



# The Orator

Volume, XXX IV Issue, 5 Spring/ Summer 2016

*“Universal Education”*

## Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace State Historic Site

264 Governor Aycock Road  
Fremont, NC 27830

Phone: 919-242-5581

Fax: 919-242-6668

Email: aycock@ncdcr.gov

### Hours of Operation

Tuesday - Saturday  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday and  
Monday

### Site Staff

Leigh Strickland  
Site Manager

Erica Smith  
Historic Interpreter

Larry Barnes  
Site Assistant

Rachel Kennedy  
Part-time Staff

*The Orator* Editor  
Erica Smith

So far 2016-2017 has been a busy year, here at Aycock Birthplace! With lots of new programs as well as the old favorites, site staff and volunteers have been busy! To kick the year off Aycock Birthplace hosted its first ever Quilling workshop. Quilling is the Victorian art form of rolling, folding, cutting, and gluing paper strips together to form a decorative design. This workshop, while slightly difficult, was enjoyed by all who participated.

This year Aycock Birthplace has also hosted several quilting workshops, which have averaged about 6-weeks long. The finished products have been beautiful!



Mrs. Patsy Waters with her finished quilt top.



Examples of quilling, done by Mrs. Joyce Pierce.

Aycock Birthplace also hosted a children’s Valentine’s Day themed tea, entitled, “Straight From the Heart”. During this program children were invited to try their hands at the Victorian Art form of quilling, as they created their own unique Valentine’s Day cards. Children also learned the beautiful language of the fan, and were instructed in the proper tea etiquette.

This program was so successful, it was expanded and offered again in, May, for adults in the form of “High Tea”. During this program participants learned the language of the fan, were educated on the proper tea etiquette courtesy of Mrs. Jackie Longwell, all whilst they enjoyed afternoon tea.

Aycock Birthplace also hosted a Daffodil Open House in March for the first grade students in Fremont and Pikeville, and also the week long Farm Heritage Days program in April. During the Farm Heritage Days program, fourth grade students from across Wayne County were invited to see living history demonstrations and experience what life would have been like on the farm during the 1870s.

Also this summer the site hosted the ever popular “Saturday on the Farm” program. Folks were invited out to see antique farm equipment, courtesy of the Eastern Carolina Vintage Farm Equip. Club, the Beekeepers of the Neuse were also in attendance, as well as the Master Gardeners, the Lucama Lions Club and visitors were invited to hear the musical sounds of the Waterbound Dulcimers.



Charlotte Kornegay and Erica Smith giving a presentation on the language of the fan during the “High Tea” program.

Thank you to everyone that helped make these programs a success! We could not do it without you!!



Check us out on  
the site’s  
Facebook page!

[http://www.facebook.com/  
pages/Governor-Charles-B-  
Aycock-  
Birthplace/218203418307235](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Governor-Charles-B-Aycock-Birthplace/218203418307235)

# Manager's Report



Spring and summer have been very busy here at Aycock Birthplace with many programs. On March 19, the site hosted its annual “Let’s go Fly a Kite” program. The public was invited to visit the site and bring their kites with them for a relaxing afternoon of kite flying. There was a wide variety of kites ranging from lady bugs, to eagles, to some of our favorite comic book heroes.



Image from our “Let’s Go Fly a Kite” program.

Also in March, we had our annual Daffodil Open House which was attended by the first graders from Fremont STARS, Northeast Elementary, and Northwest Elementary. Students enjoyed learning about 19th century toys, got to milk a pretend cow, and made quilt blocks out of constructions paper.

In April, the site hosted its annual Farm Heritage Days program. Fourth graders from all Wayne County public elementary schools, and one private school, participated in this four-day event. Students played the game of townball, wrote their name’s using a quill pen dipped in ink, saw plowing, spinning, natural dying, candle making, corn shelling & grinding, blacksmithing, woodworking, basket weaving, and many more living history demonstrations during there visit to the site.

A 6-week long quilting workshop was held in May and early June. Participants made quilt tops using a pattern called Delta Page. They used fabric of their own choosing which resulted in many interesting quilt tops.

Also in May, the site hosted a “High Tea”. Participants enjoyed sampling a variety of hot teas and snacks provided by Mrs. Betty Ray McCain. They also learned about proper British tea etiquette and the hierarchy of the Royal Family, from special guest Jackie Longwell. A special thank you to the Mount Olive Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to borrow your tea sets for this event!

Then, on June 11th the site hosted its annual “Saturday on the Farm “ program. The Eastern Carolina Vintage Farm Equipment Club displayed a variety of vintage tractors and other farm equipment. Live music was provided by the Waterbound Dulcimers. The Beekeepers of the Neuse were on hand to talk to visitors about beekeeping. The Lucama Lions Club had an informational booth, and the Master Gardeners of Wayne County were on hand with material about gardening in eastern North Carolina.

It is now August, and things have slowed down a bit, but not for long. We are beginning to gear up for school field trips and fall and winter programs. We invite you to join us for these events.

*Leigh V. Stuchland*



Images from one of our quilting workshops.



**Photo's from our Quilling Workshop. Thank you to everyone that came and participated and a special thank you to Mrs. Joyce Pierce for teaching the class.**



**Photo's for our 2016 "Saturday on the Farm" Program! Thank you to everyone that came out to support our site!**



**Photo's from our "Straight From the Heart" Valentines Day Program. There was a fun time had by all as we explored 19th century Valentines Day traditions. A special thank you to Mrs. Joyce Pierce, Mrs. Betty Ray McCain, and to all who helped make this event a success!**



**Photo's from our "High Tea" in May. Participants learned about proper tea etiquette, the language of the fan, and the Edenton Tea Party. Special thank you to the Mount Olive**

**Chamber of Commerce, Mrs. Betty Ray McCain, Mrs. Jackie Longwell, and everyone else who helped with this event!**



**Photo's from our 2016 Daffodil Open House. Thank you to everyone that helped with this program!!**



**Photo's from our 2016 Farm Heritage Days Program. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To all who helped with this program, without you, this program would not have been possible!**



# Summer Fun Camp 2016

This summer Aycock Birthplace hosted a Summer Fun Camp the week of June 20-24th. Each day of Summer Camp we focused on a different aspect of the life of a child in the 1870s. Campers learned about farming and the importance of crops and farm animals, they got to experience school “19th century” style, they learned about fiber and how their clothes are made. They made rope and got to see a hunting demonstration, they learned about natural dying and got to tie-dye a t-shirt. On Day 5 of Summer Camp, campers learned about archaeology, and we discussed why history is important. Thank you to all the people that helped with this program, the kids had a blast!!!





The Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace Advisory Committee is raffling off a 40" Vizio flat screen television. The drawing will be held Thursday, December 8, 2016 as part of our Christmas Candlelight Tour program. You **DO NOT** have to be present to win. Tickets are \$5.00 apiece or 5 for \$20.00. Tickets can be purchased from any advisory committee member or at the Aycock Birthplace gift shop. All proceeds benefit the site. Thank you for your support!

# UPCOMING Events

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**\$\$Living History Wednesday's**  
**There is a \$2.00 fee for each of these programs.**  
 Living History events are from 10:00-1:00  
**October 12**– School Marm and Quill Pen & Ink Writing  
**October 19**– Candle Making & Woodworking  
**October 26**– Spinning & Quilling  
**November 9**– Basket Weaving & Blacksmithing  
**November 16**– Blacksmithing & Rope Making

**Starting in September**– Costumed guided tours will be offered of our historic buildings. Every 2nd and 4th Friday.  
**Admission is Free!** Call for more information.

**September 27-October 14**– VOTE: The History of Voting in North Carolina– This traveling exhibit seeks to explore the question, “What does it mean to vote in North Carolina?”  
 Please call for more information.

**October 15 from 10:00-4:00**– “Civil War Living History”  
 This event will feature the Cape Fear Living History Society and will focus on the daily routine and the camp life of a civil war soldier. With musket and infantry demonstrations throughout the day. There will also be a variety of civilian activities as we take a look at life on the Home Front.  
**Admission is free!**

**October 29th, from 4:00-7:00**: “Rootin’ Tootin’ Halloween Program”- Featuring candle making, a hayride, corn husk doll making, pumpkin painting, and more! Costume contest and trunk or treat start at 5:00.  
**There is a \$2.00 fee for each of the activities.**

**\$\$December 6th & 8th, from 6:00-8:00**– Christmas Candlelight Tours: See what Christmas would have been like in the 1870s. See a shadow play in the one-room school house, tour the historic Aycock Homestead, and witness an open hearth cooking demonstration in the Kitchen. **Admission is \$2.00 per person.**

**\$\$Open Hearth Cooking Demonstrations**  
**There is a \$2.00 fee this demonstration.** Come see an open hearth cooking demonstration and learn more about 19th century holiday traditions.  
 Cooking demonstrations will begin at 10:00.  
**December 13, 15, & 20. Space is limited!**

**\$\$December 17th from 1:00-3:00**– “Cookies and Canes”: Children ages 5-12 are invited to come learn the history of some of their favorite Christmas traditions. Make a 19th century style ornament and make your own gingerbread house. Plus a special guest from the North Pole. Cost is \$10.00 and pre-registration is required.  
**Space is limited!**

Events marked with \$\$ are paid events. For more information on these and any other upcoming events, check us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Governor-Charles-B-Aycock-Birthplace-218203418307235/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/Governor-Charles-B-Aycock-Birthplace-218203418307235/?fref=ts).

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To receive this publication, please call (919) 242-5581 or e-mail: [aycock@ncdcr.gov](mailto:aycock@ncdcr.gov). The Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace State Historic Site is an agency within the Historic Sites Division of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, <http://www.ncdcr.gov/>

*Need a place to host a wedding, special event or photo shoot? Aycock Birthplace is a great location! For more information please contact Event Coordinator, Erica Smith at 919-242-5581 or e-mail: [erica.smith@ncdcr.gov](mailto:erica.smith@ncdcr.gov)*

*Aycock Birthplace is always looking for new volunteers to give tours and assist with events. If interested in becoming a volunteer, please call Erica Smith at 919-242-5581 or e-mail: [erica.smith@ncdcr.gov](mailto:erica.smith@ncdcr.gov)*



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