



## 2009 N.C. 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.

*Mondays in October* **Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Fourth-grade students will have hands-on experiences with games, chores and domestic skills of the Colonial era with an opportunity to make and take home their own handiwork. *Fee charged.* Reservations required. Call 252-482-2637 for more information.

*October* **Thomas Wolfe Memorial.** Asheville. Month-long schedule of events commemorating the life and literature of Thomas Wolfe.

*October 3* **Bentonville Battlefield.** Four Oaks. Fall Civilian Living History Program. Costumed living historians will demonstrate a variety of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic skills such as open hearth cooking, sewing, natural dyeing, spinning, and knitting. There will also be discussions throughout the day regarding the hardships that the common southern woman endured as she did her best to provide for her family during the Civil War. All demonstrations are subject to change without notice. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

*October 3* **Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens.** New Bern. Home School Day. Home school families enjoy interactive activities as well as tours of the Palace and three historic houses in this popular event. Bring a picnic lunch. *Fee charged.* Pre-registration and pre-payment required by April 17. Call 252-514-4935 for more information or to register.

*October 3* **Historic Bath.** Bath. "Growing a Tree: Uncovering Your Family Genealogy." In observance of Family Genealogy Month, join Historic Bath staff person Bea Latham to learn some techniques for finding ancestral information. Afterwards, feel free to use the documents, resource materials and internet at the Visitor Center to work on your family tree. Bring a child, spouse, or other family member and start the search together! Visitor Center. 10 a.m.

*October 3* **Duke Homestead.** Durham. Community Yard Sale. Buy and sell secondhand items in the site's picnic area at our fall community yard sale. Fee charged, \$15 fee for space rental.. Call 919-477-5498 or e-mail [duke@ncdcr.gov](mailto:duke@ncdcr.gov) to reserve a space. 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

*October 3-4* **Ft. Dobbs.** Statesville. 18<sup>th</sup> Century Trade Fair. The lives of many civilians on the Carolina frontier were disrupted by the French and Indian War. Join hundreds of soldiers, Native Americans, and civilians as they set up their camps near Ft. Dobbs. Visitors can experience a snapshot of life on the edge of the British Empire in the 1750's. The event will feature a re-created Cherokee attack and scholarly lectures, as well as on-going demonstrations of 18<sup>th</sup> century camp life and trades. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days. School Day programming is available on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*October 4* **Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.** Sedalia. Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown Legacy Lecture Series. Local and regional scholars, artists, professional and business leaders share experiences and vision relating to the legacy of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown. Stouffer Hall. 2 p.m.

*October 5-6 and 8-9* **Brunswick Town/Ft. Anderson.** Winnabow. Colonial Heritage Days. Witness and interact with costumed interpreters demonstrating colonial chores, crafts, and games around the ruins of Brunswick Town. Call for program hours.

*October 5-28* **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. Fishes Three. Three artists display work that illustrates their love for fish and marine life. Three distinct styles will be showcased ranging from a graphic aboriginal look and detailed colored pencil portrait to comical characters from the sea. The artists—Kim Mosher, Karen Rhodes and Stephanie Kiker—are inspired by their Hatteras Island surroundings. Art Gallery. Call 252-475-1500 for information. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

*October 6-9* **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. Eastern Woodlands Program for scheduled groups only. Participants will witness open hearth cooking, see reproduction tools and clothing and learn what life was like in North Carolina during the Woodland Period (1000 BC-1200 AD). *Fee charged: \$3;* groups must register in advance. Call 910-439-6802 for more information.

*October 9* **Battleship NORTH CAROLINA.** Wilmington. Fabulous Fantail Film Festival. Enjoy movies on the ship's fantail. *Fee charged: \$1.* Tickets available at the door. Fresh popcorn and sodas on sale for \$1 each. Call 910-251-5797, ext. 2049 for more information. 8:30 p.m.

*October 9-January 19, 2010* **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Checks and Balances: How Government Works at the N.C. State Capitol exhibit. This exhibit will allow children and adults alike to discover how North Carolina's government works.

*October 9-11* **Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens.** New Bern. Mum's the Word! Gardens open 9-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11-6 p.m. Sunday. Come see the beauty of thousands of chrysanthemums. Garden admission is free. Interior tours require a ticket. For information call 1-800-767-1560.

*October 9-10* **Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens.** New Bern. Heritage Plant Sale. This special sale offers visitors the opportunity to purchase unique, rare, and historic plants for display in their home gardens. Master gardeners will be on hand to answer planting questions. Come early for the best selection! 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

*October 10-11* **Bennett Place.** Durham. Road To Secession. Experience what life was like for the people of Piedmont North Carolina during the beginning months of the Civil War. A recruitment station and encampment will be set up on the grounds of the Bennett Farm, much like camps established throughout North Carolina and the South, recruiting men to defend the Southern cause. 19<sup>th</sup> century civilian interpreters will enlist in the army and be transformed into soldiers. Other civilian interpreters will demonstrate domestic chores such as cooking, gardening, sewing for their husbands and sons heading off to war. Soldiers will share their stories of enlistment, and their new life in the Confederate army. Visitors will have the opportunity to "enlist" and become soldiers as well. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

*October 10* **Ft. Fisher.** Kure Beach. Civilian program: "Hardships on the Home Front." Civilians in the lower Cape Fear region faced many hardships during the years of the Civil War. Soldiers and civilians alike dealt with shortages of necessary supplies, deadly epidemics, and more. Learn about the interactions between soldiers and locals in this new annual program. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

*October 10* **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. Eastern Woodlands Day. Open to the general public. Visitors will witness open hearth cooking, flint knapping, arrow manufacture, pottery and cordage demonstrations, and hear American Indian stories/legends. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Donations welcome.

*October 10-11* **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. Elizabethan Tymes: A Country Faire. A Country Faire will step back 400 years to the Renaissance era to experience a variety of entertainment. Children are invited to make a mask and learn period dancing. They also may want to participate in a pike

drill, a knighting ceremony and delight in a Punch and Joan puppet show. Visitors can explore a 16<sup>th</sup> century tavern, tailor shop and see a court dress display. General admission. Call (252) 475-1500 for more information. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

*October 12-16 Alamance Battleground.* Burlington. Colonial Living Week. Colonial-era skills and tasks will be demonstrated by costumed interpreters for school groups and public. Group reservations required. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

*October 15 Historic Bath.* Bath. Historical Film Series “Becoming Jane” (2007). Famed romantic novelist Jane Austen has a personal life as dramatic as any of her fictional characters in this historical drama. Jane rejects the advice of her parents, who want to see her married to the nephew of a wealthy noble, and instead falls for dashing but poor Irish lawyer Tom Lefroy. As sparks fly, both families intercede to head off the romance, but headstrong Jane will not be told what to do. Refreshments served. Visitor Center. 7 p.m.

*October 17 Horne Creek Farm.* Pinnacle. Cornshucking Frolic. A traditional rural frolic featuring the harvesting, shucking, shelling, and grinding of corn. Cider making, quilting, cooking, woodworking, wagon rides, and traditional music featured. Numerous craft demonstrations also featured. Wonderful products and gifts available at our Country Store. *Fee charged: \$3 donation requested for admission. Additional fees charged for food, drinks, and some craft activities.* Call 336-325-2298 for more information. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

*Oct. 17 N.C. Transportation Museum.* Spencer. Antique Automobile Club of America Show. Members-only car show. Spectators are welcome, with no admission fee. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

*October 17 Roanoke Island Festival Park.* Manteo. Black T-Shirt Concert for Fall Bike Week. This event will kick off with a viewing and registration for the People Choice award for the best bike. Then we are going to jam to southern rock. The bands will be listed on our website soon! [www.BlackTShirtConcert.com](http://www.BlackTShirtConcert.com). Call 910-251-5797 for more information. 5-10 p.m.

*October 17 Town Creek Indian Mound.* Mt. Gilead. Astronomy Night. Come view the stars at one of the last great dark sky sites in the Piedmont. Binoculars and telescopes encouraged. Site telescope will be available. Registration required. Call 910-439-6802 for more information.

*October 24 Battleship NORTH CAROLINA.* Wilmington. Batty Battleship’s Pumpkin Patch. Come and trick or treat with Batty and her friends in Battleship Park. Halloween games, crafts, a haunted spook house, and food will all be a part of the fun in this family friendly holiday event. Costumes encouraged. Recommended for all families, especially for children ages 1-10 years. *Fee charged: \$6, kids 3 and under \$3.* Call 910-251-5797 for more information. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

*October 24 Historic Bath.* Bath. “The Hoofprints Ghost Stories Concert.” Join local storyteller Terry Rollins as he brings to life some scary Tar Heel stories at the beginning of the Halloween season. Not appropriate for children younger than eight. Bonner House front yard. 7-8:30 p.m.

*October 24 Battleship NORTH CAROLINA..* Wilmington. Ghost Ship. You’ve seen the battleship on paranormal programs, now come see for yourself. Tour guides will take you through the ship as you learn who the ghosts can be and why they are still haunting the battleship. *Fee charged: \$10.* Call 910-251-5797 for more information. 5-10 p.m.

**October 24 Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.** Sedalia. Spoken Word Poetry presentation. High school sophomores, juniors and seniors – explore the art of Spoken Word Poetry with Josephus III ([www.josephusIII.com](http://www.josephusIII.com)) who will be hosting “The Poetry Project.” Explore the art of spoken word poetry, learn to create, recite and perform your work. Each session is limited to 30 students. Materials are included. Registration deadline is October 10, 2009. *Fee charged: \$10.* Call 336-449-4846 for a registration form. Stouffer Hall at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum. Attend session one, running from 10 a.m.-noon or session two, running from 1-3 p.m.

**October 24 State Capitol.** Raleigh. Scare on the Square. Embark on a tour of this 169-year old building that will highlight all the strange and eerie things people claim to have experienced here over the years. Music and carriage rides will keep you entertained as you wait for your tour outside on the east grounds. Tours are limited, so pre-registration is strongly encouraged for this popular event. 5:30-9:30 p.m.

**October 24 Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. Outer Banks Jazz and Wine Festival. Get ready for our first annual Jazz and Wine Festival. We have organized an evening celebrating fine wines and smooth jazz. Enjoy a jazz filled atmosphere and elegantly distinguished wines. You can bring a blanket and chairs to relax and enjoy the sounds or you may reserve a table and be pampered by servers. Call (252) 475-1500 or go to [www.OuterBanksJazz.com](http://www.OuterBanksJazz.com) for more information.

**October 25 Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday@4 pm presents **Hesperus: Cartoons that Shook the World.** For no good reason at all, a quirky mix of European medieval and renaissance music; American Appalachian and Cajun and ragtime music will be played on more than two dozen early and traditional instruments. General admission. Call 252-475-1500 for more information.

**November Historic Edenton.** Edenton. Walking Tours featuring Edenton’s diverse architectural styles. *Fee charged.* Call 252-482-2637 for more information. Each Wednesday.

**November 1 Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace** Fremont. A Double Anniversary and Grand Re-opening. This celebration marks the 150th anniversary of Governor Aycock’s birth and the 50th anniversary of the opening of the historic site. It will also mark the re-opening of the birthplace which suffered significant damage in a fire in January, 2009. The Charles B. Aycock High School marching band will kick off the ceremony. Visitors can meet “Governor Aycock” as he arrives in a horse-drawn wagon to welcome them to his newly restored home. Costumed interpreters will give living history demonstrations in blacksmithing, open-hearth cooking, spinning and apple-cider making. Music will be provided by the bluegrass group Sapony Creek. At 3 p.m. visitors can learn about the “Legacy of Segregated Education” from a three-person panel. At 3:30 special guest speaker George Holding, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, will talk about his office and how the position has changed since Aycock held that post (1893-1897) before serving as governor (1901-1905). Activities will take place from 1-5 p.m.

**November 1 Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.** Sedalia. Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown Legacy Lecture Series. Local and regional scholars, artists, professional and business leaders share experiences and vision relating to the legacy of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown. Stouffer Hall. 2 p.m.

**November 1 Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. American Indian Heritage Month. “Movies at the Mound Series” presents “Trail of Tears: Cherokee Legacy.” This movie recounts America’s darkest period: Jackson’s Indian Removal Act and the forced relocation of the Cherokee Nation to the Indian Territory in 1838. 4-6 p.m.

*November 2-27* **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. Jewelry Exposition. A group of jewelry designers join forces this month to host a day-long exposition and month-long show with the focus on beauty, style, technique and education. Will feature demonstrations, educational displays and a chance to talk with artists as well as purchase handcrafted jewelry in time for the holidays. All artists have been working in their field for a number of years and live on the Outer Banks. Art Gallery. For more information call 252-475-1500. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

*November 7* **President James K. Polk.** Pineville. James K. Polk Birthday Celebration. This living history program will bring back to life the Polk family of Mecklenburg County in November 1795, when James K. Polk was born into the family. Activities will include an historic cooking demonstration, children's games and other hands on activities. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

*November 8* **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. American Indian Heritage Month. "Movies at the Mound Series" presents "Our Spirits Don't Speak English: Indian Boarding School." This movie provides an American Indian perspective on Indian Boarding Schools and U.S. Government policy which took Indian Children from their homes, forced them into boarding schools and enacted a policy of educating them in the ways of Western Society. 4-5:30 p.m.

*November 11* **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Veterans' Day Parade and Ceremony. A parade, wreath-laying ceremony, and patriotic concert will honor the state's veterans. Parade begins at 9:30 a.m. Ceremony will take place at the Veterans' Monument at 11 a.m.

*November 14* **Historic Bath.** Bath. Children's HiSTORY Hour "If You Sailed on the Mayflower." In the Thanksgiving season, children ages 5-10 will experience coming to the New World on the Mayflower through books and activities. *Fee charged: \$1.* Visitor Center. 10-11am.

*November 14* **Battleship NORTH CAROLINA.** Wilmington. Hidden Battleship. Small groups will be taken behind the scenes to areas not on the regular tour, from down in the brig, to high up in the fire control tower, to large complex engineering spaces. Tours will last approximately three hours. Must be 12 years or older to participate and pre-registration required. *Fee charged: \$45.* Call 910-251-5797 for more information. Tour times: 8:30-11 a.m. or 1-4 p.m.

*November 14* **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. Astronomy Night. Leonid Meteor Shower. Enjoy an exciting pre-show of this annual meteor event. Binoculars and telescopes encouraged. Site telescope will be available. Registration required. Call 910-439-6802 for more information.

*November 14-15* **Ft. Dobbs.** Statesville. Living History Weekend: The King's Birthday. As the King was in supreme command of all British forces, the anniversaries of his birth and coronation were regularly observed by his soldiers in every corner of the empire. Join the provincial soldiers of Ft. Dobbs as they celebrate the king's birth. Demonstrations include on-going camp life, military drill, musket and cannon firings. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days.

*November 14* **President James K. Polk.** Celebrating Veterans Day: Life aboard the "USS James K. Polk" Join Clarence Jordan, former crewman of the "USS James K. Polk," as he discusses his time on the USS James K. Polk and what it meant to serve on this submarine. Call 704-889-7145 to register. 10 a.m.

*November 14* **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Capitol Statuary Tour. Join a member of the Capitol staff for a closer look at the 14 monuments that dot Union Square. Learn about the artists, symbolism and the sometimes surprising history of these public monuments. Tour will begin at the George Washington

statue on the south plaza of the grounds at 12:30 p.m.

*November 15* **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. American Indian Heritage Month. “Movies at the Mound Series” presents “The Romance of a Vanishing Race.” This movie includes three historic motion pictures of American Indians and their lifestyle in the early 1900’s. Featuring tribal chiefs who participated in the Last Great Indian Council and several who fought at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. 4-5:30 p.m.

*November 19* **Historic Bath.** Bath. Historical Film Series “Memphis Belle” (1990). A U.S. bomber plane’s crew is ordered to hit a heavily defended German city. Capt. Dearborn leads his men into battle while their commander and a public relations officer anxiously await the squad’s return. Amid friction between the captain and his co-pilot, a scandal erupts when it’s learned that a medical officer has been dishonest. Based on the real-life World War II plane’s final mission. Refreshments served. Visitor Center. 7 p.m.

*November 21-22* **CSS Neuse and Governor Caswell Memorial.** Kinston. Civil War Navy Living History program. Cannons will thunder and sailors and marines will converge on the banks of the Neuse River once again. Members of several North Carolina and Virginia reenactment/living history organizations will be demonstrating all aspects of civilian and naval life. There will be sutlers/craftsmen at the program with items for sale to the general public. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 6:15-7:15 p.m. Saturday, 12 noon-4 p.m. Sunday.

*November 22* **Roanoke Island Festival Park.** Manteo. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 4 p.m. presents Dig Up Shakespeare. World-class storyteller, Jon Spellman and multi-instrumentalist, Tina Chancey, create a rich vein of Shakespearean wisdom and whimsy in this duo program of personal anecdotes, sonnets, stories and songs spotlighting the best of the Bard. General admission. Call 252-475-1500 for more information.

*November 22* **Town Creek Indian Mound.** Mt. Gilead. American Indian Heritage Month. “Movies at the Mound Series” presents “How to Trace Your Native American Heritage” and “Tales of Wonder.” Native Heritage is an award-winning program that informs how to research American Indian ancestry and search the Dawes Rolls. 2-3 p.m. Tales showcases American Indian stories for children. 4-5 p.m.

*December (Date TBA)* **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. Date and time will depend on Governor’s schedule.

*December (Dates TBA)* **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. Dates and times will depend on the governor’s schedule.

*December (Date TBA)* **State Capitol.** Raleigh. Civil War Christmas Encampment. Re-enactors will demonstrate how to make period Christmas ornaments, dip candles, and teach kids how to participate in Civil War drills. Date and times will depend on Governor’s schedule.

*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 5-6* **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.** 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.** Sedalia. 20<sup>th</sup> 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 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* **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 19<sup>th</sup> 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* **Alamance Battleground.** Burlington. Christmas Open House (Title TBA). Enjoy activi-

ties focused on a traditional Christmas theme. Light refreshments will be served. 1-5 p.m.

*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 13* **Vance Birthplace.** Weaverville. Christmas Candlelight Tours. Candlelight tours of the Vance Home will be offered during the evening of December 13. Tours from 4-7 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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. 4<sup>th</sup> 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.