



# Calhoun County Museum/Cultural Center News

St. Matthews, South Carolina

February 1998

## Museum Catches Vision For Tomorrow

Been under the impression that museums are only about the past? Once again the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center has shattered this notion by working diligently for over a year to plan, produce, and implement useful resources to help launch Calhoun County into the twenty-first century. The projects come under the umbrella name of Cultural Visions and are being funded through a nearly \$20,000 grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission, which receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For a year, and a half the museum has joined forces with the Calhoun County Development Board and the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce to produce a series of videos depicting the history, arts, landscape, and economic development of the county. Producer Debbie Roland and cinematographer Frost Wilkinson of Orangeburg spent countless hours performing the legwork necessary to provide a comprehensive view of the county's cultural and economic resources. The major portion of this endeavor was completed in October with the completion of the master video. This eleven-minute video provides those interested in Calhoun County with a glimpse of the cultural, economic, and aesthetic resources of our area. Against a backdrop of upbeat music real-life scenes from the everyday life of Calhoun County are allowed to tell their own story without the distraction of verbal narration. Woven into the

tapestry of *The Jewel on the Congaree* (the video's title) are music and art instruction by local teachers, a school tour of the museum, Governor Beasley's presence at the opening of a local industry, and the operations of local farms and industries.

From this master video will soon come a CD-ROM version which will be available to businesses and industries that are considering making Calhoun County their home. Additionally, other videos will be produced to focus attention more specifically on the county's history and arts.

"Our idea is different from others -- particularly by the use of the CD-ROM," Mrs. Roland says. "This program is supposed to be a model for the state."

Hand in hand with the video production a countywide directory is in the process of being published by the museum with grant funds. The directory will provide a handy, comprehensive guide to local artists, county and municipal officials, industries, businesses, and other services related to Calhoun County. It will give such information as addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers. Currently in the final stages of production, the directory should be available this spring.

The other component of this Cultural Visions project is the creation of a home page on the internet. With the help of Edward

Clark, owner of Inline Solutions of Elloree, this web site is now up and running. The Calhoun County Home Page gives information about local events, history, the arts, industry, and business. More is being added to the site each month. Those with internet access can locate the Calhoun County Home Page at [www.inls.com/calhoun](http://www.inls.com/calhoun).

Any questions or suggestions regarding Cultural Visions may be directed toward Mrs. Roland at the museum.

### A GREAT GIFT IDEA

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center offers the opportunity to give donations in memory or in honor of friends and family members. The memorials are recorded in the Book of Memory and acknowledgements sent to specified persons.

It's a great gift for the person who has everything!

### MUSEUM HOURS

Monday through Friday from  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm.  
Research is performed by  
appointment only.

### Calhoun County Historical Commission

Lora A. Fogle  
Nancy Hackney  
Ann F. McLeod  
Freddie M. Robinson  
Martha E. Shirer  
Harry E. Ulmer  
Beverly Walling  
Callie Wienges  
Linda Whetstone

# CAMERON, ULMER, CIVIL WAR EVENTS PAY TRIBUTE TO PAST

What do you get when you take a town's centennial anniversary, mix in a tribute to a well-known local figure, and blend with a Civil War encampment? Why, you get an exciting and eventful year with the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center, of course!

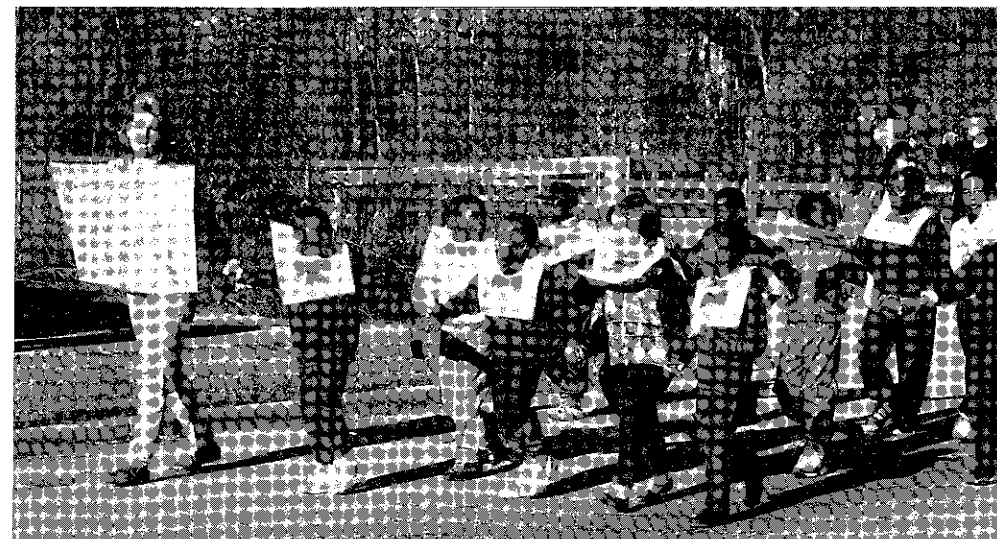
On Sunday, December 8, 1996, the town of Cameron celebrated its one hundredth anniversary with the help of the museum, the S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, and the S.C. Arts Commission, supported by the NEA. The festive occasion centered on a children's parade through town which commemorated a similar spontaneously devised march in 1961. Children from all around the Cameron area participated and Mrs. Johnnie Tilley was grand marshall.

Other activities included musical performances by area church, civic, and school groups and the display of historic photographs and artifacts.

A musical tribute to late Cameron resident C. Frederic Ulmer proved to be a resounding success! A sell-out crowd showed up at the Stevenson Auditorium in Orangeburg on February 6, 1997, to remember and celebrate the life and talents of the well-loved and influential music teacher. Former students of Mr. Ulmer from Orangeburg and Orangeburg-Wilkinson high schools comprised the choir for the evening and performed a variety of patriotic and popular songs. Nationally renowned pianist Mac Frampton returned to his hometown to participate. Videos of

this special tribute are available from the museum for \$20.

In conjunction with the annual Purple Martin Festival the museum and the South Carolina Arts Commission helped sponsor an informative Civil War enactment. On Saturday, April 20, 1997, the enactment group marched down Bridge Street in the Purple Martin Festival parade. Following the parade the group set up camp on the museum grounds to demonstrate what life might have been like for the soldiers they emulate. The enactment featured the 20th South Carolina Infantry, the 13th U.S. Regulars, and the U.S. 54th Massachusetts Volunteers. The latter of these groups reenacts the all-black Union infantry which was portrayed in the movie *Glory*.



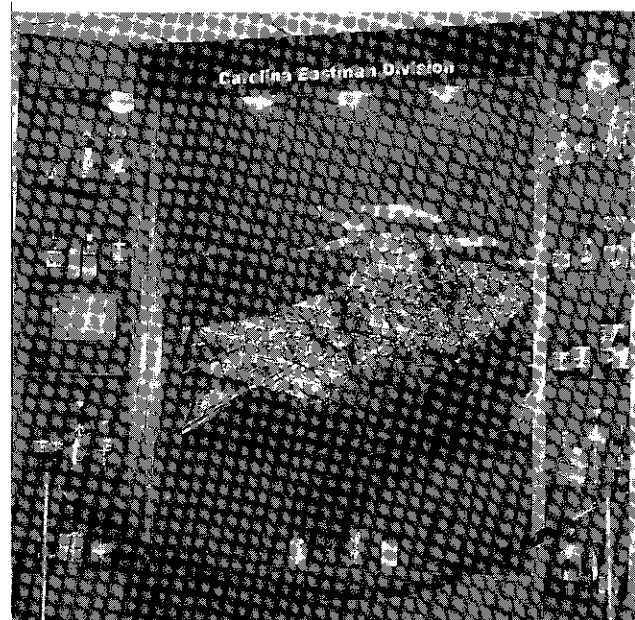
Sunday, December 8, 1996 – The town of Cameron celebrated its one hundredth anniversary with a children's parade through town.



Sunday, December 8, 1996 - Children's Parade in Cameron



## New Eastman Exhibit



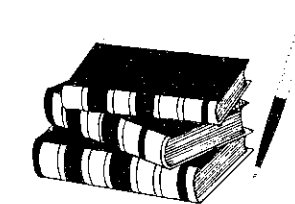
Pictured is the newly updated exhibit which was recently installed by Carolina Eastman. It features an aerial view of the Sandy Run plant, a map of early South Carolina, a new video presentation concerning Eastman, and a selection of products made from Eastman plastics. The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center is grateful to Carolina Eastman for this informative addition to the museum's collection of exhibits. It replaces an earlier exhibit provided by the company.



### CALHOUN COUNTY MUSEUM/CULTURAL CENTER NEWS ...

is published to inform the community about museum happenings. Suggestions and comments are always welcome. Please write, call, or e-mail us:

Calhoun County Museum  
and Cultural Center  
Debbie Roland, Director  
303 Butler Street  
St. Matthews, SC 29135  
(803) 874-3964  
e-mail: ccm@scsn.net



You are cordially invited  
to attend a book signing  
featuring  
R. Lewis Bozard, Jr.,  
author of  
*For Such a Time as This:  
The United Methodist Heritage in  
St. Matthews, SC*

Sunday, February 22, 1998  
3:00 - 5:00 pm

Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center  
303 Butler Street  
St. Matthews  
(803) 874-3964

Refreshments will be served

A musical tribute to the late Cameron resident C. Frederic Ulmer was held in Orangeburg on February 6, 1997, at the Stevenson Auditorium. Former students of Mr. Ulmer comprised the choir for the evening.



Saturday, April 20, 1997 - Civil War enactment. The enactment group marched down Bridge St. in the Purple Martin Festival parade. The enactment featured the 20th South Carolina Infantry, the 13th U.S. Regulars, and the U.S. 54th Massachusetts Volunteers.

## Schools, Convalescent Center Benefit From Dance

Local dance instructor Jean Ford Reid gets a kick out of helping others to benefit from her art. And that kick is more than just another dance move! For quite some time Reid has spent time each week at the Calhoun Convalescent Center in St. Matthews, using basic dance moves as a form of therapy. Residents of the center have enjoyed the weekly sessions, as evidenced by the sizable group which continues to show up each Wednesday morning.

Now Reid is broadening her reach to several of Calhoun County's public and private schools. This spring, from January through March, the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center will utilize funding from the South Carolina Arts Commission, supported by the NEA, to allow Reid to use creative movement in teaching such concepts as geometry, multiplication, and the parts of speech. Dance can be utilized creatively so that students' bodies, as well as their minds, become involved in the process of learning.



Jean Ford Reid uses creative movement as a form of therapy with residents of the Calhoun Convalescent Center.

## Bozard and Peterkin Books Celebrate Calhoun County Heritage

The museum is proud to announce the availability of several books--both new and old--which relate to Calhoun County. *For Such A Time as This: The United Methodist Heritage in St. Matthews, S.C.* is a new book by local resident R. Lewis Bozard, Jr. This entertaining and informative book traces the history of Methodism in central Calhoun County from the days of Bishop Francis Asbury to the existence of St. Paul United Methodist Church today. The book illustrates on a local level how American Methodism took root in the form of small societies and grew to eventually become the largest denomination in the U.S.

Bozard is a native of St. Matthews and was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church from 1971 until 1994. He is a 1993 graduate of Furman University and a 1997 graduate of Duke University Divinity School.

The hardback book, whose release was unfortunately delayed by the publisher, is now available exclusively in the museum gift shop. It sells for \$30. Friends of the Museum, as always, will receive a 10% discount.

On Sunday, February 22, the museum will sponsor a book signing from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Lewis Bozard will be present to sign copies of the book for the public. Refreshments will be served.

Also due to be available in February are reprints of four novels by Pulitzer-prize winning Fort Motte author Julia Mood Peterkin. The University of Georgia Press has dusted off these well-known novels from the early twentieth century so that a new generation of readers can enjoy them. *Black April*, *Bright Skin*, *Green Thursday*, and *Scarlet Sister Mary* are based largely upon the experiences of the black community living at her Lang Syne plantation in Fort Motte.

Julia Mood was a Sumter native who married William Peterkin and moved to his family's plantation in Fort Motte. She began to record with pen and paper many of the touching episodes she witnessed among the surrounding black community, stories of courage, determination, and tragedy. Eventually Peterkin received the highly coveted Pulitzer Prize for *Scarlet Sister Mary*.

These paperback reprint editions will be available in the museum gift shop.

Available from the museum is a newly released book which includes some of the World War II experiences of Sam Reid. *Cruisers for Breakfast: War Patrols of the USS Darter and USS Dace* sells for \$25. In addition the museum continues to stock Culler's *Orangeburgh District 1768-1868*, Holman's *The Black Bag*, and Salley's *History of Orangeburg County*.

## Gala, Research Room Highlight 1998 Museum Plans

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center continues its service to the community through a number of activities scheduled for the coming year. The museum gala will return in the fall of 1998. The gala, as in years past, shall feature a delightful evening of entertainment, food, and fellowship for Friends of the Museum. In conjunction with the gala there will be a book signing by special guest Dr. Walter Edgar, director of Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina, whose new book *South Carolina: A History* will be released during the coming year. In addition there will be musical entertainment and a delectable dinner.

A physical change in facilities will allow for greater accessibility by the general public to the museum's archival library. The gift shop will be downsized to focus more specifically on items related directly to Calhoun County and will be relocated to the current archive area. The present gift shop space will be renovated to accommodate an expanded research room filled with tables and chairs. Bookshelves will be constructed along the walls. This move will allow for the public to perform research on their own more comfortably and efficiently. Museum staff will continue to do assisted research (any research requiring access to items in the vault) on an appointment-only basis.

In the early stages of development is a spring conference in cooperation with the Southern studies department of the University of South Carolina. Also, work will continue on other projects

mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, including the Cultural Visions video and website projects and the publication of the county directory. Work continues toward the publication of a cemetery book that will list pertinent biographical information from cemeteries which are of genealogical significance to Calhoun County. No target date has been set for the completion of this book.

As you can see, great things are happening at the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center! Come by to see for yourself, and if you have not already done so, please consider becoming a Friend of the Museum so that these and other activities may continue in the future.

## Contributors to the C. Frederic Ulmer Endowment Fund

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Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center  
303 Butler Street  
Saint Matthews, South Carolina 29135

### *Friends of Calhoun County Museum & Cultural Center*

*Yes, I want to share in the activities of the Calhoun County Museum & Cultural Center. Please enroll me as a Friend of the Museum!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Membership*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Individual

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*All contributions are tax deductible. Members receive a 10% discount in the Museum Gift Shop. Members will receive notice of all special events and discounts on special programs.*