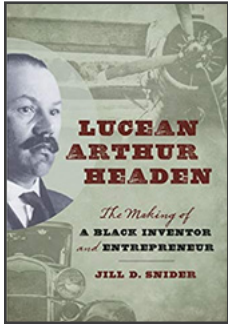


North Carolina Books

Compiled by Al Jones



Lucean Arthur Headen: The Making of a Black Inventor and Entrepreneur

Jill D. Snider
Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North
Carolina Press, 2020.
310 pp. \$29.95.
ISBN 978-1-4696-5435-5

Is it possible for an individual to overcome professional/personal obstacles and still have a significant impact on automotive and aviation history? Throughout the pages of the book, *Lucean Arthur Headen: The Making of a Black Inventor and Entrepreneur*, author Jill D. Snider answers this question by introducing readers to the career of Lucean Arthur Headen. Born in 1879, Lucean Headen confronted obstacles which made the possibility of making a name for himself seem slim at best. However, despite the challenge of growing up in the era of Jim Crow restrictions, Headen did manage to become a Pullman Company “sleeper car” porter, the founder of the “Headen Motor Company” (with branches in Chicago and Albany, GA), and later, a chauffeur for Robert McCormick, the publisher of the *Chicago Tribune* newspaper. Eventually, Headen relocated several times during his lifetime (eventually settling in England) in order to combat limited opportunities to showcase inventions, and a realization by this African American inventor and entrepreneur that a more responsive market could help advertise his “creative genius.” During his lifetime, Headen achieved 11 different patents, including the following: a “manifold” (special gasket to protect engine’s crank, and used for commercial vehicles & tractors) as well as an anti-icing method for airplane wings.

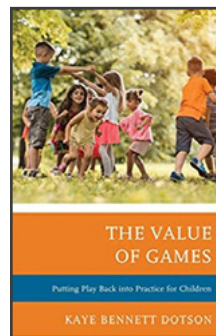
In this book, the author includes references to notable Lucean Headen inventions, namely the hand-built Headen “Pace Setter” and “Headen Special” automobiles. Additionally, an extensive bibliography includes primary sources, secondary sources, and a list of the patents Lucean Headen earned over the course of his career. Some of the patents listed were as follows: “ignition device” (patent granted October 28, 1930), vaporizing manifold (patent granted

October 15, 1935); pre-ignition device (patent sealed November 8, 1933); Anti-dilution gasket (patent granted September 7, 1937); a method for deicing propellers (patent granted February 10, 1939); and a plough share tip (patent granted August 23, 1950).

Jill D. Snider is a historian & writer who resides in Chapel Hill, NC. Over the course of her career, Jill D. Snider has been a technical writer, program & business analyst, archivist, and historian. Additionally, the author has been employed as a research fellow at the Smithsonian Institution, National Air and Space Museum, the American Historical Association, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

This book is intended to showcase the efforts of Lucean Arthur Headen to overcome personal and professional obstacles in order to make a considerable contribution to automotive and aviation history. Because of its specific scope and subject matter, *Lucean Arthur Headen: The Making of a Black Inventor and Entrepreneur* should be suitable for inclusion in any academic or special library with a focus on African American history.

David W. Young
University of North Carolina at Pembroke



The Value of Games: Putting Play Back into Practice for Children

Kaye Bennett Dotson
Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2020.
165 pp. \$50.00.
ISBN 978-1-4758-4639-3.
Paperback ISBN 978-1-4758-4640-9.
E-book ISBN 978-1-4758-4641-6.

How do children learn? How can they grow in experience and establish friendships and relationships? Games in childhood are a fun way to introduce young people to the world and others. Child development involves physical, intellectual, social, and emotional changes. Games can give children opportunities for communicating with peers, interacting socially with others, learning to deal with

frustration, making new friends and enjoying time with friends, gaining skills in reasoning and decision making, and understanding outcomes and results. Play and games are an integral part of that growth process.

Children today have daily exposure to electronic games and technology. Author Dr. Kaye Bennett Dotson, associate professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Professions at East Carolina University, intends for this book to provide adults with a collection of games and instructions that they can introduce to children to encourage active play away from devices. In the digital age spontaneous free play is not as likely to occur, so it may require adults to intentionally plan such opportunities.

Active, physical games detailed in the text fall under categories such as games of chase and tag; games of song and dance, rhyme and rhythm; string games; blindfold games; and jumping, skipping games. It could be helpful to view online videos of children demonstrating games to supplement the book's written instructions. Games can be adapted in support of the curriculum as with Sight Word Bingo, and the author provides ideas and templates for such variations. Dotson's explanation of Creative Commons copyright licenses will help guide teachers to appropriately select and attribute online resources related to games that they intend to use in their curriculum.

Dotson encourages adults and educators to support outdoor, active play, but she also shares ideas for indoor or rainy day activities. More sedentary options are included in the chapter on board games, which describes many popular classic board games, such as Clue, Trivial Pursuit, and Operation. Whether played indoors or outdoors, games that encourage a child to use their imagination can help children understand more about the world. A number are included in the chapter, "Pretend and Make-Believe Games."

The age range for participation is primarily preschool through fifth grade, but the most basic game, Pat-a-Cake, would interest toddlers. The chapter, "National Ball Games and Informal Game Adaptations," includes the basic rules for baseball, basketball and related games, football, and soccer, along with several other games that can be played by older children (and adults).

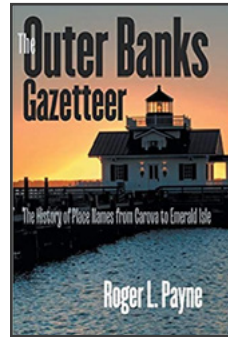
A sample assignment describes how a teacher could help children join in preserving games by writing instructions for games that they play or interviewing an adult by asking about games they have played and documenting the explanations in writing, perhaps in the style of a graphic novel, with a video of the game being played.

Appendices offer a resource list, a sample field day schedule, and a bibliography. The index includes games

alphabetically by name. The text does not include variations to the games that could address inclusion for children with disabilities or special needs, but a number of the illustrations depict children in a wheelchair or using pediatric walking aids for mobility.

Teachers, camp counselors, and parents will find this compilation of games useful in expanding the range of games they can introduce to their students and children.

Christine Fischer
UNC Greensboro



The Outer Banks Gazetteer: The History of Place Names from Carova to Emerald Isle

Roger L. Payne
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2021. 338 pp. \$24.00.
ISBN 978-1-4696-6228-2.

Native North Carolinians have always loved the beaches, lighthouses, and seafood that can be found along the North Carolina coast and no coastal area appeals more to native adventurers and beach lovers than the barrier islands of the Outer Banks. Roger L. Payne, executive secretary emeritus of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, has used his love of the Outer Banks to create the ultimate guide to place names in the area. *The Outer Banks Gazetteer: The History of Place Names from Carova to Emerald Isle* is the result of his lifelong love of, and curiosity about, named features on the Outer Banks.

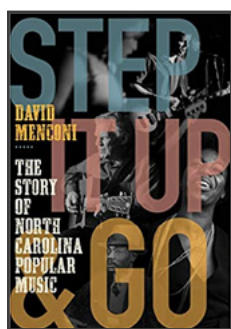
The present title revises and expands Payne's 1985 book, *Place Names of the Outer Banks*, by quadrupling the number of place name entries found in the original source. The book's front matter serves as the reader's road map explaining that *The Outer Banks Gazetteer* includes the barrier island system from the North Carolina-Virginia border in Currituck County to Bogue Inlet in Carteret County. The preface describes the author's love of Outer Banks toponymy, the importance of gazetteers in preserving an area's history and culture, and how digitization and availability of primary and secondary sources created a more comprehensive book that includes most geographic place names in the region. The well-written introduction defines the physical parameters of the Outer Banks, discusses the use of Native American names in the area, describes why some types of transient locations are excluded, and provides

context for naming conventions. The “how to” section explains how the individual entries are organized and what type of content is included.

The body of the gazetteer consists of more than 3,000 alphabetically arranged entries of towns, communities, inlets, beaches, rivers, and islands, including locations and physical features that no longer exist today. The seven maps of present and historic place names feature towns and communities, barrier islands, inlets, townships, and U. S. Geological Survey topographic maps of the area and assist in visually orienting the reader. One of the strengths of this book is the selected annotated bibliography that the author used when compiling and verifying the entries. Most of the gazetteer’s entries include references to one or more of the sources in the annotated bibliography unless the place name results from “local use” and could not be verified through these sources. The annotated bibliography would be a great resource for other researchers to use when searching for primary and secondary sources about the Outer Banks.

This book is recommended for North Carolina public and academic libraries with strong Eastern North Carolina coastal collections. Individuals who live on the Outer Banks, or dream of retiring to the barrier islands, would enjoy receiving this book as a gift. It provides a perfect way to explore the area’s history and culture through its many colorful place names.

Teresa LePors
Elon University



Step It Up and Go: The Story of North Carolina Popular Music, From Blind Boy Fuller and Doc Watson to Nina Simone and Superchunk

David Menconi
Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2020. 314 pp. \$30.00.
ISBN 978-1-4696-5935-0.

What do Charlie Poole, Doc Watson, The Embers, Arthur Smith, the “5” Royales, Nina Simone, and Scotty McCreery have in common? These musicians and groups had a significant impact on the development of music television variety shows, bluegrass, beach music, country, and rhythm & blues across North Carolina. In the book, *Step It Up and Go: The Story of North Carolina Popular Music, From Blind Boy Fuller and Doc Watson to*

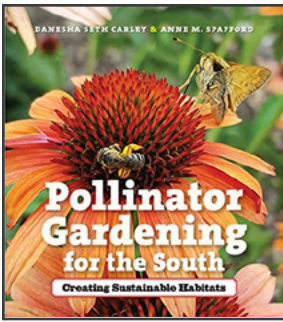
Nina Simone and Superchunk, author David Menconi traces the evolution of specific music genres over several decades. For instance, groups such as The Embers helped popularize beach music and influenced eager participants to dance “the shag” at concerts in both North Carolina and South Carolina.

Throughout the book, David Menconi describes a wide variety of specific musicians and television personalities who have left an indelible mark on the North Carolina music industry. Specifically, Doc Watson (bluegrass & country music performer and recipient of a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award), musician and television host Arthur Smith (leader of the acclaimed “Carolina Calling” morning television show for WBTV in Charlotte, North Carolina), and Earl Scruggs (one of the performers for the 1962 debut of *The Beverly Hillbillies* theme song, “The Ballad of Jed Clampett”) are mentioned. David Menconi also includes the influence of the television show, *American Idol* on North Carolina after the success of contestants Clay Aiken (2003 runner-up) and Scotty McCreery (2011 winner).

For specific musicians & bands, the author includes the year of induction into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame (Doc Watson was inducted in 2010). In this book, a selected bibliography, discography, and numerous photographs are added. Author Menconi states that much of his material for the book is based on his own reporting as well as past stories included in the *Raleigh News & Observer*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Carolina Alumni Review*. Where possible, David Menconi includes quotations from interviews with close relatives of featured musicians.

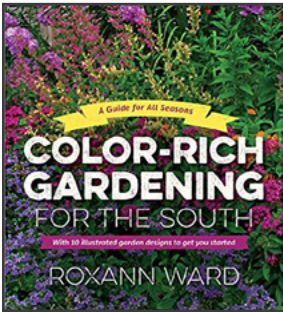
David Menconi resides in Raleigh, North Carolina, and worked for 28 years as a staff writer for the *Raleigh News & Observer*. Besides *Step It Up and Go*, author David Menconi wrote *Ryan Adams: Losing, a Story of Whiskeytown* (2012), and co-wrote with author Ray Benson, *Comin’ Right at Ya: How a Jewish Yankee Hippie Went Country, or the Often Outrageous History of Asleep at the Wheel* (2015). Because of its specific scope, *Step It Up and Go: The Story of North Carolina Popular Music, From Blind Boy Fuller and Doc Watson to Nina Simone and Superchunk* would be suitable for inclusion in any academic library with a focus on North Carolina music history or popular culture.

David W. Young
University of North Carolina at Pembroke



Pollinator Gardening for the South: Creating Sustainable Habitats

Danesha S. Carley and
Anne M. Spafford
Chapel Hill: University of North
Carolina Press, 2021. 168 pp. \$24.00.
ISBN 9781469659411.



Color-Rich Gardening for the South

Roxann Ward
Chapel Hill: University of North
Carolina Press, 2021. 152 pp. \$24.00.
ISBN 9781469661766.

Whether dreaming of gardens during the winter or planning new designs for spring or fall planting, gardeners will find inspiration in these new books from UNC Press. Both are full of useful plant and design information, and their primary focus on either color in the garden or sustainable pollinator habitats will appeal to all with the gardening bug.

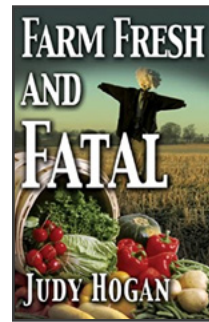
Roxann Ward is a Georgia garden designer and consultant and has been creating “color gardens” for commercial and residential clients for years. The garden templates in *Color-Rich Gardening for the South* display her years of experience with successful plants for the South and her focus on color through the seasons. Though most of her designs include shrubs and perennials, color-rich gardens typically focus on sweeps of brightly colored annuals that require a significant yearly investment. The book is perfectly arranged from site selection through soil prep, plant materials, garden design, and successful garden maintenance. Suggestions for hot sun, deep shade, and even for containers, will satisfy gardeners who love bold sweeps of color.

Danesha S. Carley and Anne M. Spafford, North Carolina State University associate professors of horticultural science, co-authored *Pollinator Gardening for the South: Creating Sustainable Habitats*. Creating gardens that provide pollinator habitat has become a focus for many environmentally conscious gardeners. The first half of their book brings us up to speed on bees, butterflies and other pollinators, as well as how pollination works. Once the reader is savvy in these areas, we can jump right into designing pollinator habitat. Instead of a focus on color,

plant selection is based on the use of primarily native perennials, grasses and shrubs that have coevolved to support our pollinators. Chapter five gives us the nuts and bolts of garden installation, and then we’re ready to think more broadly about the many places where pollinator-friendly gardens can be added to enrich the landscape. From our containers, yards and curbs to businesses and healthcare facilities, schools and greenways, museums, arboretums and golf courses, the possibilities are endless and inspiring! Useful charts about season of bloom make planning for year-round gardens easy, and photos and sketches provide good examples for garden designs.

Both of these attractive books would be appealing on a “new materials” rack for adults in public libraries and would also be useful for academic libraries that support the gardening and landscape crews on their campuses.

Dianne Ford, Retired
Elon University



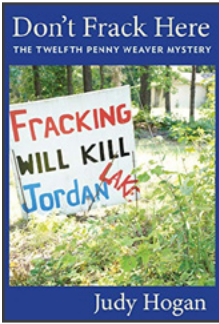
Farm Fresh and Fatal

Judy Hogan
Mainly Murder Press, 2013.
209pp. \$15.95.
ISBN 978-0-9895804-0-3.

The citizens of fictional Shagbark County, North Carolina, gather in the town of Riverdell to sell their fresh vegetables and flowers at the farmers’ market. All is well until a well-known citizen is murdered. Penny Weaver and her friend Sammie decide to use their knowledge of the market, and the people who sell their wares there, to solve the mystery and protect a friend.

This is the fourth Penny Weaver mystery by Judy Hogan, which brings the reader into the tight-knit and surprisingly diverse Shagbark community. This is a cozy mystery. does not have the twists and turns an avid mystery reader may expect.

Dana Glauner
South Piedmont Community College



***Don't Frack Here:
The Twelfth Penny Weaver Mystery***

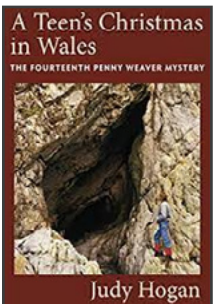
Judy Hogan
Hoganvillaea Books, 2020.
181pp. \$15.00.
ISBN 978-1-6953-9004-1.

The citizens of Shagbark are not happy when they hear that fracking is coming to their agricultural county in Don't Frack Here. In Hogan's twelfth Penny Weaver mystery, the citizens are naturally upset at the thought of their water being poisoned and their farmland being laid waste by fracking runoff.

The small Shagbark community rallies together to fight off "Big Frack." Hogan depicts how people who earn their living from the land feel and react when fracking threatens their livelihoods.

Fans of Hogan will enjoy seeing favorite characters and catching up with them, but the mystery is pretty light and will not satisfy most mystery fans.

*Dana Glauner
South Piedmont Community College*



A Teen's Christmas in Wales

Judy Hogan
Hoganvillaea Books, 2020.
181pp. \$15.00.
ISBN 978-1-6953-9004-1.

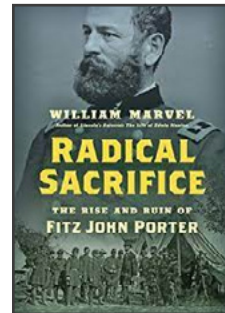
The fourteenth Penny Weaver mystery, *A Teen's Christmas in Wales*, takes readers to the small village of Gower, Wales, where Penny and her husband Kenneth are spending the Christmas holidays with their 14-year-old grandson Seb and his girlfriend Naomi. Readers are transported around the caves and other sites of Gower and into the homes of Penny's friends and neighbors.

The title of the book, an homage to Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales* includes lovely descriptions of Christmas in Wales. The visits to friends leading up to Christmas and Boxing Day illustrate how Welsh people celebrate the holidays. Readers will want to explore the

caves along the rocky shores of Gower and nearby towns and listen to musicians play traditional music.

This cozy mystery's strength is in the setting. Fans of Christmas stories and anglophiles will enjoy the setting of the Welsh coast and the descriptions of Christmas traditions followed there.

*Dana Glauner
South Piedmont Community College*



***Radical Sacrifice: The Rise and
Ruin of Fitz John Porter***

William Marvel
Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina
Press, 2021. 472 pp., 16 illus., 7 maps,
\$35.00, ISBN 978469661858.

George Templeton Strong, the great New York chronicler of the American Civil War, was puzzled by the fate of Fitz John Porter. "It seems incredible," Strong wrote in his diary, "that a military court composed of 'good men' had found Porter guilty of willfully disobeying orders and misconduct before the enemy." Trapped in a web of Radical Republican intrigue, Porter was court marshalled and blamed for the Union failures at Second Bull Run of John Pope and Irvin McDowell. Fighting until his death on May 21, 1900, Porter attempted to get a fair review of his case for the remainder of his life. He partially was successful in 1879 in obtaining an Army review, but Radical Republicans refused to allow him to return to a service rank.

William Marvel begins by telling the story of Porter's military career at West Point and in the war with Mexico. Well-liked and respected by his troops, Porter was a close favorite of George B. McClelland. Porter was not in favor of the Emancipation Proclamation, another fact that helped build a gulf between Porter and the Radical Republicans under Lincoln. The bulk of the book is devoted to Porter's downfall and his subsequent attempts to clear his name. By most accounts Porter performed "heroically and well" at Gaines's Mill and Malvern Hill, but in the end, he was saddled with the ultimate responsibility for the Union defeat at the Second Battle of Bull Run in 1862.

Needing a scapegoat, the Radical Republicans focused on Porter's performance and quickly he was relieved of

command, court marshalled and removed from the Army in January of 1863. Porter claimed that he had done the best he could and had an outstanding record in the service. What is interesting in this debate is the fact that most contemporary accounts, including Strong's, place the blame on Porter for the defeat. He may have been caught up in presidential politics to a degree, as he subsequently claimed, but he was found seriously lacking on the field at Bull Run by most accounts. Recent scholarship and review of the court martial record has revealed that the legal proceedings against Porter were "astoundingly corrupt" from a 21st century legal viewpoint. Thus, Porter's fate was sealed from the beginning and his conviction moved quickly to its final verdict. Legal niceties did not matter because most had decided that he was guilty before the proceedings had even started.

Marvel has researched the book well, including a 21st-century legal review of the court marshal. There are seven maps and sixteen illustrations in the book. While the cover of the book is very attractive, the bulk of the text plods monotonously, crammed into each and every page with as much type as can be borne. Overall a fair treatment of Porter, but lacks the conclusion most contemporaries held of him. This work is an excellent example of the conflict between truth and public perception of events.

Ralph Scott
East Carolina University

Looking for help with collection development?

If you want to expand your library's collection of novels set in North Carolina, you should visit the Read North Carolina Novels blog hosted by the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<http://blogs.lib.unc.edu/ncnovels/>).

If your interest in North Caroliniana is more general, the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill regularly posts lists of new additions to their collection at this address: <http://blogs.lib.unc.edu/ncm/index.php/whats-new-in-the-north-carolina-collection/>.