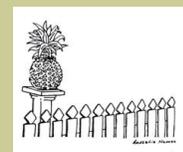


Saxe Gotha Dispatch



Museum to Hold Annual Halloween Program

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The Lexington County Museum will host the Tenth Annual Haunted History Halloween program at 231 Fox Street in Lexington this year.

As ghoulish guides lead guests on a spooky journey of the museum property, visitors will hear ghostly stories, including strange and unusual events in Lexington County's colonial and antebellum history.

Guests will hear amazing stories, learn about odd medical remedies from the 18th and 19th centuries, and meet memorable specters and ghosts along the way. Visitors will also learn about death and mourning in the mid-19th century including the practice of making of jewelry out of the hair of deceased family members. Ol' Daniel Koon may make



Two Ghosts at the Haunted History program

an appearance and talk about his amazing "using" powers. Watch out for frights and surprises around every corner!

Tours will last around forty-five minutes each and will take place on the evenings of Thursday October 27 and Friday October 28 at 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12.

Members get in free with a membership card. Reservations are required. To make a reservation, call the Lexington County Museum at 803-359-8369 or email the museum at JRFennell@lex-co.com. This event is a great way to learn about Lexington history and is educational, family-friendly and, most importantly, fun!

Museum Past and Upcoming Outreach Efforts

Museum staff members continue to promote the museum through presentations and speaking engagements.

Staff members have given presentations to the St. Stephens Church Men's Group, the Lexington

Library, the Lexington Sertoma Club, the Blythewood Historical Society, the Shealy family reunion, and the Columbia Museum of Art.

Staff members will be giving presentations to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church,

the Palmetto Women's Club, Broadacres Baptist Church, the Dutch Fork Historical Society, and the Swansea and Gilbert Libraries over the next month.

If you'd like to schedule a presentation, don't hesitate to give us a call.

Museum Participates in “Skirmishes For Lexington” Event

The Lexington County Museum had a table set up at the “Skirmishes For Lexington” event which took place at the Clinton Sease Farm (382 Old Farm Road, Lexington, SC) on October 1st and 2nd. Visitors had the opportunity to learn about Civil War camps and weapons, Sherman’s campaign through the Carolinas, and Lexington’s Confederate volunteers. The event, which was open from 10 am to 6 pm on both Saturday and Sunday, featured drill demonstrations throughout the day. There was also a re-eneactment of the battles of Red Bank Creek and Two League Crossroads

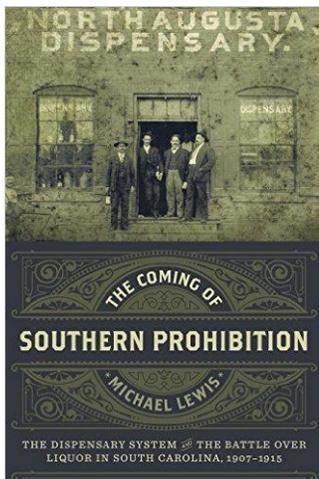
The Museum had a table at the event in order to publicize the museum and its collections, including Civil War related items, as well as

as promote our upcoming events.

The Museum looks forward to participating again next year.



Author to Speak at the Museum



The museum is pleased to announce that author Michael Lewis will be at the museum on Monday October 10 at 6:30 pm to give a presentation on the SC Dispensary and the coming of prohibition in the South. The SC Dispensary was a state run entity that was the sole source of legal liquor and beer in SC in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was

created as a way of preventing total prohibition and of adding more revenue to state government but eventually failed. Michael Lewis is an associate professor of sociology at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. This presentation, which will take place in the museum’s tour office (Ernest

Hazelius House), is free to the public. For more information, please call the museum at 803-359-8369.

Museum Staff and Volunteers Try a Bradford Watermelon



Museum Visitation in July and August 2016

Visitation during the summer months was high due to traffic from Pokemon Go players along with a large number of tourists visiting.

In July 1,737 visitors came to the museum, including visitors from nine states

other than SC and five foreign countries. August's visitation was not quite as high as July's as we saw 763 visitors, including tourists from seven states other than SC.

The number of school groups continued to be

low as we mostly saw day cares and summer camps. Various public, private, and home school groups from Lexington and Richland Counties took part in our free educational programs.

Historic Plants at the Lexington County Museum

By Ivy Rice

The Lexington County Museum highlights the farming community of Lexington in the 1850's. Naturally their chief concern for plants would be related to the nutritional needs of their families and livestock. Every home would have a "kitchen garden" with vegetables and herbs for the family meals.

However, as James R. Cothran notes in his masterpiece *Gardens and Historic Plants of the Antebellum South*, flower gardens were the "artistic expression of women in the 19th century". Cothran reports that one of the most influential nurseries of the south was right near here in Pomaria. Established in 1840 by William Summer, it offered chiefly, many varieties of fruit trees, but also native and exotic (imported) ornamentals. Although destroyed by Sherman's march north from Columbia, it was rebuilt in time and he published his first post-war catalogue in 1872. With ornamental plants available nearby and the proximity to the beautiful gardens in the capital, Columbia, it is not hard to imagine our little farms having flower gardens.

To learn what plants may have been available at that time, Mr. Cothran researched old diaries, paintings, letters and advertisements from the time period. Mary Rion published "Ladies' Southern Florist" in 1860, listing many plants suitable to the South's climate. Thomas Jefferson kept extensive records of plants used at Monticello and the year they were introduced.

Gardens of this era would include American natives, Old World favorites, and newly introduced exotics from the Far East. As England began importing exotics from China and Japan, these plants soon found their way to the New World. A notice in the South Carolina Gazette in 1786 advertised the importing of many bulbs, roots and seeds from Holland.

Although the exact species may no longer be available, our historic raised garden in front of the Harmon-Leaphart house uses ornamentals known to be typical to the 1850 time period. Some of these are Formosa lily, yarrow, rubechia, rose campion, thyme, Russian sage and wild violet. There is an herb garden at another location on the museum grounds, so few are included here.

Submitted to the *Saxe Gotha Dispatch* by: Ivy Rice, SC Master Gardener



Museum Calendar of Events



- Oct. 10 "The Coming of Southern Prohibition: The Dispensary System and the Battle over Liquor in South Carolina"
Book Talk with Michael Lewis
6:30 pm
Lexington County Museum Tour Office
Free to the Public
- Oct. 27-28 Haunted History Halloween Program
Tours Start at 7 pm, 8 pm, and 9 pm
Lexington County Museum Complex
Free admission for members of the Friends of the Museum
Reservations Required
This family-friendly event focuses on some of the spookier aspects of Lexington County history.
- Dec. 11 Lexington County Museum Christmas Open House
Christmas Open House
1 pm to 4 pm
Free to the Public
Refreshments will be served
Lexington County Museum Complex
Many of the museum's historic structures will be decorated in period fashion. A cooking demonstration will also take place.

2017

- March 25 Friends of the Museum Annual Fundraiser
Theme TBD
6 pm to 10 pm
Lexington Municipal Complex
111 Maiden Lane Lexington, SC
The fundraiser date was changed from late January to late March in order to avoid cold wintry weather.

Call the museum at 803-359-8369 or email museum@lex-co.com to find out more about these events.

Meet Karen Parrish

Karen has served as the President of the Friends of the Lexington County Museum since May of 2015. Under her leadership, the organization has raised more than \$8,000 to preserve the history of Lexington County and is poised to raise much more before her term is complete in April 2017. She has, also, streamlined the reimbursement process, organized the first Executive Committee meetings, and has initiated the planning of a Tour of Historic Homes. Her dedication to the organization has been evident through the countless hours she's spent supporting the museum through planning and volunteering at its annual events years before her term as President began. Many of our readers or visitors may not know much about Karen or her lifelong service to her community, so we thought we'd introduce you. Karen was born at Fort Jackson Hospital and spent her early childhood years in Chicago and Columbia before moving to the Oak Grove Community of Lexington County in 1960. She is a graduate of Lexington High School and the University of South Carolina. She and her husband, John Wayne Parrish of West Columbia, have three children: Robyne, Lindsay and Allison. Three of their five grandchildren are triplets! She and her family settled, permanently, in Lexington in 1983, after living in Ohio and North Carolina for a number of years. Karen has taught in elementary and middle schools in both Lexington Districts One and Two. When her daughter, Allison and her

husband who live in Virginia, announced the pending birth of the triplets, Karen decided the time had come for her to retire! Since retiring much of Karen's time and energy has been spent volunteering. Singing in the choir at Lexington Baptist Church; serving on the Board of Daybreak Pregnancy Center in Columbia; teaching with School Time Bible at Pelion Middle School; and serving with the local Stonecroft Ministries Team are areas of service dear to her heart. She is an avid reader and loves the works of Daniel Silva but, history and historical fiction are her favorite genres. When asked about her favorite historical time period she says that she likes the 1800s, especially the Wild West and the Civil War time periods. Her other interests include horseback riding (whenever possible), traveling, exercising, making things grow, cooking and baking and spending time with family and friends. Karen's father, Jacob Calvin Bedenbaugh, descended from the Bedenbaughs who settled in the Dutch Fork in the 1700s, and she has cherished childhood memories of time spent with her extended Bedenbaugh family. Karen's love of history drew her to seek out the Friends of the Lexington County Museum. She mentions that she wanted to be more involved with a community of others interested in preserving our history. The museum has definitely benefitted from Karen's leadership and dedication.



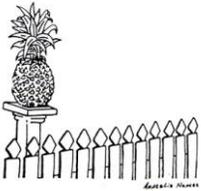
Karen Parrish (on the right) with board members Constance Flemming and Daniel Koon

Lexington County Museum

231 Fox Street
Lexington, SC 29072

Phone 803-359-8369
Fax 803-808-2160
E-mail museum@lex-co.com

*Gateway to
Yesterday*



We're on the Web!
www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum

The Lexington County Museum was started in 1970 to collect, preserve and present the history of Lexington County. After initially having only one historic house, the museum expanded and now has thirty historic structures over seven acres in downtown Lexington. Through exhibits in historic houses, the museum interprets everyday life in the town of Lexington and throughout Lexington County from the eighteenth century to the start of the Civil War. The museum offers guided tours to visitors for a small fee and has thirteen different hands-on programs for school groups free of charge by appointment. These programs attract schools from around the state and educate students about the history of Lexington County and about the everyday life of Lexington County residents in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

The Friends of the Lexington County Museum is a non-profit group founded in 1997 with an advisory board, officers, and a board of trustees representing all municipalities in Lexington County. Its mission is to enhance the Lexington County Museum through its duly appointed commission and to support, aid, and assist in the improvement and expansion of the Museum. The Friends group sponsors fund-raising projects to help further the Museum's valuable contribution to the county. The Friends group has raised over \$270,000 for the museum so far. To learn more about the Friends or to join, visit the museum's webpage (www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum).

Highlighted Artifact from the Museum's Collections

The highlighted artifact for this issue is a heart pine demi-lune, meaning half-moon, table probably made in the second quarter of the 19th century in Lexington County or the Dutch Fork. The skirt was made pliable by being cut every inch or so. The museum has several other locally-made demi-lune tables like this one in its collections.

