October - December 2015 | Volume 4



ROAK



Celebrating at Center City Park

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DIRECTION

or a weekend, Greensboro was the center of some rocking music, dance and crafts as the National Folk Festival rolled into town. At the Historical Museum, site of the Family Fun performances and activity areas, it was all about pinwheels and the Montagnard community, young and old.



Turn a flat piece of paper into

something that spins all on its own (at least it seemed that way due to the cooperating winds), and you have delighted children in a magical way. Partner with a community like the newly-founded and student-led Montagnard American

Organization, and you have broadened your museum family. There were performances, demonstrations and the sharing of cultural life: bamboo stilt walking; musicians-



gong, rap, rock and traditional song; dancing-

breaking and traditional; weaving—fabric and basket; and plant pods popping out of bamboo shooters. These activities were shared with 5,000+ people.

Check out the basketry that Y Bhong Rcam crafted

for us, for it says it all. And we get to do it again next year!



s we approach the holiday season, please consider bringing a friend to the Historical Museum. They will be so impressed with what the museum has to offer, and on top of that, it is free admission. Also, as guests are here from out of



town, include the museum on your places to visit. They'll receive a warm welcome, and learn about the many people who've had important roles in shaping Greensboro's unique history. As you'll read, the coming months offer more fun and learning.

Giving someone a museum membership as a gift

is a great way to make a lasting impact on others who are important in your life. A membership unlocks the key to the history of Greensboro by providing special opportunities to enjoy certain member-only events and discounts. The membership can be purchased online or at the Greensboro Historical Museum.

In this season of gift-giving, the

Museum Shop offers many great options. Stop by and browse, or shop online for that special holiday gift. Merchandise with Greensboro themes, crafts and foods from local artisans, interesting books and hard-to-find classic toys are just part of the variety you'll find.

This fall brings another full quarter of events. Check GreensboroHistory.org to see which ones meet your interests and schedule. We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends at the Greensboro Historical Museum soon.

Dr. Brian Clarida

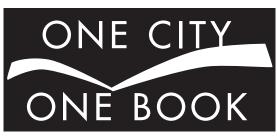
Dr. Brian Clarida, President, Greensboro Historical Museum, Inc.

MEETING HISTORY

ONE CITY, ONE BOOK: INTO THE CITY

On Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m., the museum hosts a One City,

One Book event entitled A Walk into Greensboro's Past: Warnersville, 1865 to the Present, in partnership with the Greensboro Public Library. The speaker is Dr. Arwin D. Smallwood, Chair of the NC A&T Dept. of History. whose academic career has included a



focus on the importance of geography and landscape. We're pleased to welcome Dr. Smallwood back for a second

> engagement this year, for a local and historical connection to the One City, One Book A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson. As seating is limited, reservations are recommended, and may be made by calling Mary Allen at 373.2982.



COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

From Our Founding

In the spring of 1925, Greensboro Historical Museum Society volunteers began accepting artifacts from local citizens. More than 200 items were collected, including a diary, photographs, a candle mold, a child's doll, and many items from the Civil War and World War I. The museum opened on Armistice Day, November 11, 1925, in space provided at Greensboro's Carnegie Library. The items shown here were donated in 1925.



Officers Training Camp at Chickamauga Park, 1917

The family of Lt. Collier C. Olive, a pilot who died in France in 1919, donated this photograph of local men in training at Chickamauga National Park. We wish that someone had recorded the men's names, including which one is Olive.



Civil War Frock Coat of Lt. Col. William Henry Chapman, about 1863 Donated by Lt. Col. Chapman (1840-1929), an officer in Mosby's 43rd Battalion. Chapman moved to Greensboro with his family after the war and worked for the railway and the Federal Revenue Service.



Silver-plated goblet, about 1850

Part of a water set with depictions of Andrew Jackson's log cabin on one side and the Hermitage on opposite presented to James Wray by the city of Philadelphia, this piece descended through the family of Mrs. Adeline Blair. Mrs. Blair was instrumental in building the museum's first collections; she and friends Mary Betts and Laurinda Richardson Carlson met with dozens of families who were willing to donate historical items.



Silk Bodice, about 1840 This bodice descended through the family of Mrs. Annie Lawrence (M.R.) Farrar. Her grandmother, Priscilla Upchurch (1818-1893) married Turner Lawrence (1818-1881) in Granville, NC, and this silk and embroidered piece was part of her trousseau.

Service Cap of Capt. Bascom Lee Field, 1918

Born in Forsyth Co. to Rev. and Mrs. Melville C. Field in 1890, Bascom Field grew up in the Piedmont and graduated from the University of North Carolina. He joined the American Expeditionary



Forces and was killed in action on September 29, 1918, during an attack on the Hindenburg Line.



Diary of Lt. John C. Paisley, May 1917 - June 1918 The first officer from Guilford County to be killed in WWI, Lt. Paisley wrote in this diary about his training and leisure activities. It was donated by his mother, along with other papers and his uniform.



Flag Bunting from American Red Cross, about 1917 In 1917 the Greensboro Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized. Their WWI volunteer efforts included a canteen at the Southern Railway Station on S. Elm St., an operation that provided support to thousands of soldiers.

Elise Allison, Archivist; Susan Webster, Registrar/Curator of Textiles Jon Zachman, Curator of Collections

COLLECTION NEWS

Twelve copies of Madison Chair reproduced for Montpelier Mansion

This fall a cabinetmaker from Harrison-Higgins, Inc. of Richmond, Virginia will make a dozen side chairs

identical to the one owned by the Historical Museum. No power tools or modern equipment will be used in the process. Nope! Instead all of the work will be done with hand tools, as it was when the original cabinetmaker provided a dozen to James Madison Sr. in the 1770s to furnish Montpelier in Virginia.

The museum's chair is one of four surviving Marlborough Chairs made of walnut from a set of twelve ordered in 1773. The term Marlborough Chair refers to the style of square-shaped carved leg. Today two matching chairs are located in a private collection at Princeton University; one can be found at the James Madison Museum in Orange, Virginia; the fourth is owned by the Historical Museum.

As the photograph illustrates, this chair features a distinctive rib and heart-shaped motif in the splat. Despite this unique decorative element, the identity of the maker remained unidentified until fairly recently. Decorative arts scholar Robert Leath's

research confirmed the cabinetmaker as Robert Cockburn, a man of Scottish origin whose surviving account book documents that while living in Orange, Virginia, Cockburn made several other pieces for James Madison Sr., including a tall case clock and a bedstead.

After Mr. Madison's death in 1801, his widow, Nelly C. Madison, continued to use the chairs in the house. The chairs eventually passed to President James Madison, then to his favorite niece Nelly Madison Willis, and then to her son Col. John Willis and his children. Thanks to Willis descendants, several chairs ended up in museum collections, including ours. Very soon, thanks to an agreement beween the Historical Museum and Montpelier, twelve replicas will furnish James Madison's Montpelier. If you have not been to Montpelier recently, you now have another reason to visit the family home where James and Dolley Madison spent so

many years.

James Madison's Montpelier, restored by The Montpelier Foundation

and affiliated with the National Historic Trust, has its origins in a home built about 1764 by the president's father, James Madison Sr.

Jon Zachman Curator of Collections

The museum's chair is one of four surviving

Dolley and a Magic Kingdom Reproduction

It seems Dolley's allure has caught the fancy of Disney World! Over the next few months a detailed replica of her red velvet dress will be made for the First Ladies exhibit in the Hall of Presidents. A representative of Disney Imagineering and conservator Colleen Callahan spent two days at the museum with curator Susan Webster to make certain the dress was carefully and responsibly examined and measurements were accurate. The Magic Kingdom installation will include a copy of our portrait and be on display for a few years. When the next series of First Ladies moves into the Magic Kingdom, and Dolley is replaced, Dolley's reproduced dress will be sent to the Historical Museum for our use.

EDUCATION

Costumed Interpreters Create Great Events

Since early 2013, we've worked with a number of professional and amateur actors to engage visitors in a way that brings historical characters to life. These firstperson costumed interpreters have served in a variety of programs: Lifted Voices during African American History Month; Roaring 20s Flashback to celebrate the museum's 90th anniversary; Ghoulash, our Halloween event; and Veterans Day, to remember the service and sacrifice of local residents. Actors have portrayed people from history including Dolley Madison, O. Henry, Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Medal of Honor recipient Phill McDonald, astronaut Ron McNair, and others who have made significant contributions without making the headlines. You never know who you'll meet next at the museum.

Dean MacLeod, Curator of Education



Actor Angel Howze as Ede, a woman who ran from her owners, Rev. and Mrs. David Caldwell, to prevent being separated from her family



Actor Shanice Goode portrays Ella, a student at Maco Beauty College

Meet Costumed Interpreters Saturday, November 14 from 12 - 4



Alex DeFiglia as Confederate soldier James Sloan



Actor Chauncey Miller (r), who was portraying Second Gulf War veteran Brent Gerald, was surprised when the real Brent Gerald and his family attended the Veterans Day event.



Our Veterans Day troupe included (I-r) Ernest Hooker as Revolutionary War soldier Ned Griffin; Caleb Sigmon as Vietnam War soldier Phill McDonald; Malcolm Evans as WWII Tuskegee Airman Andrew Johnson; Jesse Herndon as Maureen McCullough, a First Gulf War veteran; and Chauncey Miller as Second Gulf War veteran Brent Gerald.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Warnersville Named First Heritage Community

Director Carol Hart, Curator of Collections Jon Zachman and Curator of Exhibits Robert Harris joined with City Planning, President James Griffin and Warnersville Community Coalition members and supporters on behalf of the following resolution, passed by City Council on July 21, which names Warnersville as Greensboro's first Heritage Community.

WHEREAS, the Heritage Community program recognizes areas of Greensboro for their contributions to the history and culture of Greensboro that do not meet the criteria for other forms of historic recognition; and

WHEREAS, dating to 1865, the Warnersville Neighborhood is considered to be the first planned African American community in Greensboro; and

WHEREAS, the Warnersville neighborhood boundaries are generally considered to be the North Carolina Railroad to the north, Silver Street to the west, Florida Street to the south and Elm Street to the east; and

WHEREAS, Warnersville provided a close knit community where African Americans, including freed slaves, would own property and businesses and pursue educational opportunities after the close of the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, through Urban Renewal and Redevelopment much of the historic fabric of the Warnersville Neighborhood was lost; and

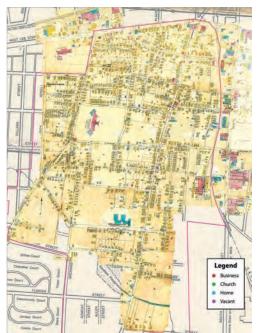
WHEREAS, the community of Warnersville persevered through these adverse conditions and continues today as a strong community with deep roots in Greensboro's African American history.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That the Warnersville Neighborhood be Designated as a Greensboro Heritage Community.



Above: Warnersville Community in relation to historical city limits of Greensboro Below: Warnersville, 1955





James Griffin, center, surrounded by Warnersville community supporters, including Councilman Jamal Fox and Councilwoman Sharon Hightower, holds a copy of the Heritage Community resolution at its passage on July 21.

MUSEUM SHOP CORNER

Shop With Us For Holiday Gifts

We are featuring local food items and gifts for the upcoming holiday season.

For foodies, we have

- Old Mill of Guilford cornmeal, muffin and pancake mixes
- * Salem Bakery Moravian cookies
- * Teague and O'Quinn Potteries bakeware and tinware
- * Vida Pour locally-made teas and L&B Apiaries honey
- Cookbooks by Carolinians Bob Garner and John Bachelor plus other Southern cookbook titles

For special friends and family, we have

- Greenwich Bay Trading Co. soaps, festively packaged from a family-owned business using French milled and vegetable-based ingredients
- Mimi's soaps and lotions from Carol Pryor's NC kitchen with rich emollients and essential oils
- New! Jean Pudlo's hand-marbled 100% silk scarves and notecards
- * New! Greensboro notepads and nature cards by Purple Zante
- * New! Merchandise arriving daily



We offer gift wrap, phone orders, online shopping and affordable shipping. Come in for a visit ...

Channell Williams, Shop Manager, Barbara Shanks, Jane Teer, Cathy Battle

MUSEUM GUILD

A n outstanding program line-up has once again been planned for the Museum Guild, with topics and speakers who will leave you wanting to learn even more. The fall lineup features talks by Jim Schlosser about local stonemason Andrew Schlosser, responsible for beautiful granite work in Fisher Park and beyond, and highlights from the Guild's first 40 years by Gayle Fripp. A holiday luncheon includes toy collector Jim



Fisher Park granite footbridge, the work of Andrew Schlosser

Webb, and then the spring brings Bill and Rosa McNairy and

their family history, Joy Johnson and her Air Force career, an author talk by J. Edward Gray, and a grand finale featuring Director Carol Hart.

The Guild meets on 3rd Mondays of the month, with coffee and conversation at 10 and the program at 10:30. Guests are always welcome. For more information, call Guild President Josie Gibboney at 272.2438.

Betty K. Phipps, First Vice President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m. *One City, One Book Event*

A Walk Into Greensboro's Past: Warnersville, From 1865 to the Present Dr. Arwin Smallwood, Chair, NC A&T History Dept. Seating limited; call Mary Allen at 373.2982 for reservations

Monday, October 19 at 10 a.m. *Museum Guild Meeting*

Andrew Schlosser's Legacy of Stone Journalist and descendant Jim Schlosser shares the life and work of a master stonemason

Saturday, October 24

Ghost Stories in the Graveyard at 1 p.m. Storyteller Cynthia Brown

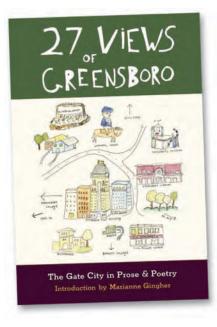
Ghoulash! from 2 – 6 p.m. Spooktacular graveyard tours

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 11 *Museum Open for Veterans Day* Museum opened on this date in 1925



27 Views of Greensboro Author Talks and booksigning at 3 p.m.



Monday, November 16 at 10 a.m. Museum Guild Meeting

Celebrating 40 Years of Guild History Guild member and former Assistant Director Gayle Fripp highlights Guild people and projects

Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. Annual Dinner Invitations forthcoming

Thurs-Fri, November 26 – 27 Museum closed

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 5 *Holiday Parade Day* Offering hot chocolate and holiday crafts from 2-4

Thursday, December 17 at 11:30 a.m. *Museum Guild Holiday Luncheon*

What's Inside the Toy Chest? Enjoy hearing from Collector Jim Webb Greensboro Country Club Reservations required; call Sandy Weston at 605.9302 for details

Thurs-Fri, December 24-25 Museum closed

On the Cover: Center City Park, just a block from the Historical Museum, is a site for gatherings, concerts, food truck happenings and celebrations. Plan time to visit both on your next trip downtown. Cover image provided by Lynn Donovan Photography.

For more information, visit GreensboroHistory.org/events





HISTORICAL

MISFIM

Greensboro Historical Museum 130 Summit Avenue Greensboro, NC 27401 Telephone (336) 373-2043 Open Tuesday - Saturday

10 AM - 5 PM Sunday 2 PM - 5 PM Free Admission David and Rachel Caldwell Historical Center 3211 West Cornwalllis Drive Greensboro, NC 27410 Telephone (336) 373-3681 Open Tuesday and Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM Free Admission *GreensboroHistory.org*

Smithsonian Institution Affiliations Program CORPORATE SUPPORTERS O.HENRY MAGAZINE MAGAZINE

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NEWBRIDGE BANK