June 2026

Bulletin

Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies
Volume 46, no. 6

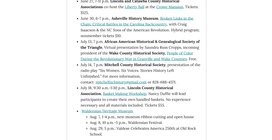
Federation News

Did you know that a board of 22 representatives from various Federation member organizations guides the organization's operations? The spring semi-annual advisory board meeting will be next week, June 10, and discussion topics include investment possibilities for the Federation's revolving fund and a Newsser Award nomination. Board terms are three years with one renewal term possible. Four terms end in 2026, and if you are interested in serving, 2027 is an opportune time to begin representing your organization and register as an advisor to this statewide network.

Welcome to the Federation's newest advisor, Rocio Rivera, Rs represents the **Spring Hope Museum and Historical Association** in Nash County. Retired after 30 years in the Nash County Public Schools, Rocio is also a board member for a local community center. Scroll down on the Federation's web landing page to view additional board members' names and the organizations they represent.

Remember, the Newsser Award for excellent local history projects now has a rolling deadline and members can nominate their own deserving projects, as well as others in their communities.

Member News



At left, Jack Hadley, Hampton Hall Museum, and Sam Gordon (guest speaker at the Mecklenburg Heritage Center), at right, an enthusiastic passport participant.

Blacksburg Historical Society, Cowan Museum, , Bethany Mansion, Latimer House, Sampson County Museum, and Snowshoe Historical Association are all stops on The Roadtrip to Freedom: Stops NC Trail in Freedom Celebrations Guide, a passport booklet featuring historical, cultural and natural destinations as part of the America 250 NC initiative. According to Amelia Dawn Kilbride, President of the Snowshoe Historical Association, the passport program has boosted publicity and the recent historic homes tour was a great success with 500 participants.

Eastern Cabarrus Historical Association, Kings Mountain Museum, and **Brady County Museum** have joined with others in the region for the 2026 Miles for Museums passport program.

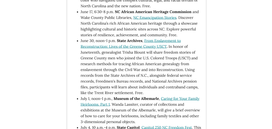
In your history organization involved in a local historical marker program, follow the State Highway Historical Marker Program! The **Martin County Historical Society** is exploring the idea of beginning a marker program and would welcome guideline documents, application forms, and general advice about challenges and successes. If you have any guidance to share, please email MCHS president Wayne Peele and Bulletin co-editor Adrienne Berkey.

Submit your organization's news to Danielle Shirley to be featured in the next Bulletin!

Member Events

- June 8, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. **Lincoln Historical Association**, Retail and Restaurant Walking Tour, Tickets $25
- June 8, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. **Preservation NC** with partners **Alliance for Historic Hillsborough** and the Richard Hampton Jenrette Foundation, Hillsborough Walking Tour, Tickets $25.
- June 7, noon–5:30 p.m., **Chatham County Historical Association**, Downtown Pittsboro walk Tour, Tickets $5 members, $10 nonmembers
- June 7, 6 p.m. **Lincoln Public Museum of History**, After Hours Summer Concert Series Jackson Grove & Chet Sabiers, followed by The Tar Nation Boys on July 20 and Brady's Bluegrass Revue August 18. Tickets $10 members, $20 nonmembers
- June 8, 10 a.m. **Gaston County Museum**, American Traditions: Blacksmithing, Free admission
- June 20, 9:30 a.m. **Chatham County Historical Association**, Discovery the Lime Rock Trail, Free on the Beach by David Wright and David Zahn
- June 20, 10 a.m. noon **Chatham County Historical Society**, Tadd Dr. Tire Painted Faces and Freebies, Tickets $20
- June 20-21 **Lincoln County Historical Association**, Battle of Ramseur Reenactment, Free admission
- June 21, 2:30 p.m. **Lincoln County Historical Association**, Annual Membership Meeting followed by presentation from Smithsonian of Sperbs Rosebo Lu Z. Perdue, Free
- June 27, 7:30 p.m. **Lincoln and Catawba County Historical Associations** on from the Liberty Hall at the Cowan Museum, Tickets $20
- June 28, 6-7 p.m. **Asheville History Museum**, Broken Links in the Chain: Critical Battles in the Carolina Backcountry, with Eric Isaacson & the NC Sons of the American Revolution. Hybrid program, Registration required
- July 7, 7 p.m. **African American Historical & Genealogical Society of the Triangle**, Virtual presentation by Saundra Ross Cooper, incoming president of the **Wake County Historical Society**, Parade of Color During the Revolutionary War in Granville and Wake Counties, Free
- July 16, 7 p.m. **Mitchell County Historical Society**, presentation of the radio play The Women, Sue Stevens, Stories History Left Unwritten, Free admission, contact mitchellhistoryorg@gmail.com or 828-688-4251
- July 18, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., **Lincoln County Historical Association**, Basket Making Workshop, Nancy Deffer will lead participants to create their own handled baskets. No experience needed, Materials provided, Tickets $35
- Waldenseian Heritage Museum
  - Aug. 1, 2 4 p.m., new museum ribbon cutting and open house
  - Aug. 8, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Waldensian Festival
  - Aug. 29, 5 p.m., Valdese Celebration America 250th at Old Rock School.

DNCR News



Pierre Hughes (in blanket), "An exact representation of a wagon belonging to the Revolutionary War period," Reenactment of Battle of Ramseur (June 20-21) on grounds of the American Revolution.

- Eyewitness Sketch of the North Carolina Brigade is now on display at the **NC Museum of Art** through August 2 and will then be installed at the NC History Center at **Tryon Palace** through early October. The sketch is the first narrative depiction of North Carolina troops known to survive the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. It shows the retreat of followers of the Continental Army due to the expiration of America 250 NC's Reassess 250's Beyond the Liberty Tree project
- **is accepting submissions until September 30**
- Statewide cleanup: DNCR partners, including **North Carolina Preservation Office**, are seeking volunteers for a statewide cleanup initiative throughout 2026. Education and outreach are important to state's natural resources are core to DNCR's mission. Preservation is protecting the places we love for another 250 years and beyond. Register your cleanup event on this calendar and check out this guide on hosting a clean up. Contact agnes-elizabeth.bales@ncdcr.gov with questions.

DNCR Events

- June 9, noon-4 p.m. **Duke Archives**, Sidney Cox Harry Five Women of Color in Revolutionary N.C. A panel of cultural heritage researchers and descendants will explore the experiences first women of color who navigated the complex cultural, legal, and racial terrain of North Carolina and the new nation. Free
- June 9, 2 p.m. **Wake County Historical Society Heritage Commission** and Wake County Public Libraries, NC Conversations Series, Discover North Carolina's rich African American heritage through a showcase highlighting cultural and historic sites across NC. Explore personal stories of endurance, achievement, and community. Free
- June 9, 2 p.m. **Wake County Public Libraries**, Conversations in Reconstruction: Lives of Free Black County (1867), In honor of Juneteenth, genealogist Trisha Brown will share freedom stories of Greene County men who joined the U.S. Colored Troops (USCT) and research methods for tracing African American genealogy from enslavement through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Using records from the State Archives of N.C., alongside federal service records and pension files, she will show how these documents connection this participation will have about individuals and consolidated unions, like the Trent River settlement. Free
- July 1, noon-1 p.m., **Museum of the Albemarle**, Caring for Your Family Dictionary, Part 2, Wanda Lambert, curator of collections and preservation, will share tips for caring for family dictionary and preservation of how to care for your heirloom, including family tombs and other 3-dimensional personal objects.
- July 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **State Capitol**, Capitol 250 NC Freedom Fest. This all-day festival is a celebration of the arts, history, nature, and culture that define North Carolina's role in the nation's story, including a State Constitution Day Wonder. Free.

Free Webinars

- June 9: noon-1:30 p.m. **New England Museum Association**, Museums, Hope and Resilience for the Future, a virtual town hall to discuss the state of our field. Attend leading cats and more.
- June 9, 2:3 p.m. **Gaylord Archival**, Perspectives on Accessibility Panel Discussion, Accessibility in Archives and Libraries, Free
- June 9, 8:30-10:30, **National Archives**, Michael Jaeder will discuss his book, Into the Declaration of Independence Made America, with Patrick Spero. Explore the history of the Declaration of Independence, from its drafting by Thomas Jefferson to today.
- June 9, 10 a.m. **Society for Industrial Preservation**, Introducing the Humanitarian Campaign, advancing heritage-informed decentralization strategies that connect climate action, cultural heritage, and community resilience.
- June 15, 10 a.m., NC Community Foundation, Grantwriter Workshop, Learn more about eligibility and application procedures for the summer community grant deadline.
- June 16, 2 p.m. **Northeast Document Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts**, Handling Photographs for Digitization, Digital Archives Specialist Kaitlyn Pelmogil and Associate Photo Conservator Izzy Barber will discuss the challenges of working with photographs to achieve digitization goals.
- June 16, 2 p.m. **Image Permanence**, Your First Crowdsourcing Project, will cover selecting material, finding volunteers, developing transcription conventions, keeping volunteers engaged, and what to do with your transcriptions once you're done.
- June 16, 2 p.m. **SAAC Connecting to Collections Care**, Hidden Histories: Preserving Small Community Collections, Learn how staff at small and rural cultural institutions who are responsible for preparing objects for exhibition, participants will learn the basics for displaying objects – from to home conservation of standard materials to working with contract restorations.
- June 23 2:2 p.m. **Image Permanence Institute**, Reducing Extreme Relative Humidity Conditions in Historic Houses Through Passive Environmental Control Strategies, Learn how historic house museums often experience extreme seasonal and short-term fluctuations in relative humidity due to building characteristics, exposure, and limited mechanical control. Learn from a case study showing how the Morris County Park Commission has reduced environmental risk, improved collection care, and achieved greater long-term, data-driven approaches.
- June 25 **Backing**, Archival Value, Explore the informational, evidential, and intrinsic characteristics of archival material and how these concepts shape what becomes valuable to researchers.

Check out the Restricted Materials webinar recording on Backing's YouTube channel.

Conferences

- July 25-29, **Winter Studies Association**, 2026 Annual Conference, Expanding Your Online Studies Toolkit, Kansas City, MO
- July 29 Aug. 02, **Society of American Archivists**, 89th Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN
- July 30-31, **Association for State and Local History** and **National Council on Public History**, 47th joint Conference, Work of the Revolution, Providence, RI. **Check on the Preliminary Program and Conference Hub**. AASLH has been scholarship programs to assist those who would like to attend the conference. **Application deadline: June 22**. **Scholarships: June 22**.
  - Cynthia Cornelia Memorial Scholarship
  - Small Museums Scholarship
  - Omaha Society Diversity Scholarship
- Sept. 09, NCC **Genealogical Society**, 2026 Annual Conference, Raleigh and online
- Sept. 23-26, **National Trust for Historic Preservation**, National Preservation Conference, Washington D.C. and virtual
- Sept. 28-30, **Southeastern Museums Conference**, Rooted in Culture: Focused on the Future, Winston-Salem. Early bird registration closes **July 31**.
- Oct. 25-27, **Preservation North Carolina Conference**, High Point
- Oct. 28, Southern Historical Association annual conference, Atlanta, GA
- June 16, Preserving America Conference, Richmond, VA, sponsored by American Corner and the American Battlefield Trust. Tailored to organizations with small staffs and modest revenues, the conference offers practical, high-impact strategies for outreach and programming through an exchange of knowledge, resources, and lived experience. **Application deadline: June 10**.
- Nov. 19-21, NC Maritime History Council 36th Annual Conference, New Bern. **Proposal deadline: Sept. 18**.

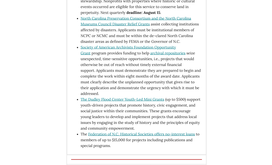
Grants

- Many organizations provide funding through a variety of grants, through the NC Community Foundation's affiliates, funds and giving circles. Application deadline: soon on the closing date. Want to learn more? Attend the virtual Grantwriter Workshop June 15.
  - **June 2 – July 24** Craven and Pamlico counties
  - **June 19 – July 31** Camden, Gates, Greene, Lenoir, Madison, Martin, Pasquotank, Perquimans counties
  - **June 26 – July 28** Jackson, Macon, Swain, Wilkes counties, Women's Giving Network of Wake County, Town of Morrisville
  - **July 3 – Aug 4** Wake County and Town of Cary
  - **July 10 – Aug 31** Duplin and Johnston counties
  - **July 24 – Aug 28** Alleghany, Haywood, Mitchell and Yancey counties
  - **July 24 – Aug 25** Alexander, Bertie, Caldwell, Catawba, Hertford and Tyrrell counties
  - **July 31 – Sept. 1**: Cherokee, Clay, Currituck, Dare and Graham counties, Qualla Boundary and Eastern Band of Cherokee
  - **Aug 7 – Sept 8**: Carteret, Harnett and Warren counties
- East America's Treasures Grants from the National Park Service, in collaboration with IMLS, NEH and NEA, fund collections care, preservation, and access projects at eligible cultural heritage attractions. Grants range from $25,000 to $750,000 and require matching funds. **Deadline: June 18, 2026**.
- Arts Plus Top Conservation & Exhibition Grant supports small institutions generally those with fewer than 100,000 visitors annually by providing a cash award of up to 15,000 (approximately $6,000 USD) to be used toward conservation and housing/framing of artwork, or exhibition expenses. Grants are paid in Euros and Ukrainian Hryvnia(Uah) valued at up to approximately 15,000 (approximately $7,400 USD). While the program is based in the UK, it also funds US based projects. **Deadline: July 31, 2026**.
- Landmarks of American History and Culture and Summer Institutes for Teachers, Landmarks provides a 5-day immersion and development for K-12 teachers and higher education faculty members. **Deadline: June 25**.
- National Endowment for the Arts Grants for Art Projects enable American Humanities the nation to experience the arts, foster and preserve cultural heritage, and strengthen the creative ecosystem from arts education at all stages of life. **Part 1 deadline: July 9**.
- Cornelius Foundation provides grant funding for historic preservation projects across the state. **Deadline: August 1**.
- Norfolk Southern Thriving Communities Grant Program funds projects including revitalization of industrial areas, preservation of local historical or cultural identity, and enhancing community spaces to support local economic development, workforce housing, and mixed-use residents or businesses. Salary costs may be eligible if they are tied directly to program functions. Eligible entities: 501c3 nonprofit organizations generally located within 30 miles of a Norfolk Southern main line. Grants range $1,000-250,000. **Deadline: August 3**.
- Tourism Economics Grant Program, Visit North Carolina's Partnership Grant joint conservation with collections stewardship basic care and rehousing. **Deadline: Sept. 15**.
- Small Museum Collections Care grant from the Connecticut Humanities provides $2,500 to support costume and textile collections. **Deadline: November 1**.

Rolling Deadlines

- Cameron Foundation quarterly grants fund capital improvements or equipment projects for organizations providing historic or environmental preservation services in North Carolina.
- T-Mobile Hometown Grants fund up to $50,000 for community projects in towns with populations under 50,000.
- NC Land and Water Fund land donation mini grants provide up to $50,000 for land acquisition, conservation easements, stewardship. Nonprofits with properties where historic or cultural events occurred are eligible. For this service to conserve land in perpetuity. Next quarterly **deadline: August 31**.
- North Carolina Preservation Consortium and the North Carolina Humanities Council Disaster Relief Grant provides preservation assistance affected by disasters. Applicants must be institutional members of NCPC or NCHC and must be within the cut closed North Carolina disaster areas as defined by FEMA or the Governor of NC.
- Society of American Archivists Foundation Opportunity Grants program supports the Society's archival heritage service and unexpected, time-sensitive opportunities to collaborate and preserve the records of endangered cultural heritage. Financial support. Applicants must demonstrate they are prepared to begin and complete the work within eight months of the award date. Applicants must clearly describe the explained opportunity that gives rise to their application and demonstrate the urgency with which it must be addressed.
- The Gaddy Hood Grants Study and Mini Grants tops to $5000 support youth-driven projects that promote history, civic engagement, and social justice within their communities. These grants encourage young leaders to develop and implement projects that address local issues and foster a deep sense of history and the principles of equity and community empowerment.
- The Federation of NC Historical Societies offers no-interest loans to members of up to $5,000 for projects including publications and special programs.

History Help



- Visit the Freedom Places blog to consider how short-form "city scavenger" videos on sharing platforms are transforming how audiences discover museums and historic sites. These one-minute clips are brief search stories bearing online engagement and helping institutions attract new visitors. Check out the **Greensboro Museum** and **Charlotte Museum of History** for examples. Want to learn more about introduction shorts about (Would even hinder be better?
- Browse examples of how Manhattan turns a few historical photographs into a film and consider a simple way from a piece in your archives.
- In "Open To Question" a board member Wyn Wiatt, from Tallyho! nonprofit consultant, Joan Garry suggests strategies for board chairs to ensure that every voice is heard and every idea receives thoughtful discussion and minutes focused.
- The "Making of the Nation" digital exhibit from Google Arts & Culture uses thousands of documents scanned from the National Archives and dozens of additional collections to chronicle the founding of the United States.

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