port city of Wilmington's entire wartime experience from secession to its fall to Union forces in February 1865. "*Rebel Gibraltar*" is the 2006 winner of the UDC Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal and will be available for sale after the program.

Charlotte, North Carolina: A Brief History, Tuesday, April 27 at 7 pm

Local author Mary Norton Kratt will discuss new and old Charlotte stories from her recent book "*Charlotte, North Carolina: A Brief History*". Ms. Kratt, winner of numerous literary awards, is a published author of seventeen books of poetry, history and biography focusing on the Carolina Piedmont. A longtime resident of the Charlotte/Matthews area, her book will be available for sale after the program.

Historic Rosedale

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

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 27, Contact site for times and to make reservations

Children of all ages are welcome to come and join Rosedale for an Easter Egg hunt. The staff will be hiding eggs on our treasured grounds which hold a renovated garden area, a beautiful box wood maze, and an enchanting secret garden. A perfect picture for family moments during the Easter season. Price \$3 per child or adult with online registration by March 15th or \$5 per person at the gate.

Latta Plantation

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

The Art of the Blacksmith,

Saturday March 6 from 10 am to 4 pm, Sunday, March 7 from 1 to 4 pm

19th century blacksmiths on the grounds providing demonstrations.

What's Cookin' at Latta? Saturday, March 27 from 10 am to 4 pm

See open hearth cooking in the plantation kitchen, slave cabin, and outside on the grounds. Learn about period cooking techniques and tour the plantation house.

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 3, see times below

Children ages 1-10 can hunt for toy and candy filled eggs across the plantation! Hunts will be at 11:00am (ages 1-3), 12:30pm (ages 4-6), and 2:00pm (ages 7-10). There will be grand prize eggs hidden for each age group! Have children in more than one age group? Make a day of it and picnic, visit the farm animals, tour the plantation house, and see the Easter Bunny on the covered wagon! The cost is \$5 per child (2 free adults per child, additional adults pay regular site admission). Pre-registration is required!

Civil War Soldier For a Day, Saturday, April 10 from 10 am to 4 pm

Boys and girls ages 8-12 will be mustered into the Northern and Southern armies for a day. This one day version of our popular summer Civil War Soldier Camp will take children back in time for a Civil War experience they will never forget! After learning about soldier life, they will drill, battle, and end the day with a graduation ceremony. Children will receive a Civil War kepi (hat) to keep and other equipment will be loaned to them for the day. Pre-registration is required

Ghost Hunt , Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17 from 9 pm to 2 am

This is a unique opportunity to conduct a scientific paranormal investigation across the plantation at night. Led by the North American Society, participants will have a one hour training session, followed by small group investigations around the site. \$60 per person. Pre-registration is required

Discover Latta Plantation Girl Scout Event , Saturday, April 24 from 10 am to 4 pm

Open to the public. Girl Scouts that trained in March will return to demonstrate their living history skills to the public. Interpreting the lives of early 19th century planters, yeomen farmers, and enslaved African Americans, the girls will demonstrate open-hearth cooking, spinning ,weaving, cornhusk dolls, candle making, butter churning, house tours, and English Country Dancing.

The Charlotte Museum of History

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

New Exhibit: Beneath the Badge: Policing in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Opens March 27

Beneath the Badge, a partnership between the museum and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department will highlight the history of our area's law enforcement past.

Events associated with this exhibit:

Saturday March 27 from 10 am to 5 pm – Opening celebration including interactive demonstrations and hands-on activities with specialized units of CMPD.

Saturday April 10 from Noon to 3 pm – Demonstrations by K9 unit; see police boats and cruisers; learn crime prevention techniques.

Thursday, April 15 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. CMPD Deputy Chief Harold Medlock, Officer Eric Boulware, and research historian Ryan Sumner will discuss the history of policing in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Living History Day: Cords and Nets. Sunday, March 7 from 11 am to 4 pm

Participants will learn to make string from natural materials and the knots necessary to make a net. We will make a small net for a trap or a net bag you can carry items in. Participants should bring a knife, notebook and pen and bring your lunch.

Admission is charged. Advanced registration is required for participation, and is limited.

Living History Day: Gourds. Saturday, April 3 from 11 am to 4 pm

Participants will learn to clean, cut, and decorate gourds for a variety of projects. We will make a bowl, bucket or container out of a gourd. Participants should bring a knife, notebook and pen, and bring your lunch.

Admission is charged. Advanced registration is required for participation, and is limited.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

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

www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

Movie Night at the Polk Site. Tuesday, March 2 at 7 pm, Free

This is the second in a series of movie nights presented by the President James K. Polk State Historic Site and the Polk Memorial Support Fund Inc. Our second movie screening will feature the 1999 movie "Ride with the Devil." This film is rated R.

The USS James K. Polk Submarine exhibit featuring the history of the nuclear submarine the **USS James K. Polk** and the everyday lives of her crewmen will be up for another month. Stop by and see it before it comes down.

Rural Hill

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

Loch Norman Highland Games. Friday evening and all day Saturday and Sunday, April 16-18.

Check www.ruralhill.net for schedule.

This annual event includes traditional Scottish competitions such as tossing the stone, heaving the sheaf and the Caber Toss (throwing a telephone pole for accuracy), plus children's games, meeting of the clans, piping and drumming, highland dancing, and so much more. There will be a Celtic music concert Saturday evening featuring visiting groups and individual music performers.

Schiele Museum

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

Dye, Scratch and Pick: Easter Customs in the Backcountry, Sunday, March 28 from 1 to 5 pm

Celebrate the coming of spring with backcountry settlers. Discover the wholesome beauty and gentle colors of eggs dyed with natural materials. Try your hand at "egg picking" or decorate your own egg with 18th century designs scratched with a pin. Search for the hidden nest of the "Ostr Hase" (Easter Hare) to learn if the children have been good or bad this year.

Gaston County Museum

131 West Main Street Dallas, NC. (704)922-7681, #2 www.gastoncountymuseum.org

The Battles of Kings Mountain and Cowpens. Sunday March 7 from 3 to 4 pm

***Our Victory was Complete* – Robert W. Brown Jr. — Book Talk/Signing**

From the rocky slopes of Kings Mountain to the plains of Hannah's Cowpens, the Carolina backcountry hosted two of the Revolutionary War's most critical battles. On October 7, 1780, the Battle of Kings Mountain utilized guerilla techniques—American Over Mountain Men wearing buckskin and hunting shirts and armed with hunting rifles attacked Loyalist troops from behind trees, resulting in an overwhelming Patriot victory. In January of the next year, the Battle of Cowpens saw a different strategy but a similar outcome: with brilliant military precision, Continental Regulars, Dragoons, and Patriot militia executed the war's only successful double envelopment maneuver to defeat the British. Using firsthand accounts and careful analysis of the best classic and modern scholarship on the subject, historian Robert Brown demonstrates how the combination of both battles facilitated the downfall of General Charles Cornwallis and led to the Patriot victory in America.

Blood on the Cloth: Ella May Wiggins & the 1929 Gastonia Strike. Saturday April 10 from 2 to 3 pm

During this program, Roxanne Newton, PhD will discuss Ella May Wiggins and the events surrounding the 1929 Loray Mill Strike that occurred in Gastonia, NC. Amid the strife and upheaval in the American South of the 1920s, the 1929 Loray Mill Strike in Gastonia serves as an emblem of the violent textile labor disputes of the time. During this calamitous period, textile worker Ella May Wiggins became a labor leader who rallied people to the union cause with her impassioned speeches and moving ballads.

Historic Brattonsville

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

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

Children's Day on the Farm, Saturday, March 27 from 10 am to 4 pm

This family event focuses on farm life in the 18th and 19th centuries, including children's crafts, toys and games, candle-making, live performances and a 4-H petting zoo. Pony rides, tractor-drawn wagon rides and food available.

The McCelvey Center

212 E. Jefferson St., York, SC, 803.684.3948 x 33

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

Southern Revolutionary War Institute Symposium**All For Liberty. Friday, March 19, from 7 to 9 pm**

View a movie about the Revolutionary War in South Carolina, filmed in part at Historic Brattonsville and featuring local reenactors. **Cost** \$8 for CHM Members, \$10 non-members.

The Revolution in North Carolina, June 1780 –March 1781. Saturday, March 20, from 9 am to 5 pm

Topics include: Ferguson's Invasion of N.C. by Scott Withrow; Guilford Courthouse by Josh Howard; African Americans in the N.C. Continental Line by Mike Scoggins; Mapping the Race to the Dan by Bill Anderson.

Cost: One-day symposium, includes catered lunch: \$75. Two-day fee, includes film and reception Friday evening: \$100. For more information and registration please contact Michael Scoggins at 803.684.3948 x.31

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

War for Empire: 1760. Saturday and Sunday, April 10 and 11 from 10 am to 4 pm

In early 1760, efforts to keep the peace between the Cherokee and English disintegrated into all-out war. The frontiers of both Carolinas and Virginia became the scene of ruthless, bloody encounters between the former allies. Join hundreds of soldiers, Native Americans, and civilians from the 18th century at Fort Dobbs as we look at this crucial time in our state's history.

Kings Mountain National Military Park

SC Hwy 216. I-85, Exit 2 in North Carolina. Follow the signs. 864-936-7921

<http://www.nps.gov/kimo>

Militia Encampment, Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28 from 9 am to 5 pm, Free

Living History Interpreters will recreate an 18th century backcountry encampment and tell the story of the Battle of Kings Mountain. Weapons demonstrations will be held both days.

Howser House Tours, Saturday, April 17 from 11 am to 4 pm, Free

The 1803 Stone House will be open to the public. This is the first time the Howser House will be open to the public in the Spring. Meet Ms. Kitty Wilson Evans who will portray a slave who worked for the Houser`s.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park

Greensboro, NC. <http://www.nps.gov/guco/index.htm>

**Revolutionary War Lecture Series, Evenings, Tuesday, March 9 through Friday, March 12, at 7 pm
Reservations Required**

Tuesday, March 9: Race After the Dan: The Battles Leading Up to Guilford Courthouse
presented by Stewart Dunaway & Jeff Bright.

Wednesday, March 10: A Gallant Defense: The Siege of Charleston, 1780
presented by Carl Borick, Assistant Director of The Charleston Museum.

Thursday, March 11: Hurricane of Independence
presented by Tony Williams

Friday, March 12: Cool Deliberate Courage: John Eager Howard in the American Revolution
presented by Dr. Jim Picuch, Kennesaw State University.

The Battle of Guilford Courthouse Reenactment. Saturday and Sunday, March 13 and 14. See times below.

Encampment and battles at Country Park, 3905 Nathanael Green Dr.

Demonstrations and other ceremonies at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

Demonstrations at Tannenbaum Historic Park.

Living History, Suttlers, and Military Encampment, both days from 8:30 am to 5 pm. At Country Park

Battle Reenactments at 2 pm both days at Country Park.

Observance program Saturday, March 13 at 10 am at the Greene Monument in the Military Park.

Demonstrations throughout both days at Tannenbaum and Military Parks.

For details see web site above.

MHA Docents

Jim and Ann Williams

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