

Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center
Mission Statement

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center collects, preserves, researches, exhibits, and interprets the scope of Calhoun County’s history genealogy, art, and culture while also providing multidisciplinary community oriented arts programming, artistic exhibits, and focused educational outreach to serve the diverse heritage and cultural interests of Calhoun County, South Carolina.

In seeking to fulfill the above mission, the Museum provides unique educational, recreational, and participatory opportunities for citizen and visitor enrichment and enjoyment. The Museum and Cultural Center seeks to increase public awareness of the importance of the County’s common heritage through active preservation and interpretation.

The Museum and Cultural Center works as a community art agency by offering diverse cultural programming, exhibits, and learning opportunities. The staff seeks to foster greater community arts appreciation and visitor enrichment through a variety of cultural offerings.

The Museum and Cultural Center has embraced two general long term goals in keeping with the mission statement: “To encourage, nurture, support, and implement as an integral part of learning for all citizens of Calhoun County and visitors throughout South Carolina, as well as visitors from all over the world.”

“To provide multidisciplinary arts and history programs and support services for Calhoun County which serves to stimulate community and cultural and economic growth.”

In Memory

Over the year, many people send the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center donations in memory of the loved ones they lost. The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center remembers the following:

Charlie Brown
Helen Banks Bruner
Herschel Cooper
Margie Cooper
Darrell Cooper
Charles Crook
John T. Crowe
Fran Culclasure
Kay Estes
Bette Jane Fairey
Ed Griffith
Betty Bellinger Moseley

Sara Bull Perrow
William G. Peterkin III
Bill Phillips
Mary Lib Phillips
Mackie Prickett
Clifton Riley
Kat Riley
Ashley Summers Harvey
Jeanne Wilde Ulmer
C.F. Ulmer
Peggy Ussery
Foster H. Yarborough Jr.

Contact Information

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Instagram: @calhouncountymuseumandcultural

Website: calhouncountymuseum.com

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center is open to the public
Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Research by appointment only.



Friends Membership Drive Underway



Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center Friends Memberships run annually from October 1 to September 30, making now the perfect time to join for the upcoming year. Becoming a Friends Member, shows your support for the mission and goals of the museum. Each donation supports our various programs, allowing us to not only host children’s events at no cost to the public but also to hold adult programs at a reduced cost.

With your help, we can better preserve and protect our growing collection, which includes papers and photographs dating back to the 1700s. Your membership also entitles you to receive advanced notice of our workshops and events. Please consider filling out the enclosed form to become a Friends Member.

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center would not be able to operate without your continued support! Call us at (803) 874-3964 if you have any questions about our Friends Membership. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Calhoun County Museum Gala 2022

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 5, 2022, for the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center Gala!

This is a Gala that you will not want to miss!

As always, there will be great music, fun times, and wonderful food. The Band of Oz will perform in the Activities Room and Mr. Shannon Pinkney will “tickle the ivories” in our Research Room. Jack Brantley and Aberdeen Catery are working on a surprise menu which is sure to delight everyone! Valet parking will also be offered.

Tickets will go on sale in November 2021. Be sure to get your tickets early because there will be no waiting list and tickets will not be sold at the door. No refunds will be given. Keep an eye out as we post more information.

We look forward to seeing you in February 2022!



Newsletter Highlights

Mondays at the Museum	Thank You, Whittaker Family	Remembering Charlie Brown and Foster Yarborough	Dee and Joy Buyck Carpenter Foundation Remembers Museum
What’s Happening at the Museum	Importance of the Archives	SC Association of Counties Honors Museum	Bessie Wolfe Hill Remembers the Museum
Greetings from the Director Museum Staff	Sponsors Needed	Meet Mr. Reynolds	Banks Property Is on the Market
	Museum’s Special Gift for Pine Grove		

Mondays at the Museum



We were so excited to bring back our Children's Summer Programs this year! The kids had a blast—and we think the adults enjoyed coming too. After being shut down so long because of COVID, it was nice for everyone to get out of the house and do something.

Canvas Painting – On June 14, Art Smart Academy sent Alyson to the museum to teach kids how to paint a beach scene, complete with waves and a beach ball, on canvas. The kids had so much fun mixing colors and painting different shapes.

Becky's Box of Puppets – On June 21, Becky, founder of Becky's Box of Puppets, brought her popular storytelling back to the museum and delighted us all with her performance of "The Happy Circus." She let the kids interact with her homemade puppets during the show and invited them to take pictures afterwards.

Pottery Class – On June 28, Alyson returned to the museum to show the kids how to create a turtle bowl out of clay. Everyone put on their creative hats and enjoyed working with their hands.

History Hour + Candle Making – On July 19, Mrs. Debbie treated the kids to a specialty tour of the Colonial Room here in the museum. They learned how people lived, cooked, and worked during the early days of South Carolina. Following the tour, we took the kids over to the Activities Rooms and taught them how to make candles by hand. After a lot of giggles and patience, the kids all went home with handmade candles of all shapes and sizes.

"Robin Hood" Play – On July 26, kids of all ages got to watch "Robin Hood," as performed by the Columbia Children's Theater. The actors had us all in a fit of giggles throughout the entire performance.

We cannot wait for next year's summer programs!



Who Doesn't Love Some Trivia?

The museum hosted its first-ever trivia competition on August 4, 2021. Our Digital Archivist, Colby Causey, hammed it up as the host and brought his own love for trivia into the game. The teams came up with creative team names—otherwise known as the The Creeks, the Carolina Four, and the Fort Motte Flunkies—and duked it out for first place, a \$50 gift card.

Everyone participated in a little friendly (but competitive) banter throughout the night and enjoyed a fun dinner of wings and pizza. The final question tied two teams for first place, a tie which stubbornly remained even after two tie-breaker questions! Turns out, a good trick question can save the day and cause the Fort Motte Flunkies to come out as winners. Do you know enough about Calhoun County to beat everyone else at trivia?



Banks Property Is on the Market

Sections of the property formerly belonging to the late C. R. Banks have been placed on the market for sale. Now don't get nervous—his "bungalow in the woods," and the sixty-seven acres surrounding his family home, will not be sold.

Houser Woods at Oak Grove Plantation, which is a beautiful subdivision that Mr. Banks started many years ago, was left to the museum as well as to the St. Matthews Parish Church. Because Mr. Banks' had a specific vision in mind, he put in place some restrictions regarding the property. Each lot has been kept to 2 ½ acres with setbacks for trees; the size of homes must be no less than 2,200 square feet heated area. Because Mr. Banks loved history so much, his dream was that this subdivision maintain the feel of living in the country and that things be kept as natural as possible.

All proceeds from selling this property through the museum will go directly back into the restoration funds we created to maintain the preservation of Mr. Banks' bungalow and the trails. The museum will forever be grateful for this generous donation that was left to honor his memory as well as to honor Calhoun County. Anyone who would like to receive more information or to make a donation may call the museum.



Do You Know Your Silver?

Did you inherit your great-grandparents' silver flatware? Did Aunt Susie's silver service set somehow find its way into your home? Did you find your silver candelabras from your wedding fifty years ago? Chances are, you've got some silver in your home that you've either got displayed or have tucked away in a cabinet. If you're curious to know what kind of silver you have—or eager to polish it!—this article is for you.

The four basic kinds of silver are the following: sterling, coin, hotel, and silver plate. *Sterling silver* has to be at least 92.5% silver. An easy way to know if you have sterling silver is to look for the number "925" marked on the back of the piece, or even the word "sterling." *Coin silver*, typically heavier than sterling, is at least 90% silver. During colonial times, Americans were so adamant against importing English silver that they instead melted down European coins to make what is now known as coin silver. You can identify coin silver by finding the word "coin" stamped either on the back or the side of the piece. *Hotel silver*, specifically crafted to withstand the rigor of hotel or restaurant use, is actually made from a base of copper or brass and merely covered in a thick layer of silver for effect. Expect to see some pitting, or small dents, from use. *Silver plate*, possessing only a veneer of pure silver itself, is more cost effective for the average buyer. Similar to hotel silver, silver plate has a different base—nickel—and only a thin layer of silver to make it look like sterling. You will usually find the word "silver plate" stamped on the back.

Now that you've identified which kind of silver you have, how are you supposed to polish it? If you do a quick Google search, you will find all kinds of methods that claim to be the "best thing since sliced bread." As with most things, be wary of what you read on the Internet. Some of these "tried-and-true" home remedies can actually hurt your silver, damaging it beyond repair! Stay away from any sources that claim tin foil as the trick to clean your silver. When you polish your silver, make sure you use a polish specifically formulated for your silver. Here at the museum we use brands such as Hagerty Silver Polish and Wright's Silver Polish. These are relatively inexpensive and can be found at Walmart or on Amazon.

If you have any questions about your silver, don't hesitate to bring it by the museum and ask. We are happy to help you!



What's Happening at the Museum

The past year at the museum year got off to a great start. COVID seemed like it was on its way out and things looked like we would be getting back to normal. Although we couldnot host any programs with crowds, our doors were open for tours and research by appointment. After Thanksgiving, things drastically changed, and our doors were again closed for the unforeseeable future. In March of 2021, we reopened and resumed normal operations just in time for summer. Take a look at some of the things we did throughout the year!

Tours - Even though our doors were closed most of the year, we offered virtual tours. Once we reopened, we welcomed the public back in. This year alone, we met people from South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, Florida, New York, Texas, Minnesota, Kentucky, and even Alaska. We were thrilled to give these patrons personalized tours to fit their interests. Come by and see us soon to learn about Calhoun County and South Carolina history. You may hear a story or two about your family!

Research - The museum offers many different services, but research is one of our most popular. So many people request genealogical research to learn more about their family and ancestors. Some of the families we worked on this year include Balley, Ford, Glover, Mack, Mitchell, Saxon, Seawright, Washington, Yarborough, and many more. If you are looking for information on your family, call us to set up an appointment and we will be glad to help you!

Programs - Finally, after fourteen months, our after-hours programs returned. Summer started off with our "Mondays at the Museum" for children. These programs included painting, pottery, puppet shows, history hour with candle making, and a play. Parents were happy to bring their children to an in-person program. In June, the Charlestons brought their a capella talents and serenaded a soldout crowd. We later tested everyone's South Carolina history knowledge through a fun Trivia Night in August.

Calhoun County History - Over the last year, Debbie Roland has been touring the county and filming clips of historical sites. She has visited many churches, businesses, and even homes to bring the county's history to you. We also enjoyed sharing interviews with Calhoun County veterans and citizens as well as posting plays performed by our very own Calhoun Players. You can find these videos on our Facebook page: Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center Friends.



Greetings from the Director

Time flies when you are having fun, or so they say. It seems like yesterday we were preparing our yearly newsletter. This past year has been very challenging and yet very exciting. We cannot begin to thank you for your patience and support.

Yes, we are open but masks are required and we are taking temperatures at the door. We are still recommending you call before you come for a visit so we can prepare.

This past year has been a whirlwind of opportunity. So many of you donated family treasures and our porch pick-up was a great success. Even with COVID you still made contributions to our Friends Membership. Thank you!

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the special patrons we lost. My heart is always heavy when I realize how many are no longer with us. Those that come to mind are Doris Thomas, from Dundalk, Maryland; Joanne Ulmer, my sister in Beaufort who was blind but always remembered the museum; Foster Yarborough, of Columbia who was faithful and so southern; Nancy Summers, how do we have a Gala without her; Sarah Perrow who was a charter member and loved the gala; Ashley Summers Harvey who was so supportive of our veterans and quick to donate from Golden Kernel and now Kay. Both spent lots of time at the museum as children; Dr. Jimmy Culclasure who took his tux to the hospital before our last Gala, and when he was released put it on at the hospital and came straight to the museum; Anne Summers Turner from Greenville formerly from Cameron and faithfully joined the Friends and loved to see her friends at the Gala; Hinchie McGee, he never missed a Gala; Charlie Brown, there are not words to describe him; William Peterkin was a charter member and always looked so handsome in his tux; Mackie Prickett, was a community leader and former pharmacist at Carolina Equi-Fam and was a charter members; Helen Banks Brunner of Sumter was a life-time supporter; Charles Crook of Goat Island was a faithful supporter; Fran Culclasure was a charter member and never missed any events or Galas; Virginia Evans was a long-time supporter and a past board member; and Ed Griffith was such a gentle soul and a former Calhoun County Clerk of Court. This newsletter could not be complete if we did not remember Richard Nickel, who always join our friends, who I loved like a son. Richard who was not big on social gatherings never missed a Gala.

Our Facebook page grew by 15%. During this time, we had 556 posts and over 18,000 total engagements — how amazing! Yes, it is private but anyone can join. Just please answer the security questions. Please remember this page is not a chat page but our way of sharing the museum, Calhoun County information, SC History, and obituaries of our patrons. This page is run by only one person. We do this because we care about each of you.

I am extremely proud of our growing staff. I was a party of one or two for many years. The museum family has grown and the staff is well prepared to meet your needs.

Yes, the Banks Estate Property is for sale, but the bungalow and property surrounding is not. All proceeds recieved will go to restore the C.R. Banks home into a 20th Century Museum and walking trails on the property. The house is cleaned, a freestanding bathroom will be built by the beginning of 2022. It is very exciting. We cannot thank our new county administrator enough for his time and support of this project. Stay tuned for more exciting steps.

Thank you to the Dee and Joy Buyck Carpenter Foundation for trusting us with fulfilling Dee and Joy's wishes. Because of their support, we have been able to offer programs at no cost to the public and to start the preservation work on the C.R. Banks bungalow.

I also must publicly announce there will be another Gala. I know I said the last gala was it; however, our county administrator John McLaughlin convinced me otherwise. Save the Date: February 5, 2022. Let's keep our fingers crossed that COVID will not get in the way. Look for an announcement in October.

It is an honor to serve as your director. As always, my door is open to you each of you.

Debbie Roland, Director



The Charlestons

Here at the museum, we get excited about music! Nothing is more of a pick-me-up than a good beat and catchy lyrics—especially in the middle of a worldwide pandemic. Even though Covid prevented us from hosting an in-person program, we were still excited to invite patrons to enjoy a virtual concert with the Charlestons, an a capella quartet from—you guessed it—Charleston. Over 700 people tuned in to stream the concert on Facebook, enjoying a compilation of beach music and patriotic songs.

In June of this year, we invited the Charlestons back—this time, they were able to perform live in the museum, making this concert the first after-hours event we've hosted since the pandemic began. We were beyond delighted. Before the concert began, guests enjoyed a social hour filled with a variety of desserts and drinks—and plenty of socializing! It felt so good to have people in the museum again.

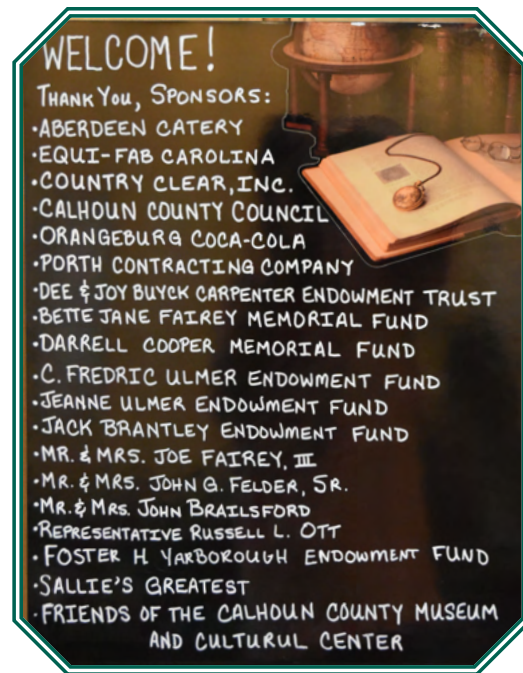


Upcoming Programs at the Calhoun County Museum

We have a fun-filled year in the works
at the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center!
We hope to see you at some of the events listed below!

- Advanced Shag Lessons
- Wedding Dress Exhibit
- Jazz/Piano Fun Fling
- Book Signing
- Painting Classes
- Children's Summer Camps
- Community Sponsored Programs
- And Much More!

Due to COVID-19 our programs may change or be canceled. Check our Facebook and website for more details on our programs!



Thank You, Sponsors!
We could not do these programs without you!

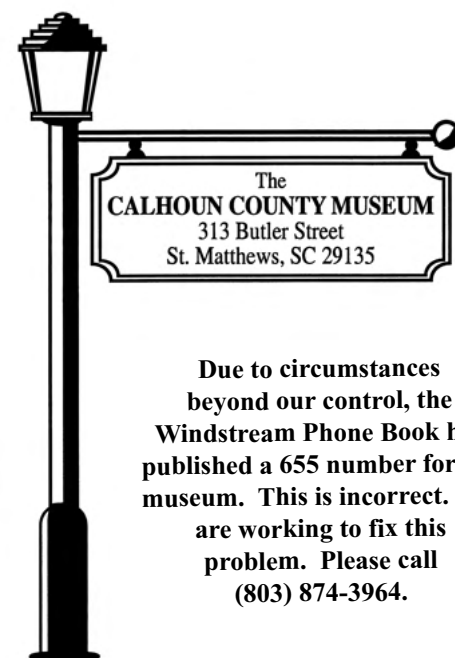
Partnerships

As an effort to support as many art programs as possible and not duplicate services in Calhoun County, the museum is proud to sponsor in part many community programs. You will see updates about their events or programs on our Facebook page and website. All programs are posted 24/7 on our community message board in front of the museum.

These Community Groups are:

The Calhoun Players
The Cameron Community Choir
The Cameron Community Club
The Fort Motte Reunion Festival

These are sponsored in part by the C. Frederic Ulmer Fund



Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Windstream Phone Book has published a 655 number for the museum. This is incorrect. We are working to fix this problem. Please call (803) 874-3964.

Meet the Museum Staff



Debbie Roland
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calhouncountymuseum@gmail.com



Jeremy Stoudenmire
Public Relations and Events
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Amanda Lee
Preservation
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Colby Causey
Digital Archivist
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Sarah Bryant
Collections Curator
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Thank you, Whittaker Family!

We have had an amazing year at the museum. Dr. David and Mrs. Mary Nell (Slawson) Whittaker remembered the museum with two of their family treasures. This family has been so supportive of the museum throughout the years, and we cannot thank them enough for all the research material they have donated. However, when we received these purses, formerly belonging to Mrs. Carrie Zeagler, we were so touched. During COVID, this was such an appropriate gift. Mrs. Carrie lost her life during the "1918 Influenza Pandemic." The museum is delighted that these items have found their way back to Calhoun County. Thank you.



The Importance of the Archive

In many ways the archive is the beating heart of our museum. While it is not accessed by the public as often as other parts of the museum, the archive often houses some of the most unique and personal items in our collection. Our archive contains the history of Calhoun County through the writings of the people who lived it. From the papers of local families to the objects not currently on display, our archive is one of the many ways that our museum preserves the voices of our past.

One of the most irreplaceable types of sources that our archive contains is our paper collections. These collections contain a wide variety of subjects and sources from financial records and public statements to personal correspondence. These papers are one of a kind and reveal a myriad of information about our county and the individuals who lived here since its earliest days. These collections are the telling of American history from the Calhoun County perspective and they can be found nowhere outside of our archive. The paperwork must be handled with the utmost care as many of the pieces can be fragile just due to their age. That is why digitization plays such an important part of modern museums as it reduces the amount of time that the originals have to be physically handled. Only through careful handling and conservation can these documents survive so that future generations can take advantage of our information and it is only through generous support from the public that any of this is possible in the first place.

While the archive is only a portion of what we do at the museum, its impact cannot be underestimated. Our archive is filled with collections that are unique, irreplaceable, and also personal to our county and its history. The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center is able to keep the voices of the past alive through our museum's archive. As the counties' digital archivist I am here to answer any questions the public may have regarding the preservation of not only traditional collections, but also audio and video recordings. Please feel free to reach out if I can help you with anything.

~ Colby Causey



Start Spreading the News!

Please join our Facebook page. It is listed as private because Facebook changed the settings from closed to private. However, anyone can join if you answer our simple security questions. Several videos and photographs are under copyright.

Many of you have asked that pictures of your children not be shared with the public or that the world not know when you have left your home for an event—we have heard you and we care about your privacy!

The museum reaches between 250 – 900 people every time we post, and the page has viewers from all over the United States. Please let us know if there is anything you want to know about or if there is anything you'd like us to video

Sponsors Needed

Have you noticed the sponsorship boards located throughout the museum? We are often asked what it takes to have a name placed on those boards. It is very simple—just make a donation.

- \$1,500 will place your name on the board for one event
- \$2,000 will place your name on the board throughout the year

Please consider becoming a museum sponsor. We appreciate all memberships and donations.

Summer of '21

It's not every day that a global pandemic reaches small-town life here in Calhoun County and forces us to shut down—not once, but twice—and that is exactly what happened here during the spring, summer, fall, and winter of 2020. We all thought it would never end. Here at the museum, we got busy cleaning C. R. Banks' estate, a project years in the making that we were able to make some headway on. Last year, we focused on the house itself. This summer, before it got too hot outside, we turned our attention to his backyard, where two storage sheds sat—both overflowing with his collection of old papers, photographs, and even a snow shovel (which Jeremy accidentally broke). There was never a dull moment out at Mr. Dick's house and we all wondered what he'd have to say about it all. We figured he'd be glad.

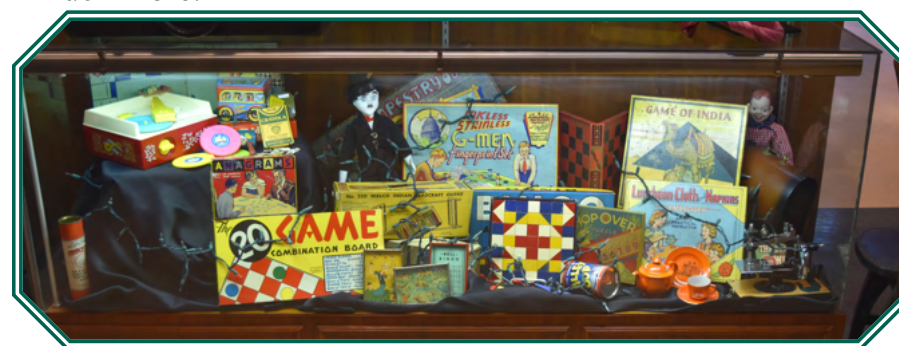
Once summer got started, it was time to host our annual Summer Camp—which we all missed doing last year! This was my first Summer Camp, and it was a blast. Each week brought another fun activity for all the kids to enjoy—from molding turtle-shaped bowls to painting beach scenes to making candles (or corndogs or just really large unicorn horns), there was something for everyone! One day Ms. Becky came along with her homemade puppets and wowed us all with her sweet, interactive story set in a fun-filled circus. After the show, she invited the kids—and even us staff!—up to the stage to take pictures with different puppets. Everyone enjoyed that. The finale, performed by Columbia's Children Theatre, brought so much laughter and excitement to everyone who came, no matter their age. We've all heard the tales of Robin Hood and his merry men, but these actors created a fresh take to the story—note: Maid Marian doesn't need to be saved; she is a strong, capable woman, but sometimes she might appreciate a little help. The show's outstanding level of energy may have marked the conclusion of Summer Camp, but we still hated to see the programs end. The children were such a delight.

This past year, we've kept busy and we appreciate all the love you've sent our way; the museum just wouldn't be the same without all our Friends! I've enjoyed writing to all of you and can't wait until you come for a visit so I can see you in person. Now that the museum is open again, we're excited to invite everyone back in. Stop by and see us!

~ Sarah Bryant

Bessie Wolfe Hill Remembers the Museum

The museum would like to give a big shout-out to Mrs. Bessie Conner Wolfe Hill. The museum was honored to select items from her family collection. It was amazing to hear her stories as she sorted and said goodbye to many of her childhood treasures. Each item has a story and she has promised to let us interview her to make sure we don't forget any of her memories. Mrs. Hill who is in her ninties was downsizing and has since moved near the sea. Mrs. Hill may not live in our area anymore, butwe are honored to now house a small portion of her personal collection of clothing, childhood toys, and much more.



Giggles the Elf Answers Information Requests

Being a part of a small staff means that we often find ourselves doing a little bit of everything. Some days we may be giving a tour of the museum, setting up a room for an event, assisting children while they make candles during summer camp, or like me dressing up as Giggles the Christmas Elf as part of the biannual elf hunt. I spend a good portion of my time assisting the public with information requests.

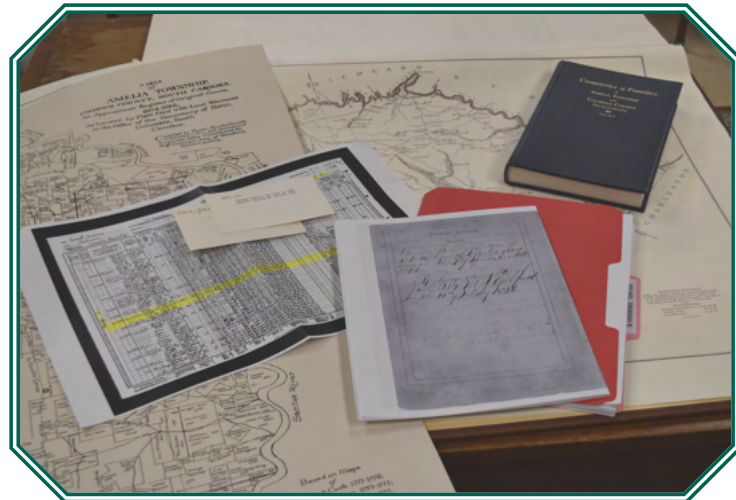
Over the last year and a half, the requests for genealogical research and collections assistance have increased significantly. People have spent a lot of time in their homes as a part of lockdown, social distancing, homeschooling, and teleworking. We have not been able to celebrate holidays and special life events the way we normally have in the past. We have also had time to go through our desks, closets, attics, and cedar chests and look at family photographs, papers, and other objects.

The time has allowed us as a community to reach out and ask questions. The museum staff received a variety of requests for assistance from the community. I was tasked with providing a member of the public with information on how best to display a family heirloom quilt, to locate a family member's final resting place, and a number of genealogical searches that reached from Calhoun County to New York, Pennsylvania, and points in between. The internet is an excellent source for connecting with others and for finding information, but unless you are trained in historical research or collections practices, it can leave you feeling overwhelmed, frustrated, or simply asking more questions. That is where I can step in.

Through phone calls, emails, and mail, conversations occur with individuals; relationships are built; and understanding of what we are hoping to achieve is recognized. Oftentimes, I review what information someone has been able to gather and use it as a starting point. From there, I use the museum's collection of books, newspapers, card catalogs, and vertical files as well as online resources to build or correct family trees. It is always thrilling to find a new bit of information that was not known before and that can lead you further down the path of genealogical research. It is satisfying when you are able to display a family heirloom and remember that individual each time you pass by the object.

Throughout the pandemic, the museum staff and I have had the pleasure of connecting with and getting to know individuals who live throughout the United States. They claim Calhoun County as their "home," the place of their ancestors, the location of their roots. Assisting them with various aspects of preserving and learning about their family history has allowed me to build upon and hone my skills, but more importantly, it has allowed me to develop relationships and to be part of a larger Calhoun County community.

Should you need assistance preserving or learning about your family's history, feel free to contact me by phone at the museum's number (803-874-3964) or by email at alee1calhouncountymuseum@gmail.com. Just ask to speak with Amanda Lee (aka Giggles the Christmas Elf).



Museum Receives Special Gift for Pine Grove Lutheran Church Historical Marker

The Calhoun County Museum received a big surprise when we learned that Jeremy Stoudenmire had donated the money for the Pine Grove Lutheran Church Historical Marker. I cried tears of joy when I received his letter and check. Jeremy's family have been members of this church since it was opened in 1847, and he wanted to give back to the church community as well as to the museum. Jeremy is celebrating his fifth anniversary as a museum employee and we sure love having him in the museum family.

This gift was unexpected and extremely thoughtful. If you see Jeremy, please thank him for his generous donation. Thank you, Jeremy, for caring about history and the Pine Grove Lutheran Church, and for giving back to Calhoun County.



Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Many people ask what one does for work at a museum and the answer is everything. A common misconception about museum employees is that everyone sits around playing with the collection and waiting for patrons to stop by for a tour. I am here to set the record straight. This is simply not true.

When you come to the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center, you get a personal experience with a touch of South Carolina's famous Southern hospitality. Each tour is unique to each patron — even if you come more than once, you will never get the same tour twice.

Throughout my five years of working here, there is one thing I have learned — the value of teamwork. At the museum we all wear many hats. We all work together with genealogy, and we have had many requests this year because of the pandemic. We were finally able to open our doors and allow the public in. We worked together planning different events such as the Charlestons concert, trivia night, and our summer programs for children.

This year we worked together as a team to clean out the C.R. Banks storage buildings. After receiving the estate of Mr. C.R. Banks, the museum staff has been busy cleaning his house. Over the years, progress has been made, but the biggest project this year was cleaning out the two storage buildings. This would not have been possible if the museum staff had not worked as a team.

One of the biggest hurdles we faced this year, and last year, was COVID. We faced this horrific pandemic together as a family. We made sure someone was always at the museum so the public could be served.

We hope this coming museum year will be one of the best yet, and with the strong team we have at the museum, we know we can do it!

~ Jeremy Stoudenmire

The Museum Remembers Charlie Brown

Charlie Brown was special to all who knew him. He loved God and country, valued honor, and had impeccable character. He also had the kindest heart and was a dear friend.

We were saddened to hear of his passing this past February.

Charlie Brown grew up in St. Matthews and dedicated thirty years of his life to serving in the Army. After he retired, he visited the museum often, becoming part of the museum family, and we always looked forward to hearing his stories.

During World War II, his heart told him to sign up for the war. He was not of age, but he felt so strongly about this war that he felt compelled to join the Army and do his part. Charlie always said that his mama understood and assured him that it would be okay to not tell the truth this one time. The Army never questioned his age, never knowing that he was younger than eighteen. The war ended and he was later sent to join the efforts for the Occupation, which started the story of a lifetime. Those who knew him knew that Charlie Brown did not play around — he said what he meant, and he meant what he said. When he spoke, people listened. He served an expansive five tours which included not only World War II, but also service in Korea and Vietnam.

Charlie Brown was one of the first to join our Museum Friends and participated in many of our programs, including the gala. One of our favorite stories is the story behind his uniform. He was good friends with a man who was then running for president of the United States, and Charlie had this uniform specially made to attend the inauguration. As it turns out, this gentleman did not win. When we heard this, we didn't want this uniform to go to waste and insisted he wear it to our gala. When he arrived that night, we were oh so happy. Not only did he look handsome, but we also were so proud to see all those stripes and medals. He wore it to every gala he attended and even wore it on the day he was buried.

Thank you, Charlie Brown, for all your service.



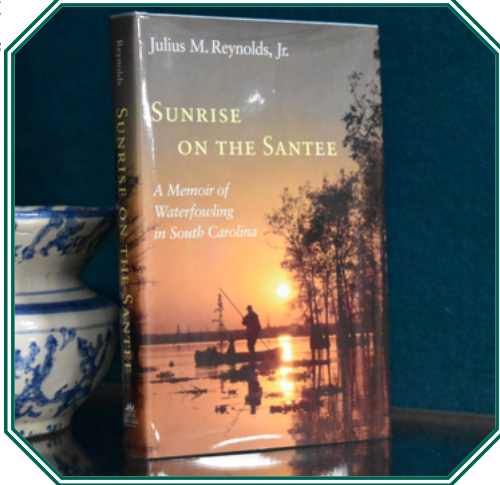
Meet Mr. Julius M. Reynolds, Jr.

Mr. J. M. Reynolds, Jr.'s story from Orangeburg is unusual. From working in insurance to writing a book to making duck calls, he is a man of many talents. He has truly kept us entertained. Mr. Reynolds, author of *Sunrise on the Santee: a Memoir of Waterfowling in South Carolina*, is delightful. His book is a treasure in my personal household as well as with all of the men in my family. He describes Sparkleberry Swamp perfectly, and it is like you are there. If you love the Congaree River and have not read his book, I would suggest that you do. The museum held a book signing for him several years ago, and we still have some copies for sale.

During a series of personal interviews conducted at the museum this past year, Mr. Reynolds taught us a lot about hunting and the Congaree River. He is a national competitive duck-calling champion, and during his interviews, he had us sitting on the edge of our seats wanting to hear more stories. Mr. Reynolds spent over fifty years exploring both sides of the river and hunting the areas from Cane Branch, Line Island, Jack's Creek, Pine Island, Sparkleberry, and more.

If you have not watched his interview on the Calhoun County Museum Friends Facebook page, then you are missing a treat. He even demonstrates how to call ducks in one of these interviews.

The Reynolds family has donated a family treasure — a Waffenfabrik Bern Vetterli 78 Stutzer bolt action rifle. Thank you, Mr. Reynolds, for giving us your time and sharing your talent.



Museum Improvements

New Floors!

In October, we noticed the parquet flooring in the Activites Room bubbling up. After investigation, we found out the moisture barrier under the concrete failed causing moisture to seep through the floor. With the help of Linda Perrow, we picked out a beautiful new flooring that is ready to be danced on in February 2022 for our Gala!



New Landscaping!

Many thanks to Calhoun County for planting and sharing several trees around the museum.

These trees are a part of a grant the county received for Palmetto Pride's "Keep America Beautiful." Thank you, Calhoun County!



The Dee and Joy Buyck Carpenter Foundation Remembers the Museum

The museum was honored to receive special funding from the Dee and Joy Buyck Carpenter Trust. Funds received helped pay for part of our active shooter doors, money for the Banks House preservation, and made it possible for us to offer an after-hours concert at no charge.

Dee and Joy were loyal supporters of the Calhoun County Museum throughout their life. It is very humbling to be remembered by this foundation in such a positive manner. Stay posted for more updates of next year's funding.

Thank you, Joy and Dee, for believing in the museum and thank you to the foundation for giving us the opportunity to serve the community and help make so many dreams come true.



South Carolina Association of Counties Honors Museum

Last September the museum was thrilled to receive notice that the South Carolina Association of Counties was pleased with our public response during COVID. Our director found herself standing in front of a large crowd in the auditorium of the South Carolina ETV Station in Columbia. Mrs. Roland was allowed five minutes to present an overview of the 240 film clips she filmed over the past year, as well as all of the programs created for online learning and community learning. Talk about pressure.

We don't have a "high-tech" department at the museum. However, we had a cell phone, a handheld camera, and lots of imagination. We were so honored that this association honored the museum and other much larger public places. ETV livestreamed on their Facebook page and later shared it on their public programming. It was a thrill to be a part of their showcase. Anyone who would like to view any of these film clips of places and faces of Calhoun County, may view them on our Facebook page — The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center Friends.



From Association of Counties: The COVID-19 Response and Resiliency Showcase

The Calhoun County Museum provided vital emotional support during the restriction and isolation of the COVID-19 crisis by bringing the museum and other county programs into citizens' homes. The program was especially important to older residents and parents teaching from home. The museum provided nonstop service through Facebook, Zoom, its website, and telephone. Citizens from 20 South Carolina counties and 20 states connected to the museum and its historical information, genealogy, and audio-video presentations.

Some of the remarks from the public were as follows:

"This was great. Enjoyed the information and seeing faces of many that were a part of our earlier lives. I'm getting tired of this "jail time" we're in for our benefit, but having your presentations is certainly one of the special things I look forward to daily. I wish you could take the museum "on the road" for students to see and hear these incredible stories."

"It helped us to feel like we were really visiting the Museum through you Debbie. It has been very helpful for you to take us to the Museum during this time when we are home bound somewhat. Stand up and take a bow for what you are doing. Thank you!"

"I have never seen some of these areas. Thanks for posting all this for us to enjoy. These of Calhoun County on the River, Low Falls Landing, the old theatre...all just great. Enjoy so much!"

"Thank you for sharing this story of true patriotism and sacrifice."

"Thx, Debbie, you are very kind. I felt very humbled and honored to be a part of that show and to be surrounded by such outstanding talent. Still don't know how I was there, but it was so much fun and especially to share the experience with Elizabeth as well as the other cast members."

"Hands down THE BEST History project that continues to be enjoyed in Our Family!"

"So fun to watch!! Thank you so much for sharing"

Foster Yarborough Remembers the Museum

For those of you who were fortunate to know Foster Yarborough, you know his demeanor needs no explanation; but if you never had the opportunity to meet Foster, bear with me. Foster was someone who spent his life simply being kind. I will forever visualize him standing in my office doorway, saying, "Have you got a minute?" or, in the days when calling was free after 9 p.m., "Have I called too late?"

Before any visit, Foster always had something in mind that he wanted to specifically discuss—really, he was just double-checking his thoughts because he usually already knew the answer to his question before he even asked.

I had the honor of knowing Foster for over fifty years and his demeanor never changed. Foster had more information about people, places, and local history than anyone I have ever known. Foster often stopped by to drop off something he thought we could use, such as a book, papers, pictures, church records, or silver pieces—many times he just stopped by to tell a story. We always looked forward to his visits; Foster had a way of uplifting all of us.

When we received the news that Foster had remembered us by leaving his Flow Blue China to the museum, I can honestly say I was not surprised but I was greatly humbled. I have spent the last forty-two years receiving lots of family treasures. However, this one really hit heart and home. Foster's kind gift almost brought me to my knees. The reality of someone we had known for a lifetime no longer being here, and in such a sudden unexpected way, left all of the museum family speechless. Was this china the most valuable gift we had ever received? Maybe not, but it was certainly one of the most emotional.

The Wolfe sterling dessert spoons have been added to his china collection, now on display. Foster also left his family papers to the museum. He was the most organized "pack rat" I have ever known. He had his own way of keeping things, and we are working to figure out the "method to his madness." It is both exciting and emotional to place our hands on these gifts that Foster left to the museum. We are privileged to feature some of his things in the museum as a way to honor his legacy.

As we are planning our next Gala, an event he loved, we all have Foster on our minds. Foster loved Jamison, Calhoun County, and Orangeburg County. He loved all of South Carolina history and his family. My hat's off to you, Foster Yarborough! You will always be remembered as the child whom any mother or father would be proud to call theirs. Until we meet again, Godspeed.



It Was a Busy Year!



It Was a Busy Year!



Thank you, Stephanie and Alan Schulman, for donating a number of items. These items include a Tri-Centennial key ring, a couple cookbooks, and three South Carolina Tri-Centennial Old Fitzgerald Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Decanters. Thank you again for your generous donations this year and the past years!



Special thanks for parts of the old Bank of Cameron. This will go along great with the Bank of Cameron cannonball safe, already in our collection.



This year the museum was delighted to have the Palmetto Jazz Band perform in our Activities Room. We look forward to many more of their performances, and we are happy to have them here!

The COWASEE Basin Board now holds its meetings at the museum. We are happy to have them in our facility. Thank you COWASEE for your conservation efforts throughout Calhoun County.





Dear Friends,

What better way to help support the preservation of Calhoun County's vibrant and storied history than by becoming a Friend of the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center.

Memberships are renewed every September, and members receive early notification and preferred access to all of our special events.

Friends of the Museum are placed on our mailing list to receive the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center's newsletter, which will keep you up to date on our newest exhibits, events, and projects.

Help us to preserve and protect our county's heritage and memories by becoming a Friend today. Feel free to send us your comments and suggestions.

Join our
Facebook group:
**Calhoun County
Museum &
Cultural Center
Friends**

Friends Membership

Please enroll me as a 2021-2022 Friend of the Museum!

- _____ \$55 **Individual Membership**
- _____ \$100 **Patron/Family Membership**
- _____ \$250 **Business/Guardian Membership**
- _____ \$500 **Corporate Sponsor Membership**
- _____ **\$1,000 - \$14,999 -- Director's Club Membership**
Listed as a sponsor for all Museum events, after hours tour
- _____ **\$15,000 & Above -- Museum Club Membership**
Listed as a sponsor for all Museum events, Private Director's after hours tour
- _____ **C. Frederic Ulmer Scholarship Fund**
- _____ **Jeanne Wilde Ulmer Scholarship Fund**
- _____ **Bette Jane Fairey Memorial Fund**
- _____ **Virginia D. Carroll Memorial Fund**
- _____ **Darrell Cooper Memorial Fund**
- _____ **Jack Brantley Endowment Fund**
- _____ **Foster Hall Yarborough Jr. Endowment Fund**
- _____ **C.R. Banks Preservation Fund**
- _____ **Children's Art and Cultural Outreach Programs**
- _____ **Adult Art and Cultural Outreach Programs**
- _____ **Other**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Business Name (if applicable): _____

Please make checks payable to:

Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center
313 Butler Street, St. Matthews, SC 29135

Contributions are tax deductible
Continued on the Back

Please Stay in Touch!

Yes, I would like to:

_____ Volunteer

_____ Add my name to the mailing list

_____ Receive information about Workshops and Programs

Contact me by:

_____ Email _____ Facebook _____ US Mail

Program Ideas _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Facebook Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Looking for a program? Let us know and we will try to accommodate you.



Contributions are tax deductible

Visit Our Bookstore!

New Titles

101 People and Places that Shaped the American Revolution in South Carolina, edited by Walter Edgar

A Guidebook to South Carolina Historical Markers, compiled by Edwin Breeden

A South Carolina Chronology, edited by Walter Edgar, J. Brent Morris, and C. James Taylor

A True Likeness: The Black South of Richard Samuel Roberts, 1920 - 1936, edited by Thomas L. Johnson and Phillip C. Dunn

Black Freedom in the Age of Slavery: Race, Status, and Identity in the Urban Americas, by John Garrison Marks

Brothers of Coweta: Kinship, Empire, and Revolution in the Eighteenth-Century Muscogee World, by Bryan C. Rindfleisch

Carolina Bays: Wild, Mysterious, and Majestic Landforms, by Robert C. Clark and Tom Poland

Gullah Spirituals: The Sound of Freedom and Protest in the South Carolina Sea Islands, by Eric Sean Crawford

Low Country at High Tide: A History of Flooding, Drainage, and Reclamation in Charleston, South Carolina, by Christina Rae Butler

Meet Me at the Rocket: A History of the South Carolina State Fair, by Roger Stroup

Richardson-Sinkler Connections: Planting, Politics, Horses, and Family Life, 1769 – 1853, edited by Harriet Clare Sinkler Little

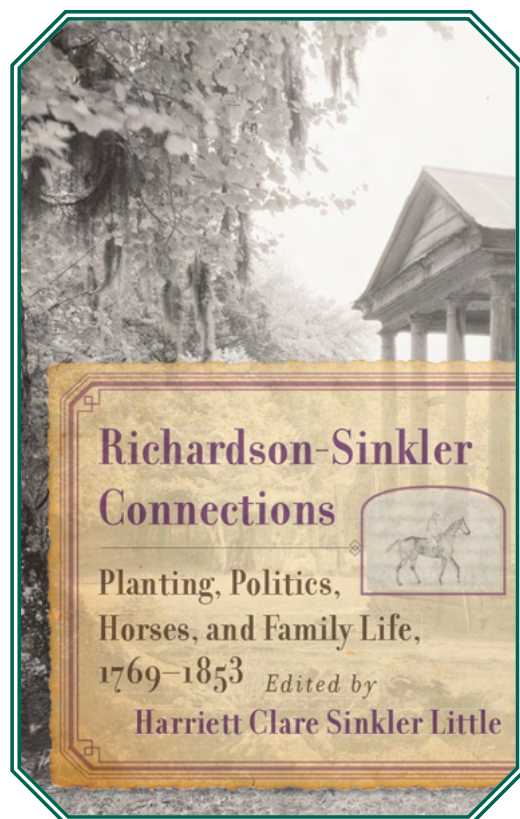
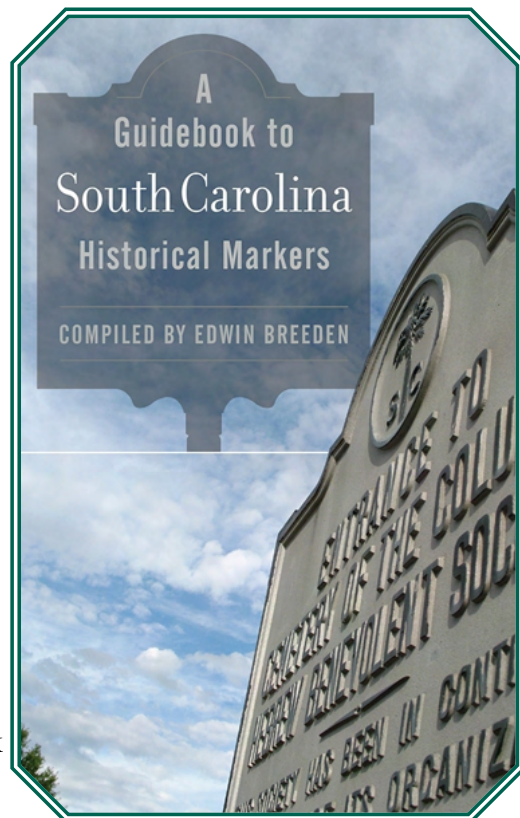
Sherman and the Burning of Columbia, by Marion B. Lucas

Southern Women in the Progressive Era: A Reader, edited by Giselle Roberts and Melissa Walker

The Shell Builders: Tabby Architecture of Beaufort, South Carolina and the Sea Islands, by Colin Brooker

The Southern Wildlife Watcher: Notes of a Naturalist, by Rob Simbeck

Understanding Colson Whitehead, by Derek C. Maus



Visit Our Bookstore!

Books, Books, Books, and More Books

Carolina Footprints: the African-American Sasportas Family History, by Edwin R. Sasportas

Cemeteries of Families of Amelia Township and Calhoun County, South Carolina: Volume 1, compiled by the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center

For Such a Time as This: The united Methodist Heritage in St. Matthews, South Carolina, by R. Lewis Bozard, Jr.

Forever Kelly, by Cindy Momand Hudson

From Palmetto Palms to Prickly Pears: a Family Odyssey, by Harold V. Johnson, III

Heaven is a Beautiful Place: a Memoir of the Carolina Coast, by Genevieve C. Peterkin

History of Orangeburg County, South Carolina: 1704-1782, by A.S. Salley, Jr.

Images of America: Orangeburg, by Dr. Gene Atkinson

Partisans and Redcoats: the Southern Conflict That Turned the Tide of the American Revolution, by Walter Edgar

Poverty Tested, Prosperity Approved: Born into Poverty, Domestic Violence & Alcoholism, by Cynthia Haynes Asmond

Ramblings of a Low Country Game Warden: a Memoir, by Ben McC. Moise

Sunrise on the Santee: a Memoir of Waterfowling in South Carolina, by Julius M. Reynolds, Jr.

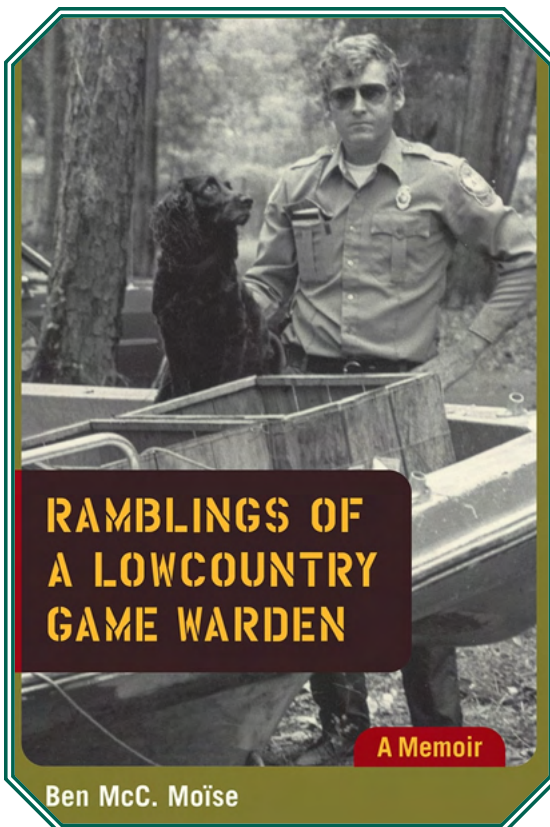
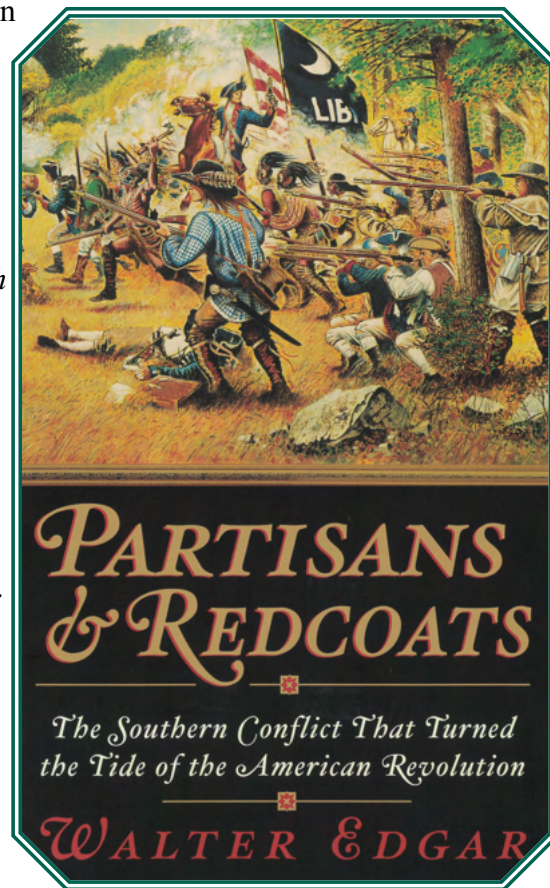
The Black Bag, Robert E. Holman, M.D.

The South Carolina Encyclopedia, edited by Walter Edgar

The Tradd Street Follies, by Julian Wiles

The Wannamaker, Salley, Mackay, and Bellinger Families: Genealogies and Memoirs, compiled by J. Skottowe Wannamaker

Yesteryears: a Newsman's Look Back at the Events and People Who Have Influenced the Histories of Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties, by Dean B. Livingston



And Many Many More!

CALHOUN COUNTY MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

CONSTITUENT SURVEY

This survey will allow the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center to better meet the needs of those we serve. Your participation will assist us in responding to those needs and will be greatly appreciated.

Directions: *Answering every question ensures that the assessment will provide the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center with ideas on how to improve.*

Part I. Museum/Cultural Center Community Visibility

1. How often do you visit the museum or participate in museum events? At least:
 - a. Once per month
 - b. Once every three months
 - c. Once a year or more
 - d. Do not visit/participate

If you have visited the museum, what event did you enjoy the most? _____

If you do not visit the museum, please tell us what would cause you to visit? _____

2. How do you learn about new museum exhibits, programs, or special events? From:
 - a. Museum staff or volunteers
 - b. Museum mailings
 - c. Local newspaper
 - d. Facebook
 - e. Friend, business associate, or family member

3. In what areas are you interested? Choose as many as you wish and rank them with 1 being the best, etc.

_____ Arts _____ Education _____ Cultural Development

_____ History _____ Archives _____ Economic Development

4A. Have you used our archives, library, and genealogical research assistance?
(Circle) Yes No

4B. What are your interests with our archives, library, and genealogical research assistance? How can we improve?

5A. Are you interested in historic preservation? (Circle) Yes No

5B. What are your interests with historic preservation? How can we improve?

6A. Have you followed the digital media on the Calhoun County Museum & Cultural Center Friends Facebook page? (Circle) Yes No

6B. Please leave any comments/feedback on the Facebook digital media below.

6C. Please list any specific things you would like to see with the digital media.

6D. Would you be willing to share with the museum any media (Photos, Videos, Audio). (Circle) Yes No

Part II. Museum & Cultural Center Programs & Events

7. Have you participated in programs sponsored by the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center? Please check all that apply:

_____ Gala _____ Veterans Program _____ After Hours Workshop

_____ Calhoun Players _____ Art Shows _____ Landmark Conference

_____ School Programs _____ Children's Summer Programs

_____ Cameron Community Club _____ Ft. Motte Reunion Festival

_____ Cameron Community Choir _____ Elf Hunt and Winter Wonderland of Lights

_____ Murder Mystery Theater Dinner _____ Other

8. Please share your experience with our after hours and children's programs. What programs did you attend? What improvements can we make?

9A. How would you rate the current museum exhibits, programs, and special events?

- a. Excellent
- b. Very good
- c. Good
- d. Fair
- e. Needs a change or improvement

9B. If you answered (e), what changes or improvements would you recommend?

10. Do you have any suggestions for future programs or events?

Part III. Participants Profile

11A. Are you a member of the "Calhoun County Museum Friends Membership?"

(Circle) Yes No

11B. If no why?

12. Age (Circle) 18-29 30-44 45-59 60 and over

13. Gender (Circle) Male Female

14. Race (Circle)

- a. American Indian
- b. Asian/Pacific Islander
- c. Black, not Hispanic
- d. Hispanic
- e. White, not Hispanic
- f. Other

15. How many individuals are in your household? (Circle) 1 2 3 4 5 6 6+

16 Do you have school age children or know of any school age children who have participated in Museum programs? (Circle) Yes No

If yes, what did they enjoy most?

17A. Are you interested in volunteering at the Museum? (Circle) Yes No

17B. What are your volunteer interest?

After Hours Programs Special Programs Cleaning Graveyards

Archives/Genealogy C.R. Banks Preservation Fundraising

Other _____

Background Checks will be required for all Volunteers per Calhoun County Policy.

We offer a variety of Educational Tours designed to enhance your curriculum. Museum study tours offer students an opportunity to discover South Carolina's rich Heritage through demonstrations, exhibits, and hands on activities. If you would like more information on these programs, please call us at (803) 874-3964 or email at ccmuseum@yahoo.com

Optional:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Additional Comments: _____
