



Longleaf

2019 Year in Review

According to our official stats, 51,515 people visited the museum complex or attended one of our offsite outreach programs in 2018. Museum staff along with community partners like Sweet Tea Shakespeare, the Gilbert Theater, and the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County held 33 public programs in 2019, which along with our traditional special events, included public plays, guided Arsenal Park tours, offsite exhibits, and many other offsite programs.

Our annual events included the *Civil War Quiz Bowl* in January, *Dancing Stories* with April C. Turner in February, *Summer History Camp* in June, the *Festival of Yesteryear* in September, *Hallowe'en Revels Night Tours* and *Trick or Treat* in October, and the *Holiday Jubilee* on December 8. Additional programs held included an interpretive talk on "Women in Civil War Arsenals" by Lee Ann Rose in March, "Bringing in the May" held in May, and as part of Fayetteville's Heroes Homecoming Celebration, "Letters from the Trenches: Dear Kit."

We hosted local theater group Sweet Tea Shakespeare for a series of plays with a twist that included *Maid Marian* in May, and *Richard III* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* in June. The plays were held in the Poe House backyard garden.

Many of our visitors were greeted and served by one of over 50 regular volunteers or one of the five friendly faces on our weekend staff. We continue to operate with a full time staff of five, so the Complex relies heavily on the commitment and enthusiasm from our volunteers and weekend staff, along with the support of the MCFHC Foundation, to continue to offer exceptional programming and visitor services free to the public. Thank you all for your continued support and best wishes for the year 2020!

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Winter 2020 Edition

Megan Maxwell, Editor

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Nearly 1,000 people attended the Holiday Jubilee at the Poe House in December. They listened to holiday music from the Coventry Carolers and the Cross Creek Chordsmen, visited Santa, and enjoyed cookies and hot cider after viewing festive holiday decorations.



TOWARD A MORE PERFECT UNION:

THE N.C. CIVIL WAR & RECONSTRUCTION HISTORY CENTER SPONSORS A PRESENTATION BY RECONSTRUCTION HISTORIAN MICHAEL ALLEN

The North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center is sponsoring “Reconstructing Reconstruction: The 17-year Journey from a Simple Dream to an American Reality!” by Michael Allen, a Reconstruction historian and former Director of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, which stretches from above Wilmington, North Carolina to St. Augustine, Florida. The presentation will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 9th at the John D. Fuller Sr. Recreation and Athletic Complex at 6627 Old Bunce Road.

The presentation, which is free and open to the public, focuses on demystifying and providing an accurate portrayal of what occurred during the Reconstruction years and why. Allen’s motto is: “To understand the present and move toward the future, you must first know and accept your past.” This presentation offers us the opportunity of obtaining a greater understanding of a complicated and difficult era of our nation’s history.

About the Speaker

Michael Allen began his career with the National Park Service in 1980. Although he retired from the NPS in 2017, he served as a Park Ranger, an Education Specialist, the Community Partnership Specialist, and Director for The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor/Fort Sumter National Monument and Charles Pinckney National Historic Site.

Throughout his career, Allen was involved in designing exhibits and presenting interpretive programs that involve local communities and history. He was instrumental in erecting the “African Importation” Historic Marker on Sullivan’s Island and in the unveiling of “African Passages,” an exhibit that highlights the African arrival, presence, and contributions to Gullah Geechee culture and American society through the eyes of the Africans and African Americans who passed through Sullivan’s Island on their way to be enslaved in the Charleston area and beyond.

An additional focus of his career has been the inclusion of the socio-economic and political influences that brought the country to Civil War. In 2014, he was assigned by the National Park Service to participate as a team member on The NPS Special Resource Landmark Study exploring the history and legacy of The Reconstruction Era in American History. Because of this groundbreaking effort, on January 12, 2017, a new National Park Service site was established by Presidential Proclamation: The Reconstruction Era National Monument in Beaufort County, South Carolina.

Michael Allen Presents:
Reconstructing Reconstruction:
The 17-year Journey from a Simple Dream
to an American Reality!

Toward a More Perfect Union: A Special Presentation
of the N.C. Civil War & Reconstruction History Center



Thurs., January 9, 2020
7 p.m. | John D. Fuller Sr. Recreation & Athletic
Complex at 6627 Old Bunce Road, Fayetteville

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About the Speaker



Michael Allen began his career with the National Park Service in 1980, serving as a Park Ranger, an Education Specialist, the Community Partnership Specialist, & Director for The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor/Fort Sumter National Monument. Also, he participated on The NPS Special Resource Landmark Study exploring the history and legacy of The Reconstruction Era in American History. Because of this groundbreaking effort, a new NPS site was established in Beaufort County by Presidential Proclamation: The Reconstruction Era National Monument.

Holiday Lunch Celebrates Volunteers

We take this opportunity to express our deepest and sincerest gratitude to an extraordinary group of individuals who selflessly give of their time and dedicate much work to the daily operations and special events at the Museum of the Cape Fear. Looking back to 2019, volunteers worked 3500 hours. This includes many high school students volunteering temporarily during the summer, school holidays, at the Trick or Treat at the Poe House event in October, and working 4:00-5:00 at the front desk to fulfill service hours for a school requirement. Most of the 3500 hours come from our devoted staff of regular volunteers.

They volunteer from the goodness of their heart, never expecting anything in return. However, we take time out twice a year for a luncheon. Once in April, during National Volunteer Week, and once in the fall for a holiday get-together. With small tokens of appreciation, good food, and hearty laughter, museum staff strive to shower them with respect and admiration. On Dec. 16, the annual fall Volunteer Holiday Luncheon was held at the Arts Council on Hay Street. We thank them for being such a wonderful host and special thanks to Kimberly Dickens for her hard work on this event. The volunteers enjoyed the setting and were treated to live music.

Last year we added a few new volunteers to our ranks: Margy Priddy, Mary Irwin, Julie Grugan, Samuel Putnam, Gavin Theel, and Karen Wallace. We hope each one has felt welcome and will volunteer with us for many years to come.

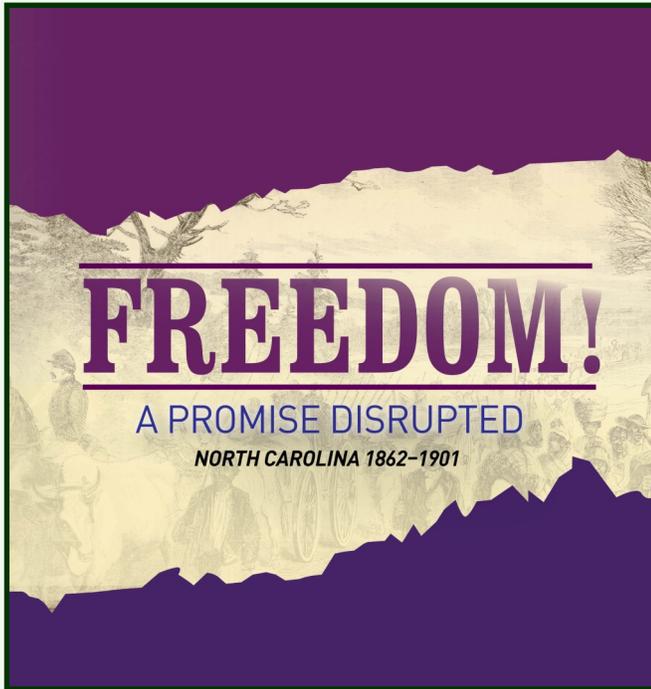
Looking to 2020, we aim to increase our numbers. During the month of January we will be conducting a volunteer recruitment drive. We will be marketing our need for more volunteers. Then on January 29, at 10:00 am we will be holding a Volunteer Orientation. Come and listen, learn about the museum, mutual expectations, and other information pertinent to volunteer work. As a day specifically for gathering information, no commitment is expected. If you know someone who might be interested, please pass along this information to them.

If you are interested in attending the Volunteer Orientation on January 29, please email leisa.greathouse@ncdcr.gov, or call 910-500-4243.



Freedom! A Promise Disrupted: North Carolina 1862-1901

Travelling Exhibit to Open January 24, 2020



North Carolina
**CIVIL WAR &
RECONSTRUCTION**
HISTORY CENTER

Keep up with the latest news about the North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center by visiting their website <http://nccivilwarcenter.org/> or follow them on Facebook and Twitter @nccivilwarcenter. Donations to support the center may be made through the official website above.

On January 24, 2020 the Museum of the Cape Fear will open the traveling exhibit, ***Freedom! A Promise Disrupted: North Carolina, 1862-1901***. This exhibit, from the North Carolina Museum of History, depicts the struggle that newly freed African Americans faced to maintain their freedom in the post-Civil War and Reconstruction Era of North Carolina.

Freedom! A Promise Disrupted: North Carolina, 1862-1901, allows visitors to step through time and view how the Civil War and Reconstruction affected North Carolina's citizens. This powerful exhibit highlights African American's flight to freedom and their involvement in the Civil War.

"North Carolina suffered under slavery for two hundred years until the 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865," said Earl L. Ijames, curator of African American history at the N.C. Museum of History. "After the Civil War formerly enslaved people formed families, established churches, educational institutions and communities for the first time in history only to see racism and segregation reverse those gains by the turn of the 20th century."

Following the Civil War, African American citizens pushed for Radical Reconstruction that would guarantee them more rights and protection under the law. This was followed by heavy and violent white backlash. Visitors will be able to follow along with the journey it took for African American citizens to gain equality.

"After the Civil War, African Americans in North Carolina helped to rebuild the nation on a new foundation, one that for a brief moment hoped to fulfill to the promise of liberty for all," said Susanna Lee, exhibit curator and Associate Professor at North Carolina State University's Department of History."

Freedom! A Promise Disrupted: North Carolina, 1862-1901, will be displayed at the Museum of the Cape Fear through August 2, 2020.

A Message from the MCFHC Foundation

Thank you all for helping to make 2019 such a successful year for the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex. Your tax deductible donations make it possible for us to continue to support the museum’s educational programming, exhibits, and special events throughout the year. You can now donate to the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex Foundation from our website, www.museumofthecapefear.ncdcr.gov. From the home page, scroll down to the bottom until you see the header “Support the Museum.” Click on the DONATE button below, it’s that simple!

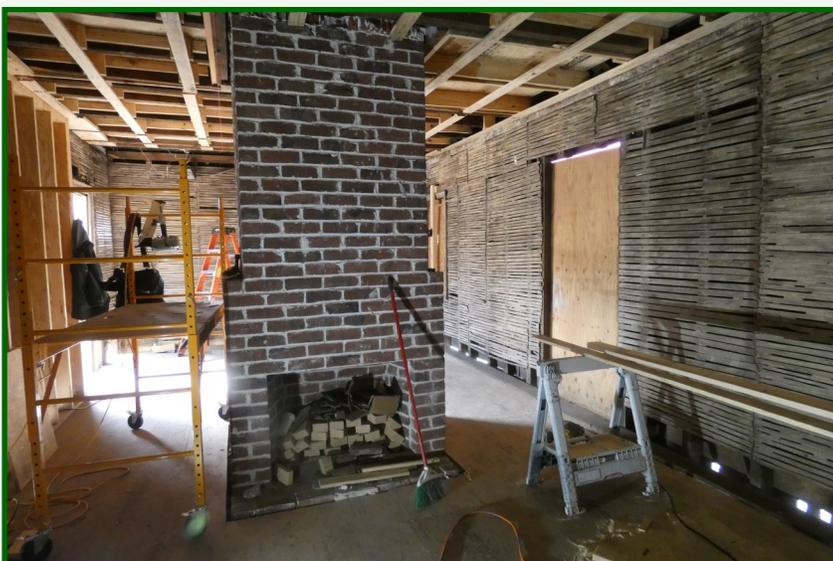
You can also support the Museum Complex when you shop on Amazon. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Be sure to shop through the AmazonSmile website, <https://smile.amazon.com/> and select the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex Foundation as your charitable organization.

Also remember that the 1897 Poe House grounds are available for weddings and special events. Rental fees support programming and more.

If you would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities or the MCFHC Foundation programming, please contact Museum Administrator David Reid at 910-500-4242 or david.reid@ncdcr.gov. Thank you for your continued support!

2019 MCFHC Foundation Board

Kelli C. Walsh, President
Charles Anderson, Vice President
Demetrius Haddock, Treasurer
Doris Small, Secretary
Sherri Blight
Lou Brooks
John Caldwell
Mary Dennings
Nancy Fields
Jeff Frederick
Mary Flagg Haugh
Cassandra McMillion
Tad Prewitt
Vicki Smith
Karen Wallace
Matthew Wynne
David Reid, Ex-officio



Restoration work continues in Arsenal Park. Pictured here is an interior and an exterior shot of the Davis House from November 2019.



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Museum Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 10-5
 Sunday 1-5

1897 Poe House Tours

Tues-Fri 11:00, 1:00, 3:00
 Saturday 10-4 on the hour
 Sunday 1-4 on the hour

Museum Staff

David Reid
 Administrator

Leisa Greathouse
 Curator of Education

Megan Maxwell
 1897 Poe House
 Education Coordinator

Kimberly Dickens
 Administrative
 Assistant

Jim Frederickson
 Carpenter

Weekend Staff
 Louise White
 Ruth Aldridge
 Beth Bowen
 Neva Piombino
 Stephanie Purser

And more than 50
 volunteers

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.

Upcoming Events

Freedom! A Promise Disrupted North Carolina 1862-1901 January 24-August 2, 2020 Museum of the Cape Fear

This exhibit will be located in the Museum of the Cape Fear in our rotating gallery. It is from the North Carolina Museum of History, and depicts the struggle that newly freed African Americans faced to maintain their freedom in the post-Civil War and Reconstruction Era of North Carolina.

Freedom! A Promise Disrupted: North Carolina, 1862-1901, allows visitors to step through time and view how the Civil War and Reconstruction affected North Carolina's citizens. This powerful exhibit highlights African American's flight to freedom and their involvement in the Civil War. Admission is FREE.

Reconstructing Reconstruction January 9, 2020 7:00 pm

Fuller Recreation Center

By Michael Allen, who, in 2014, was assigned by the National Park Service to participate on The NPS Special Resource Landmark Study exploring the history and legacy of The Reconstruction Era in American History. Admission is FREE.

Fuller Rec. Center on Bunce Rd.

Civil War and Reconstruction Quiz Bowl January 23, 2020 7:00 pm

Pate Room, CC Library

This year, the Museum of the Cape Fear has added "& Reconstruction" to the annual quiz bowl. This means there will also be questions about the reconstruction era of history. The name also reflects our future mu-

seum, the North Carolina Civil War & Reconstruction History Center. The quiz bowl is open to all ages with prizes being awarded in two categories: adult and youth (16 and under). Participation is limited to 15 contestants. You may sign up by calling 910-500-4243. You can also sign up at the door if there are slots available. Spectators are encouraged to attend. It's a fun and easy way to learn about this crucial time period in American History. The quiz bowl will take place in the Pate Room of the Headquarters library. FREE

Dancing Stories with April C. Turner February 1, 2020 2:00 pm

Museum of the Cape Fear

Kick off your Black History Month celebrations at the Museum of the Cape Fear as we present *Dancing Stories* with April C. Turner. Turner uses dances, stories and songs from traditional West African culture to affirm community building concepts such as working together, integrity, and perseverance. At the end of the presentation, audience members are invited to participate in playing music together as a community. The program is a well-rounded cultural experience focusing on the strength of art to inspire, unite and educate. FREE!

Hoop Skirts and Gun Powder March 14, 2020 2:00 pm

Museum of the Cape Fear

The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources/Division of State History Museums.