



**1780 Council Oak
at Quaker Meadows
November 2018**

The History Museum of Burke County, Inc.
P.O. Box 416
Morganton, NC 28680
201 West Meeting Street,
Morganton, NC 28655
828-437-1777
burkehistory@compascable.net
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Betty Whitaker
Ben Williams

History Museum Hours:
Tuesday - Friday 10:00 - 4:00
Saturday 10:00 - 2:00
Rail Road Depot
Saturdays
1:00 - 3:00
R. Douglas Walker
Curator Emeritus
Jeff Stark, Coordinator

Museum Musings Staff
Debbie Bradley
Linda Lindsey
Pat Page

MUSEUM MUSINGS

History Museum Yard Sale & Silent Auction December 1

8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

If you missed the October yard sale and silent auction sponsored by the History Museum, you have one more chance to peruse the offerings and strike a good bargain! Items not sold in October and items donated since the first sale will be available for purchase in the History Museum Annex on Saturday, December 1 from 8:00 AM until 12:00 Noon.

Items available are varied! Prices are hard to beat! Mark your calendars!

History Museum Will Be Represented in Morganton and Drexel Christmas Parades

Rain or shine, the parade will go on! If you want to ride on the History Museum float in the Morganton Christmas parade that will begin at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 4 and/or in the Drexel Christmas parade that will begin at 1:00 PM on Saturday, December 8, please call the History Museum at 437-1777 and ask for Docent Sue Cozort. It's fun to promote the History Museum in this way and your participation will be welcome!

Diversity Requested

The Museum strives to represent all populations in Burke County. We need minority representation in our Veterans exhibits. Please contact the Museum for inclusion in our interviews, photographs, and exhibits!

Volunteers in a variety of capacities are needed also! Please call or visit to inquire.

Holiday Hours

Thanksgiving: The History Museum will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.
Christmas: The History Museum will close from Christmas Eve to January 2.



November 2018

Joara Exhibit Available at History Museum Until Spring 2019, Then Will Move to Western Carolina University

Those of you who want to see the Joara exhibit at the History Museum, for the first time or for a repeat visit, have just a few more months to see it. On loan from Exploring Joara Foundation, the exhibit is the first formal museum exhibit showcasing Fort San Juan and Joara, a large Native American town in the late 16th century. It was developed as part of the celebration of the 450th Anniversary of the Juan Pardo Expeditions, during the 1560s, and tells the story of Spanish exploration and the founding of a fort in what is present-day Burke County. At a date still to be determined, the exhibit will move to the main exhibit gallery at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee.

Archaeologists identified the site near Morganton as the location of Joara, one of the largest Native American towns in what is today western North Carolina. The town was occupied from approximately A.D. 1400 to A.D. 1600. Hernando de Soto and Juan Pardo, Spanish explorers, visited the town in the 1560's. In 2013, archaeologists confirmed that the town was also the site of Fort San Juan, established by Juan Pardo in 1567, nearly 20 years before the English settlement at Roanoke on the coast of North Carolina and 40 years before the English settlement at Jamestown in Virginia. The discovery of the fort, the earliest European settlement in the interior of what is now the United States, has changed history books.

Spanish soldiers lived at Fort San Juan from January 1567 until approximately June 1568. The relationship between the soldiers and the residents of Joara deteriorated and resulted in almost all the soldiers being killed and the fort being burned. The Spanish, who had been seeking gold, did not find it and soon quit their colonization efforts in the area.

Joara, along with a number of other Native American towns, was abandoned by the time the English, Scots-Irish, and German settlers moved into the area in the 1700s.

The campus of Western Carolina University is built on the site of a Cherokee town. The university enjoys sharing information through exhibits and lectures about the people who have inhabited western North Carolina through the centuries.

Shop for Christmas Gifts at our Museum Shop

Looking for the right Christmas present for a special person? Consider a book. The Museum gift shop carries a varied selection of books, especially books related to the history of Burke County and the area. We have books related to the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the Battle of King's Mountain, the Native Americans in Burke and the Spanish Settlement of Fort San Juan. There are also books on hiking trails in the Linville Gorge, ghost stories, genealogy and family history books. One can read about the most recent study of the Brown Mountain Lights and what the geologist who led the study believes they are. We also have cookbooks, books for children and several books on the Frankie Silver legend. The Heritage of Burke County Vol II and Burke, the History of a North Carolina County are now both on sale for less than one half their original selling prices. The Museum Shop also carries local craft items, note cards, art prints, and other items. The shop is open during Museum hours. (We do not ship items.)





History Museum Honors Veterans

In addition to participating in the Annual Veterans Day Program at Foothills Higher Education Center on Monday, November 12, the History Museum set up a temporary exhibit in the Museum to call specific attention to the contributions and sacrifices of Burke County citizens in the defense of this country. The History Museum has a number of exhibits on the first floor dedicated to those who have served in the military, including uniforms, photographs, artifacts, and videotaped interviews of veterans who served during World War II.

If you haven't seen these exhibits, schedule some time to visit them. You may well learn about a family member or friend who served in the military, and you surely will learn a lot about these hometown folks who gave so much for the freedoms we all enjoy.



Sheriff Whisenant Presents October "Coffee at the Museum"

Burke County Sheriff Steve Whisenant provided "Crime Prevention Tips for Senior Citizens" at the Thursday, October 25 "Coffee at the History Museum". More than 40 residents from across the county listened raptly to the presentation and asked a number of questions afterward. Sheriff Whisenant shared copies of a brochure with safety tips for seniors and characteristics of fraudulent sale schemes.

The "Coffee" programs are offered monthly at the History Museum. There is no admission charge and refreshments are provided. For more information, call the History Museum at 437-1777 and check the "Community Calendar" in the Morganton News Herald for announcements of upcoming programs.

The History Museum of Burke County Inc.
PO Box 416
Morganton, NC 28680-041600

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sue Cozort, History Museum Board Member and Docent, dressed up for Halloween this year, much to the delight of schoolchildren who toured the Museum! Sue is shown here with Docent Ed Hardin.

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