

**Mecklenburg Historical Association Docents**

*Promoting Local History through Education and Research*



November/December, 2008  
Volume 14, Number 5

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*From the Chairman*

It has been almost two years since I embarked on my journey as your “queen”. What a privilege you gave me when I said yes to this role. I have seen few groups of volunteers with as much commitment and talent as the MHA docents. It has been an adventure of learning and service that I will remember fondly. Thank you for all you have done to support me as your leader. We have elected JoAnne Dickens as our next queen and she will be installed at the January meeting. I know that JoAnne and the new board will carry on the wonderful tradition of service and excellence that is the hallmark of the MHA docents.

As we approach this historic election, I hope you will consider voting early so you will be free from that concern as you attend our November meeting. We will have a wonderful program given by our journal committee on the account books of Dr. David Caldwell of Rosedale. Speaking of elections, I had the privilege of spending a recent afternoon with a wonderful friend who is ninety nine years young. As we discussed the latest headlines, I asked her when she first voted. She said it was in 1932 and that she had voted for Roosevelt. Women had been able to vote for only twelve years and she was excited to cast her ballot. Then she began to tell me of the job she had at that time working for the government in one of the Wall Street banks that had crashed. It was her job to answer the phone and many of the calls were from people who had lost everything, including family treasures in their safe deposit boxes. How fortunate we are that some of the lessons learned during that terrible time are helping us deal with the current financial crisis.

The holidays will be here before we know it. Once again, we will enjoy our traditional Christmas Tea on Monday, December 1 in the fellowship hall of the church. In the midst of a difficult and challenging time, we will meet to enjoy our history community friendships, an interesting and inspiring program with Deacon Jones and some wonderful treats. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar. May peace and happiness be yours during this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

*Newsletter Deadline*

The deadline for the January – February issue of the Dandelion will be December 15<sup>th</sup>. As always, we appreciate articles of interest to the history community. Send your contributions to Ann and Jim Williams, 1601 S Wendover Road, Charlotte, NC 28211; or email [mhadandelion@mindspring.com](mailto:mhadandelion@mindspring.com).

*November and December Docent Programs*

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

**The Journals of Dr. David T. Caldwell**

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Refreshments: 9:30 am, business meeting: 10 am; program 11 am. Visitors are always welcome.

The Docent Journal Committee has spent the last several years transcribing and analyzing two of the journals kept by Dr. David Caldwell who lived at Rosedale from the 1830s until his death in 1861. These are not narrative journals, but business ledgers of his medical practice and farming activity. They are filled with arcane medical terms, horrific remedies, bad arithmetic, and intriguing hints to his everyday life. Much has been revealed, and many mysteries are yet to unravel.

Karen McConnell, Janet Dyer, and Ann and Jim Williams will share some journal pages, and many things that have been learned through an interesting adventure. Committee members Jim and Linda Ray will be working the polls, so will not be with us. Thank you, Linda and Jim, for all your hard work and contributions to this project!

**Monday, December 1, 2008**

**Annual Christmas Tea featuring a conversation with an unusual Confederate Soldier, a Free Man of Color**

The Christmas Tea will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. As usual, it will be on a Monday, so that historic site staff can join us. The business meeting will begin at **9:45 am** (announcements only) followed by a wonderful program at **10:00** presented by Deacon Jones. After the program we will enjoy delicious food and festivity. All docents are asked to bring a treat, suitable for a luncheon/tea, and arrive by 9:30 so the tables can be arranged before the meeting begins. Visitors are more than welcome.

Deacon Jones will appear as a Free Man of Color who was a soldier in the Confederate Army. He has based his character on the life of a real man who made these seemingly inconsistent choices. On his way home from the war, he will stop by to visit with us and tell us about his unusual life and why he chose his peculiar path. At the end of his presentation he will answer questions and tell us about his research. Deacon gives a compelling and moving performance, and will enlighten us about the many varied aspects of the lives of enslaved and free people of African descent.

Deacon retired about nine years ago as Deputy Chief of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department. He is a native Charlottean who has been fascinated by history since high school. While researching Afro-American history he discovered many little known facts, including the story of the gentleman he will portray. Don't miss this fascinating program!

*MHA Dinner Meeting*

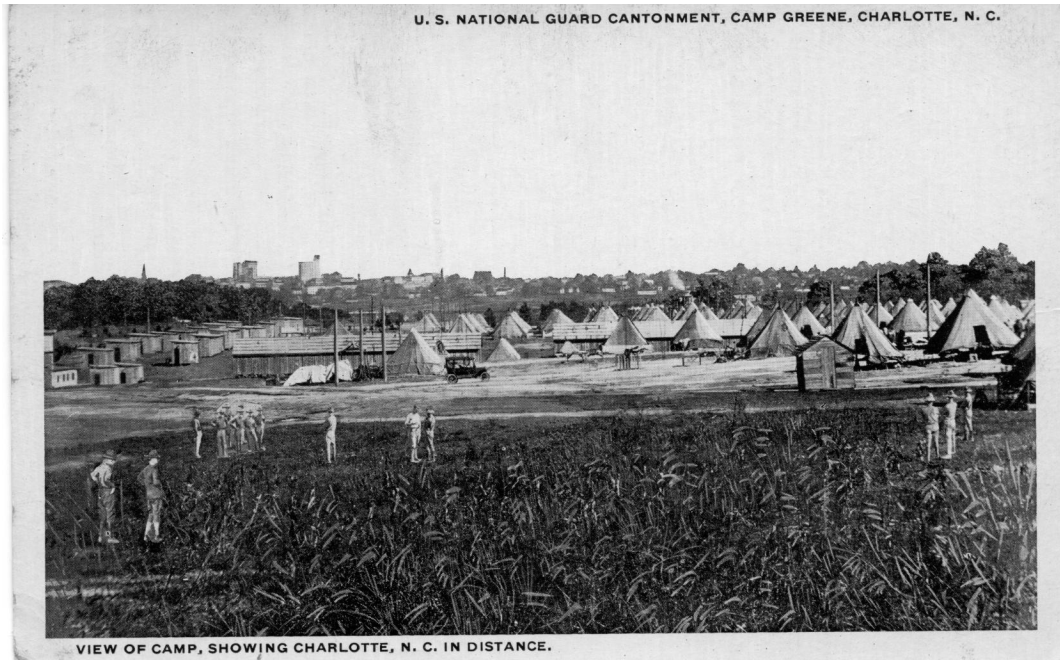
**A Call to Arms: The Story of Camp Greene**

November 10<sup>th</sup>; 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 contact Kathy Herran at 704-553-0936 or [kathyherran@hotmail.com](mailto:kathyherran@hotmail.com).

Jack Dillard will make a multi-media presentation telling the story of Camp Greene, the World War I training camp that brought tens of thousands of soldiers to Charlotte from 1917 to 1919 as part of the country's military efforts, and the lasting impact the camp made on Charlotte.

Jack is a former advertising copywriter and creative director. His interest in Camp Greene has led him to research the subject in three states and the District of Columbia. He has accumulated a significant collection of photos and artifacts from the period, some of which will be displayed on November 10.

The program will mark the day before the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the war on 11/11/1918.



## *Docent Officers*

In September the nominating committee presented a slate of officers for next year. They were elected by acclamation at the October meeting, and will be installed in January. Our new officers will be:

Chairman (two year term): JoAnne Dickens	Treasurer: Valerie Jones
Vice Chairman (programs): Hazel White	Hospitality: Nell Coward
Secretary: Audrey Mellichamp	Newsletter: Ann and Jim Williams

## *Weather Cancellation Policy*

The docent board has decided to follow the Charlotte- Mecklenburg School System for canceling meetings due to foul weather. When weather threatens, listen for their announcements; if school is canceled we will not meet. If our meeting place is closed, even though the schools are open, you will be notified by our email/telephone tree.

## *Book Club*

The Book club will not discuss any specific book after our November meeting; instead we'll meet to select titles for the coming year. (We don't meet in December.) Come armed with lots of suggestions. We would like to choose titles for at least January and February, and throughout the year make selections several months ahead. This will allow us to read ahead and better utilize the library. If you've not met with us before, this is a good time to join the fun.

### *The Rocky River Legend*

There is a story oft repeated that a faction in early Colonial Mecklenburg County wanted to have the courthouse located in the Rocky River section rather than in Charlottetown. The earliest mention of this story is in *The History of Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte*, by D. A. Tompkins, published in 1903. This seems to have been a complete misreading of the historical record.

In *The History of Mecklenburg*, Tompkins states that Henry McCulloh, agent for Lord Selwyn, "...donated a tract of 360 acres..." to erect a courthouse in what later became Charlotte. He says "...as the proposed town was near the centre of the county, circumstances were apparently favorable to his plans, but objection was made by the people in the Rocky river section, who desired the court house to be located nearer to them."

Tompkins continues "The first representatives of Mecklenburg in the General Assembly were Martin Phifer, from Rocky river; and Thomas Polk, who favored the new town. In 1766, Mr. Phifer introduced a bill to enable the commissioners of Charlotte to lay off the town in squares and streets and lots, and to erect a court house, prison and stocks. Nothing was said about the county seat or where courts should be held, and on the account, the bill was defeated by the friends of Charlotte led by Polk."

McCulloh did not donate the land, but sold it for £90, the first representatives from Mecklenburg were Martin Phifer and Richard Berry, court is always held where the courthouse is constructed, and the bill was not defeated, but rather passed by the Assembly. Thus every element of this statement is either wrong or un-provable.

Those who have retold the Rocky River story have apparently relied on Tompkins rather than examining the Colonial Records directly. This story had been retold and embellished in many books including *Hornet's Nest* by LeGette Blythe and *Chain of Error* by V. V. McNitt. None of the earlier histories, prior to 1903 mentioned anything about such a controversy.

On November 17<sup>th</sup> 1766 Martin Phifer introduced a "...Bill, to enable the Commissioners of the Town of Charlotte, ... to build a Court House Prison and Stocks..." This was read three times, approved and sent to the Council and the Governor. There it disappears from the Colonial Records. There is no mention of it in the minutes of the upper house and it was not among the laws approved by the Governor on December 1, 1766. The only thing we know about the bill is this description, which clearly states the intent of the law to establish the Town of Charlotte and for the court to meet there.

By 1768 Mecklenburg was represented by Thomas Polk and Martin Phifer. In this session Martin Phifer introduced a bill entitled "An Act for dividing the County of Mecklenburg, and other Purposes." This was read three times, approved and sent to the Council and the Governor. At that time the county of Mecklenburg was bounded on the east by Anson County, on the North by Rowan County and the Granville line, on the South by the border with South Carolina and on the west by "the Great South Sea" (the Pacific Ocean). At that time the boundary between North and South Carolina had not been agreed to or marked out.

This law established Tryon County out of Mecklenburg, with the dividing line along the Catawba River. In section IV this law states that the existing courthouse is not now central to the divided county and that after seven years had passed the commissioners could build a new one more central to the county. The new court house was to be paid for by selling the old court house and laying "...a Tax on every Taxable Person in the said County, sufficient to erect and finish..."

On that same day Thomas Polk introduced a bill "...for establishing a Town in Mecklenburg County." If this wasn't the same bill that Martin Phifer introduced two years earlier, it was certainly for the same purpose. This law stated that Thomas Polk and two other commissioners had purchased (for 90 pounds proclamation money, according to the deed) 360 acres in trust for Mecklenburg County "for erecting a Court House, Prison and Stocks" and that the land had been laid off into a Town and Common and the Town laid off into lots. The law establishes

“...a Town and Town Common, and shall be called by the Name of Charlotte.” It also appoints five commissioners, including Thomas Polk who was appointed Treasurer.

Thus it seems that Martin Phifer, far from opposing the establishment of the county court in Charlotte, actually sponsored the bill to accomplish this in 1766. Two years later, during the same Assembly, Martin Phifer sponsored the bill to divide Mecklenburg and confirmed that Court was being held in the Court House in Charlotte. This bill included a provision to move the Court to a more central location after 7 years time with the consent of a majority of the freeholders of the county. By the time this expired in 1775 there were other, more important, things to be done.

Jim Williams

This is an abbreviated version of the full research paper which includes discussions of the players involved, how laws were made in colonial times and the difficulties in building and paying for a courthouse, plus references and footnotes. If you would like a copy of this full research paper, please contact the editors. We add a special note of thanks to Mary Boyer who provided much of the research and original documents on which this paper is based.

### *Native American Recipes*

Our October meeting featured Native American refreshments in honor of our program on the Catawbias who were living here when the first Europeans arrived. There were requests for recipes. Here are two of them. The persimmon pudding was prepared by Barbara Goodwin, and the blueberry muffins by Audrey Mellichamp. Thanks, ladies!

#### Choctaw Persimmon Pudding

Page 52, Spirit of the Harvest of the Southeast

8-12 very ripe persimmons (or 2 cups canned)	¼ cup butter, melted
2 eggs	2 cups unbleached flour
1¾ cups Buttermilk	[vanilla or cinnamon optional]
2 cups sugar	

Puree in food processor. Pour into 9 x 12 glass dish. Bake at 375 for 35-45 min.  
Garnish with whipped cream or ice cream

#### Blueberry Muffins

2 cups flour	½ cup milk
½ cup sugar	1/3 cup oil
1 Tablespoon baking powder	1 teaspoon grated lemon rind
½ teaspoon salt	2 teaspoons lemon juice
½ cup sour cream	1½ cups fresh or frozen, thawed, blueberries
1 egg, slightly beaten	

Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, salt. Toss 2 tablespoons of mixture with blueberries.  
Whisk sour cream, stir in egg, milk, oil, lemon rind, and lemon juice.  
Add dry ingredients to liquid ingredients and stir. Fold in blueberries.  
Spoon batter into muffin cups.  
Bake 375 for 25 min. Cool in pan 5 min.



*Book Reviews****A Magnificent Catastrophe: The Tumultuous Election of 1800, America's First Presidential Campaign***

by Edward J. Larson

There are several sub-themes in this remarkably well-researched book. A few include the importance of the Electoral College as outlined in the Constitution; the importance of attitudes toward France and Britain (which government would America emulate?); the rivalry of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr; popular rule versus aristocracy; and the influence of George Washington, (elected in 1788 and 1792), who had died in December, 1799.

The nominations went to Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr (Republicans) and John Adams and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (Federalists). The two top vote-getters would be elected, for president and vice president respectively, regardless of party. The Republicans believed that individual freedom, state's rights and family farms should be the goals of the almost new nation, while the Federalists favored strong central government, one that would foster commercial development. It is important to remember that Electors from each state voted as representatives of the populace. When results became available, a month after the College voted, Jefferson and Burr were the top vote getters, receiving the same number of votes. According to the Constitution the House of Representatives must choose between the two for president and vice president. Larson devotes an entire chapter to "The Tie" and its resolution. Jefferson would become President only after an impasse that took months to resolve and gave rise to bitterness and partisanship—ending only two weeks before the inauguration date.

Reading this book is an education in government and politics. The title is (to me) misleading, magnificent in scope and facts but catastrophe was narrowly avoided and the nation recovered. Who can argue that the election itself was a catastrophe except, perhaps, Adams and Pinckney? The nation survived its first campaign and election with the institutions intact and lessons learned.

An important book--especially this year--this reader could not resist making comparisons to today's system of electing a President and Vice-President. Washington had warned against forming political parties but it was this election that saw the birth of a party system. I kept wondering how North Carolina voted--would you believe it split?—eastern NC for Adams, western NC for Jefferson.

Rachel Abernathy

***Bone Rattler: A Mystery of Colonial America***

by Eliot Pattison

Choosing to read a book because of the illustration on the cover is not a good way to choose a book to read—but sometimes one gets lucky as I did with this one.

The mystery begins on a ship (1759) sailing from England to America and since I don't know the terminology of sailing a wooden ship I was lost for a bit. Duncan McCallum is a young Scot who was studying medicine in England where he was raised. His family was executed following the Battle of Culloden and Duncan was separated from his only brother who remained in Scotland. Transportation to the colony of New York is Duncan's sentence after he becomes innocently involved with an uncle who is an outlaw. The rest of the book is the story of more than one murder and Duncan's reunion with his brother in the colonies and the mysteries that surround the two, their friends, and their enemies.

What can you learn from a mystery set in the colonies in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century? I feel that I gained insight into the divisions (wars, old hatreds, and just plain meanness) that involved the English and the Scots; the English and someday-to-be Americans; all of the above and native Americans (savages). With a backdrop of the French and Indian War, the author achieves a realistic look at a group of lives, experiences, and adventures that could have happened. And he makes it a good book to read.

Rachel Abernathy

*The History Calendar*

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted.

*The Charlotte Museum of History*

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

**Civil War Lantern Tour, Saturday, November 22, 6 to 9 pm**

Relive the Civil War as you take an in-depth look into the conditions, hopes, and fears that common foot soldiers of the War lived with. As you progress through different camp settings on the grounds of the Homesite, you will see the campfires, smell the cooking, and listen to the stories from the period. Reservations required.

*Historic Rosedale*

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

**Oyster Roast, Saturday, November 1, 3:30 to 7 pm**

6<sup>th</sup> Annual fund raising event – a Charlotte tradition. History, Food & Family Fun. Featuring music by “The Whippersnappers” Emmy, Casey & Avery McGuirt. Stephanie Burt Williams presents “Jeff”, Rosedale’s ghost (6 pm). Join in a game of “Town Ball” (Colonial Baseball) with the Rosedale staff and volunteers – Fun for children of all ages.

**Thanksgiving at Rosedale, Saturday, November 29, 1 pm to 4 pm**

Our holiday drama will feature the Caldwells and guests as they sit down to enjoy a harvest feast in 1844. Visitors will hear them discuss family and plantation matters, and the concept of establishing a national day of Thanksgiving. The drama will be repeated throughout the afternoon. Before or after a performance enjoy refreshments in the basement.

*Latta Plantation*

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

**Charlotte Gold Rush, Saturday, November 8, 10 am to 4 pm**

Learn about Charlotte's rich gold mining history, visit the miner's cabin, pan for gold, and more!

**A Plantation Christmas, Friday and Saturday, November 28-29, 10 am to 4 pm**

Begin the Christmas season by stepping back into the 19th century. Celebrate Christmas in the 1800s as you tour the plantation house, kitchen, and slave cabin.

**A Candlelight Christmas, Saturday, December 6, 6 to 9 pm**

Celebrate an 1860s Christmas by candlelight. Walk the plantation house, kitchen, cabin, and grounds by candlelight as Christmas is celebrated as in days of old. The plantation will be decorated for the season – one of our most beautiful events!

*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 1-2, 10-5 pm**

South Carolina's Revolutionary War years come alive as some 500 re-enactors interpret life on the Southern Campaign trail. At 1:30 pm cannons roar as Redcoats and Patriots portray tactics from Camden's Battle of Camden (Saturday) and Commander's Choice (Sunday), followed by military courts martial scenarios. Watch period craftsmen ply their trades. Listen to civilian interpreters share their lifestyles as you stroll through the camps. Enjoy shopping on Sutlers Row and watching a period fashion show and colonial dance demonstrations. Lots of hands-on activities for kids of all ages. Food concessions and free parking. No pets, please.

*Old Salem*

<http://www.oldsalem.org>

**Christmas Candlelight Tour of 19th Century Salem**

**Fridays and Saturdays: November 28 and 29, December 5 and 6, December 12 and 13, See times below**

Take a guided tour by candlelight through the Historic District where the customs and traditions of a 19th century Salem Christmas will be brought to life through all of your senses. The evening will include music, games, food, and interacting with our staff to create your own special memories. Tours will meet at the Winkler Bakery and begin at 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 8 p.m.

*Schiele Museum*

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

**Harvest Day, Saturday, November 22, 10 am to 4 pm**

Come join us in celebrating the harvest as 18th-century Carolinians might have done! Watch our 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 backcountry folk as they demonstrate early America's skills and crafts.

**Colonial Christmas , Sunday December 14, 3 to 6 pm**

Bring your family and celebrate Christmas in 18th-century style! Join us in decorating with greenery, singing early American carols, and English country dancing, which will be followed by a Scripture reading and candle lighting service. We'll treat you to a taste of warm Christmas pudding and hot-tingered cider.

*President James K. Polk State Historic Site*

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

<http://www.nchistoricsites.org/polk>

**Polk Birthday Celebration, Saturday, November 1, 10 am to 4 pm.**

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 a historic cooking demonstration, children's games and other hands on activities. Hours: 10 am – 4 pm, Free.

**Polk Christmas Program, Saturday, December 13, 11 am to 3 pm**

Come and participate in a day of Christmas festivities. 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! Free.



*Rural Hill*

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

**Rural Hill Sheep Dog Trials, Saturday and Sunday, November 8 and 9, 8 am to 5 pm**

Bring your family and friends and even your dogs (on leashes) out to Rural Hill to witness more than 125 Border Collies compete herding sheep. This is a regional competition sanctioned by United States Border Collie Handlers Association and many of the dogs will go on to compete in the national championships.

*Museum of York County*

4621 Mt. Gallant Rd., Rock Hill, SC, 803 329 2121

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

**Broad River, York County's Western River, River Ramblers Series, November 8, 9 am to 4 pm**

Geologist Irene Boland, natural history curator Steve Fields and historian Michael Scoggins discuss the natural and cultural history of the area. Wear clothing appropriate for moderate hiking; bring bag lunch, water and sunscreen.

Meet at the Museum of York County. Must be 18 or older to participate due to van restrictions.

Register by October 31st by contacting Barbara Arderly 803.981.9182 or [bardrey@chmuseums.org](mailto:bardrey@chmuseums.org).

*The Carl J. McEwen Historical Village*

7601 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd. 704-573-0726

<http://www.minthillhistory.com>

**Salute to Veterans, Saturday, November 8, 8 am to 4:30 pm**

Reenactors will be around the village talking with students about the Buffalo Soldier, Civil War camp life and the role of the black man in the war. A re-enactor will portray General Lee, the civil war shoe cobbler will show how he kept shoes on the soldier's feet, the civil war recruiter will be happy to sign you up for a year of service and much more. Military memorabilia will be on display in the Administrative Building and a flag retirement service will be conducted by Boy Scout Troop 144.

**Christmas Tea in the Ashcraft Schoolhouse,****Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 11, 12 and 13, at 2, 4, and 7 pm**

Come celebrate the Christmas season. Music, charm and wonderful goodies fill the room with holiday cheer.

Reservations required. Call Lynnette Pritchard at 704- 545-4928 for reservations.

*Historic Brattonsville*

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

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

**Thanksgiving Living History Day, Friday, November 28, 10 am to 4 pm**

Examine the role food played in people's lives through the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. See how different people prepared and consumed their foods, from the earliest colonists in the 1760s to the slaves and wealthy planters of the 1840s.

**Christmas Candlelight Tours , Saturday and Sunday, December 6 & 7, 3 pm to 9 pm**

A holiday tradition for more than 25 years, Historic Brattonsville Christmas Candlelight Tours bring to life the festivity of the Carolina Piedmont's Christmas past. Walk candlelit paths and experience theatrical presentations from yesteryear. More than 60 costumed interpreters will depict how Christmas celebrations evolved in the Carolinas from the 1780s to just before the Civil War. Gunners "shoot in" the holiday, a minister discusses

Colonial Christmas customs, the Brattons host a “wassailing” party, enslaved African Americans discuss their Christmas customs and a German family lights a Christmas tree.

*Charlotte Folk Society*

[www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org):

**April Verch in Concert, Friday November 21, 8 pm**

April and her band will bring Ottawa Valley fiddling and stepdancing traditions to the Great Aunt Stella Center at 926 Elizabeth Avenue. April performs with great energy and a pure voice. With finely detailed fiddle phrasing she draws from a broad repertoire including bluegrass, Celtic, Canadian Folksongs, and contemporary ballads. Tickets at the door, or advance tickets from [www.folksociety.org](http://www.folksociety.org) offer a savings.

**CFS Gathering, Friday November 14, 7:30 pm, Great Aunt Stella Center**

Cajun and Creole music by Carolina Gator Gumbo. Free; donations appreciated.

**CFS Gathering, Sunday December 7, 5 – 10 pm.**

Darin Aldridge and Brooke Justice (bluegrass and gospel) perform seasonal music at the Annual Holiday Potluck in Broach Hall at St. John’s Baptist Church on Hawthorn Lane. Bring a dish to share, or donate \$5.

*Gaston County Museum*

131 West Main Street Dallas, NC. (704)922-7681, #2 [www.gastoncountymuseum.org](http://www.gastoncountymuseum.org)

**Standing on a Box: Lewis Hine’s National Child Labor Committee Photography, Gaston County, 1908 November 8, 2008 through February 21, 2009, free.**

Standing on a Box showcases the 1908 Gaston County photographs of Lewis Wickes Hine, staff photographer of the National Child Labor Committee. Between November 1908 and February 1909, Lewis Hine photographed children in and around nineteen cotton mills in North and South Carolina as part of National Child Labor Committee efforts to document child labor in regional textile mills. Many of those photographs were made in Gaston County, North Carolina.

These images of young Gaston County textile workers were displayed around the country to bring attention to the issue of child labor. Those poignant photographs have been credited as being instrumental to the success of the child labor reform movement to pass state and federal legislation against child labor. Combined with artifacts from the Museum’s collection, the exhibit examines a rarely-mentioned but critical part of our local cultural heritage.

**Making Faces with Mike Ball, Saturday, November 15, 10 am to 12 pm**

This program offers everyone from novice to professional an opportunity to put their own hand-sculpted face on a jug, pitcher, or vase made by Mike Ball who will be available to assist you with the application of crafting your own work of art. Upon completion, Ball will glaze the pieces in a traditional Catawba Valley alkaline glaze and fire them in his wood-fired kiln.

RSVP required to Jeff Pruett at 704.922.7681 x105 for this program by Monday, November 10. Various prices for museum members and non-members.

**Annual Holiday Open House, Friday, December 12, 3 pm to 7 pm, free**

Please join us for our free Annual Holiday Open House Program. This special day features Christmas traditions and fun for the whole family. See the museum decorated for Christmas, take part in cookie decorating and crafts, hear live music, and sample holiday treats. There will be a visit from Santa Clause for kids this day too! Visit the Museum Shop for holiday gifts featuring crafts by local artists, traditional wooden toys and contemporary items.

*Westmoore Pottery*

4622 Busbee Road, Westmoore Community, Seagrove, NC  
910-464-3700 <http://westmoorepottery.com>

**Heritage Day, Saturday, November 8, 9 am to 5 pm, free**

The focus of this year's Heritage Day will be on styles of pottery made in North Carolina from 1755 through about 1840. We will open a couple of kiln loads of pottery reflecting our day's focus. This will be for sale beginning at 9 am. We'll be demonstrating pottery-making as well throughout the day.

The Westmoore Pottery scrapbooks, which trace us from our 1977 beginnings, will be hauled out and put on display for this day only. A discount will be offered on all books about pottery history. Refreshments will be served, and we will give out door prizes throughout the day.

**Holiday Open House, Saturday, December 6, 9 am to 5 pm, free**

Join us as we celebrate the holiday season. The shop will be decorated for the holidays, and we will unload a kiln of pottery, including special pieces. From 1-3 pm, author Nancy Carter Crump will be signing her newly released updated book, *Hearthside Cooking*, published by UNC Press. Refreshments will be served.

*Andrew Jackson State Park*

196 Andrew Jackson Park Road, Lancaster, SC 803 285 3344  
[www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1797.aspx](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1797.aspx)

**Life in the Waxhaws Lantern Tour, Saturday, November 8**

**Tours start every half hour at 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7 pm & 7:30 pm**

Join us for a candle light 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. Meet at Shelter #1.

*Fort Dobbs State Historic Site*

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC 704 873 5882  
<http://www.fortdobbs.org>

**Food at the Fort, Friday and Saturday, November 8-9, 10 am - 4 pm. Free Admission**

The soldiers of Fort Dobbs enjoy the fruits of the local harvest as they prepare to settle into winter quarters.

**Wintering in Wartime, Saturday and Sunday, December 6-7, 10 am - 4 pm**

**Evening program on Saturday from 6 pm- 8 pm. Free Admission.**

Find out how the garrison of Provincial soldiers lived during the winter of 1755. Vis it with the men as they prepare for the coming seasonal festivities.

*Historic Charlotte*

[www.historiccharlotte.org](http://www.historiccharlotte.org) 704 375 6145

**Discovering Charlotte's Historic Presidents, Tuesday, November 18, social at 5:30 pm, program at 6 pm  
Jillians, 200 Bland Street in South End.**

Courtney Hybarger, Education Director at the President James K. Polk State Historic Site will present a program about one of the most accomplished presidents in American history who was born in Mecklenburg County. Join Historic Charlotte and learn the fascinating history behind our 11th President, James K. Polk, along with other North Carolina Presidents Andrew Johnson and Andrew Jackson.

*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 Program, Saturday, November 8, 9 am to 5 pm**

Living history interpreters from the Backcountry Militia will celebrate Veterans Day. Visit the militia camp and enjoy weapons demonstrations.

*Kings Mountain State Park*

I 85 Exit 8 in NC and follow the signs

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

**An 1850s Christmas, Sunday, November 30, 12 pm to 4 pm**

Come join us for a Christmas celebration 1850s style. Reenactors will be cooking over the hearth in our 1800s Homeplace using traditional methods of the period. We will also be making decorations, wreaths, corn husk angels, and decorating our tree. There will also be crafts to take home and hot cider to drink. Discover the Christmas of your ancestors as it was just beginning to take its modern form.

*Fert Defiance*

On highway 268, 5.5 miles northeast of HWY 321, near Lenoir, NC, 828 758 1671.

[www.fortdefiancenc.org](http://www.fortdefiancenc.org)

**Colonial Christmas, Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7, 11 am to 4 pm**

The house will be decorated for the holiday, local choirs will perform throughout the day and period refreshments and wassail will be served. Come and start your Christmas in Happy Valley.

MHA Docents  
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