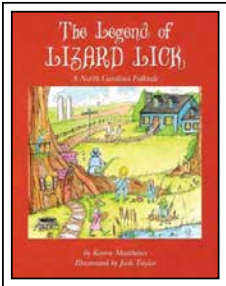


North Carolina Books

Eileen McGrath, compiler



The Legend of Lizard Lick: A North Carolina Folktale

By Karen Matthews.
North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent
Publishing Platform, 2013.
36 pp. \$15.00. ISBN 9781479382477.

The state of North Carolina is no stranger to uniquely named towns, but perhaps the most unusual name is that of Lizard Lick. A quick Internet search will turn up various stories relating to the origins of this name, all of which involve alcohol of dubious legality and, naturally, lizards licking said alcohol. Author Karen Matthews and illustrator Josh Taylor created this version of how the town became known as Lizard Lick as a family-friendly alternative to the original stories. Matthews is the owner of Carolina Souvenirs, the company that produced this book and on whose website the book can be purchased. Taylor's work as a graphic artist has been featured in other books and mediums.

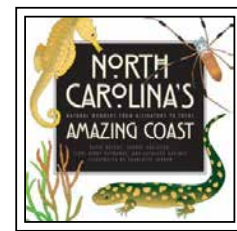
The story's premise begins with a grandfather answering his young grandson's question about how the town of Lizard Lick got its name. The perspective then shifts to the lizards of Lizard Town, located on the shore of Sweetwater Pond, and the frogs of Frogville, located in the midst of the pond. The lizards and frogs have

always been friendly until a severe drought threatens both the pond and their friendship. The lizards begin hauling water from the dwindling pond, and the frogs fear this will damage their homes. The frogs decide to take action by chasing off the next lizards who attempt to collect water, thus outraging the lizards. The mayors of Lizard Town and Frogville meet and decide that a track and field competition of three events will decide which group will be allowed to stay at the pond and which group will be forced to leave. The lizards and frogs each claim one victory, leaving the decision for the tug-of-war where the lizards narrowly defeat the frogs. Thus, the lizards "lick" the frogs and commemorate their victory by changing the name of their town to Lizard Lick. In a gesture of friendship, the lizards allow the frogs to stay at the pond as long as the water can be shared by all, and a welcome storm ends the drought.

This book is a light-hearted story accompanied by charming illustrations full of detail. However, the lessons that can be drawn from the story are a little confused. For example, the lizards' extension of forgiveness to the frogs occurs after they have renamed their town as a perpetual reminder of their victory. This seems ungenerous at best and deliberately mean at worst. The illustrations also lack the polish of conventionally edited and published children's books. Be aware that despite the title, this is not a typical folktale since the plot originated with Matthews. The book mentions this in the "Note to

Parents" that also provides a short description of the actual town and the prevailing tales associated with its name. This book is recommended for collections with a special interest in North Carolina authors and stories.

Laura Gillis
formerly Forsyth County Public Library



North Carolina's Amazing Coast: Natural Wonders from Alligators to Zoegas

By David Bryant, George Davidson, Terri Kirby Hathaway, and Kathleen Angione.
Athens: University of Georgia Press, in cooperation with
North Carolina Sea Grant Program, 2013.
1 vol., unpagged. \$16.95. ISBN 978-0-8203-4510-9.

North Carolina's varied coast provides an endless supply of fascinating plants, animals, and ecosystems sure to captivate both casual beach combers and research scientists. These two audiences come together in this brief, family-friendly guide to some of the more interesting features of coastal North Carolina. Based on an earlier work that Bryant and Davidson compiled for Georgia, this book has been adapted and added to by Hathaway and Angione who are associated with the North Carolina Sea Grant, a program that seeks to educate the public about the state's coastal region. Hathaway's role as Marine Education Specialist and

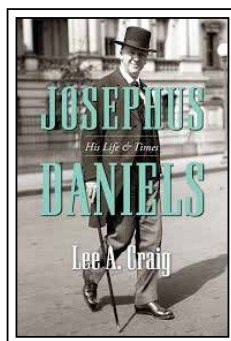
Angione's former position as part of North Carolina Sea Grant's communications team give them an excellent perspective on this goal. This book is particularly suited to educational objectives because it provides scientific facts in a fun and concise manner that not only informs but invites the reader to learn more.

As the title implies, the book is an alphabetical collection of short essays about different aspects of North Carolina's coastal ecosystems. Each entry is one page in length and includes a color illustration. The text is brief but also engaging, accessible, and often humorous. Plants and animals dominate the subject matter, but entries on other topics such as tides and shrimp life cycles provide a comprehensive view of the coastal biome. The essays generally provide a description of the subject and then follow with facts that are particularly unusual or interesting. For example, the book notes that the tail of the horseshoe crab was used by Native Americans as a spear tip, and that it is the male pipefish of North Carolina's marshes that gets pregnant instead of the female. Such information evokes the "Oh wow" or "I never knew that" reaction that can inspire further learning. While the book's entries are too brief to allow them to be used as source material for school projects, the book is an excellent starting point for both classroom work and informal or even on-site exploration. The book also includes an extensive list of suggestions for further reading that may help direct further study on any of the book's topics.

This attractive book is enticing in its brevity, and it has the ability to lure both reluctant learners and dedicated coastal enthusiasts. Designed to be enjoyed by both adults and children, it is perhaps at its best when shared between the two groups in

order to open the avenues for discussion, questions, and further learning. This book is recommended as an extra purchase for elementary school libraries where it may help introduce coastal topics. It is also recommended for public libraries, perhaps with one copy each for adult and children's nonfiction.

Laura Gillis
formerly Forsyth County Public Library



**Josephus Daniels:
His Life & Times**

by Lee A. Craig.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
474 pp. \$35.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-0695-8.

Few, if any, North Carolinians can equal Josephus Daniels (1863-1948) in length and level of leadership in the public affairs of the state and nation. As owner and editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, he transformed a small, struggling newspaper into the most politically influential in the state. A forceful advocate of early twentieth-century Progressive causes, including public education, women's suffrage, prohibition, and anti-trust laws, he was also a no-holds-barred leader of white supremacy forces in the post-Civil War South. He served two presidents in key administrative positions in Washington and was appointed by a third to a sensitive ambassadorial post. Although a quasi-pacifist, as Secretary of the Navy during World War I he led the rapid development and deployment

of a two-ocean navy. An outspoken anti-imperialist, as Secretary he directed a numerous American military interventions in Latin America.

Such a complex, multi-faceted life, with so many prominent contradictions and inconsistencies, would give pause to any would-be biographer—and has, until now. With *Josephus Daniels: His Life & Times*, by Lee A. Craig, Alumni Professor of History and Chair of the Department of Economics at North Carolina State University, we finally have a thoroughly researched, engaging story of a man “arguably the mightiest man in North Carolina following the white supremacy campaigns of 1898 and 1900.” Daniels would remain a dominant public figure for the rest of his life.

Born in 1862 in “Little Washington” in eastern North Carolina, Daniels grew up with few economic advantages. Family connections helped his widowed mother secure appointment as postmistress in Wilson in 1866. This exposed young Josephus to the leading citizens of the community, since the front room of the Daniels family home served as the post office for the next sixteen years. Bright and inquisitive, Josephus listened to the locals argue politics and discuss public affairs and eagerly skimmed the out-of-town newspapers that arrived each morning. In 1878, he co-founded his own weekly, an ambitious first step for a sixteen-year-old. But soon his ambitions turned to Raleigh, where in 1894, he achieved his dream, ownership of the News and Observer, the capital city's leading daily.

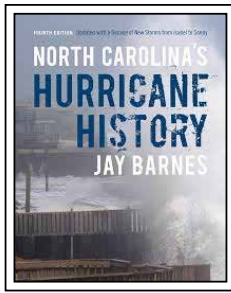
Daniels was an innovative, even transformative, figure in American journalism, Craig argues. He was among the first newspaper publishers outside a few big cities to recognize the importance of separating news

coverage from editorial content. Strong community news would draw subscribers even if they disagreed with editorial stances. As his paper's circulation figures grew, so did Daniels's wealth. By 1914, he was clearing about two million dollars a year in today's money.

Through his newspapers, Daniels became an increasingly influential figure in state politics. Determined to end Republican power, which he felt was corrupt and an impediment to economic and social progress, he and his allies targeted African American voters, nearly all of whom voted Republican. Appealing to racial prejudice in inflammatory, provocative language which at times justified violence, he led Democrats in uniting most whites behind them in the elections of 1898 and 1900. Because of the statewide influence of his *News and Observer* and his leadership of the Democratic Party, Craig believes that Daniels "more than any other individual was responsible for the disenfranchisement of the state's African American citizens." Craig also makes the case that Daniels, as Secretary of the Navy, was a key figure in the emergence of the United States as a modern naval power, successfully challenging ages-old traditions and a rigid hierarchy against strong resistance.

Josephus Daniels: His Life & Times is a story well told of an individual notable in the history of North Carolina and the nation. It would be an appropriate acquisition for academic and larger public libraries in the state.

Robert G. Anthony, Jr.
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill



North Carolina's Hurricane History, 4th ed.

By Jay Barnes.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
335 pp. \$35.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-0652-1.

Anyone who has lived in North Carolina for any length of time has either heard the stories of past great storms or has lived through the effects of a hurricane or its aftermath. It is simply something with which North Carolinians must cope, and for which they must prepare.

Jay Barnes's classic, *North Carolina's Hurricane History*, now in its fourth edition, is "updated with a decade of new storms from Isabel to Sandy." The first edition was published in 1995. The first and third editions were examined in preparation for this review. It does not appear that earlier editions were reviewed in *North Carolina Libraries*, although a mention of the second edition was included in "Other Publications of Interest" section in 1998.

The most recent edition builds upon what has been documented previously. This is essentially the same book with additional chapters covering the later years' storms and with minor revisions within the existing text. For all editions, the chapters covering the earlier storms remain the same. The introductory chapters and the later chapters in the fourth edition do have substantially new material.

The strength of the book is its exhaustive documentation of all major storms that have affected the state, as far back as 1524. Of course,

the earliest accounts of storms are taken from diaries and historical documents, and impressions are often sketchy and incomplete. Some of the most fascinating stories center on predicaments faced by unsuspecting citizens before the advent of sophisticated hurricane tracking technology. For example, the 1879 storm caught North Carolina Governor Jarvis and many prominent guests from inland communities at the Atlantic Hotel in Beaufort. Another fascinating story relates the freakish relocation of the Providence Methodist Church in Swan Quarter. The church's congregation wished to build a sanctuary on a piece of property near the center of town, but was refused by the land owner. After this refusal, they went ahead with construction elsewhere, and flooding during a storm in 1876 floated the structure several miles, settling it in the exact location where they had originally wanted to build.

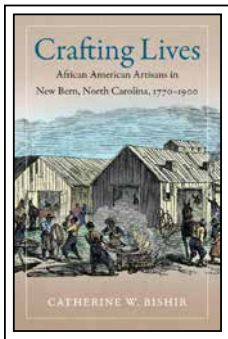
A great feature of the book is the wealth of pictures and charts. Each hurricane's path is charted simply but effectively to show the reader what part of the state was most affected. One of the most important takeaways is that hurricanes are diverse and no two are alike in the ways they cause destruction. A category 1 storm may cause more havoc than a category 5 depending on where landfall occurs and many other factors such as size, wind velocity, and rainfall amounts. No one, for example, had any reason to think that Hurricane Floyd would cause as much flood damage as what resulted. That storm's devastating flooding moved the state to update flood plain maps and to reevaluate land management practices that had exacerbated the damage. The lessons learned from each storm have been incorporated in preparedness plans for the future.

The book concludes with advice

to citizens about how to prepare for storms, and includes a good list of resources and further reading. Jay Barnes has created a successful series of editions to keep us up-to-date on the history of hurricanes as they have affected North Carolina.

Libraries of any substance in North Carolina should have at least one copy of this book, in the most recent edition. Libraries that purport to collect North Carolina should have all editions, especially research level collections and collections devoted to coastal or weather-related topics.

Eleanor I. Cook
East Carolina University



Crafting Lives: African American Artisans in New Bern, North Carolina, 1770-1900

By Catherine W. Bishir.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
380 pp. \$30.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-0875-4.

Catherine Bishir chose a title with a double meaning. The artisans whose history she details led “crafting lives,” pursuing skilled trades. At the same time they “crafted” lives in the sense of creating opportunities for autonomy, dignity, supportive family and community ties, leadership, and commercial success during a period of dramatic political, legal, and social change. A product of painstaking archival research, *Crafting Lives* traces the fortunes of New Bern’s enslaved and free people of color who engaged in carpentry, painting, masonry,

tailoring, dressmaking, shoemaking, painting, blacksmithing, coopering, and wagon- and carriage-making.

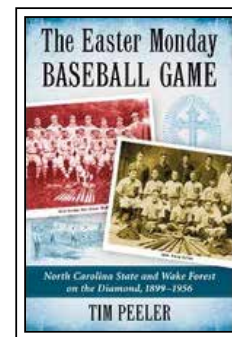
During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, New Bern, a busy port town, had an unusually large number of free blacks who were able to participate fully as citizens: own property (including their own slaves), vote if male property-holders, and assume leadership roles in civic and church life. Between 1830 and the beginning of the Civil War, changes in laws and in the attitudes of many whites caused the erosion of these rights. Many free people of color chose to move to more welcoming cities in the Midwest and Northeast. The Union occupation of New Bern, followed by Emancipation, resulted in a resurgence of power and opportunity for these skilled African Americans. During Reconstruction, artisans who were typically better educated and more sophisticated than laborers, were natural leaders in political, educational, religious, and community service organizations. Soon, however, the rise of virulent white supremacists resulted in the loss of political power and disenfranchisement. The increasing availability of cheap manufactured goods meant that many artisans could no longer earn a good living through their skilled labor and had to turn to more menial work. As in the earlier period, a number of African American artisans chose to move to more hospitable parts of the country. Many who remained continued to work for racial uplift through non-political institutions.

Catherine Bishir, Curator of Architecture Special Collections at North Carolina State University’s Special Collections Research Center, has written or co-written a number of scholarly articles and six books, primarily about North Carolina architecture, architects, and architectural

preservation. Carefully selected illustrations depict the people and places she describes in *Crafting Lives*. The lengthy bibliography (which includes extensive archival sources), numerous footnotes, and a detailed index will be tremendously valuable to future scholars. An appendix gives biographical summaries for thirty-one artisans about whom the author was able to find substantial information.

Bishir’s impeccably researched and clearly written text will be of special interest to those researching African American history or genealogy or New Bern’s past. *Crafting Lives* belongs in local and regional libraries in Craven County and in every academic and large public library in North Carolina. Institutions of any size whose collections emphasize African American or state history will also wish to acquire it.

Elizabeth Dunn
Duke University



The Easter Monday Baseball Game: North Carolina State and Wake Forest on the Diamond, 1899-1956

By Tim Peeler.
Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2013.
230 pp. \$29.95. ISBN 978-0-7864-7452-3.

For more than fifty years North Carolina celebrated the day after Easter—Easter Monday—as a state holiday. For Tar Heel baby boomers and Gen Xers the holiday meant a long weekend. And, perhaps, it raised

some questions as to why they alone among the nation's school children had the day off. But to earlier generations of North Carolinians, Easter Monday may well have occasioned a trip to Raleigh to watch the annual baseball match between the boys of Wake Forest College and North Carolina State College followed by an evening celebrating or drowning one's sorrows—depending on the team you supported—at the PiKA Ball. It's the history of this long-running baseball matchup and the annual dance that Tim Peeler documents in his well-researched work.

North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College (as North Carolina State University was first known) was ten years old in 1899 when its men's baseball team played the first Easter Monday ball game—on this occasion against Bingham Institute of Mebane. The contest drew 700 fans and was the first one played on N.C. A&M's new field. Over the ensuing seven years, the N.C. A&M team continued its tradition of games on Easter Monday, taking on at various times Wake Forest (then a Baptist college in Wake County), Trinity College (the pre-cursor to Duke University), and the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. The exclusive pairing of N.C. A&M and Wake Forest was established in 1908 with a game attended by 2,500 fans that drew front-page coverage from the *Raleigh News & Observer*. With just a few exceptions (the primary one being the years of World War II), the two teams continued their annual contest on Easter Monday through 1955. A matchup was scheduled in 1956, but rain cancelled the meeting and the game was never played.

The Easter Monday contest reached the zenith of its popularity in the 1920s, with the 1925 and 1926 contests drawing more than 8,000

spectators and fans traveling by train from other parts of the state to witness the game. Peeler suggests that some may have attended less for the action had on the field and more for the sights in the stands.

After World War I the annual contest had become a Raleigh social event, with the women of Meredith, Peace, and St. Mary's colleges "a heavy presence at the baseball games" in their colorful Easter bonnets and their white dresses. And the festive air didn't stop with the ballgame's conclusion. By the 1920s the tradition of the PiKA Ball following the game was also well established. The evening dance began in 1906 as an Easter cotillion held by the North Carolina State College chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Over the years men from other fraternities attended, bringing as their dates women from the Raleigh colleges and beyond. By 1928 ball organizers were sending out 2,000 invitations to the event and the invitee list would remain at that number until the annual dance ended in 1961. Such was the status of the ball that nationally known bands such as Gen Krupa's and Johnny Long's performed and three North Carolina governors served as honorary chaperones.

Oral tradition holds that the popularity of the Easter Monday ballgame sparked legislators to adopt the day as a state holiday in 1935. Peeler echoes this story. But the veracity of such a claim is in dispute since no documents have been found to show a clear relationship between the law's introduction and the ballgame. With the exception of this one disputable fact, Peeler's work is a rich record of two mostly forgotten annual events on the state calendar. In fact, Peeler's account is so chock full of detail—he quotes liberally from news accounts of the events—that, at times, his

narrative voice is lost. Peeler has included an appendix with statistics on Wake Forest and N.C. State players who had pro careers, along with a bibliography, and an index that allows readers to locate specific players in the text. This book would be a valuable resource for state and local history collections in public and academic libraries.

John Blythe
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



The Forgotten First: B-1 and the Integration of the Modern Navy

By Alex Albright.
Fountain, NC: R.A. Fountain, Inc., 2013.
194 pp. \$20.00. ISBN 978-0-9842-1022-0.

The history of race relations in the United States is bound up, at least in part, with the history of the military in this country. Because the military is both a closed system and a system bound by rules and obedience to those rules, it can sometimes be used as a laboratory, testing barriers and taboos in a way that society at large—unruly and undisciplined as it is—could never hope to test with any degree of certainty. As such, the various arms of the military have, over the years, sometimes been the avenue by which civilian authorities have sought to reconcile social progress with social order.

Alex Albright has chronicled one such step—in this case, one route to integration, or at least the

beginnings of social acceptance of African Americans as equal citizens—in *The Forgotten First: B-1 and the Integration of the Modern Navy*. In it, he chronicles a remarkable group of young musicians, many of them with ties to North Carolina, who played a small but significant part in the opening up of the United States Navy, and by extension the entire United States military, to the idea of African Americans as *ranked servicemen*, rather than just as service personnel such as mess attendants and stevedores.

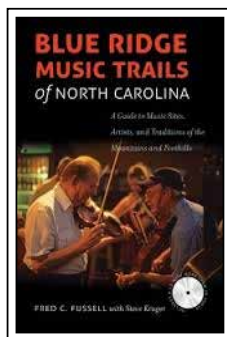
Albright begins with a capsule history of the presence of African Americans in the military, from the Revolutionary War to the start of World War II. He also provides a detailed and fascinating portrait of the pressures for change brought to bear by respected opinion makers, such as James Shepard, C. C. Spaulding, and Frank Porter Graham, who each sought in varying ways to use the crisis of the war as an avenue for social change.

The bulk of the book however, is about the formation and subsequent history of this particular unit and the men who were part of it. Fashioned from oral histories of surviving band members as well as friends and neighbors who remembered the band and its effect on their lives, along with newspaper accounts, surviving military records, and program notes, Albright builds a picture of the unit and its members. He follows the musicians from recruitment to training in Norfolk and billeting in Chapel Hill, right through to their ultimate—and somewhat unexpected—deployment to Pearl Harbor. The author skillfully pilots the reader through an intimate portrait of the band members as they negotiated their way through the complexities inherent in service to a military that treated them as second

class citizens. He also delineates how they calibrated their interactions with the larger community around them, particularly in the South, which was still profoundly segregated and deeply suspicious of authority or dignity being granted to non-whites. Concurrently, Albright also details the musical careers of many of the band members, both during and after the war, and provides an enlivening account of their many concerts and performances.

Illustrated throughout with programs, concert pictures, and—most welcome of all—pictures of each of the band members, this book is highly recommended for collections focused on North Carolina history, on military history, and on the history of race relations and integration.

Steven Case
State Library of North Carolina



Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina: A Guide to Music Sites, Artists, and Traditions of the Mountains and Foothills

By Fred C. Fussell, with Steve Kruger.
Photographs by Cedric N. Chatterley.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press,
2013. 281 pp. \$20.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-0821-1.

Describing the appeal of traditional Appalachian music, banjo player Kinney Rorrer of the New North Carolina Ramblers says, “This music is so authentic, it’s so real, and it’s a true reflection of the people who worked in the mills, in

the tobacco field, in the coal mines ... There’s so much fakery now and so much plastic in our world, that it’s nice to see something, like this music, that’s real and isn’t just a veneer.”

This appreciation for the music traditions of western North Carolina infuses *Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina*, a detailed guide to events and venues where visitors can hear traditional music. Much more than just a guidebook, it also features profiles of traditional musicians and sidebars on various topics related to western North Carolina culture and history.

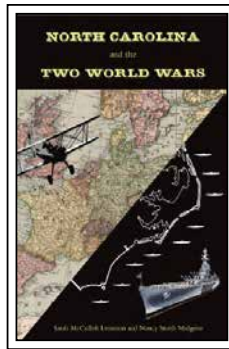
The book is divided geographically into six regions. Each section begins with an overview of the region, followed by a listing of events and venues by county. Events range from MerleFest in Wilkesboro, which draws tens of thousands, to much smaller events such as the *Christian Harmony* hymn sing in Etowah. The book also features venues that host regular musical events, such as the Maggie Valley Opry House, home of the well-known banjo player Raymond Fairchild, and a barber shop in Drexel that hosts a weekly jam session. The range of events described—from large to small, formal to informal—is remarkable. Musical styles represented include bluegrass, old-time, gospel, blues, and string band music. There is an emphasis on this music as a living tradition that continues to grow and change. Many of the events, such as jam sessions, are participatory for those who choose to join in, and there are also events where attendees can dance to live music. Detailed information is given on each event, including dates and times, location (with driving directions), admission fee, contact information, and websites with further information.

Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina is an excellent travel guide

but is also enjoyable and informative to read cover to cover because of the wealth of information and stories about traditional music and other aspects of Appalachian culture. There are sixteen profiles of contemporary musicians scattered throughout the book, each of whom comes at traditional music from a different perspective. Interviewees include Uwe Krüger, who grew up in Switzerland and discovered American folk music through Folkways Records; Donna Ray Norton, who comes from a long line of ballad singers and took up the family tradition as a teenager; and Alfred and Maybelle Welch, who sing hymns in the Cherokee language. There are also sidebars on famous North Carolina musicians such as Doc Watson and Earl Scruggs, as well as the origins of well-known folk songs and other topics that enrich the reader's understanding of western North Carolina culture.

The book has a detailed index and is accompanied by a compact disc with recordings by many of the musicians featured in the book, which greatly enhances the reader's appreciation for the music being described. Fred C. Fussell is also the author of the 2003 book *Blue Ridge Music Trails: Finding a Place in the Circle*, portions of which are adapted for this book. The book is recommended for academic and public libraries that collect books on travel, music, or traditional culture.

Michelle Cronquist
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill



North Carolina and the Two World Wars

By Sarah McCulloh Lemmon and Nancy Smith Midgette.
 Raleigh: Office of Archives and History, 2013.
 245 pp. \$15.00. ISBN 978-0-86526-444-1.

Less than a month after the Pearl Harbor attack of World War II, Duke University in North Carolina hosted the Rose Bowl after the United States military had determined the risk of Japanese bombing was too great for the annual event to be held in its hometown, Pasadena, California. This and many other stories of how North Carolina and its citizens made contributions, both great and small, during the World Wars and the interwar years fill the pages of *North Carolina and the Two World Wars*. This new release from the North Carolina Office of Archives and History revises and combines two previously released works by Sarah McCulloh Lemmon of Meredith College, *North Carolina's Role in World War I* (1966) and *North Carolina's Role in World War II* (1964), with a new section on the inter-war period by Nancy Smith Midgette of Elon University.

Professors Lemmon and Midgette recount how North Carolina provided the nation with government and military leaders, including Walter Page who was an ambassador in London and Josephus Daniels who was one of the Secretaries of the Navy in World War I. The state also supplied natural resources and industrial goods, including 243 naval ships built in World War II. The authors

provide accounts of military organizations with many North Carolinian members, including the Army's "Old Hickory" and "Wildcats" divisions in World War I, and Camp Montford Point in Onslow County, where about 20,000 African-American Marines trained during World War II.

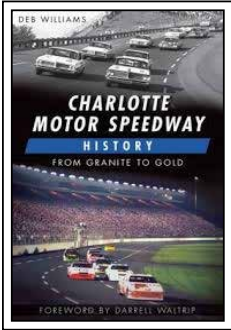
Beyond political and military leaders, those serving in combat roles, and raw production facts, Lemmon and Midgette feature the numerous notable contributions of women, students, and community and church groups to the war efforts. Besides the great support for the wars clearly presented, the authors also write about those who opposed the wars and about solely domestic issues, including school and mental health care reforms in the state.

The authors combine headlines and quotations from news stories and editorials from the state's various newspapers with excerpts from letters and diaries written by troops and others abroad and on the home front to give personal voices to the history of North Carolina's involvement in the wars and the tumultuous interwar years, which were dominated by the Great Depression and the New Deal. The numerous photographs, political cartoons, tables, and other illustrations included throughout the text further enhance this already highly readable narrative history. The detailed index and illustration list help readers quickly locate relevant material.

Lemmon and Midgette clearly impart the impressive extent of government coordination and public support for the war efforts. In this succinct book, they have well documented North Carolina's roles on the battlefield, in government, and throughout the state's rural and urban areas, school and college campuses, and households. *North Carolina and*

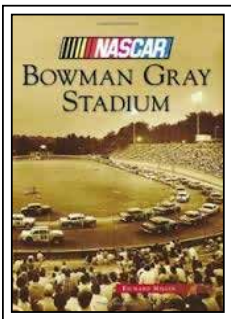
the Two World Wars is engrossing and highly informative for casual readers of history, yet it will also certainly be a boon to academic researchers for years to come. High school, public, and academic libraries are encouraged to add this title to their collections.

C. William Gee
East Carolina University



Charlotte Motor Speedway History: From Granite to Gold

By Deb Williams.
Charleston, SC: History Press, 2013.
158 pp. \$19.99. ISBN 978-1-62629-018-4.



Bowman Gray Stadium

By Richard Miller.
Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2013.
127pp. \$21.99. ISBN 978-0-7385-9918-2.

North Carolina is the traditional center of southern stock car racing. Two recent publications showcase a pair of its historic racetracks.

Charlotte Motor Speedway (CMS) is one of the top racetracks in the country. It hosts two major NASCAR race weekends each year as well as several smaller series races, and it is a major economic force in the state. As well established as the track

is today, its beginnings were, literally, very rocky. Author Deb Williams, a veteran motorsports journalist who is the former editor of *NASCAR Scene* and a recipient of the Henry T. McLemore Award for continued outstanding motorsports journalism, has penned an inside look at the men who built and raced at CMS.

In the 1950s two men envisioned the sport of stock car racing growing beyond the local dirt tracks around the state. Stock car driver Curtis Turner and race promoter Bruton Smith each decided to build a speedway in the Charlotte area, but both ran into financial difficulties. They joined forces in 1959 to construct the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Even after combining their resources, funding was an issue, and the financial strain was exacerbated when the boulders on the site turned out to be the tip of a half-million yards of solid granite. The paving was not completed until the morning of qualifying runs for the inaugural race on June 19, 1960, and large chunks of track were gouged up all during practice and the event itself. Cars used screens over their grills and windshields to deflect the hunks of pavement. The eventual winner of stock car racing's first 600-mile race—also the first race to offer a \$100,000 purse—was Joe Lee Johnson, said by one spectator to be the slowest car in the field.

The track faced massive debt, and both Turner and Smith were jettisoned by the board of directors in June 1961. Stockholder Richard Howard stepped in to rescue the facility and slowly brought it to solvency. In the meantime, Smith began quietly buying up the seemingly worthless stock and in the 1970s returned as the majority stockholder. He quickly gained control of the board and brought in H. A. “Humpty” Wheeler to promote the

track. Over the next thirty years the two men, both products of a rural North Carolina upbringing, became legendary for being well ahead of the curve in business acumen and event promotion. Under Wheeler, called the P. T. Barnum of motorsports, the track became known for elaborate pre-race entertainment. CMS was the first to build trackside condominiums and a fine dining restaurant open year round; the first to install a mammoth HD television screen; and the first to establish a weekly racing series for children. Smith and Wheeler had a parting of the ways in 2008, and Smith brought in his son Marcus to take over Wheeler's duties.

Deb Williams has covered the primary events in the track's history in a very readable narrative, including topics ranging from drivers whose first win came at CMS, to a survey of the movies filmed at the Speedway. Of particular interest is the account of Curtis Turner's alliance with the Teamsters Union, in which he agreed to help unionize the drivers in return for a loan to alleviate the Speedway's financial crisis. The action provoked NASCAR president Bill France Sr.'s legendary response that before he would accept a union, he would “plow up Daytona International Speedway and plant corn in the infield” and that he would use a gun to enforce his banishment from all NASCAR races any driver who was a teamster member.

The volume contains many photographs from the CMS archives, including a center section of color illustrations. While the color reproductions are good, some of the black-and-white photos lack sharpness. Also included in the book are an appendix of race results of all NASCAR Cup races and All-Star races at the track, a brief bibliography and list of Internet sites, and a subject

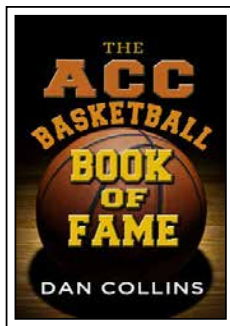
index.

Bowman Gray Stadium is a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project composed of a racetrack with a football field in the infield. Auto races were first held there in 1939, and the quarter-mile track is NASCAR's oldest weekly race track. Bowman Gray has been the site of heated competition among the stars of racing in midgets, modifieds, stocks, and more. Its Saturday night races draw as many as 15,000 fans each week. Bowman Gray attracted national attention in 2010 when the History Channel broadcasted the *Madhouse* series, featuring local racing stars Tim Brown, Junior Miller, and the Myers family.

Bowman Gray Stadium follows the usual Arcadia Publishing format. It is filled with historic black-and-white photographs, each with a brief caption. The quality of the photos, mostly from the Bowman Gray Racing Archives, is excellent. This is not a true history of the track, but it is certainly satisfying eye candy. Author Richard Miller is the chief scorer at Bowman Gray Stadium. *Charlotte Motor Speedway History: From Granite to Gold* and *Bowman Gray Stadium* are written for general readers. They help to fill the need for published material on the history of auto racing in North Carolina.

Charlotte Motor Speedway History is notable for its thorough research and historical information, while *Bowman Gray Stadium* presents an enjoyable collection of nostalgic photographs. Both books will appeal to older children, teens, and adults who are racing fans, and could be especially useful to entice reluctant readers. They are recommended for school, public, and academic libraries.

Suzanne Wise
Appalachian State University



The ACC Basketball Book of Fame

By Dan Collins.
Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 2013. 319 pp. \$26.95. ISBN 978-0-89587-606-5.

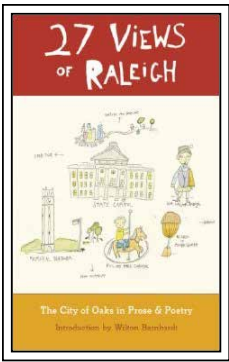
Men's basketball in the Atlantic Coast Conference, better known as the ACC, is a way of life. Fans of ACC basketball whip themselves into a frenzy cheering for their teams. A win or loss against a conference rival can make or break a season, regardless of the team's final record. This passion is what makes the ACC one of the best and most competitive conferences in men's collegiate basketball. Its long and storied history has been filled with players who will go down as some of the best that have played college basketball.

Dan Collins has covered ACC men's basketball as a sportswriter for more than forty years, first for the *Chapel Hill Newspaper* and for the last twenty years with the *Winston-Salem Journal*, and he is the author of *Tales from the Wake Forest Hardwood*. In *The ACC Basketball Book of Fame*, he details some of the greatest players in the ACC's history from the most recent back to the conference's founding in 1953. While the player profiles include stories from the court, they also touch on who these players were personally, where they came from, how they ended up playing for their schools, what became of them, and how certain events, other players, and coaches affected their playing careers and lives. In my opinion, these personal stories really make this book.

However, with over sixty years of history and so many great players to choose from, how do you go about choosing the best in an objective way? You certainly cannot expect fans whose love for their team is matched only by their hatred for their team's biggest rival to be objective. Many greatest player lists can be skewed by those who compare yesterday's players to today's players without taking into the account the changes to the game, or when people do not take a long view to history and only think of the players they remember. Because of the ACC's foresight in preserving the records of the number of votes each player received for All-ACC honors, Collins was able to develop a system that allowed him to score players based on the judgments of those who actually watched them—and their competitors—play. He confesses that to exclude such players as Tree Rollins of Clemson and Dennis Scott of Georgia Tech is crazy, but their numbers just did not add up. One thing that his system does ensure is that some of the little known ACC greats like Tom Owens of the University of South Carolina and Lou Pucillo of North Carolina State University receive their due.

This book is suitable for both public and academic libraries. ACC schools, at least those in the conference as of 2013, as well as the University of South Carolina, should purchase a copy for the information it contains on players, coaches, and important teams. Due to some coarse language and stories concerning drug use, it may not be suitable for a young audience. However, it is a must read for any fan of college basketball.

Jay Gaidmore
College of William and Mary



27 Views of Raleigh: The City of Oaks in Prose & Poetry

Introduction by Wilton Barnhardt.
Hillsborough, NC: Eno Publishers, 2013.
218 pp. \$15.95. ISBN 978-0-9832-4755-5.

North Carolina has a gracious plenty of gifted writers and their talents are on display in the 27 Views series from Eno Press. Each volume features writers who live in a particular place; the first centered on Hillsborough. Subsequent volumes focused on Asheville, Chapel Hill and Durham; the latest highlights Raleigh. The literary forms represented include articles, essays, poems, short stories, and excerpts from novels.

Many contributors to *27 View of Raleigh* are natives of the Tar Heel State, including novelist Wilton Barnhardt, who wrote the very funny introduction to the volume. Some are transplants, such as Elaine Orr, who hails from Georgia, and Juliana M. Nfah-Abbenyi, who moved to Raleigh from Cameroon. Other contributors include fiction writers Peggy Payne, June Spence and Bridgette Lacey; poets Lenard D. Moore, Betty Adcock, Dorianne Laux, David Rigsbee, and Tom Hawkins; journalists Grayson Currin and Amanda Lamb; and children's book authors Eleanora Tate and Kelly Starling Lyons.

Personal reminiscences of Raleigh are among the most compelling pieces. Jimmy Creech recounts his participation, as a local pastor, in

Raleigh's 1988 Gay Pride Parade. Tina Haver Currin recalls her first visit to Raleigh as a child to spend a fraught Christmas with her father and stepmother. Tracie Fellers pays homage to her Aunt Bunny, who sewed the dress she wore to the Alpha Kappa Alpha Debutante Ball. Rob Christensen's history of the Sir Walter Hotel provides insight into how politics were conducted once upon a time in Raleigh.

The culinary, music and art scenes are represented, in Scott Huler's reminiscences about the local musical group The Backsliders, Andrea Weigl's portrait of local chef Ashley Christensen, and Liza Robert's piece on artist Thomas Sayre. Other locales and time periods portrayed include today's Oakwood neighborhood; the flourishing black community of 1920s Hargett Street; the North Carolina State Fair as experienced over a lifetime; the natural beauty of Umstead Park; and the gritty world experienced by those who walk into the Wake County Courthouse for a variety of reasons.

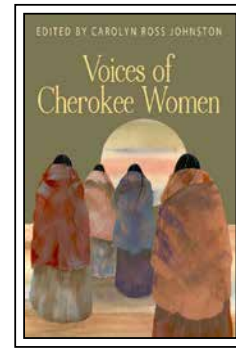
Short stories and excerpts from novels are in the final section, which showcases Raleigh in fiction. Contributors to this section are Margaret Maron, John Kessel, Angela Davis-Gardner, G. D. Gearino, Hillary Hebert and Sheila Smith McKoy.

All the pieces are grouped into themes in a detailed table of contents. A short biography of the contributing author follows each entry. There is a list of the other titles available in the series appended, but no other bibliography or index.

This is a hugely entertaining, highly readable combination of history, memoir, fiction, and essays. The result is a detailed and fascinating portrait of a specific place, as seen through the eyes of gifted writers.

27 Views of Raleigh is highly recommended for medium and larger North Carolina libraries and for smaller library systems located near Raleigh.

Janet Lockhart
Wake County Public Libraries



Voices of Cherokee Women

By Carolyn Ross Johnston, ed.
Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 2013.
295 pp. \$12.95. ISBN 978-0-89587-599-0.

Before the arrival of Europeans in America, Cherokee women held equal status with men. To the Europeans, this gender equality was a sign that the Cherokees were "uncivilized." In an attempt to acculturate, Cherokee women were stripped of rights they'd previously enjoyed. They lost all overt political power and ultimately were robbed of the homes they owned and the land they'd cultivated.

In *Voices of Cherokee Women*, Carolyn Ross Johnston, professor of history and American studies at Eckerd College, uses first-person narratives to tell the stories of Cherokee women in their own words. She divides the book into seven sections: stories of the Cherokees, encounters with Europeans, experiences of Cherokee women with the United States government's civilization program, the Trail of Tears, the Civil War, allotment and assimilation, and Cherokee women leaders. Each section contains a brief introduction,

followed by excerpts from primary source materials, including oral histories, journals, letters, and published books.

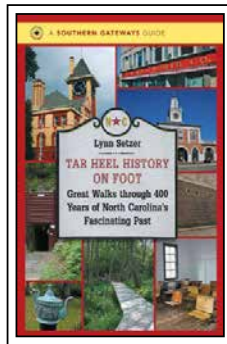
The stories are at times uplifting, and often heartbreaking. For example, excerpts from the diary of Catharine Brown, who was celebrated in her time as a triumph of the civilization program, show a woman struggling to maintain her adopted Christian lifestyle. The journal of Daniel Sabin Butrick, a minister who traveled the Trail of Tears, describes the suffering of the Cherokees, with an emphasis on women and children. In his words, “It would seem that the power, the wisdom and the funds of the whole union have been employed for the temporal and eternal ruin of this little handful of Indians.”

Despite the suffering expressed throughout the book, *Voices of Cherokee Women* ends on a positive note, expressing hope for the future of Cherokee women. The final selection is an essay entitled “Womanhood” by Wilma Mankiller, who was principal chief of the Cherokee from 1987 to 1995, and was the first woman to hold that position. Mankiller initially struggled to be accepted. “It seemed the strong role of women in Cherokee life had been forgotten by some of our own people.” Ultimately, she overcame the gender barrier. As she puts it, “In a way, my elections were a step forward for women and a step into the Cherokee tradition of balance between men and women.”

Voices of Cherokee Women is Carolyn Ross Johnston’s fifth book. Her prior publications include *Cherokee Women in Crisis: Trail of Tears, Civil War, and Allotment, 1838-1907* and *Sexual Power: Feminism and Family in America*. *Voices of Cherokee Women* is appropriate for a wide range of audiences. It takes a broad view of Cherokee history, and would serve

as a good introduction. At the same time, the focus on women and the emphasis on primary source material will appeal to readers with greater familiarity with the topic. This book is appropriate for both academic and public libraries.

Elizabeth Hobart
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Tar Heel History on Foot: Great Walks through 400 Years of North Carolina's Fascinating Past

By Lynn Setzer.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
348 pp. ISBN 978-1-4696-0890-7 (paper) \$20.00.

Follow the footsteps of the Greensboro Four. Stroll through ghostly Oconeechee Speedway. Relive history in downtown New Bern. These are but three of the thirty-four walks presented in great detail in this lively guidebook, one of the University of North Carolina Press’s *Southern Gateways Guide* series, and a must for anyone who both loves history and enjoys the outdoors.

The author, a North Carolina native currently living in Winston-Salem, personally selected and walked each entry, and her enthusiasm for this task shines through. The contents are arranged in three historical (roughly chronological) sections, with a helpful geographic table of contents as well. Unfortunately there is no index, but the entries remain

very accessible.

Each entry opens with the general historical context, followed by detailed walking directions and information about sights to see along the way. For each walk there is a map and, sometimes, a photo or two. Helpful specifics of distance, walking surface, hours, availability of restrooms, rules for pets, and even recommended footwear are included. Although occasionally it is difficult to place the small map in its larger geographic context, if you combine this book with a roadmap or GPS, you will be equipped with all you need to have a most satisfying experience. This reviewer personally has explored several of the walks and finds Setzer’s entries accurate and informative. The guide would be a perfect gift for a North Carolina newcomer!

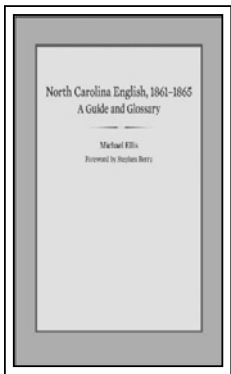
The author’s infectious enthusiasm for her method of studying history makes one want to add new destinations to one’s travel wish list. Setzer mixes the familiar—Kitty Hawk, Old Salem, Mount Mitchell—with the less familiar—Cooleemee Mill, Jones Lake State Park, tobacco history in Wilson. The walks may be urban, suburban, or rural; there is something for everyone. One could quibble over sites omitted, for example, historic Beaufort and my favorite, the North Carolina Zoo, but Setzer offers excellent diversity and geographic coverage.

This is a guidebook, not a historical tome, so, as the author says in her introduction, “No chapter describing any one walk could possibly tell everything that should be told along that particular route.” She recommends local museums and visitor centers and includes twenty-three pages of additional sources at the end of the book. That said, this reviewer felt that each entry could stand alone as a mini-history, well and humorously

written, very informative even if the reader never leaves home.

Tar Heel History on Foot will be very popular in public libraries and is recommended for high school and academic libraries as well. Teachers will find it helpful for field trips. Once readers discover this book, however, they will want their own personal copies for annotating and stuffing into a purse or backpack as they hit the open road.

Kate Hickey
Retired from Elon University



North Carolina English, 1861-1865: A Guide and Glossary

By Michael Ellis.
Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2013.
328 pp. \$95.00. ISBN 978-1-62190-002-3.

During the Civil War, there was an explosion of correspondence in America, as soldiers wrote about their experiences and family members shared news from home. *North Carolina English, 1861-1865* focuses on letters written by people with limited formal education and demonstrates the possibility of “hearing” the speech of letter-writers through variant spellings, grammatical choices, and idiomatic expressions. At its heart, it is a scholarly work that illuminates the state’s language as it was spoken in the mid-nineteenth century. However, it is also a useful tool for anyone interested in understanding original Civil War materials

from the Old North State.

Author Michael Ellis has previously written articles on Appalachian English and Southern dialects. He is also the co-founder of the Corpus of American Civil War Letters (CACWL), a project that gathers and transcribes writings documenting the way American English was spoken in the mid-nineteenth century. *North Carolina English, 1861-1865* is based upon materials in the CACWL, and it is meant to fill the scholarly gap left between Norman Eliason’s *Tarheel Talk* and the *Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States*. To do this, Ellis consulted over 2300 Civil War-era letters representing geographic and demographic cross-sections of North Carolina. More than half of the letter-writers were Confederate soldiers, but women, non-soldiers, African Americans, and Union soldiers were also included.

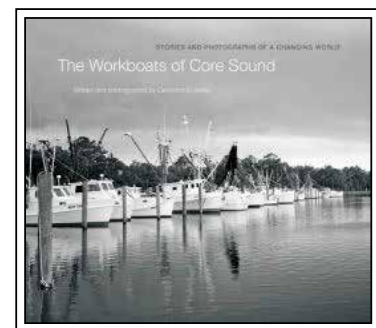
The bulk of the work is a glossary, with each entry followed by one or more real examples of the term’s use. Most of the examples are unique, but some are noticeably repeated. A number of the terms are recognizable, although their familiarity is often tempered by spelling, meaning, or grammar variations. Others will be unknown to most modern readers. The book is particularly useful for unfamiliar terms such as “see the elephant,” “candy stew,” “lag-ons,” “all right on the goose,” “take a highlow,” and “the owls have caught him.” The cross-references between different spellings and related words/phrases are handy, as are references to applicable introductory sections. Unfortunately, some cross-references are unidirectional and thus of more limited utility.

In addition to the glossary, the book contains introductory sections outlining the project and the letter-writers, a guide to reading Civil War

letters, and an overview of vocabulary, grammar, and spelling. Several maps are included, as well as an annotated “Gallery” of letters. These reproductions add context, but would be more useful if the phrases found in the glossary were marked on the accompanying transcriptions. The book’s concluding appendices list the letter-writers alphabetically and provide information about them from the 1860 census; another appendix listing the letter-writers by county of residence would have been a welcome addition. A final bibliography lists all archival and published sources.

Although the Civil War is a perennially popular topic, the recent sesquicentennial has sparked even more interest in the era. *North Carolina English, 1861-1865* is a valuable reference source for students and researchers at academic libraries, but it would also be useful for any public or special library that has Civil War-era manuscript materials written by North Carolinians.

Jenny McElroy
Minnesota Historical Society



The Workboats of Core Sound: Stories and Photographs of a Changing World

By Lawrence S. Earley.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
166 pp. \$35.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-1064-1.

Lawrence Earley’s *The Workboats of Core Sound* is a moving tribute in word and image to the fierce

independence and the tenacity of the people of the Down East fishing communities and of the workboats that have given them identity and connection for nearly three centuries. The book also records the author's personal journey to understanding and appreciating these communities. In the 1980s, Earley was initially drawn to photographing the austere beauty of the Core Sound area with its vast vistas of sky and water and salt marshes, and of its ever-present workboats, but he confesses "I did not appreciate then how a photograph can be a doorway into another world. Nor did I know that the act of making photographs would have such a profound effect on my own life, teaching me lessons about friendship and community, time and memory, pride and loss."

What he came to realize much later, through conversations with Core Sound boat builders and fishermen, was that these beautifully crafted, hand-built wooden fishing boats were unique and that through the generations they were the bearers of a social history binding communities and people together.

The older a boat, the wider its network of connections. In the aggregate, these layers of detailed information sometimes enabled me to assemble a boat's "family tree," a genealogical web of connections and memories with the boat at the center. Indeed, a workboat plays another role in the community besides the practical purposes for which it was built. The stories and memories associated with a boat are like family tales told around the dinner table and passed down from one generation to another. They are as important to community life as family stories are to family life. Stories exist at large in these communities, and in a sense they draw people together. Workboats link

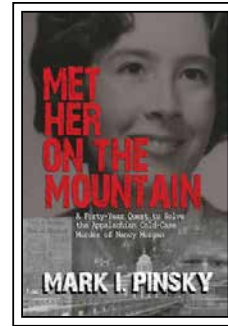
people, families, and communities.

Beginning around 2004, Earley spent several years photographing Core Sound workboats and interviewing people from the Down East fishing villages, getting to know them and their lives. The result is this book of elegant prose, colorful stories, and stunningly beautiful, fine-grained black-and-white photographs documenting a way of life that may well be passing. He traces the geography of the region and its villages, the history of the varied styles of boatbuilding, the hard work of fishing itself, and the changing world that is engulfing these communities.

At the heart of the book is the Core Sound workboat that connects community and individual. "Though made of perishable wood, the old workboats of Core Sound are surely one of the glories of the Down East Region," Earley writes. "They are monuments to some of the best of all human impulses: to hard work, to wrest elegant designs out of stubborn materials, and to craft things of utility and beauty. They strengthen the web of community bonds that would inevitably weaken without them, and thus they preserve an essential part of Down East culture. They are the history keepers, the memory keepers in a region that is looking to the future. They are compass points for communities seeking a new direction."

This is a welcome book and is recommended for public and academic libraries.

Tommy Nixon
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Met Her on the Mountain: A Forty-Year Quest to Solve the Appalachian Cold-Case Murder of Nancy Morgan

By Mark I. Pinsky.
Winston-Salem, NC: John F. Blair, 2013.
280 pp. \$24.95. ISBN 978-0-8958-7611-9.

In the late 1960s Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty saw thousands of young Americans flooding rural and underserved areas to work on projects to uplift the local populace. This was especially true in Appalachia. One of these groups was VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) which served as a domestic Peace Corps. Although the work of these young idealists had positive effects in the regions that they served, they were not always welcome by the local people. Former Los Angeles Times reporter and Duke University graduate Mark Pinsky's book *Met Her on the Mountain: A Forty-Year Quest to Solve the Appalachian Cold-Case Murder of Nancy Morgan* tells the story of how one of these conflicts went terribly wrong. This well-researched book focuses on the murder of twenty-four-year old VISTA member Nancy Morgan, who was raped and murdered in 1970 in Madison County, North Carolina. Her partially clothed and hog-tied body was found in the back of her government-issued car on a muddy back road.

The book is sectioned into three parts: The Murder, The Trial, and The Reinvestigation. It begins with an examination of the region itself, including its topography and

sociopolitical climate. In the first part, Pinsky focuses on the nature of rural power, especially the prevalence of family-controlled political machines and how those organizations can exert control over both the local people and law enforcement. Also included is a brief history of VISTA's activities in the region. Once the stage is set, he details Nancy Morgan's last weeks before her death. He covers the initial investigation of the murder, muddied by shoddy police work and territorial conflicts among the FBI, the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and the Madison County sheriff's office. Although some suspects were identified, the case eventually went cold, haunting the region for over a decade.

The second part focuses on the reinvigorated investigation and the 1982 trial of Ed Walker, a VISTA coworker of Morgan's who was also the prime suspect during the initial investigation. Pinsky vividly recounts Walker's arrest and trial, building genuine tension in the reader. The conflict between the local sheriff E. Y. Ponder (a brother of the leader of the local political machine) and Walker's folksy, yet skilled, defense lawyer Joe Huff is particularly compelling. The state's flimsy case, based largely on the testimony of a convicted felon, soon fell apart and led to Walker's acquittal. After the trial there were still more questions than answers about the horrific events of 1970.

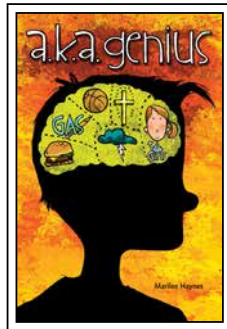
The final part of the book focuses on Pinsky's own efforts to solve the case. His personal research includes interviews with persons of interest and review of information gleaned from police files. He eventually finds evidence pointing to a group of local ruffians as the most likely culprits. He even gets a confession from one of his suspects, who was serving life

in prison for the poisoning of his own daughter. Throughout this part of the book, Pinsky describes his unsuccessful attempts to get the investigation fully reopened. The murder remains unsolved.

This well-written book contains only one flaw. Although it provides the reader with an incredibly deep account of the murder, trial, and investigation, it does not include any footnotes or a bibliography to indicate where much of the information was gleaned. This surely would have strengthened the book as a whole. Despite this, Pinsky provides interested readers with an engaging, if morbid, story.

This book is suitable for advanced readers and both public and academic libraries.

Matthew Reynolds
East Carolina University



A.K.A. Genius

By Marilee Haynes.
Boston: Pauline Books & Media, 2013.
208 pp. \$9.95. ISBN 978-0-8198-0830-1.

“**R**eally? Could you help a guy out once in a while? If I’m not a lost cause right now, who is?” That’s Gabe asking the statue of St. Jude, the patron saint of lost causes, for help with his numerous dilemmas: one of his best friends, Maya, now hates him because he usurped her as the smartest kid in their grade; his dad wants a jock for a son and picks a cousin for his basketball team instead of

Gabe; his sister hates him and makes him feel like a dorky shrimp; and, oh yeah, Gabe gets gassy when he’s nervous and he gets nervous every time he’s around his dream girl, Becka. And, don’t even get him started on his locker.

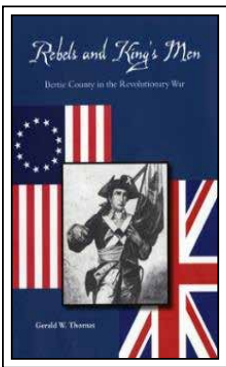
In *Gabe*, first-time North Carolina novelist Marilee Haynes offers up a rare juvenile literary character—a male protagonist who deals with the type of emotional conflicts mainly addressed in juvenile fiction written for girls. Instead of facing down magical creatures in a fantastical land, Gabe battles his self-doubt and insecurity in his Catholic middle school in North Carolina. Tweens will identify with Gabe’s bewilderment at how to navigate new perspectives on family, friends, romantic love, and the world in general.

Gabe’s teacher tells the class “Robert Frost said that poetry is the result of feelings finding thoughts, and thoughts expressing themselves in words.” Making those connections between physical sensations, the emotions that cause those physical sensations, and discussing those feelings is new territory for tweens and Gabe. Kids will identify with Gabe when his “stomach clenches,” when his ears “feel like they’re on fire,” when “hearing my mom say the word puberty was excruciating,” and when he pushes his feelings back down “somewhere near my liver.” Haynes is good at connecting the physical sensations that bombard tweens (“the top of my head starts tingling, and my stomach goes queasy”) back to their emotional causes, and then allowing the reader to see the light, or hope, at the end of the tunnel. Tween readers may agree with Gabe when he sees his middle school days as “so far, so weird.” But they will also come away with a sense of community in their suffering and be able to identify the

causes of these visceral onslaughts, armed with the vocabulary to talk about them.

The religious references are very subtle considering the Catholic publisher; however, those references make this title more suitable for a public library rather than school library collection. Although the protagonist is in seventh grade and the book is marketed as a young adult book, the lack of any sexual references and the violence being limited to a couple punches would allow this title to fit nicely into a juvenile fiction collection.

Linda Winkler
Wake County Public Libraries



Rebels and King's Men: Bertie County in the Revolutionary War

By Gerald W. Thomas.
Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Office of Archives and History, 2013.
221 pp. \$15.00. ISBN 978-0-86526-451-9.

Gerald W. Thomas, a native of Bertie County and retired federal executive, has produced a thoroughly documented and well-written account of his home county's role in the Revolutionary War. Most counties in North Carolina are fortunate if they have one professionally crafted history. *Rebels and King's Men* is Thomas's third local history title, having published similar works on Bertie County during the War of 1812 and the Civil War. Together

with Alan D. Watson's *Bertie County: A Brief History*, also published by the Office of Archives and History, Thomas's books make an outstanding contribution to knowledge of Bertie County's past.

One of the strengths of the book is the degree to which it places local history in the context of state and national events. Thomas carefully explains the causes of the Revolution, the unrest in the colony that preceded the war, and the trials and tribulations of both the American and British troops during years of conflict. He provides key information about the strategies employed by the opposing forces and explains how troops from Bertie County, both Continental volunteers and drafted militia, were raised and deployed. Of particular interest are the diligent efforts of the state of North Carolina's first governor, Richard Caswell, to carry out legislative mandates to obtain fresh recruits—an increasingly difficult task. Bertie County men served with General George Washington in the Middle Atlantic States and saw action also in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia as the war wound to a conclusion. Thomas provides surprisingly detailed information about the involvement of Bertie County troops in specific battles as well as their sufferings and casualties.

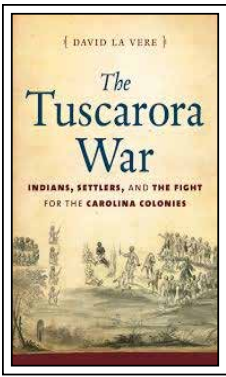
The book provides insights into the activities of Loyalists during the Revolution. In particular, Thomas describes the conspiracy led by John Llewelyn of Martin County to undermine the Whig cause. In several northeastern counties, including Bertie, the conspirators initially sought to protect the Anglican Church; they also vowed to protect those who suffered because of their loyalty to the British crown. Later they developed a plan to resist taking

required oaths of allegiance to North Carolina's fledgling government. Llewelyn even considered the possibility of inciting slaves to rebel and of capturing Governor Caswell. Whig leaders discovered the conspiracy, however, and put it down. Some of the leaders were arrested and tried, but none was executed. Most left the state.

The story of Bertie County during the Revolution comes to life as a result of the author's meticulous research in primary and secondary sources. The extensive bibliography reveals Thomas's use not only of such published sources as *The Colonial Records of North Carolina*, but also of county and state records at the State Archives of North Carolina and record groups at the National Archives. Many records concerning the service of North Carolina troops have been lost, but Thomas made a serious effort to compile rosters of Bertie men who fought in different capacities. The appendices listing these men are a valuable addition to the book.

Rebels and King's Men: Bertie County in the Revolutionary War, which contains a useful index and thirty illustrations (including portraits of military leaders and maps of battles in which Bertie County men participated), is a model local history. It is recommended for academic libraries. Public and high school libraries in northeastern North Carolina may wish to acquire this important book.

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The Tuscarora War: Indians, Settlers, and the Fight for the Carolina Colonies

By David La Vere.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013.
262 pp. \$30.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-1090-0.

On the morning of September 22, 1711, several Native American tribes, including the Tuscarora, Core, Neuse, Pamlico, Weetock, Machapunga, and Bear River Indians, attacked settlements along the Neuse River in an event known as the Tuscarora War. David La Vere opens his book on this important historical event by laying out some of the contributing causes of the war. These included the weakened defense systems in place to protect the European settlements; conflicts over hunting grounds; the utilization of Indian slaves by wealthy plantation owners; and mutual distrust between Native American tribes and European settlers. Readers are also introduced to individuals who would eventually play a key role in the conflict such as Christopher de

Graffenried, John Lawson, Colonel John Barnwell, Tuscarora chief King Hancock, and Colonel James Moore. The story of de Graffenried's capture and Lawson's murder is part of the narrative. Christopher de Graffenried, a wealthy Swiss baron, John Lawson, North Carolina Surveyor General, and several slaves were captured by Tuscarora warriors on September 11-12, 1711 and taken before Tuscarora Chief King Hancock. Ultimately, de Graffenried was able to negotiate his release from captivity, but John Lawson was killed. Later, the military campaigns of both Colonel John Barnwell (December 1711-July 1712) and Colonel James Moore (December 1712-August 1713) were begun to defeat the entrenched Tuscarora Indian warriors. By the time hostilities ceased, these expeditions had produced numerous casualties on both sides. Despite their early military successes against the Europeans, the Tuscarora Indians and their allies would succumb as factors such as disease and power struggles between competing factions led to their eventual decline. The royal colony of North Carolina also faced challenges, namely government officials with competing political agendas and a lack of usable deep-water ports.

This book was written to depict the series of events leading up to one of the biggest skirmishes between Native American tribes, led by the

Tuscarora, and the European settlers in North Carolina during the eighteenth-century. It is divided into seven chapters, each centered on one or more of the major actors: de Graffenried, King Hancock and Core Tom, William Brice, Col. John Barnwell, Thomas Pollock, King Tom Blount, and Col. James Moore. The book contains a modest number of illustrations as well as detailed maps and an extensive bibliography of both primary and secondary sources.

David La Vere is a faculty member in the History Department at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Besides *The Tuscarora War*, he has written other published works, including *Contrary Neighbors: Southern Plains and Removed Indians in Indian Territory* (2000), and *The Lost Rocks: The Dare Stones and the Unsolved Mystery of Sir Walter Raleigh's Lost Colony* (2010).

This book provides valuable insights into the complex and strained relationship between Native American tribes and settlers in North Carolina in the early eighteenth-century. Because of its specific scope and subject matter, this work would be suitable for inclusion in a public, academic, or any special library with a Native American history focus.

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