



# ROAR



## Asian Pacific American Stories from our City and Nation

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**W**ell, I've got some good news and some bad news. The bad news is that museum team member Linda Evans, Community Historian, is retiring after 33 years. The good news is that the Comma Wars are over. Yes, we are now free, to use as many commas we like, wherever, and whenever, we want! Not to mention exclamation points!



As curator of our community history, public historian and researcher, Linda worked with, and in, the community. Her knowledge of local history, her ongoing pursuit of new approaches to the study of history and her public relations acumen helped the museum fulfill its mission to serve the Greensboro community.

But Linda was also the keeper of our museum institutional and social history, and my personal guide to Southern culture. I will particularly remember her lessons on when to just utter, "Bless her/his heart," take a sip of sweet tea, and call it a day. When you called Linda's office, she always answered, "Linda Evans, may I help you?" And then she did with warmth, and wit, and a willingness to do whatever was needed.

Linda has many adventures ahead, but I am a little sad that she won't be here to help us usher in the next exciting phase of the museum. As much as I tried to entice her with an upcoming new project,— "but Linda don't you want to be part of the upcoming World War I era exhibit?; how can you leave before we do the exhibit in honor of the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment and women's right to vote?"—she was firm in her resolve.

I was really doomed before I started. I should have remembered that a historian would know there is always another anniversary, another great historical event to mark, because history never stops being made, and remade, and written, and rewritten.

*Carol Ghiorso Hart*  
Carol Ghiorso Hart, Director

PS: That makes 29 commas, but truth be known I was always on her side of the comma free zone.

I am proud of the energy and collaboration shown by the museum board over the past few months as we continue to support the work of Carol Hart and her team. Our Fabulous 50's Flashback on July 9th was a huge success with about 1,000 visitors for the day. Everyone pitched in to make sure things ran smoothly with dancers, antique cars, music, popcorn, hula-hooping, burgers and ice cream. It was so rewarding to walk around



and see how much people in the community appreciated having a fun, free way to spend a day with family and friends. It was also great to see that we attracted a large segment of people who had never been to the museum before. It was obvious by their smiles and fascination that they will be back.

2016 has been a year of rebranding – evaluating where we are and what we want to accomplish with the Greensboro community. A key component of that effort is a new name and a new logo. Like many American museums today, we're updating our name, and will soon be known as the Greensboro History Museum. Our new logo is classic, eye-catching and modern, and stays true to our heritage of using the Belle Meade lions as our icon. New exhibits are on the horizon, along with an

innovative offering of educational programs and services.

Thank you, museum members, for the many ways you are supporting our efforts to grow as we compete for the time and attention of our many audiences. We have a firm commitment to reach people of all ages and backgrounds, and as an institution of learning and creativity, continue to seek and try out new ways of engagement.

Our membership numbers are up and we have great momentum going into 2017. These changes and accomplishments are possible only through your generous contributions and advocacy.

*Chi J. Carlson*

Chris Carlson, President, Greensboro Historical Museum, Inc.

**Like many American museums today, we're updating our name, and will soon be known as the Greensboro History Museum**

**Serving the Community and Beyond**

Archival items and objects in our collections provide the basis for museum exhibits. They also support projects in the local community and scholarly research of regional and national interest.

**Nursing Uniforms at Union Square Campus**

For the August 5th opening ceremony of the Union Square Campus, the museum created a pop-up exhibit featuring the uniforms and stories of four local nurses: Mattie Hicks, Jean Rabie, Alice Hixon and Mary Ruth Haviland. A partnership between Cone Health, Guilford Technical Community College, NC A&T State University and UNC-Greensboro, the first building at Union Square provides associate to doctoral level degrees for nurses.



Museum Board Member James Griffin looks at pop-up exhibit

**The Fabric of Memory at Revolution Mill**

Earlier this year, Revolution Mill opened a permanent exhibit entitled *The Fabric of Memory: The Cone Mill Villages*. Highlighting life in the villages, the exhibit includes photographs from our collections that show the mills, mill houses and schools, and company-sponsored recreational activities. The exhibit was developed by students in the UNCG Public History program, and designed and built by a Raleigh company.

Courtesy of Revolution Mill



Elise Allison, Archivist

Susan Joyce Webster, Registrar/Curator of Textiles

Jon B. Zachman, Curator of Collections



Courtesy of the Chipstone Foundation  
Photo by Gary Albert

Courtesy of MESDA

**MESDA publication includes two furniture pieces**

This chest, made about 1820, boasts graduated drawers and tall bracket feet, a distinctive attribute of cabinetmaker John Piggott, who worked in the Piedmont during the early 1800s. This piece is significant among Piggott's work because, as you can see in the accompanying image, the artisan signed his name.

The Piggott chest, and a ladder back armchair from the Dixon family of Alamance County, are two museum objects featured in a chapter by June Lucas, Director of Research at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA), in the forthcoming book *American Furniture*.

**Other Organizations Served in 2016**

- |                             |                      |                          |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Dumbarton House             | Natty Greene's       | <i>O. Henry Magazine</i> |
| Flight 93 National Memorial | NBC Sports           | Smithsonian              |
| James Madison's Montpelier  | NC Museum of History | <i>Yes! Weekly</i>       |

## ON EXHIBITION

**A**sian and Pacific Americans make up more than 5 percent of the U.S. population—more than 17 million people—and those numbers are growing. Their ancestral roots represent more than 50 percent of the world, extending from East Asia to Southeast Asia, and from South Asia to the Pacific Islands and Polynesia. Among our Greensboro neighbors are more than 20,000 people with ties to this region.

*I Want the Wide American Earth: An Asian Pacific American Story* has opened at the Historical Museum and will be on view through February 2017. *I Want the Wide American Earth*, the title of which comes from a stirring poem by Filipino immigrant, poet and labor activist Carlos Bulosan (1913 – 1956), was created by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). The exhibition is supported by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

In this first exhibition of its kind, the Smithsonian celebrates Asian Pacific American history across a

multitude of diverse cultures and explores how Asian Pacific Americans have shaped and been shaped by the course of the nation's history. *I Want the Wide American Earth* tells the rich and complex stories of the very first Asian immigrants, including their participation in key moments in American history: Asian immigrants panned in the Gold Rush, hammered ties in the Transcontinental Railroad, fought on both sides in the Civil War and helped build the nation's agricultural system.

Through the decades, Asian immigrants struggled against legal exclusion, civil rights violations and unlawful detention, such as the 120,000 Japanese who were interred during World War II. Since the 1960s, vibrant new communities, Pan Asian, Pacific Islander and cross-cultural, have blossomed.

Curated by Lawrence-Ming Bui Davis, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center Initiative Coordinator, *I Want the Wide American Earth* is a moving, dramatic and evocative narrative of Asian Pacific American history and culture.

The Lam and Balfour Families, 2013  
Front (l-r) Tiffany Lam-Balfour,  
Genevieve Balfour, David Balfour,  
Xavier Balfour  
Back (l-r) Belinda Lam, Wally Lam,  
Che Lam



Ganesh  
Decorative Statue  
Hindu God of Wisdom  
and the Remover of  
Obstacles

Loaned by  
Vishnu and Sita Avva

## GENERATIONS

Voices of Greensboro's  
Asian Pacific American Families

Thanks to community advisors and contributions from area residents, an original display is on view which shares local stories through family treasures, photographs and video interview clips. *Generations* will be expanded in late spring 2017.

Through February 26, 2017

*Background: Hmong Tapestry  
Loaned by Vang Family*



Rhade weaver H Ju Nie  
2016 North Carolina Heritage Award Winner

I WANT THE WIDE  
AMERICAN EARTH



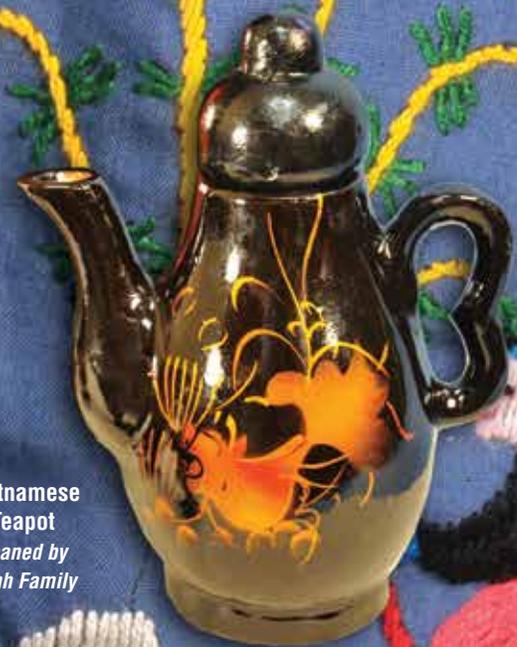
Illustration by Chris Danger

For a free mobile tour app, which also includes fascinating interviews, visit the App Store under *Wide Earth*. A 14-page illustrated graphic narrative e-book, featuring work by seven Asian Pacific American artists, is free to download by googling *I Want the Wide American Earth* e-book.



Community volunteer and storyteller Yaeko Katsuki

Vietnamese  
Teapot  
Loaned by  
Trinh Family



## The Belle Meade Society

**Y**ou're invited to join the Belle Meade Society, an informal organization of museum members who make an annual donation to the museum of \$250 and above. Belle Meade level donations play a vital role in funding innovative exhibitions, caring for collections, and making educational programs possible. Each year, members are invited to two gatherings which include presentations by outstanding speakers.



On Monday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m., Dr. Max Carter, the former William R. Rogers Director of Friends Center and Quaker Studies at Guilford College, will present *Underground Railroad Tracks through Guilford County* to Belle Meade

Society members.

As Carter explains, "In the mid-1700s, members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) began settling in Piedmont North Carolina from two areas that were deeply influenced by the abolitionist movement among Friends: Southeastern Pennsylvania and Nantucket. By the late 1770s, Friends were committed to an anti-slavery position, and some became active in movements beyond their Society to end slavery. Two Quakers from Guilford County, cousins Vestal and Levi Coffin, became especially well-known for their work on what was called the Underground Railroad."

Carter will share this history as only he can do, and describe the challenges to Friends' testimonies of peace, equality, and integrity that came with their opposition to slavery.

**For more information, contact Belle Meade Society President Will Truslow at [willtruslow@hotmail.com](mailto:willtruslow@hotmail.com)**

## COMMUNITY HISTORY

### Reflecting on 33 Years

**T**he adventure of a lifetime at one address. As I'm ending 33 years as a museum staff member that's pretty much how I feel.

My parents often included a historic site as part of our family vacations, *Dolley Madison, Quaker Girl* is the first biography I remember reading and I often tried to imagine what Greensboro looked like before houses and paved streets. When I decided to major in history I hadn't a clue that local history and my hometown museum would offer a lifetime of learning, service and unforgettable adventure.

It's been a privilege to work where tradition and change live side by side. Where I've had the opportunity to meet and talk with people from around the corner and around the world. All at the Greensboro Historical Museum at 130 Summit Ave.

I've worked as museum receptionist, tour and traveling trunks coordinator, public information officer, special events coordinator, community historian, interim director and (smile) then community historian again. Been grateful that Bill Moore and Gayle Fripp offered me a job back in 1983 and that I hung around after

more than one calamity (an upside-down slide show) and unforgettable moments (the family of the late PFC Phill McDonald gathered to donate his Medal of Honor). Learned from Library Directors Sandy Neerman and Brigitte Blanton, Museum Director Carol Hart, colleagues, scholars, members and visitors, enjoyed giving talks and tours, listened to feedback from generations of visitors. Never tired of seeing how the museum forges connections among people and with the community.

It's been a privilege to serve Greensboro and beyond. Exhibits I remember from my childhood visits and early years on staff have changed in subject and style. That's how it should be. The respect for museum visitors, the desire to discover, research and share history in a powerful way, the appreciation of the City's support and the Greensboro Historical Museum, Inc., well, they are still going strong.

Thanks to all of those who have supported the museum and me along the way. More adventure awaits everyone at 130 Summit Ave. Hope to see you there!



Here with my father, Malcolm Evans. My dress coat was later part of the museum exhibit *All Sewn Up*.

*Hinda Evans*

## MUSEUM SHOP CORNER

### Enjoy Your Holiday Shopping with Us!

**W**e offer personal assistance with all your selections from our great gift ideas for the season. Remember, phone and web orders are welcome, with gift wrap and shipping available.



*Festive holiday ornaments. Take home an adorable felt mouse like the ones in our popular Mouse Hunt.*

*Cookies, mixes and sauces. It's not the holidays without Moravian Cookies!*

*Pearl bracelets, necklaces and earrings. Make all the ladies in your life happy.*

*Seasonal candles, soaps and lotions. The packaging on the Greenwich Bay soaps is a decorator's delight.*

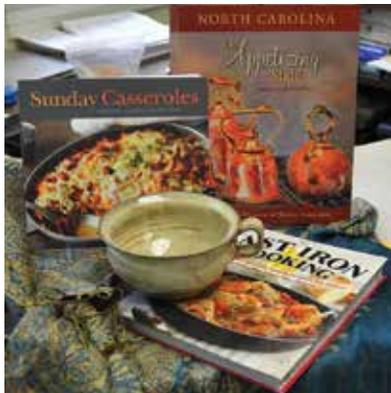


*Pashminas, scarves and winter apparel. Nothing adds color to an outfit like our colorful Pashminas.*

*Alice's Cottage textiles. You will love the spicy scent given off by the mug mats when you put your hot coffee or tea on them.*

*Michel holiday paper products and gifts. Napkins and placemats make terrific hostess gifts.*

*All-occasion NC pottery, books, local products and more. You can't go wrong!*



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

**Annual Shop Event on Saturday, November 12 from 11 – 4**  
**20% Discount on All Purchases**

## MUSEUM GUILD

**W**hatever the program, the collegiality and love of lifelong learning shared by Guild members bring a positive energy to our meetings. Come join us this fall and you'll immediately sense the same.

What's on the horizon? The October program features archivist Elise Allison, who is bound to surprise you as you hear about Presidents—future, present and past—who have visited Greensboro. You may have been tracing presidential footsteps while driving around town and you'll find out the most popular presidential stops. In November we'll welcome



Learn about Presidential visits on October 17

expert Dr. Max Carter, who will talk about why the Society of Friends, better known as Quakers, decided to move here in the 1700s. He'll share how place names were chosen and how believers influenced Greensboro's development. The December luncheon at the Greensboro Country Club is an annual favorite.

Meetings begin at 10 with conversation and refreshments, and continue with the program at 10:30. Guests are always welcome. For more information, please contact me at 336-378-1531.

**Betty K. Phipps**, Guild President

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER

Now through November 13

#### *A Place for All People*

Poster display introducing the new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture

**Saturday, October 1 from 5 – 8 p.m.**

#### *Beer, Barbecue and Bluegrass Bash*

Live band and lots of fun  
5623 Francisco Dr., near Carlson Farms  
RSVP Mary Allen at 336-373-2982

**October 4, 6, 18, 20, 25, 27**

**from 9:30 - noon**

#### *Docent Training*

New volunteers welcome, call Carolyn Malone at 336-333-6834 for details

**Monday, October 17 at 10 a.m.**

#### *Museum Guild Meeting*

*The President is Here!*

Archivist Elise Allison

**Saturday, October 22**

#### *Graveyard Ghost Stories* at 2 p.m.

Storyteller Cynthia Brown

#### *Ghoulash!* from 3 – 6 p.m.

Spooktacular graveyard tours

**Monday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m.**

#### *Belle Meade Society Fall Meeting*

*Underground Railroad Tracks through Guilford County*

Dr. Max Carter

**Wednesday, October 26 at 7 p.m.**

*A Forgotten Civil Rights Hero: Albion Tourgee and His Fight Against White Supremacy in Greensboro and Beyond*

Dr. Carolyn Karcher

Booksigning follows

### Tradition with a Twist Raffle

#### Drawing November 1

Support the museum and acquire a new family heirloom, a Sunburst Quilt (retail value \$1000) made by Dawn Gray Kouba. The design replicates a quilt in the museum collection. Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, with proceeds benefiting the *Adopt an Object* program.

Buy at [shop.GreensboroHistory.org](http://shop.GreensboroHistory.org)  
or in the Museum Shop.



### NOVEMBER

**Tuesday, November 1 at 6:30 p.m.**

#### *Annual Dinner*

Dr. Elliot Engel

Greensboro Country Club

**Friday, November 11**

#### *Veterans Day*

Museum Open

**Saturday, November 12 from 11 - 4**

#### *Museum Shop Discount Day*

20% Discount on all purchases

**Monday, November 21 at 10 a.m.**

#### *Museum Guild Meeting*

*Quaker Presence in Guilford County:*

*A Firm Foundation*

Dr. Max Carter

### DECEMBER

**Tuesday, December 20 at 11:30 a.m.**

#### *Museum Guild Holiday Luncheon*

Greensboro Country Club

For reservations, contact

Don Saunders at 336-299-2996 or

[revpatreen@bellsouth.net](mailto:revpatreen@bellsouth.net)

**On the Cover:** To honor close friends Robert and Amelia Leung, local attorney Manlin Chee commissioned this watercolor of their family business, the Hong Kong House, from artist Maggie Fickett. The restaurant was a culinary and cultural landmark on Tate St. for nearly 30 years. A new Hong Kong Cook Book is now available in the Museum Shop.

For more information, visit [GreensboroHistory.org/events](http://GreensboroHistory.org/events)

Like Us On  facebook



**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 Cornwallis Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
Telephone 336-373-3681

Open Tuesday and Saturday  
10 AM - 5 PM  
Free Admission

[GreensboroHistory.org](http://GreensboroHistory.org)

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