



Dinner Meeting

Monday, November 12, 2012

Wine and Appetizers at 6pm;

Dinner at 6:30pm followed by our program at 7:15pm

Fellowship Hall,
Trinity Presbyterian Church
3115 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28211

Upcoming Dinner Program

“Anything You Can Think of Doing, We’d Just Do it”

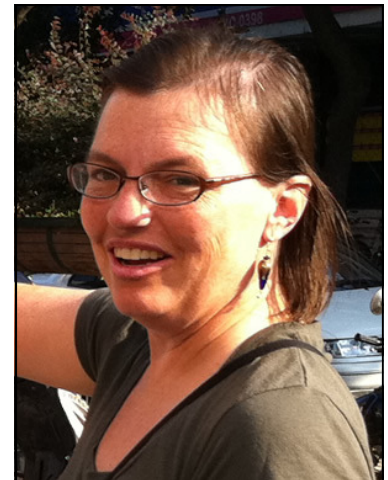
The Early History of Charlotte’s WBT Radio

In a talk entitled “Anything You Can Think of Doing, We’d Just Do It,” local historian **Pamela Grundy** will detail the early years of Charlotte’s WBT radio station as it celebrates its 90th birthday this year. This was a time of technical innovation, experimental programming and the occasional comic mishap.

Dr. Grundy wrote her masters’ thesis on WBT and also curated the Levine Museum of the New South exhibit, “Don’t Touch That Dial!”, Carolina Radio Since the 1920’s.

Two professional collectors of radio memorabilia will share artifacts from the early years of WBT and some of its personalities.

Please join us at 6:00pm for wine and appetizers as we enjoy the display of WBT artifacts. Dinner will be at 6:30pm as usual with the program at 7:15pm. See reservation information on page 3 in this newsletter.

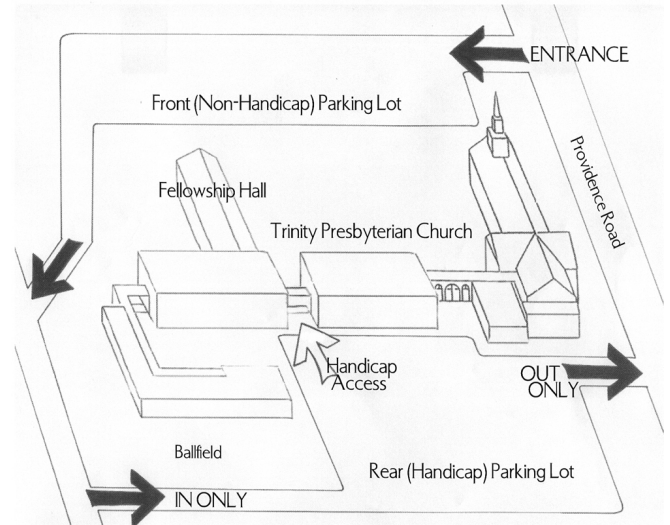


Inside this issue:

Remarks from the President	2
The True Image	2
Charlotte Museum of History Reopening	2
The History Calendar	3
Membership Renewals	3
Reservation Form	3
The History Calendar (continued)	4-6



**The MHA meets in Trinity Presbyterian Church’s Fellowship Hall.
3115 Providence Road**



Remarks from the President

Happy Fall to everyone! I can't wait for our November 12th program on WBT. What an enduring Charlotte icon. Thanks to Jane Johnson for arranging this program and the additional artifacts on display for us. Remember to come early at 6:00pm to socialize with a beverage and appetizer and browse the WBT artifacts. Jane and your Board are busy planning our dinner programs for calendar 2013.

At our November dinner meeting, MHA will also honor our beloved Kathy Herran with a gift to Charlotte Mecklenburg Middle Schools of her book, *They Dared To Roar, Women Who Made a Difference in the 1800's*. We hope to reach middle school students with these fascinating stories and stir their interest in history. A representative from CMS and members of Kathy's family will be with us for this presentation.

We still have a few of the Queen Charlotte ornaments available for sale and will have those at the November meeting. They are numbered and quite a unique collectible - \$40. All profits go to MHA.

Linda Dalton, President
leaseace@aol.com
704.661.8470

The True Image

Gravestone Art and the Culture of Scotch Irish Settlers in the Pennsylvania and Carolina Backcountry

By Daniel W. Patterson

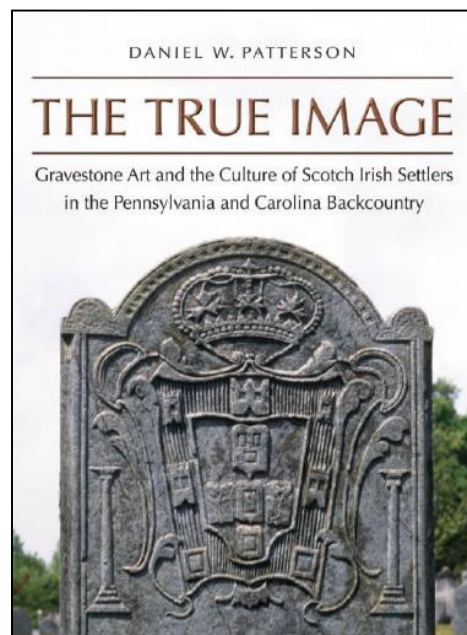
A thousand unique gravestones cluster around old Presbyterian churches in the piedmont of the two Carolinas and in central Pennsylvania. Most are the vulnerable legacy of three generations of the Bigham family, Scotch Irish stonecutters whose workshop near Charlotte created the earliest surviving art of British settlers in the region. In *The True Image*, Daniel Patterson documents the craftsmanship of this group and the current appearance of the stones. In two hundred of his photographs, he records these stones for future generations and compares their iconography and inscriptions with those of other early monuments in the United States, Northern Ireland, and Scotland.

Combining his reading of the stones with historical records, previous scholarship, and rich oral lore, Patterson throws new light on the complex culture and experience of the Scotch Irish in America. In so doing, he explores the bright and the dark sides of how they coped with challenges such as backwoods conditions, religious upheavals, war, political conflicts, slavery, and land speculation. He shows that headstones, resting quietly in old graveyards, can reveal fresh insights into the character and history of an influential immigrant group.

Available from the University of North Carolina Press - \$49.95

About the Author

Daniel W. Patterson is Kenan Professor Emeritus of English and Folklore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is author or editor of nine books, including *The Shaker Spiritual*, *Sounds of the South*, and *A Tree Accurst: Bobby McMillon and Stories of Frankie Silver*.



Charlotte Museum of History Re-opening

MHA received the following information from The Charlotte Museum of History:

The Charlotte Museum of History has now planned a sustainable business model for future museum operations. We are ready to begin re-opening and reforming our operations. The Hezekiah

Alexander House will be open the first Saturday of each month, the first step toward having the house open on a more regular basis in 2013.

Our new plans focus our mission tightly on education; the preservation of, and public access to, the historic house; and telling the early history of Charlotte in a way that attracts more visitors. We learned in recent community conversations our collections and archives are

relatively unknown and undervalued by the general community. We will continue to focus on objects in use at the Homesite and the relatively small portion of our collection (less than 150 of roughly 7000 objects) that date from before 1865 and have a documented tie to Mecklenburg County.

The Museum's paper and photographic archives will be transferred to the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Main Library.

The History Calendar

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted. Check the Charlotte Regional History Consortium website for other events. www.charlotteregionalhistory.org

Historic Rosedale

3427 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC,
704-335-0325 www.historicrosedale.org

Honoring our Heroes, a special exhibit from Saturday, November 10 through Sunday, December 9.

Tours Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 and 3 pm.

Residents of the North Carolina piedmont found themselves preparing for war but praying for peace in late November 1941. When the tragic events of Dec. 7, 1941 unfolded in Pearl Harbor, it became clear that the United States would be unable to avoid a role in the conflict. The families living and working at Rosedale experienced the sacrifice, grief,

and triumph that was the common experience of all Americans during World War II. Come experience the plantation house filled with artifacts from the war years and see the contributions of those who lived and worked at Rosedale to the war effort. World War 2 veterans will be on hand from 1- 3pm Saturday and Sunday Nov. 10 and 11 to meet visitors and share their stories in addition to the exhibit.

Holiday Decorating Workshop, Saturday, December 8 from 11 am to 1 pm.

Participants will leave the workshop with their own creations from fresh southern greenery found right here on Rosedale's lovely eight acres of urban green space. The participation fee includes greenery, all wire, forms, etc. needed and ribbon to create a bow for the project. If participants wish to select and bring their own ribbon they may do so. \$25. Pre-register starting Nov. 1, 2012 at www.historicrosedale.org.

Latta Plantation

5225 Sample Road, Huntersville, NC,
704-875-2312 www.lattaplantation.org

Become a Pirate for a Day, Saturday, November 10, from 10 am to 4 pm

Boys and girls ages 8-13 can set sail on the seven seas and join a crew while learning about the pirates of the Carolina Coast. Campers will experience what it was like to be a pirate in colonial NC! Learn navigation skills, participate in a pirate battle, and enjoy a treasure hunt with your fellow buccaneers. Registration required.

Fall Harvest Festival, Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Bring the family out for a fun fall day at Latta! Meet the farm animals and enjoy numerous harvest presentations, listen to live music and shop from local artists and vendors! Children can milk the cow, gather eggs, join the water bucket relay and the tractor pull. See antique tractors courtesy of the Stumptown Tractor Club.

Membership Renewals

Have you renewed your membership for 2013? If you have not, or are joining for the first time, please fill in the form, make your check payable to Mecklenburg Historical Association, and mail to MHA, P.O. Box 35032, Charlotte, NC 28235. If your employer has a matching grant program or if you retired from such an organization, include the matching grant form with your check.

Membership form:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

category	single	couple
senior citizen (over 60)	\$15.00	\$25.00
general	30.00	50.00
patron	60.00	100.00
life (single payment)	300.00	500.00
student	free	n/a

Please send my MHA Newsletter by:

Email U.S. Mail Both

November 12, 2012 Dinner Meeting Reservation Form

Mail to: Mecklenburg Historical Association
c/o Jane Johnson, 210 Pineville Forest Drive, Pineville, NC 28134
or email: JJCNC@aol.com

Please make checks payable to Mecklenburg Historical Association.
Questions? Please email Jane Johnson (JJCNC@aol.com) or call her at 704-544-0695
Please mail your check one week before the dinner so we know how many meals we need.

Enclosed: \$ _____ (total) for _____ seats (\$12 for Seniors)
\$ _____ (total) for _____ seats (\$14 for all others)

The History Calendar—page 4

(continued from page 3)

A Plantation Christmas, Friday and Saturday, November 23 and 24 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Begin the Christmas season by stepping back into an 1860s Christmas. The plantation will be decorated for a time period Christmas. Visitors will learn about 1800s Christmas traditions and meet a Victorian St. Nick in the plantation house, see open-hearth cooking in the kitchen, and a slave Christmas in the cabin. Free with regular site admission (free to members).

Christmas Tea and Craft Program, Saturday, December 1 from 1 to 3 pm.

A fun historical afternoon for mother and daughter! Learn about the history of Christmas at this special holiday tea. The cost is \$25 per mother/daughter pair. Additional daughters are \$10 each. The cost includes a fan, craft materials, tea, and snacks. Pre-registration required.

A Candlelight Christmas, Saturday, December 15 from 6 to 9pm.

Walk through the plantation house, kitchen, cabin, and grounds by candlelight and experi-

ence an 1820s Christmas. See dancing in the house, meet the Latta family, see a slave Christmas in the kitchen, and more. The plantation will be decorated for the season— one of our most beautiful events.

The Charlotte Museum of History

3500 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC,
704-568-1774 www.charlottemuseum.org

Hezekiah Alexander Home Site Tours, Saturdays, November 3 and December 1 from 1 to 5 pm.

Costumed docents will give home tours of the oldest home in Mecklenburg County, built in 1774 on the current site. In May, the museum temporarily suspended public operations in order to restructure its programs and plans. During this time, the historic grounds have been and will continue to be available Tuesday to Sundays, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, with a cell phone guided tour of the site.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

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

James K. Polk Birthday Celebration, Saturday,

November 3 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.

Christmas in Mecklenburg County with the Polks, Saturday, December 8 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.

Rural Hill

4431 Neck Road, Huntersville, NC,
704-875-3113 www.ruralhill.net

First Footin' and Hogmanay, Tuesday, January 1 at 11 am, Free.

First Footin', also known as walking the bounds or "beating" the bounds is the traditional walk in the woods and fields around the boundaries of Rural Hill. Dress appropriate to the weather and wear sturdy shoes or boots. Hogmanay, or



"Preserving Mecklenburg's Heritage"

Post Office Box 35032
Charlotte, North Carolina 28235
Phone: 704-333-6422

VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.MECKDEC.ORG

The History Calendar—page 5

(continued from page 4)

Scottish New Year is a celebration of the New Year by sharing stone soup with your neighbors. The event is free but bring some vegetables to add to the soup or bread or desert.

Charlotte Folk Society

Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte www.folksociety.org

Bound for Carolina: Scots-Irish Traditions in the South. Friday, November 9, Great Aunt Stella Center.

7:30 PM, Free; donations appreciated. Doors open 7 PM. Free parking.

Using songs, stories, and dance tunes, David DiGiuseppe and Rob Sharer present a lively, engaging performance that traces folk traditions from the Scottish highlands to coastal Carolina; from northern Ireland to the Carolina piedmont and mountains. www.folksociety.org

Charlotte Folk Society Annual Holiday Potluck & Jams, Sunday, December 16, Dilworth United Methodist Church, 605 East Boulevard, Charlotte. 4-9:45 PM. Jams & song circle 4 PM. Dinner 5 PM.

The evening features a short program of songs of the season by gifted vocalist and songwriter Natalie Royal with singing and jamming following dinner. Bring a dish to share or donate \$5/person toward expenses.

Mint Hill Historical Society

The Carl J. McEwen Historical Village, 7601 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd. 704-573-0726 www.minthillhistory.com

Lee and Jackson – the Last Meeting, Friday, November 2 at 7 pm, free.

Bring a blanket and gather around the campfire to listen in as Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson discuss the events of the day, and plan their strategy of attack for the following day. Little did they know how important this meeting would become in American history.

Salute to Veterans, Saturday, November 3 from 9 am to 1 pm, Free.

Military memorabilia will be on display in the administrative building; uniforms, supplies, military equipment, "sawdust" bread that was fed to POW's in WWII, and much more! Featured reenactors and public speakers will showcase various military and civilian occupations during this time period.

Christmas Tea, Wednesday through Saturday, December 5-8 at 1, 4 and 7 pm.

Tea, treats, and holiday cheer in the 100+

year old Ashcraft One Room Schoolhouse. Reservations required. Call 704 545 4928. December 1 - 8: The Village Christmas Shoppe. Saturday December 1 to Saturday, December 8. Call for opening times.

Step into Christmas at the historic Surface Hill Gold Assay Office where you will find beautiful Christmas items, collectibles, and handcrafted gifts. Truly a one of a kind Christmas Shoppe!

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte, 704-714-4448 www.dukemansion.com

City of Canvas: Charlotte's WWI Camp Greene Sunday, Sunday, November 11 at 3 pm, free.

In honor of Veterans Day, learn the story of Charlotte's Camp Greene, the World War I installation that drew thousands of people to tiny Charlotte 1917-1918. Filmmaker Jack Dillard will discuss his work, and Jane Johnson of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library's Carolina Room will present an extensive display of Camp Greene memorabilia.

Schiele Museum

1500 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, N.C. 704-866-6900 www.schielemuseum.org

Harvest Day, Saturday, November 17 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Join us for our 38th Annual Harvest Day celebration at the 18th-Century Backcountry Farm. Watch cooks and bakers at work as they prepare a traditional holiday feast in a spirit of thanksgiving for the season's harvest. Visit with craftspeople and farm folk as they demonstrate early American skills & crafts.

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

Bring your family and celebrate Christmas in the 18th-century style. Join us in decorating with greenery, "Procession of the Yule Log", singing traditional carols, and English country dancing, which will be followed by a scripture reading and candle lighting service. Enjoy colonial hospitality with a taste of Christmas pudding and hot gingered apple cider.

Gaston County Museum

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

Moonshine Exhibit, Now through March 9, 2013.

This exhibit explores the long-standing history of whiskey making in Gaston County and North Carolina. Learn about legal and illegal

whiskey production through the years, and hear stories from both moonshiners and the men that tried to catch them. Walk through the exhibit and see whiskey stills from the 1700s to the present day, get your picture taken in a prison uniform outside a jail cell for selling moonshine, and visit a speakeasy from the 1920s.

Ancient Airs & Dances: Celtic Fiddle Concert with Jamie Laval, Friday, November 2 at 7:30 pm.

Jamie Laval, internationally-acclaimed Celtic violinist, will perform a solo concert featuring selections from his new album Murmurs and Drones. Laval performs traditional music of Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, Quebec and Appalachia. RSVP required by October 29 to Jeff Pruett 704-922-7681 x101

Victorian Christmas Tea, Saturday, December 8, call for times.

Come see the museum decorated for Christmas and learn the history of Victorian Christmas decorations. Partake in a tea party complete with fresh brewed tea or hot cocoa, pastries, and other savory offerings. While dressing up is not required, it is encouraged. Ages 6-up. Reservations required to Jeff Pruett at 704-922-7681 x101 or jeff.pruett@co.gaston.nc.us – \$10 per person – limited to 25 per session.

Holiday Open House, Friday December 14 from 3 to 7 pm.

Enjoy the Town of Dallas Christmas Parade beginning at 4 PM, and then join our program featuring Christmas traditions and fun for the whole family. See the museum decorated for Christmas, take part in cookie decorating and historic crafts, hear live music, watch or take part in historic dancing, and sample holiday treats. There will be a visit from Santa Claus for kids this day too! Visit the Museum Shop for holiday gifts featuring crafts by local artists, traditional wooden toys and contemporary items.

Clover Community Center

120 Bethel St., Clover, SC. www.cloversc.org Click on 125th Anniversary logo.

Family Snapshots, Friday, November 2 at 10 am, free.

Learn how to identify and date different types of photographs and how to protect them for future generations.

Preserving Grandma's Quilt and Grandpa's Uniform, Friday, November 16, at 10 am, free.

Find out best museum practices for taking care of clothing and other fabrics that are important to your family history.

The History Calendar—page 6

(continued from page 5)

Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site

9621 Reed Mine Rd., Midland, NC 28163,
704-721-GOLD (4653)
www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm

A Golden Christmas, Saturday, December 21
from 10 am to 4 pm, Free.

The only Christmas candlelight tour you can take in the daytime! The underground mine tunnels will be decorated for the holidays and special holiday-themed tours will tell how Christmas was celebrated over the years at Reed Gold Mine. The Stamp Mill will also be open for tours, and the celebration continues in the Visitor Center with crafts, historical demonstrations, musical performances, and free refreshments.

Museum of York County

4621 Mt. Gallant Rd., Rock Hill, SC,
803-329-2121
chmuseums.org/ourmuseums/myco/index.htm

Salute to Veterans, Saturday, November 3, 10
am to 1 pm.

Join us as we pay tribute and express our appreciation to the brave men and women who have served in the armed forces to protect our freedom past, present and future.

North Carolina Transportation Museum

Spencer, NC www.nctrans.org

Autumn Train Excursion to Appomattox, Virginia, Saturday, November 3.

The Virginia Autumn Special departs from Spencer, with a stop in Greensboro, travels through the northern North Carolina Piedmont and central Virginia to Appomattox and returns. There will be time in Appomattox to tour the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park or the Museum of the Confederacy's newly-opened Appomattox site and historic shops and restaurants.

Autumn Train Excursion to Toccoa, Georgia, Sunday, November 4.

The Georgia Autumn Special departs Spencer, with a stop in Spartanburg, travels through the Carolina foothills to Toccoa, Georgia and returns. There will be time in Toccoa to visit the 30th annual Harvest Festival and visit Toccoa Falls. At 186-feet, the falls are 26 feet taller than Niagara Falls.

Andrew Jackson State Park

196 Andrew Jackson Park Rd, Lancaster, SC
803-285-3344

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

Life in the Waxhaws, Saturday, November 10

from 6 to 8 pm.

Join us for a candlelight tour and catch a glimpse of early settlers living in the Waxhaws. Experience 18th century daily life, similar to Andrew Jackson's boyhood experience, and see the events that shaped the community as you step back in time. Tours begin every 30 minutes from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC
704-873-5882 www.fortdobbs.org

Military Timeline, Saturday, Nov. 10 from 10
am to 4 pm, Sunday, Nov. 11 from 10 am to 3
pm.

North Carolina has survived numerous invading military forces and sent tens of thousands of her sons and daughters off to war over the centuries. Visit with Cherokee warriors, Johnny Reb and Billy Yank, WWII G.I.'s and grunts from Vietnam, among others, 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, Dec. 8
from 10 am to 4 pm, Sunday, Dec. 9 from 10
am to 3 pm.

Historic interpreters will present musket and cannon firing demonstrations as well as ongoing demonstrations of 18th Century camp life. On Saturday visitors are welcome to return to the site at 7 pm to warm up with hot cider and a blazing bonfire while joining the garrison in the singing of period carols.

Mount Holly Historical Society

131 South Main, Mount Holly, NC
mhhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, November 27, at 7
pm, Free.

"City of Canvas: The Story of Camp Greene"
Documentary Film Presented by Jack Dillard,
Local Historian.

Camp Greene was a World War I training camp in Charlotte from 1917 to 1919. The documentary was produced by Jack Dillard and a team of advisors. Light refreshments will be served; Historic exhibits will be on display.

Mount Holly Days, Friday, December 14, from
6:30 to 10 pm, Free.

The MHHS Headquarters will be open to Public: Stop by for holiday refreshments, great fellowship, see our vintage Christmas tree and collection of vintage Christmas Post Cards,

and tour our historic exhibits.

Kings Mountain National Military Park

SC Hwy 216. I-85, Exit 2 in North Carolina.
Follow the signs. 864-936-7921
www.nps.gov/kimo

Veteran' Day Encampment, Saturday and Sunday, November 10 and 11 from 9 am to 5 pm,
Free.

Visit the camp of the backcountry Militia and help us honor all the Veterans.

Kings Mountain State Park

I-85 Exit 8 in NC and follow the signs
www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/945.aspx

Christmas at the Farm, Saturday, November 17
from 10 am to 4 pm.

Christmas was not always the hustle and bustle time of year that it is today. Step back in time at Kings Mountain and visit a Christmas scene from a simpler, by-gone era. And you can be a part of it by helping us decorate the Living History Farm.

Historic Camden

Highway 521 just South of Camden, SC
803-432-9831 www.historic-camden.net

Revolutionary War Field Days, Saturday and Sunday, November 3 and 4 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 and more. Food concessions and free parking.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park

Greensboro, NC. www.nps.gov/guco/index.htm

History of the American Soldier, Saturday, November 10 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Veterans Day, November 11, was originally called Armistice Day to observe the end of World War I in 1918, but today, November 11 is an annual national holiday expanded to honor those who have served in the armed forces of the United States. The "History of the American Soldier" is a living timeline of American military history. This program will give visitors an opportunity to learn about several periods of this nation's military history from the early European settlement to the recent era.