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A Wartime Christmas in the 1940s

Tom Brokaw aptly dubbed the young Americans who fought and won the world’s most all-encompassing conflict “The Greatest Generation.” These are the folks who have lived quiet lives tucked amongst the rest of us for years. They have been our parents, our grandparents, and now our great-grandparents, yet often we have no real idea of their experiences during the Second World War. Brought up in a different day, they usually don’t like to talk about themselves or relive their war memories. They are the family members with misty eyes at our get-togethers and the neighbors who are always there for you. We’ve known them through the years simply as “good people:” the kind of people whose gardens are larger than their houses, who love telling corny jokes and singing the old hymns and who always meet you with a friendly greeting.

Today this generation is vanishing. WWII veterans leave us at the rate of 1,800 per day. As the 70th anniversary of Pearl Harbor approaches, it is important that we remember this generation and teach a new generation about their sense of community, patriotism, and sacrifice. Often the best way to do this is through an up-close and personal look at their lives.

Historic Rosedale Plantation will offer just such a look with “Wartime Christmas.” The Plantation House will be decorated for Christmas as it was in the 1940s and visitors will see many facets of the home front experience during the war including the role of women in wartime production, rationing, and even how Christmas toys and ornaments changed due to the war.

The most devastating cost of war, however, is the human cost. Now that we are several generations removed from the war, it is easy to glamorize the era and forget the staggering loss of life that touched virtually every family in America. The Craig Davidson family of Rosedale Plantation was no exception. Artifacts related to the service of Jo Graham Davidson, Jr. will be on display and visitors will be able to see the last words he penned to his cousin, Mary Louise Davidson, of Rosedale. Raymond Henderson will be on site to discuss the black experience during the war. Raymond is the son of Lester Henderson who was a farm hand at Rosedale and the father of eighteen children.



Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941

The Wartime Christmas Program will run at Historic Rosedale, Thursdays through Sundays, from November 12-December 18, with two special weekend events. Millie Hodge and June McKinney, MHA docents and Rosedale volunteers, will be on hand during both special weekends sharing their recollections of the war years.

- On November 12th and 13th, commemorating Armistice Day, WWII veterans and their spouses will be one hand to informally chat with visitors to the exhibit.
- On December 3rd and 4th, commemorating Pearl Harbor Day, a WWII re-enactment will be held.

If you, or someone you know, would be willing to share your WWII experiences, either with the public or with the Historic Rosedale staff, please contact us at mhadandelion@mindspring.com to make arrangements.

See The History Calendar in this issue for more details.

Beth Harris

From the Chairman

Preserving History

I did not survive. I died. And I wasn't even supposed to be there. Jamestown 1607: 104 men and boys, no women, landed at Jamestown, Virginia. They endured the worst year of their lives, and over half of them died.

"Survivor Jamestown – will you survive?" an interactive maze at the Charlotte Museum of History, has now moved on. June McKinney and I wove ourselves through the maze by making choices. We first chose where to build our fort: inland, bay marsh, or bay island. Bay island was not our first choice; we earned negative points. We encountered "Wheels of MISfortune: a log smashes our hand – negative points. We made decisions quickly! Food or gold? Food, of course. Positive points. Who will work, gentlemen or laborers? Everyone, of course. Positive points. What will you plant in the short season left? Corn, peas. (Turtles are good food and they have their own container.) More Wheels of MISfortune. We are bitten by a cottonmouth. Negative points. Ate Tuckahoe marsh plant without drying it first. Became violently sick, but survived. Negative points. Then the Winter of 1607 hit with extreme cold and snow. June and I decided that we died.

I was surprised by this because I have trained myself to survive in the wilderness, and I know edible wild plants. I know Tuckahoe; but if you are starving, you eat to regret it. (What I learned: I want to try turtle. Can anyone get me a big one? Fresh but not alive, please.)

Several exhibits preserve an artist's and the South's history with the 100th anniversary of Romare Bearden's birth. They are at the Mint Uptown (till early January), the Gantt Museum (in January), and the Jerald Melberg Gallery (till November 12). My family and I viewed the exhibits at the Mint (free on Tuesdays, 5-9 pm) and the Melberg Gallery (free). My favorite is the Melberg Gallery. You can get close to the artwork and the lighting brings out the color of the collages. It's a smaller venue, and you are surrounded by Bearden. My daughter doesn't care for the collages, and that's OK. She doesn't have to like Bearden, but she needs to know about him. I revel in the paper pieces of bright colors depicting his "Southern Recollections", his Southern themes of quilts, music, watermelon, yet the window or train leads us beyond this place in time.

Audrey Mellichamp

Newsletter Deadline

Thanks to all who have contributed so much to this publication! The deadline for the January/February Dandelion is December 8th; send us interesting articles, reports of past events, and all your calendar listings. Send them to Ann and Jim Williams at 1601 Wendover Road, Charlotte, NC 28211, or email mhadandelion@mindspring.com.

MHA Docent Programs

Our November program was to be a tour of the Latibah Collard Green Museum. Unfortunately flooding at the site has caused it to be rescheduled. See article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Tuesday, November 1, 2001 Butternut Tears

This meeting 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.

Arlene Showalter will speak to us about her new novel *Butternut Tears* set during the Civil War and situated in Salisbury, NC. The story is told by three members of the Maxwell family: Clara who knits socks for the army and feeds the prisoners, her mother who conquers her bitterness by tending to wounded soldiers and sewing uniforms, and her brother Jimmy who transfers the wounded to local hospitals and becomes a prison guard.

Arlene, a lover of history, recently moved to Salisbury and discovered a prison camp for Yankee soldiers had been located near the center of town. This piqued her interest and she began researching local Civil War history, especially as it pertained to those living ordinary lives in its midst. She will talk about her book and how she came to write it. She will have books for sale. The October issue of Our State Magazine has an article about Salisbury's Confederate Prison – a perfect background piece for this program.

Tuesday, December 6, 2011 Christmas Tea

Please join us for the MHA Docent Christmas Tea, our annual festive celebration with the entire history community. The Tea will take place in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church at 10 a.m. Janet Dyer and some of her musical friends from the Schiele Museum will present a program on Early American music, especially Christmas music. They will explain and demonstrate a variety of instruments, and play joyful seasonal music for our enjoyment. What a perfect beginning for the Holiday Season!

We'll begin at 9:45 with a brief business meeting followed by the program at 10. After the program we'll enjoy delicious food and festivity. All docents should bring a treat suitable for a luncheon or tea, and arrive by 9:30 in order to arrange the tables. Feel free to bring a guest, perhaps a future docent. Visitors are not only welcome, but encouraged, especially our friends from area historic sites.

MHA Dinner Meeting

Monday, November 14, at Trinity Presbyterian Church. This is our Holiday Bazaar which starts at 6:00 with appetizers, beverages, and things for sale. It is followed by dinner at 6:30 and the program at 7:15. Those not having dinner are welcome to enjoy the program at no charge. To make a reservation for dinner use the order form in your MHA Newsletter or contact Jane Johnson at 704 544 0695 or JJCNC@aol.com

Monday, November 13 Liberty's Ladies

Our speaker for November is Patti Proctor who will speak on "Liberty's Ladies." This presentation highlights numerous women of the Revolutionary War years from the Mecklenburg County area, detailing their contributions,



lifestyles and roles during the War, plus their encounters with the British Army. She will be dressed in clothing typical of the 1780's.

Patti Proctor is a native Charlottean who attended local schools and colleges. Her hobby of Civil War re-enacting for nearly 20 years led her to research women's lifestyles from the Colonial era to the World War II years. Yearly, Patti presents over 75 programs to a variety of civic and private organizations including historic sites, assisted living facilities, and most recently, a presentation at the 8th Annual Francis Marion Symposium in Manning, SC.

Docent Book Club

Docent's Book Club will meet after the November meeting. This is unexpected so you had no reading assignment for this date. However, it will be good to have some time to hear suggestions for what we want to read and discuss in January. Also, our speaker has written a historical novel (*Butternut Tears*) set in Salisbury during America's Civil War. Even though there is not enough time to read this (she will have books for sale at the meeting) we can discuss the program!! Hope to see you there, be sure to bring your ideas for 2012.

Rachel Abernathy

Docent Regional History Course

Is this Halloween season, 2011, too soon to start planning for January and February, 2012? Not at all. In fact, your Education Committee-plus-3 has been hard at work planning our third biannual Regional History Course, "From Wagon Roads to New South City." The course will cover events in our history from the earliest days through the 20th century. So save these Saturday dates: January 28, February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2012. Five Saturday morning sessions will be chock full of local history for Docents especially but also for the public in general.

In addition to Alice Bostic and me, our Education Committee for this year has expanded and for this we are grateful. Angelica Docog and Brandie McDonald, (Charlotte Museum of History), and Tom Hanchett, (Levine Museum of the New South), have been active in our entire planning process. Their ideas, insights, and contacts have been invaluable.

Our presenters are responding and the program looks—dare I say it—AWESOME! Mary Kratt and Kitty Wilson-Evans are among the familiar names on board; others are new to our program. We are sure you will enjoy getting to know them—all experts in their fields.

The entire schedule of topics and presenters, as well registration information, will be revealed in the January-February issue of the *Dandelion*. So save the dates and join the fun.

Educationally yours, Rachel Abernathy

P.S. Happy Halloween!

Flooding at the Latibah Collard Green Museum

During one of our September rainstorms the Latibah (Life and Times in Black American History) Museum suffered serious flooding and the badly damaged building had to be closed. Most of its displays and artifacts were rescued and have been moved to the Harvey Gantt African American Culture Center while Latibah finds a new home. The good news is that the old building was bought by the County as part of their flood plain buy-out program. The museum's director, T'Afo Feimster is currently searching for a new site. He feels confident the museum will be up and running soon after the beginning of the year.

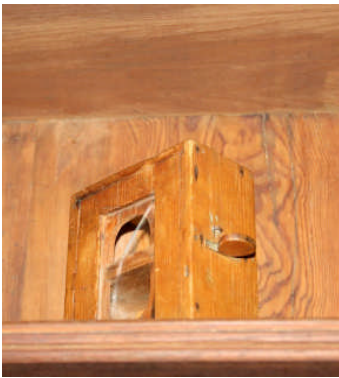
The MHA Docents had planned a tour of Latibah for our November meeting. We hope to schedule a visit to their new site in the early spring, and see their wonderful exhibits safely situated on higher ground.

October Outing

The docent bus trip to Asheville to visit the Zebulon Vance Home and the Thomas Wolfe Memorial was delightful! The entire day was sunny and warm, as the predicted rainy cold front was detained. We had a fine group of docents and a number of guests.

On our way home travelers wrote down comments about the day; here is a summary of their thoughts.

Most liked the idea of visiting only two sites and spending two hours at each one. Several people wished we had had more time at the Wolfe Memorial in order to see all of the museum exhibits. This was a pleasant surprise to me as Wolfe is more of a literary figure than a historic one. I guess I underestimated the broad interests of our group.



The bee box at the Vance site was a big hit. It's a wooden box of about 3 by 5 inches and 2 inches deep. On the top is an oval glass window. After a hive in the woods has been smoked, the box is used to trap a drowsy queen. I suppose you look through the window to be sure you've trapped the right bee. Then you can relocate the queen to a hive on your own property. When a drone gets wind of her delightful aroma, he loses no time in flying directly to her. Hence, "a bee line." The Vance interpreter said this was their most unusual artifact; I don't think any of us had ever seen one.

Everyone enjoyed the Stoney Knob Café, snacks on the bus, and fall color at its peak. Altogether we had a most successful journey to the mountains.

Ann Williams



A Princess from Mecklenburg-Strelitz ascends the Throne of England

On October 11th, the Charlotte Museum of History and the German Language & Culture Foundation presented, "A Princess from Mecklenburg-Strelitz ascends the Throne of England," a lecture by Friederike Drinkuth, PhD, on Queen Charlotte and her fascinating life. When Mecklenburg County was formed and later when the town of Charlotte was founded, Charlotte was Queen Consort of King George III of England. Dr. Drinkuth lives in the Mecklenburg-Strelitz area of Germany and lectures in Germany, Great Britain and the United States. Her latest publication is an anniversary edition about Queen Charlotte which exclusively reveals the true accomplishments of her life with King George III. Copies are available at the Charlotte Museum of History gift shop.

The lecture was fascinating. Princess Sophie Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz was born in Mirow (north of

Berlin) on May 19, 1744. She was born to a non-reigning Duke and Duchess of the rural, small and very modest court of Mirow who moved their court to the old Upper Castle in Mecklenburg-Strelitz in 1752. She grew up in the utmost simplicity. English was not part of Charlotte's education, embroidery was one of her favorite pastimes, and her family attended church every week. Her family called her Lottchen, the diminutive of Charlotte. Mecklenburg-Strelitz had about 400 residents.

Charlotte was among eight princesses, all German Protestants, chosen as possible brides for the future King George III. In May of 1761, at age 17, Charlotte was chosen without George ever having seen her. On August 18th, her carriages left her castle in Mecklenburg-Strelitz. She never returned home again. On August 24th, her ships left for London. Another fascinating fact (contributed by Jim Williams) is that George, Lord Anson, a celebrated English admiral, commanded the escort that brought Princess Charlotte from Germany to England. Anson County, NC, had been named in his honor in 1750. On September 7th, Charlotte landed in London, home of 700,000 inhabitants. On September 8th, she was wed to George at the Chapel Royal at St. James Palace. Yes, she was married the day after she arrived in England! Recorded comments on Charlotte were varied and included "in no way is she literate", "without any ornament", "hopeless at politics". She could be called a German aristocratic hillbilly.



On September 22nd, as long planned, George's festive coronation as King and Charlotte's as Queen took place in Westminster Abbey. At a time when Kings always had mistresses and Queens usually had affairs, Charlotte and George remained faithful to each other throughout their lives and they had 15 children, referring to themselves as "Mr. and Mrs. King." Charlotte was called the "Queen of Botany," had singing lessons with Bach, and was a patron of Mozart who, in 1765, dedicated his Opus #3 to Queen Charlotte. Among contemporaries, their court had the reputation of being the most boring in Europe as there was a lack of affairs and because both George and Charlotte valued a homely, simple life which continued even after King George became mad from porphyria, a severe metabolic disease, in 1788. In her later years, difficult relationships with their grown children and the burden of the crown made Charlotte increasingly lonely and unhappy. In a letter to her brother, she said, "...I discover, little by little, that the Royal Crown and the title of Majesty do not bear comparison to that of a Christian. The latter not only furnishes me with but also commands me to fulfill the duties of humanity." Charlotte died in Kew November 17, 1818, aged 74.

Dr. Drinkuth doubts that Queen Charlotte ever knew that our city and county were named in her honor.

Linda Dalton

City of Canvas

An often overlooked piece of Mecklenburg history will come to life on Friday, 11/11/11 at 9 p.m. on WTVI, Cable channel 5. *City of Canvas*, a documentary by Jack Dillard, will showcase Camp Greene. On the anniversary of the end of World War I, Mr. Dillard weaves the story of how Charlotte got Camp Greene and embraced thousands of men from around the country, men mostly new to the South. Politicians and the average citizen had their lives changed as Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and the surrounding areas welcomed the Army!

If you miss the initial showing, WTVI will rebroadcast it on 11/12 at 7:00 p.m. and 11/13 at 7:30 and 11 p.m.

Jane Johnson



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 Wartime Christmas – Armistice Day, Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13 from Noon to 4pm.
This program honoring World War II veterans, and commemorating Armistice Day, is part of the site’s “Wartime Christmas” exhibit. World War II veterans and spouses will be on hand to meet visitors to the exhibit and chat about their experiences. Rosedale’s “Wartime Christmas” exhibit interprets the Charlotte home front during the war years. The exhibit runs from Nov. 12 – Dec. 18,

A Wartime Christmas – Pearl Harbor Day, Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4 from Noon to 4 pm, reenactment at 2 pm each day.
This program, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, is part of the site’s “Wartime Christmas.” There will be a WWII re-enactment at 2pm both days. The “Wartime Christmas” exhibit interprets the Charlotte home front during the war years. The exhibit runs from Nov. 12 – Dec. 18,

Latta Plantation

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

Beginning Sewing Workshop, Saturday, November 12, from 10 am to 3 pm
This beginning sewing workshop will teach the basics of sewing and embroidery. Participants will make their own decorative bookcover. Supplies will be provided. **Cost is \$25** and workshop will be limited to 10 participants, **ages 8-16.** For more information, please contact Maureen Stiene mstiene@lattaplantation.org or 704-875-2312.

Antique Tractor Show, Saturday and Sunday, November 19 and 20 from 10 am to 4 pm
Remember North Carolina’s farming heritage at the antique tractor show, sponsored by the Stumptown Tractor Club. There will be tractors on display, a tractor pull contest, frying pan toss, cooking demonstrations, children’s activities, and more!

A Plantation Christmas, Friday and Saturday, November 25 and 26 from 10 am to 4 pm
Begin the Christmas season by stepping back into an 1860s Christmas. The plantation will be decorated in keeping with the time period. Visitors will learn about 19th century Christmas traditions, meet a Victorian St. Nick in the plantation house, see open hearth cooking in the kitchen, and much more!

Candlelight Christmas, Saturday, December 10 from 6 to 9 pm
Step into an 1820s Christmas at Latta as you tour the plantation by candlelight. Visitors will meet animals in the carriage barn, see dancing in the house, Meet Mr. and Mrs. Latta, enjoy the excitement of children before bedtime, see a Christmas meal being prepared in the kitchen, and more.

The Charlotte Museum of History

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

American Indian Heritage Celebration, Saturday, November 5 from 10:30 am to 4 pm, Free
This celebration has plenty of activities for all ages with educational hands-on crafts, youth targeted tour brochures, free Hoop Dance Workshop by Dennis Zotigh, lectures and presentations about native culture and

native artisans. "Native Words Native Warriors," a Smithsonian traveling exhibit will be on display along with performers and artisans from the Navajo Nation.

Our Lives, Our Stories: The Greatest Generation Opening Day, Saturday, November 12

This exhibit looks at those individuals who lived through World War II and how these events shaped their lives. This exhibit will be at the Charlotte Museum of History from November 12th to January 7th.

Civil War Lantern Tour, Saturday, December 3 at 6, 7, and 8 pm.

Tours will be conducted by the NC 43rd and Lantham's Light Artillery, a Charlotte-based Civil War reenactment unit. Interact with foot soldiers, officers, doctors, and civilians as they face the trials of the years between 1861 and 1865. See the campfires, smell the cooking, and listen to the stories, providing an in-depth look at the conditions of the time. Events reenacted on the tour are based on letters, diaries, and other documents and records from the Civil War. Advance reservations are required

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

12031 Lancaster Hwy., Pineville, NC, 704 889 7145
www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

Polk Birthday Celebration, Saturday November 5 from 10 am to 4 pm, Free

This living history program will bring back to life the Polk family of Mecklenburg County in November 1795, when James K. Polk was born into the family. Activities will include an historic cooking demonstration, children's games and other hands-on activities.

We will also celebrate the opening of our new exhibit, "Rounders to Baseball" which traces the history of baseball from its origins as an English game called Rounders through the first professional game played during President Polk's administration and the impact the game has had on North Carolina and the city of Charlotte. At 11:00 am Dr. Christopher Rounds of Allen University will be giving a lecture on the impact of the Negro League in the Carolinas.

Christmas with the Polks, Saturday, December 10 from 11 am to 3 pm, Free

Visitors will see a living history vignette in the main house. Each building will be decorated in the 19th century style. Come and learn about food and customs from Christmas in 1802!

The Carl J. McEwen Historical Village

7601 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd. 704-573-0726
<http://www.minthillhistory.com>

Salute to Veterans, Saturday, November 6 from 9 am to 3 pm.

Civil War reenactors will show "Camplife," while Generals Lee and Longstreet discuss their strategy for Chancellorsville around the campfire. There will be a flag display and Boy Scout Troop 144 will do the flag raising at 9 am. Veterans of WWII will attend and tell stories. One was a witness to the Pearl Harbor bombing Dec. 7, 1941. Another one was in a plane that ditched over Berlin and became a POW from July 1944-April 1945. He marched 700 miles across Poland and was liberated by the British Army. A third speaker was a pilot shot down over Germany who spent 6 months as a POW and is the author of "Furrows in the Clouds".

Rural Hill

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

Rural Hill Sheepdog Trials and Dog Festival, Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13 from 8 am.

Many of the world's best and brightest border collies will be on hand to perform, with their owner, their sheep herding skills. The Trials Dog Festival will also offer historic agriculture machinery, docent demonstrations in the 1760's cabin, pumpkin chunkin', kid's inflatable houses, and more. Gates open at 8 AM each day. Non-competing dogs are welcomed but must remain leashed and under their owner's control

Holly Bend

Neck Road past Rural Hill, in Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge.

On the right after the road becomes gravel.

Latta Plantation Information Center – 704 875 1391

Open House at Holly Bend, Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13 from 9 am to 4:30 pm. Free.

Come see the latest historic property acquired by Mecklenburg County. Holly Bend is the Plantation home of Robin and Peggy Davidson who lived there from 1800 when it was built to 1864 when Peggy died.

Schiele Museum

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

Stone Age Heritage Day, Saturday, November 12 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Learn the real story behind "Cave Man" technology. Tour the exciting CAVES exhibit and witness Stone Age skills firsthand—stone tool making, spear throwing, cordage and net making, cave art and more. Students can make their own bullroarer and all can attend a special presentation of Our Ancestors, Ourselves: Our Shared Stone Age Heritage.

Harvest Day, Saturday, November 19, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Join us for our annual Harvest Day Celebration – the 18th century version of 21st century Thanksgiving! Visit the Backcountry Farm as skilled interpreters labor by open hearth and outdoor fires roasting, baking, and stewing a "Grand Fare" of traditional delights. Watch as hunters make ready their firearms while swapping stories of the "ones that got away". At the close of the day, costumed interpreters sit down to partake of the Harvest meal in the manner and spirit of our ancestors.

Cave Animals, Friday, November 25 at 11 am.

Discover the underground world and its strange inhabitants. In the dark you will find blind fish, bat eating snakes, animals that can navigate in the night, and many more. Learn the special adaptations animals have developed to live in the underground world of caves.

Colonial Christmas, Saturday, December 10 from 2 to 6 pm

Celebrate Christmas in the 18th-century style. Join us in the "Procession of the Yule Log", decorating with greenery, singing early American carols, and English country dancing. As the day draws to a close, gather with our Backcountry family for the traditional Candle-lighting Service and scripture reading. Enjoy a taste of Christmas pudding and hot gingered apple cider.

Gaston County Museum

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

Patriots or Traitors: North Carolina's Civil War, New Exhibit, September 20 through March 10, 2012.

This exhibit portrays North Carolina's involvement in the Civil War, illustrated by the experiences of five different characters – an enlisted soldier, an officer, a slave, a woman, and a child. Each character tells about a unique aspect of the war that affected them; some are based on actual people from North Carolina, while others are a representation. Museum hours: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Historic Brattonsville

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

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

Christmas Candlelight Tours, Saturdays, December 10 and 17, from 3 to 9 pm.

Walk the candlelit paths of Historic Brattonsville and experience a Christmas in the Carolina backcountry. Meet the new settlers, plantation owners and enslaved African Americans as they bring to life the holiday seasons of the 18th and 19th centuries. Family activities include candle-dipping, children's activities and more.

Fiber Friends Natural Dyeing, Saturday, November 5 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Interpreters will use a variety of natural dye stuffs to turn sheep's wool, cotton and linen into beautifully colored fiber and cloth. Come and find out how pumpkins, trees, nuts and berries are all used in the process.

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 3 from 10 am to 4 pm

Enjoy the only Christmas candlelight tour you can take in the daytime! Special tours will tell how Christmas was celebrated over the years at Reed Gold Mine by John Reed, and other miners and their families. The celebration continues in the Visitor Center with crafts, historical demonstrations, musical performances, and free refreshments.

Andrew Jackson State Park

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

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

Candlelight Tours, Saturday, November 12, from 6 to 7:30 pm

Take a candlelight tour and catch a glimpse of early settlers living in the Waxhaws. Experience 18th century daily life, and see the events that shaped the community as you step back in time. Designed for all ages.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882

<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

Military Timeline, Saturday, Nov. 12 from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday, Nov. 13 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Visit with Cherokee warriors, Johnny Reb and Billy Yank, WWII G.I.'s and grunts from Vietnam, and learn how their uniforms, equipment, and experience have changed over the past three hundred years. Cannon and small arms demonstrations will be featured.

Living History Weekend, Saturday, December 10 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Re-enactors representing the provincial garrison of Fort Dobbs will present on-going demonstrations of 18th Century camp life, as well as featured musket and cannon firing demonstrations.

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>

Veterans Day Encampment, Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13 from 9 am to 5 pm

Re-enactors from the Backcountry Militia will be camped at the park. Visit the militia encampment and enjoy weapons demonstrations.

Howser House Open House, Saturday, November 26 from 11 am to 4 pm

The 1803 stone Howser House will be open to the public for tours. The house is open twice a year to the public.

Kings Mountain State Park

I-85 Exit 8 in NC and follow the signs

<http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/945.aspx>

Pieces of the Past Living History Demonstration, Saturday, November 19 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Join us for a look at past skills needed to survive on a yeomen's farm. Demonstrations will include blacksmithing, open fire cooking, wood working and more.

Historic Camden

Highway 521 just South of Camden, SC

(803) 432-9831; Fax (803) 432-3815 <http://www.historic-camden.net>

Revolutionary War Field Days, Saturday and Sunday, November 5 and 6 from 10 am to 5 pm

500 re-enactors interpret life on the Southern Campaign trail. Battle reenactment at 1:30 (don't be late) followed by military courts martial, period craftsmen and civilian interpreters, plus shopping on Sutlers Row, Artillery Demonstrations, a traveling troubadour, and more. Food concessions and free parking.

Southern Campaign of the American Revolution

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

Lord Cornwallis Retreats, SCAR Corps of Discovery, Saturday, November 19, at 9 am, Fort Mill, SC, Free

In the fall of 1780 Lord Cornwallis retreated from Charlotte, with his tail between his legs, to Winnsboro, SC. We will gather at the Rush Pavilion in the Anne Springs Close Greenway (Coffee at 9, presentations start at 9:30).

There will be a car-pool tour of Lord Cornwallis' inglorious retreat from Charlotte; we'll go to Thomas Spratt's home site, site of a colonial fort, and cemetery, cross Steele Creek where Rawdon made the Loyalists act as draft animals; and on to Land's Ford where Cornwallis' Army finally crossed the Catawba River. We have a day full of sites and experts to tell the story of this British "strategic retreat". The public is invited, and will have a moderately-priced "Dutch Treat" lunch catered.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte

www.folksociety.org



House Concert by Alan Jabbour and Ken Perlman, Friday, November 4, potluck at 6:30, concert at 8 pm.
Cornelius Home of Mark & Bethli Clemens, \$17 Adults; \$12 under 18. For reservations & directions, contact emiescher@bellsouth.net or 704-892-4914.

Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams, Friday, November 11 at 7:30, Free.
Singer/Songwriters Michael Reno Harrell and David Childers, doors open 7 PM. Free parking.

House Concert by Sara Grey and Kieron Means, Saturday, November 12, 7:30 pm.
Home of Harry Taylor in Myers Park, \$15.00. For reservations and directions, contact Harry at harrytaylor@folksociety.org or 704-579-9480.

Charlotte Folk Society Holiday Jam & Potluck, Sunday, December 11, from 4 to 9:45 pm.
Featuring a short performance of diverse seasonal songs by the Community Singers. Dilworth United Methodist Church, 605 East Blvd., Charlotte. 4 - 9:45 PM. Bring a dish to share or donate \$5/person towards expenses.

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704 714 4448

<http://www.dukemansion.com>

Charlotte in America's Wars, Sunday November 6 at 3 pm, Free
Popular local speaker David Erdman presents "Charlotte in America's Wars," an illustrated talk in honor of Veterans Day.

Davidson's Fort Historic Park

Off I-40 between Marion and Black Mountain.

www.davidsonfort.org.

Fall Muster at Davidson's Fort, Saturday, Nov. 26, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday Nov. 27 from 1 to 5 pm.
Davidson's Fort was built in the 18th Century. At this modern reproduction see how life was on the Western frontier. "Settlers" from around the area will gather to shop, trade, drill, and socialize.

MHA Docents
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