

Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center News

SEPTEMBER, 2000

Gift Shop...

For convenience and affordable prices, why not try gifts that are special or unique?

Visit your museum gift shop for the perfect gift. In an effort to make the shop more responsive to your needs, we have added more items that are suitable for weddings and birthdays. Local artists craft many of the items.

A large variety of South Carolina items are now in stock, including shirts, palmetto glasses, flower pots, and stained glass palmetto pins.

Please come by and see us soon! And remember, all Friends receive a 10% discount (excluding books).

Director's Notes...

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center has had a great year! The large number of memorials and the amount of support that we have received this year overwhelms me. Visitors from more than thirty states and nine foreign

Visitors from more than thirty states and nine foreign countries entered our doors this year.

countries entered our doors this year. School groups from Calhoun County and elsewhere in South Carolina have kept us busy. We're looking forward to another successful year!

This year we added an "Experience Folk Life" series to our core curriculum. Third grade students from several schools participated. Marie Dowdy was

our artist-in-residence for a week. Each third grade class learned to make candles, weave, and dye cloth using indigo. In addition, several day trips were taken to explore Calhoun County. The exposure to historical sites and folk life traditions gave the children a greater appreciation of the rich culture in Calhoun County. Many thanks to those who opened their homes and farms, and gave their time to make this program a phenomenal success!

Mona Rucker left our office this past spring. Mona did a superb job for the museum, and we miss her dearly. Good luck, Mona.

Karen Prickett Riley is the new addition to our staff. Karen is an eleven year veteran of the Calhoun County Public Schools where she worked as a Media Specialist Assistant. Her library and people skills will be a wonderful addition to the museum.

We are making plans for our new addition and hope



to have construction underway by January 15, 2001. Updates will continue as our plans progress.

I want to thank each of you who have shared in our vision and supported our programming. We are always interested in new ideas, so please feel free to call us with your input.

Debbie Roland,

Director,

Calhoun County Museum &
Cultural Center

The Calhoun County Museum & Cultural Center is sponsored in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission, who receives funding from the NEA. The Museum was the recipient of the 1994-95 South Carolina Governors Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award in recognition of outstanding contribution to the arts in South Carolina.

SUMMER PROGRAM A GREAT SUCCESS!

The drama camp held at Guinyard Elementary School this past summer was a resounding success!

Students from Guinyard had the opportunity to spend a week working with Mrs. Nina Smith, learning about drama and stage productions.

The drama camp, which was funded entirely by the Museum and Cultural Center, allowed the students to experience firsthand all of the excitement of show business.

Fourth and fifth grade students performed a production about King Arthur and Excalibur for the younger students.

From set design to costumes, the children were responsible for all aspects of the play.

Special thanks to Xennie Weeks, who was instrumental in making this all happen. We will miss him!

Meet the Artist... Sunday, September 10

Richard Squire, artist, will be honored at the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center on September 10, 2000.

Mr. Squire and his wife, Maria, moved to Saint Matthews in November of 1998. Richard has been painting since 1958, when he returned from duty in the Army.

During his Army stint he viewed Rembrandt's paintings in London, and fell in love with the early masters.

In 1989, after consulting with lawyers who specialize in art copyright, he began painting reproductions of famous fifteenth through nineteenth century works, most of which are from Europe.

Before that time, Richard painted still life and portraits, including those of pets. Join us September 10th between 3:00 and 5:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served.



Partnerships Plus!

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center is very proud of the many partnerships it has formed within the county over the past several years.

Funding from the Museum supports many local programs and activities. Did you know that the museum helps support the following institutions?

- L. Marion Gressette Center
- Calhoun County Convalescent Center
- Calhoun County Development Commission
- The Calhoun Players
- Purple Martin Festival
- Guinyard Elementary
- St. John Elementary
- John Ford Middle
- Bethlehem Elementary
- Sandy Run Elementary
- FOTCO
- Calhoun Academy
- Calhoun County High

School

- Cameron Community Club
- Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce
- The Town of Cameron
- First Steps
- Fort Motte Community Center
- Black History Month
- Calhoun County Folk Life Project
- Pottery Camp
- Watercolor Camp
- Clemson Extension Art and Expression Camp
- Calhoun County Drama Club
- South Carolina Actors' Guild
- Tribute to Frederick Ulmer
- Christmas Holiday House
- Murals
- Kool-Aid Quilts
- Meet the Artists

Southeastern Museum Conference

The Southeastern Museum Conference will be held October 11-14, 2000, in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Our very own Debbie Roland will serve on a three member panel presenting a forum entitled "A Country Mile: Strategies for Reaching Rural Audiences."

Debbie's co-panelists are Darci Tucker, the Director of Major Gifts for

the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, Virginia, and Sandi Rusak, Associate Director for Education and Outreach, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia.

The forum focuses on successful strategies for reaching rural audiences through organized programs at museums of all sizes.

Strategies to be discussed include outreach presentations, teacher training, student exhibitions, and distance technology.

The Southeastern Museum Conference is an annual meeting of directors and staff from museums throughout the Southeast.



BOOK SIGNING IS A BIG HIT

Pictured from left to right
Luther Wannamaker, Debbie
Roland, Doug McTeer, S. C.
Governor's office, "Sister"
Peterkin, Billy Baldwin

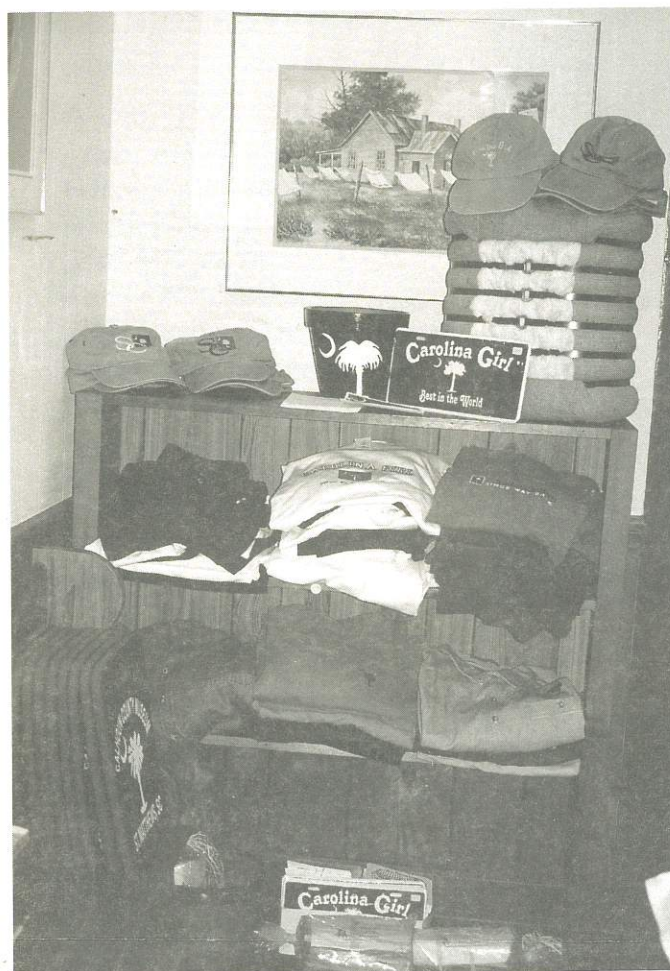


Desserts by "Joanne" were
beautiful and delicious.



Waiting in line for a
moment with "Sister".





MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

New items are now available in the gift shop. Don't forget if you are a member of the friends, you will receive a 10% discount.



WELCOME

We would like to welcome Karen Riley as a new staff member. Feel free to call Karen for your shopping needs. Karen comes to us as an eleven year veteran of the Calhoun County Public Schools. A life long resident of Calhoun County, Karen loves children and is excited about meeting the needs of the public.

"Cemeteries of Amelia Township and Calhoun County" Now Available!

It has taken thirty years of research by many good citizens of Calhoun County to compile a listing of cemeteries in Calhoun County. This book is in hard cover and is 410 pages. It lists many of the long forgotten cemeteries both in Calhoun County and the surrounding areas.

A map of Amelia Township has been placed in a pocket in the back of the book to assist researchers. This book received the "Award of Merit" from the Confederation of SC Local Historical Societies.

Volume I is out, and we are recruiting volunteers to begin the research necessary for Volume II, which will focus on the African-American Community. Volunteers should like cemeteries, have time and good communication skills, and be willing to transcribe information from tombstones.

Call the museum, and volunteer today!

CALHOUN COUNTY MUSEUM

Peterkin Signing a Phenomenal Success

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center held a book signing in honor of Genevieve "Sister" Peterkin on Sunday, April 30, 2000.

Peterkin's book, "Heaven Is a Beautiful Place", is in collaboration with William P. Baldwin. Baldwin spent many hours taping conversations with Peterkin. "Sister" was married to the late Bill Peterkin, son of Julia

Peterkin. They lived for many years in Fort Motte.

Sister is a wonderful story teller and her book is filled with vignettes about her childhood, marriage, and life as a resident of Calhoun County. Her candor and forthrightness are humbling as she opens her life to us all.

Over four hundred people attended the book signing held at

the museum. "Heaven Is a Beautiful Place" has already entered its second printing. First editions are still on sale at the museum. This is one book you definitely don't want to miss!

The museum wishes to extend special thanks to the anonymous donor who so graciously provided the refreshments and flowers for the reception.

Who Wants to be a Millionaire?

We do! And we are! The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center is the proud new recipient of a million dollar appropriation in the state bond bill that was recently passed by the General Assembly.

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center has spent ten years dreaming about just such a gift... and now it's here!

The museum plans to add on to the existing facilities and increase the emphasis on the experience of Calhoun County in the twentieth century. The museum also plans to add a large room to help the museum accommodate art camps and enable it to offer evening adult programs. Director Debbie Roland also envisions

a small set where citizens could view scenes from daily life in Calhoun County, with an emphasis on the county's agricultural heritage.

The museum is working with architect West Summers on preliminary drawings.

The funding from the bond will allow the museum to expand, and still remain one of the few museums in the state that does not charge admission.

Building Committee members are Dr. Walter Edgar, Chair of Southern Studies; John G. Felder, Attorney at Law; Freeman Thomas, Judge and Local Community Leader; Jean Reid, Artist; and Drake Perrow, Farmer and Local Community Leader.



Talent for Sale...

The L. Marion Gressette Center is partnering with the Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center to offer opportunities for Center residents to showcase their works.

Items handcrafted by center residents are on sale in the Museum Gift Shop. We are so proud to display the talents of each resident. When you see one of them, congratulate them on a job well done!

APPRAISAL SUNDAY TO BE ANNOUNCED

Last year's Sunday appraisal day had such an overwhelming response that Frank Sarnowski has agreed to return in February. Anyone who would like to have something dated or given an oral appraisal is invited to attend. A ten dollar donation per item is required. Due to the limited amount of time available, Mr. Sarnowski has requested that Bibles not be brought on that day. A date has not yet been set, but is planned for sometime during the month of February.

ROLL CAMERA!

Lights! Action! Let the camera roll! For the past several years, Frost Wilkinson has been the person behind the camera that you have seen all over Calhoun County. We now have over forty hours of video on Beta-Cam SP. This year snippets from activities such as the First Steps program, sugar caning, county tours, veterans, and many others have been added to our archives. So when you see Frost out and about, know that he is capturing tomorrow's history.

Museum Wins Top Awards

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center was honored by the Confederation of SC Local Historical Societies in April, 2000.

The museum received the highest possible honor, the award for "Achievement of Excellence". This award represents the ultimate recognition for commitment and service to the preservation of history for the people of Calhoun County and the state of South Carolina.

The museum also received several awards of merit for its continuing series of history-oriented programs, and publications in celebration of its fortieth anniversary.

Throughout the year, the museum has held many activities to raise awareness of the museum and its collections. These have included book signings, a Black History Month art show, and Public Appraisal Sunday, in which the community

brought in memorabilia for Calhoun County's own version of ETV's "The Antiques Road Show."

The awards of merit focused on the museum's outreach efforts and publications. One was awarded for a partnership with students at Calhoun County High School. The students interviewed local war veterans to produce a documentary chronicling the involvement of county residents in the country's wars. Mrs. Libby Ann Olson is to be commended for her efforts and vision, which far exceeded the scope of most high school history classes.

The second award was for a book recently published by the museum, "Cemeteries of Amelia Township and Calhoun County." The book is dedicated to Jean Ulmer and the charter members of Calhoun County Historical Society, in recognition of their vision and

commitment, and in appreciation for the love of history they instilled in so many of the county's children.

MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum and Cultural Center is open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. The archives are open for research by appointment only. Please remember to call the museum to schedule your research, so that we may be available to assist you in your exploration of Calhoun County's past.



Lynn Doster to Conduct Classes

The Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center is proud to announce its partnership with Lynn Doster, artist and teacher. Ms. Doster will be teaching realistic drawing in the old Cameron School cafeteria during the months of September, October, and November. Classes will be held on Thursday afternoon from 4:00 pm to

6:00 pm, beginning on September 7. An evening class, which meets from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, is also available.

The cost for the class is ten dollars per month, which includes all supplies. To enroll in the course, class participants must be at least nine years old.

If you are interested in taking this realistic draw-

ing class, please call Lynn Doster at 823-2824 to register. Space for this course is limited, so call soon!

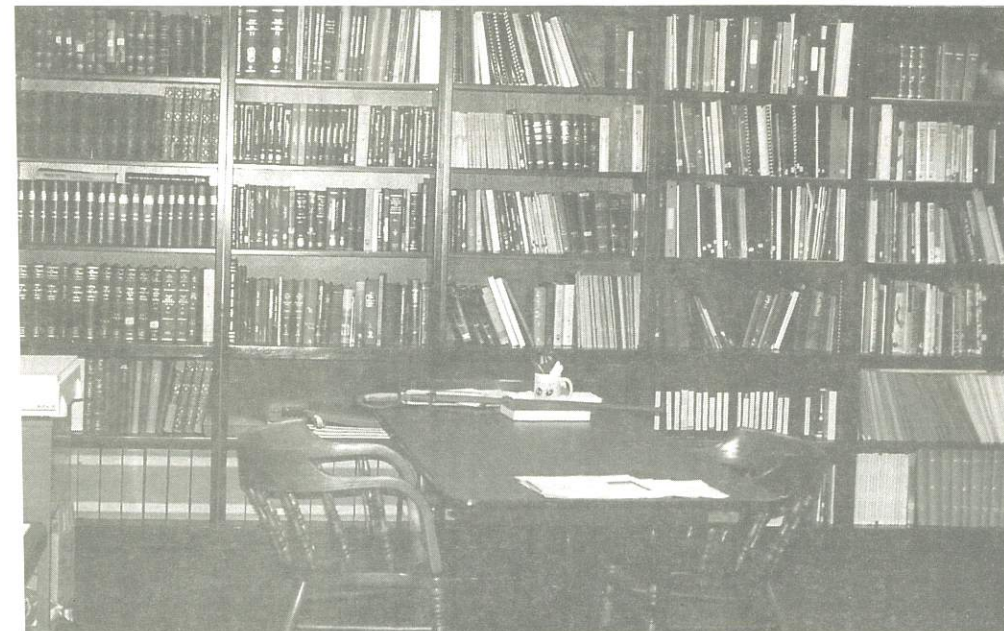
This project is sponsored by the Museum and the South Carolina Arts Commission, which is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity!



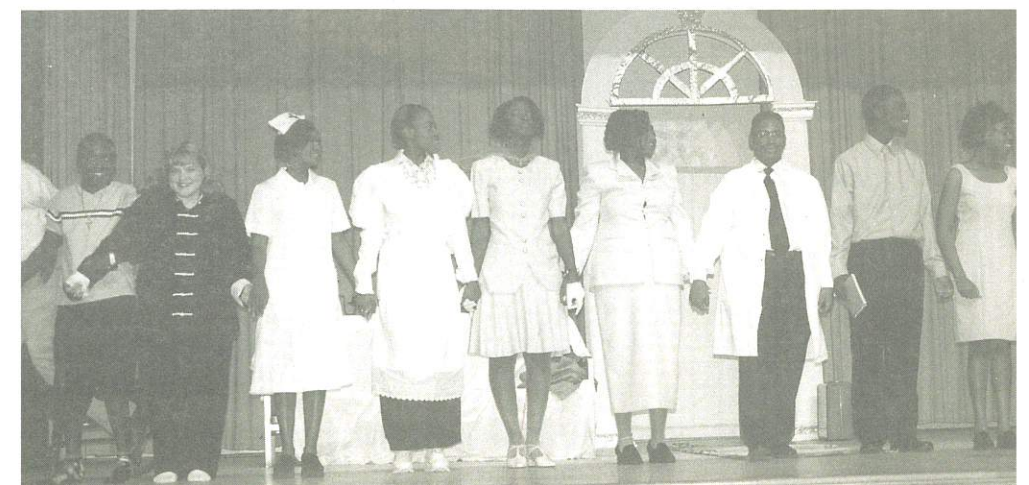
THANK YOU CAROLINA EASTMAN

Keith Scott, Manager, Administrator of Carolina Eastman Division, Eastman Chemical Company is shown presenting a check from Eastman to Mrs. Debbie Roland. Eastman will be a co-sponsor of Calhoun County 2000 Pictorial History Booklet.



GOOD JOB STUDENTS!

Calhoun County High School drama students, under the direction of Mrs. Sallie Till, did a wonderful job in their spring production. This event was sponsored in part by the Calhoun County Museum & South Carolina Arts Commission.



NEW EXHIBIT

Miss Ainsley Reid did an outstanding display on the home of Rebecca Motte. It is now on exhibit at the Museum. She is a fifth grade student at Calhoun Academy.

ARCHIVES

New book cases and books have been added to the Archives. Please remember that research is done by Appointment only.



FOLK LIFE CLASSES

Students learned to make candles, looming, and dye with Indigo.



Mrs. Anne Watts, shown with artist Marie Dowdy dying Indigo.

CALHOUN COUNTY MUSEUM

Jean Reid & Sallie Till Team Up!

Each year I am asked what the best things from the previous year have been. I feel so lucky to be able to work at the museum and meet so many wonderful people. Two of these are Jean Reid and Sallie Till. Jean Reid is a local dance teacher and is under contract with the museum to work one day a week at the Calhoun County Convalescent Center. Several times a year, Jean takes her students to the Center for intergenerational programs. For the past several years, she has also worked for the Calhoun County Public Schools.

Sallie Till, who has worked in the public school system for the past ten years, taught chorus and drama this past year. The museum has helped to sponsor several programs for both teachers.

As a final event, both Sallie and Jean decided to bring their classes together and present a program for the Center. One of the students requested that they also present the program at a nursing home in Orangeburg, because he knew a resident there.

The Calhoun County program went very well. The next week they arrived in Orangeburg. A

woman who had been seriously injured in an accident was brought into the room. She could not sit up or speak a single word.

During the program, this resident began to weep. After the show was over, the student went over and kissed the woman. This woman was no stranger or casual acquaintance. She was his mother. She will never be able to see her child's graduation, hold him, or watch him play any sports. Through the arts and the vision of Mrs. Till and Mrs. Reid, he was able to give her the only thing that he could.

This is one of the reasons I believe so strongly in the arts programs in our museum, schools, and community. It is only through the arts that all barriers are broken. Gender, race, money, and community problems are irrelevant. We are united in making this world a better place to live.

I hope that this story touched and humbled you as much as it did me. Share it with others, as I have with you, and pass along the young man's gift.

-Debbie Roland

Museum Receives Grant

The Calhoun County museum has received a FY2001 Biennial Grant Award from the South Carolina Arts Commission.

The Museum received a grant of \$14,999.00 in the general support category. The South Carolina Arts Commission funded 1.8 million dollars in grants during the new fiscal year.

Grants like this and support from you allow us to continue to reach the citizens of both Calhoun County and South Carolina.

Museum and Calhoun Academy Partnership

Mrs. Sarah Wienges has taught at Calhoun Academy for fourteen years. During this time she has started many outstanding programs for her students. She loves history and saw a need to start a 20th century history class. The course outline and materials for this class have been compiled and created by Mrs. Wienges.

As a U.S. History teacher, she has required her students to produce a research project on their families. This year the Calhoun County Museum was proud to be able to join her in her endeavors to broaden the horizons and visions that she has for her classroom. Many of the students met with Debbie Roland during and after school hours to work on their projects. In the spring of 2000, the junior class placed their final genealogy studies at the museum for viewing by the public.

Since January, 2000, Mr. Frost Wilkinson has followed Mrs. Wienges and her students to capture their activities on tape. This fall Mrs. Wienges and her students will be meeting at the museum. Lectures and a hands-on-archival demonstration will be given along with instruction on electronic information retrieval and archival research strategies. The museum plans to present two awards for the best projects in her class. Along with the genealogy study, the museum will support the creation of a pictorial history booklet of Calhoun County. Photographs from throughout the county will be taken by the students.

Beware, someone might knock on your door and ask to interview you or take a picture of your home, business, or farm. We are very proud of the efforts that Sarah is making to get children and their families excited about the importance of history and our community. Keep up the good work!

BOOKS FOR SALE!!

Idella Bodie:

The Secret Message
The Revolutionary

Swamp Fox
The Man Who Loved
the Flag

The Fighting Gamecock
The Ghost in the Capitol
Carolina Girl

Trouble at Start Fort
South Carolina Women

Robert E Holman, M.D.
The Black Bag

Nancy Rhyne
Voices of South Carolina
Slave Children

Harris Mullen
God Bless General Early

Glenn Dedmondt
The Flags of Civil War
South Carolina

John G. Mansfield, Jr.
Cruisers for Breakfast

Julia Peterkin
Black April
Bright Skin

Christine R. Swagger
Black Crows and White
Cockades

A.S. Sally
History of Orangeburg
County S.C.

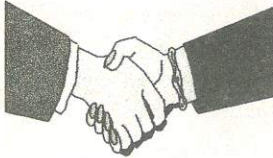
J. S. Wannamaker
The Wannamaker, Salley,
Mackey, and Bellinger
Families

Daniel Marchant
Orangeburg District 1768-
1868

Calhoun Co. Museum
Cemeteries of Families of
Amelia Township and
Calhoun Counties, S.C.

EXTRA! EXTRA!

All memberships expired
on September 1, 2000.
Don't miss out on an ex-
citing year. Renew your
membership today!



Good friendships are
meant to grow and be
shared! Help the Cal-
houn County Museum
and
Cultural Center to make
new friends by telling
your friends about us!!!

Friends of the

Calhoun County Museum and Cultural Center

Yes, I want to share in the activities of the Calhoun County Museum and Cul-
tural Center. Please enroll me as a Friend of the Museum!

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25 | Individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50 | Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100 | Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$500 | Corporate Sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$1000 or more | Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | C.F. Ulmer Endowment Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | Darrell Cooper Memorial Fund |

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contributions are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to the Calhoun
County Museum/Arts Center, 303 Butler Street, St. Matthews, SC, 29135.

