Double, double toil and trouble, fire burn and cauldron bubble! The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex will once again host *Halloween Revels Night Tours of the 1897 Poe House* on October 24-26 from 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm. In the early 20th century Halloween was celebrated with themed parties where costumed guests participated in fortune telling, games, and often frightening surprises! Join us for “Fortunes, Frights, and Fun!” with the Gilbert Theater as the E.A. Poe family returns for a Halloween celebration. This year, the visitors will actually be part of the story as guests to the Poe’s Halloween party and may even get to interact with the actors.

Halloween parties were all the rage in the early 20th century, and colleges and churches often held them as fundraisers. Many were documented by the *Fayetteville Observer*. The Poe’s party will feature fortunes, frights, and fun based on these accounts.

In November 1913, the *Fayetteville Weekly Observer* reported about the Southern Presbyterian College Halloween party in Red Springs. “The most awe-inspiring scene during the evening was the excellent reproduction from MacBeth, of the revelry of the three witches over a seething cauldron.” The actors will recreate this classic Halloween spectacle.

Margaret Poe Davidson, Josie Poe Jones, and Hilda Poe were among the guests at a Halloween themed Coterie Club meeting in 1922 where “several ghosts with lighted candles mysteriously appeared in and out among the guests, and then as mysteriously disappeared.”

Guests arriving for Halloween Revels Night Tours 2018 can expect to see variations of these parties at the Poe House.

Advance tickets for the night tours cost $3.00 and may be purchased at the Museum of the Cape Fear during regular business hours beginning on October 2. We encourage everyone to get their tickets in advance since tickets are limited and sold out last year. If there are any remaining tickets, they will be available at the door the night of each event for $5.00. Tours will run every 20 minutes beginning at 6:00 pm with the last tour at 10:00 pm each evening. Tour space is limited to 15 participants per tour.

Remember, this is not a traditional Poe House tour. CONTINUED PAGE 2
Trick or Treat at the Poe House will be held on Saturday October 27 from 11:00-4:00 pm. This event is FREE! Join us for a free children’s concert along with our traditional Halloween activities including the popular Costume Contest. Joy the Clown will perform strolling magic tricks and balloon twisting throughout the event. Trick or treaters can search for ravens in the Poe House, listen to a Halloween story, and play old fashioned games in the backyard. Concessions are available on site.

New to the event is the Jeepers Creepers Trunk or Treat in Arsenal Park sponsored by the Nomad Jeeps and Jeepers United. “Nomad Jeeps reached out to us looking for a venue for a trunk or treat event and we felt this would be a great partnership,” says event coordinator Megan Maxwell. Jeep club members will decorate their jeeps for Halloween and pass out treats.

The Sandbox Band will be performing at 11:30, 12:30, and 1:30. Sandbox is a five-piece kids’ and family music band from Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill, NC. "We play rockin’, rootsy music for children of all ages, songs that moms and dads will enjoy as much as the kids! Our live shows mix timeless traditional songs (with our own twist) and our own original kids’ music: Sandbox songs about food, dreams, family, and friendship."

The Trick or Treat event also features a Costume Contest for ages Infant-12 yrs. Contestants are divided based on age categories: Infant-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-9 years, and 10-12 years. Prizes are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category. There is a $1.00 fee to enter. Creative historical and handmade costumes are encouraged! Contestants must register between 11:00-2:00 to participate.
Arsenal Park Historic Houses

Things are moving in Arsenal Park! As of the first week in October, the Culbreth House is being prepped for moving to its new position. The Arsenal House and the Davis House will also be moved by the end of the month. This is Phase I of the NC Civil War and Reconstruction History Center construction plan. Once moved, the buildings will be gradually restored for use as part of the History Center complex.

Arsenal Archaeology Update

From July 23-August 3, a total of eight teachers, five students and five archaeologists participated in an archaeological field school at Arsenal Park. Funded jointly between the Museum of the Cape Fear and the NC Civil War & Reconstruction History Center, the excavation was headed up by New South Associates, a firm based out of Georgia but with offices in South and North Carolina.

Six goals were set to reach as a result of the dig: 1) additional excavations of the gun carriage shop; 2) test unit at anomaly 5 detected from ground penetrating radar; 3) excavation of area between the gun carriage and blacksmith shops; 4) excavation of a sandstone-like surface identified in 2000 at a previous dig; 5) an archaeology day for the public; and 6) a synthesis report of the arsenal’s history that includes the archaeological excavations. The first five were all achieved during the field school and number 6 is in process, scheduled for completion by the end of the year.
Ring a Bell for Armistice Day

The Museum of the Cape Fear, on behalf of Heroes Homecoming, invites all Cumberland County residents, churches and businesses to ring a bell 11 times on the 11:00 hour (am) on the 11th day of the 11th month, (November 11, 2018 at 11:00 am) to recognize Armistice Day. The day that brought a cessation of fighting during the Great War. 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day.

- Residents – Wherever you are at 11:00 am on Nov. 11, 2018, let a bell sound to honor Armistice Day. Armistice Day is now Veterans Day. The veterans did their part, now let’s do ours. Let’s recognize the 100th anniversary of Veterans Day with a simple, yet resounding chorus of bells.

- Churches – play or ring your church bells at 11:00 am. (Recordings count!)

- Businesses – ask an employee, or two, to step out the front door at 11:00 am and ring a bell.

The bell ringing for Armistice Day is a state-wide effort for bells to ring in all 100 counties. It would be wonderful if Cumberland County rang the most bells and rang them the loudest.

Don’t have a bell? There are several free apps for your mobile device that you can use to sound a bell.

The state-wide effort is spear-headed by the NC Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources. They would like to get a count of how many will participate for this special anniversary. Therefore, if you plan to participate, please email leisa.greathouse@ncdcr.gov with your name and contact information, and along with your church or business name if applicable.

Welcome New Volunteers

Since the last newsletter, the museum is pleased to announce the addition of three new volunteers: Katie Martin, Kirsten Matthews and Dylan Brewington. Katie has completed the tour guide training and is now giving tours of the Poe House once a week. Kirsten can be seen several times a month at the front desk. And Dylan, also a front desk volunteer, claims, “I am at my best when surrounded by information.” Dylan, you’ve come to the right place.

Katie Martin
Kirsten Matthews
Dylan Brewington
A Message from the MCFHC Foundation

Fall is in the air and that can only mean one thing – It is time for Hallowe’en Revels Night Tours of the 1897 Poe House (Oct 24-26) and Trick or Treat at the Poe House (Oct 27). Last year there were sold-out tours so be sure and get your tickets early. The events are family friendly and sure to get you ready for the holiday season. On December 2nd, join us for our annual Holiday Jubilee to see the Poe House decorated in its Victorian era holiday beauty, hear carolers sing songs of the season, and enjoy cookies and hot cider. These events are made possible by a grant from the Arts Council and the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex Foundation.

We continue to celebrate our 30th Anniversary with our $30 for 30 Years fundraiser. Your donation allows us to continue to offer special exhibitions and community programing year-round. Most importantly, we could not do a full year of programming without the outstanding work of the dedicated museum staff and volunteers. Thank you!

We are pleased to welcome a new Secretary to the Board. Mrs. Jessica Wallace, is a native of Fayetteville and a graduate of Fayetteville State University where she majored in history. The foundation board consists of dedicated volunteers and I appreciate the time, energy, and ideas they contribute to support the museum complex.

If you would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities, facility rental, or other MCFHC Foundation programming, please contact Museum Administrator David Reid at 910-500-4242 or David.reid@ncdcr.gov.

Again, thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you soon at the museum.

Kelli Cardenas Walsh, Ph.D.
President
MCFHC Foundation, Inc.

Gift Shop Featured Item

What’s new in the Museum Shop? How about an 1897 Poe House ornament created by Charleston Mint and produced in North Carolina! The custom brass ornament is full color and three dimensional and sells for $22.00. It makes a wonderful Christmas gift or great addition to your own tree. Come get them while they last!

The shop has also increased the inventory of Museum of the Cape Fear items – all of which make great gifts and mementos of your visit. New items include Museum of the Cape Fear t-shirts, new books, custom jewelry, and children’s toys. Please stop by and check a few items off of your Christmas shopping list! All proceeds from the shop benefit the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex Foundation.
“The Best Festival Yet!”
Festival of Yesteryear Recap

We had a beautiful sunny day for the Festival of Yesteryear which took place on September 8, just five days before Hurricane Florence hit the NC coast! More than 1,000 people visited the event which featured traditional colonial crafts, living historians, music, dance, and more! The Cross Creek Pipes and Drums and Highland Dance Academy opened the event with traditional Scottish music and dance, a tribute to the founders of Cross Creek and Cambelton, the Highland Scots. Fan favorites included “The Death of Blackbeard” puppet show, April Turner’s “African Spirituals: Freedom Prayers,” and the Lafayette Birthday Cake Cutting. This first time visitor from Red Springs heard about the event on Facebook: “It truly was a living history program with a lot of opportunity to experience history in every day and monumental ways. Parking was easy and the staff and volunteers were genuine, informative, friendly, welcoming, and helpful.” Come experience the Festival for yourself next year on September 7, 2019.
The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex consists of a NC southeast regional history museum, the 1897 Poe House, and Arsenal Park. Two floors of exhibits present the rich history of southeastern North Carolina, from the Paleo-Indian period to the first decades of the 1900s in the Museum of the Cape Fear. The fully restored and furnished 1897 Poe House, home of E.A. Poe, a Fayetteville brick maker, offers a glimpse of early twentieth-century life and the changes that defined this era. Finally, Arsenal Park marks the site commissioned in 1838 by the federal government to manufacture and store arms. The arsenal was used by the Confederacy during the Civil War, and it was destroyed by Union troops under the command of General William T. Sherman in March of 1865. Admission to the Museum Complex is free, but donations are appreciated.