



2009-2010 HISTORIC SITES CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Admission is free to most events unless otherwise noted. Donations are always accepted and appreciated. Please check this calendar regularly for changes, including additions and cancellations. For more information on specific programs, please contact the individual historic sites. Phone numbers for each state historic site, along with web page and email addresses can be found on this web site.

December 1, 3 **Aycock Birthplace.** Fremont. Christmas Candlelight Tours. This program will feature Primitive Baptist singers, a shadow play and open hearth cooking. 6:30-9 p.m.

December 1, 3 **Horne Creek Farm.** Pinnacle. Christmas By Lamplight. Experience the warmth of a rural turn-of-the-century Christmas. Music and food of the era will be featured. Reservations necessary for this one hour program. Choose from one of the following times: 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m., or 7 p.m. *Fee charged: \$8-Adults, \$5-Children 6-12, Children five and under-Free.* Call 336-325-2298 for more information.

Dec. 4-5, 11-12 **N.C. Transportation Museum.** Spencer. Cookies & Cocoa With Santa. Take an evening train ride to the Roundhouse and enjoy cocoa and cookies with Santa at the North Pole. Get a picture with Santa and hear Christmas stories read by one of Santa's helpers. *Fee TBA.*

December 4, 11 **Duke Homestead.** Durham. Celebrate an 1870 Christmas during evening tours of the Homestead. The tour features period decorations, caroling, hot apple cider, and other goodies. 7-9 p.m.

December 5 **Historic Bath.** Bath. Children's Christmas HiSTORY Hour. Usher in the Christmas season with a classic Christmas movie while trying your hand at stringing popcorn and cranberries. After the movie, children will be able to do some Christmas shopping on their own in the gift shop. Appropriate for ages 5-10. *Fee charged: \$1.* Visitor Center. 10 a.m.

December 5 **Bentonville Battlefield.** Four Oaks. Christmas Open House. Costumed interpreters will decorate the kitchen in festive themes, such as holly and magnolia branches, cotton stalks, various fruits and cranberry and popcorn strands, and serve cookies and hot cider. Also on hand, costumed military interpreters will be available to discuss how the common soldier spent his time on furlough with friends and family. All demonstrations are subject to change without notice. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

December 5. **Reed Gold Mine.** Midland. A Golden Christmas. Come enjoy the only Christmas candlelight tour you can take in the daytime! The underground mine tunnels will be decorated for the holidays and special holiday-themed tours will tell how Christmas was celebrated over the years at Reed Gold Mine by John Reed, and other miners and their families. The Stamp Mill, circa 1895, will also be open for tours. The celebration continues in the visitor center with crafts, historical demonstrations, musical performances, and free refreshments. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

December 5 **Vance Birthplace.** Weaverville. Christmas Candlight Tours. Candlelight tours of the Vance Home will be offered during the evening of December 5. Tours from 4-7 p.m.

December 5-6 **Battleship NORTH CAROLINA.** Wilmington. Battleship Alive. Watch and interact with World War II living history interpreters as they bring the ship to life by enacting daily duties and drills. *Included with regular admission.* Call 910-251-5797, ext. 2046 for more information. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Dec. 5-6, 12-13, 19-20 **N.C. Transportation Museum.**² Spencer. Santa Train. Santa rides the train, passing out oranges and candy canes, a Southern Railway tradition. Storytelling of classic Christmas tales and an ornament-making activity are also part of this event. *Fee TBA.* Call the N.C. Transportation Museum at 704-636-2889 for information.

December 6 **Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.** Sedalia. Christmas Open House. Annual celebration of the season with music, crafts, fun and surprises for the whole family. Dr. Brown's home, Canary Cottage, is decorated as it would have been for Christmas in the 1940s. 1-5 p.m.

December 6 **Somerset Place.** Creswell. 20th Annual Somerset Christmas Open House Program. Come and experience the simple joy of the season. Browse historic decorations, enjoy homemade desserts, and join us for a free and tasty meal of black-eyed peas and hearth-cooked cornbread. 1-4 p.m.

December 7-27 **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. Betty Tyler Show. Betty Tyler is an eclectic artist who paints abstracts, still life and portraits using oils, watercolors or acrylics. Tyler studied at N.C. State University and with national and local artists. Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 252-475-1500 for more information.

December 10 **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Festival. Festivities begin with the lighting of luminaries and musical performances on the Capitol grounds. The Governor and First Lady will light the state Christmas Tree during the traditional ceremony on the west grounds. After the ceremony, visitors are invited inside the Capitol for an open house to take in the Raleigh Garden Club's decorations. 5:00-7:30 p.m.

December 10-13 **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Holiday Open House. The Capitol will be decorated for the holidays by the Raleigh Garden Club. Local performing groups will provide concerts of holiday music daily during the open house.

December 11 **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Caroling In the Courthouse. Join us for community Christmas caroling at the 1767 Chowan County Courthouse. Refreshments afterwards. Call Keith Furlough at 252-482-2637 for more information. 6 p.m.

December 11-12 **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Iredell House Groaning Board. Eighteenth-Century style Christmas decorations, music, and a holiday dessert groaning board. Tables are so heavily laden with food you can almost hear the boards "groan." Call 252-482-2637 for more information. 1-5 p.m.

December 12 **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. Astronomy Night. Geminid Meteor Shower. Bring a chair or blanket and relax as we watch the light show from above. Learn about the constellation Gemini and meteor showers. Registration required. Call 910-439-6802 for more information.

December 12 **Historic Halifax.** Halifax. Christmas in Halifax. Join the historic site and town of Halifax as they celebrate the Christmas season. Historic buildings exteriors will be decorated with natural arrangements. Learn about Christmas in colonial times, stroll the streets of Halifax and see the many historic homes and churches, see colonial Christmas decorations and feel the spirit of a small town Christmas. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

December 12 **House in the Horseshoe.** Sanford. Christmas Open House. The House in the Horseshoe will be decorated to celebrate the Christmas season. Learn about how Christmas was celebrated in central North Carolina in the late 18th century. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

December 12 **Alamance Battleground.** Burlington. A Scherenschnitte Christmas. Learn about the traditional art of paper cutting and design your own Christmas ornament or decoration. Light refreshments will be available. 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

December 12 **President James K. Polk.** Pineville. Christmas in Mecklenburg County with the Polks. Visitors will see a living history vignette in the main house. Each building will be decorated in the 19th century style. Come and learn about food and customs from Christmas in 1802.

December 12-13 **Bennett Place.** Durham. Christmas in the Carolinas During the Civil War. Visit Bennett Place during the holiday season and witness how Christmas was celebrated in the Piedmont Carolinas. The farm will be decorated in a typical Christmas fashion. Music, caroling, and refreshments will be served. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

December 12-13 **Ft. Dobbs.** Statesville. Living History Weekend: Winter on the Western Frontier. Set on an open hilltop, the military post at Ft. Dobbs was a cold, lonely place to spend the winter. Learn how the provincial soldiers stationed at the Ft. deal with the harsh season and celebrate the Advent of Christmas. Demonstrations include on-going camp life, military drill, musket and cannon firings. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days. A special evening program will be held at 6:30 p.m. Saturday evening.

December 12, 19 **Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens.** New Bern. Christmas Candlelight Tour and Grand Illumination. The Candlelight Tours are a true family holiday event. Inside the Palace visitors find a ‘Grand entertainment and ball’ while outside music and entertainment is provided by costumed characters, dancers and dynamic performers giving shows of acrobatics, juggling, sword swallowing and much more. The Fife & Drum Corps and Jonkonnu dancers also perform to the delight of everyone. Be prepared to step back in time on this amazing and unforgettable colonial evening. 5–9 p.m. *Fee charged: \$15 Adults; \$6 Students.* Call 1-800-767-1560 for more information.

December 13 **Historic Bath.** Bath. Christmas Open House. Tour the 1751 Palmer-Marsh House, the 1830 Bonner House, the 1790 Van Der Veer House and the 1734 St. Thomas Episcopal Church, decorated in period holiday fashion. Enjoy music, apple cider and fresh-baked gingerbread. 12 noon-4 p.m.

December 14 **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Period Christmas Decorations Workshop. Learn how to use natural materials to decorate for the holidays. Make your own to take home. *Fee charged.* Reservations required. Call Judy Chilcoat at 252-482-2637 for more information. 9 a.m.-noon session or 1-4 p.m. session.

December 15-18 **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Period Christmas Decorations Workshop for student groups. Make and take home a period decoration made from natural materials. *Fee charged.* Reservations required. Call Judy Chilcoat at 252-482-2637 for more information.

December 19 **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. Elizabethan Christmas. Don’t let the holiday spirit fade. Come join in the fun as the park celebrates the Sixth Day of Christmas. Park visitors can get a taste of 16th century holiday traditions as they make decorations, learn special dances, sing songs, discover food and drink of the season, and indulge in merriment with members of the Guild of St. Andrew. Many events will be held inside and the celebration will go on, rain or shine. General admission. Call 252-475-1500 for more information. Noon-5 p.m.

December 19 **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. Christmas for the Birds. Come feed the bird population at Town Creek Indian Mound. Participants will create homemade pinecone bird feeders and help us decorate the trees along the entrance with these festive “ornaments.” Donations welcome.

December 20 **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. 4th Sunday @ 4p.m. presents Trio la Mer. The Trio La Mer is chamber group of local musicians featuring John Buford on piano, Leslie Erickson on violin, and Sue Waters on viola. Each musician has performed and taught for many years and now join to form this chamber group. They perform music from the baroque to the contemporary periods, including some original arrangements. *General admission.* Call 252-475-1500 for more information.

January – December **Historic Bath.** Bath. *What Lies Beneath: How Archaeology Bridges the Past and Present.* This temporary exhibit will highlight some of the recent archaeological discoveries unearthed in Bath by East Carolina University students. Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

January **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Family Connections. Guided tours with emphasis on families who lived in the James Iredell House and Cupola House. Monday through Saturday 10:30, 1:30 and 3:00.

January 9 **Historic Bath.** Bath. *The American Tobacco Culture: Our Heritage.* Author Billy Yeargin will give an illustrated talk about how our nation was driven by tobacco trade early on, and how it progressed as a tobacco culture even into the 20th century. This project is made possible by a grant from the North Carolina Humanities Council, Statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. 10 a.m.

January 15-17 **Fort Fisher** Kure Beach. 145th Anniversary of the 2nd Battle of Fort Fisher. This large anniversary event will kick off at UNC-Wilmington on Friday with a panel discussion on the experiences of United States Colored Troops. The discussion is co-hosted by the Upperman African American Cultural Center. Continuing this theme, Dr. Richard Reid, author of *Freedom for Themselves: North Carolina's Black Soldiers in the Civil War Era*, will present a talk on Saturday. A battle scenario, lantern light tours, and evening firing of the site's 32-pound rifled and banded cannon will also highlight this anniversary program. Visitors can see artillery and infantry demonstrations and walk through Union and Confederate camps established on the fort's grounds. Please contact the site for additional details.

January 16 **Horne Creek Living Historical Farm.** Pinnacle. Come and Sit By the Fire. Program features children's stories, social customs, music, and food of the 1900 era. Nominal fee for refreshments. 12 noon-4:00 p.m.

January 21 **Historic Bath.** Bath. Historical Film Series: *Casablanca*. Join Historic Bath as we celebrate a year of classic movies. Light refreshments served. 7 p.m.

January 30 **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Civil War Encampment. Re-enactors will perform demonstrations and teach kids how to participate in Civil War drills.

February 11 **Aycock Birthplace.** Fremont. Civil War Quiz Bowl. Test your Civil War knowledge at the Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace's first annual Civil War Quiz Bowl. Prizes will be given to the 1st and 2nd place winners. There is no entry fee to participate in this event. 7:00 p.m.

February 13 **President James K. Polk.** Pineville. President's Day: Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk. This lecture will feature information about the 7th and 11th presidents' political and personal relationships, while Polk was in Congress until his inauguration in 1845. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

February 18 **Historic Bath.** Bath. Historical Film Series: *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Join Historic Bath as we celebrate a year of classic movies. Light refreshments served. 7 p.m.

February 27 **Historic Bath.** Bath. American History for Kids Series. Children ages 5-10 will learn about the Lewis and Clark Expedition and some of the strange gifts that were brought back to the Pres. Thomas Jefferson from this adventure. The reading of a story book will be followed by related activities. Fee charged: \$2.00. 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

February 27-28 **Fort Dobbs.** Statesville. Living History Weekend: 250th Anniversary of the Attack on Fort Dobbs. On February 27th, 1760, the garrison of Fort Dobbs defended its post against a force of more than 60 Cherokee warriors. Battlefield tours and musket and cannon demonstrations will be featured, as well as on-going demonstrations of 18th century military and American Indian camp life. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

February 27-28 **Bennett Place.** Durham. TAR HEELS: Soldiers of the Old North State. Living historians will demonstrate life of the Southern soldiers who served the Old North State during the American Civil War. Visit with Confederate soldiers as they discuss and exhibit the uniforms and equipment of North Carolina troops. Soldiers will be encamped around the Bennett farm throughout the weekend. Admission is FREE and donations graciously accepted. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday.

March **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. N. C. Women's History Month. Visitor Center exhibit and guided tours for student groups about Harriet Ann Jacobs. Reservations required for student groups by calling 252-482-2637. Exhibit Mon.-Sat. 9-5 and Sun. 1-4. Tours by reservation.

March 2 **Aycock Birthplace.** Fremont. Daffodil Open House. The site will host tours of the birthplace and special living history demonstrations as part of the Town of Fremont's Daffodil Festival.

March 7 **Fort Fisher.** Kure Beach. Be A Tourist In Your Own Hometown. As part of the county-wide "Be A Tourist" day, visitors to Fort Fisher can enjoy the museum and grounds on this Sunday afternoon. 1:00-5:00 p.m.

March 13 **President James K. Polk.** Pineville. Neighbors in Conflict: 1846 Militia Muster. This event will take visitors back to 1846, when the United States entered into war with Mexico. The program will illustrate the lives of the common soldier. Highlights include period rifle firing demonstrations, drills, and a period camp that visitors can walk through. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

March 18 **Historic Bath.** Bath. Historical Film Series: *Cimarron*. Join Historic Bath as we celebrate a year of classic movies. Light refreshments served. 7:00 p.m.

March 20-21 **Bentonville Battlefield.** Four Oaks. 145th Bentonville Anniversary Reenactment. Thousands of Civil War re-enactors and spectators will converge on Bentonville Battlefield to reenact the Battle of Bentonville, fought March 19-21, 1865. In that struggle, 20,000 Confederate soldiers engaged 60,000 Union troops in the largest battle ever fought on North Carolina soil. Reenactment tickets can be purchased from www.bentonville145.com. In addition to the battle reenactments, there will be numerous free activities from 9:00-5:00, both Saturday and Sunday, including tours of the circa 1855 Harper House, used as a Union field hospital during the battle. The battle reenactments will take place at 3:00 on Saturday, and 1:30 on Sunday.

March 29 **Historic Edenton** Edenton. Easter Egg Hunt. Kindergarten student groups will hunt school-provided candy on the grounds of the James Iredell House. Reservations required by calling 252-482-2637. 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

March 31 and April 1 **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Easter Egg Dyeing Workshop. Second grade student groups will dye boiled eggs using dyes made from nature: flowers, vegetables, and animals. Reservations required by calling 252-482-2637. 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

April 17-18 **Bennett Place.** Durham. 145th Anniversary Surrender Commemoration. Join us as we commemorate the events which led to the largest surrender of the American Civil War on April 17-18, 1865. This conclusion of the war helped begin the reunification of the United States. Union and Confederate soldier reenactors will encamp on the grounds throughout the weekend, with various living history demonstrations and displays. In addition, a wreath laying ceremony at the Unity Monument will be held on Sunday. Admission is FREE, but donations graciously accepted. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday.