

# World War I Exhibit at History Museum

In a tribute to victory aces, war bonds and heroic efforts in battle, a traveling exhibition commemorating the centennial of the United States' entry into World War I opened on May 26 at the History Museum of Carteret County at 1008 Arendell Street in Morehead City. The History Museum will present the exhibit of 10 informational panels, related artifacts and stories of the "Carteret Boys" through Saturday, July 7.

WWI began with the assassination of Austrian Archduke Ferdinand and his wife on July 28, 1914. The U.S. was reluctant to enter the conflict, as the casualties to European armies approached a million by 1916. Although initially a neutral state, continuing German atrocities and attacks on American vessels led President Woodrow Wilson to declare war on Germany in April 1917.

"We have placed the state's exhibition as a lead-in to our long-term 'Warriors of Carteret County' exhibit," notes Steve Anderson, director of the museum. "We are also publishing a book on the over 640 'Carteret Boys' and two women who served in uniform between 1917 and 1919." The book will be available in June.

Agriculture was the linchpin of North Carolina's economy in 1917, and the state's farmers fed their fellow citizens and provided crops for the insatiable textile mills and tobacco factories. Women joined the Red Cross, YMCA and Salvation Army to serve as nurses in military hospitals at home and in France. Children grew thrift gardens to earn money to buy war bonds. Industry and individuals united to support the war effort.

North Carolinians served in the major battles of the Western Front in 1918, along with the British Army in intense combat in Belgium and France. The U.S. suffered more than 275,000 casualties and more than 50,000 deaths in five months of action in 1918.

The History Museum is open Tuesday through Friday and first Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is free for Carteret County Historical Society members and \$3 for adults/\$1 for children for nonmembers. For additional information on the exhibit, call the History Museum of Carteret County at 247-8533 or visit [carterethistory.org](http://carterethistory.org).

This traveling exhibit will cross the state, this being its first visit to the coast. For a complete schedule, visit [www.ncdcr.gov/worldwarI](http://www.ncdcr.gov/worldwarI).

## BHA Events

**Annual Beaufort Old Homes Tour.** Tickets are now on sale for the 58th Beaufort Old Homes Tour, which features 12 of Beaufort's private homes, 10 gardens, the historic buildings at the Beaufort Historic Site, and many local churches and artists' studios throughout the town. The tour will be on June 22-23, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Old Homes Tour has grown, and visitors can enjoy exploring the old remodeled homes with all their history and visit the new homes with all their innovative designs. This year's tour not only features a house built circa 1730 and a house celebrating 100 years, but also a house that was just finished last year. The complete schedule is as follows:

- **Kick-Off Party**—Saturday, June 2, at 5:30 p.m. Help the Beaufort Historical Association (BHA) thank everyone involved in the Old Homes Tour at this celebratory party featuring food, artwork by featured artist Paul Minnis and the third Annual Bartenders Challenge.
- **Literary Luncheon**—Wednesday, June 20, at noon. Join bestselling authors Mary Alice Monroe and Kristy Woodson Harvey for a special luncheon and book signing at the Coral Bay Club in Atlantic Beach.
- **VIP Dinner**—Wednesday, June 20, 7 p.m. Join *New York Times* bestselling author Mary Alice Monroe for an intimate dinner party at Beaufort Grocery Company.
- **Leavis Chapel Concert**—Thursday, June 21, 7 p.m. Visit one of the most historic churches in the state for an uplifting concert at the Purvis Chapel AME Zion Church on Craven Street in downtown Beaufort. The concert is free and open to the public.
- **Sunday Jazz Brunch**—June 24 at 11 a.m. Celebrate during the Old Homes Tour closing event, with New York interior designer Marshall Watson. The brunch will

be held at the home of Deborah and Charles Llewellyn, and will be catered by Scarborough Fare Catering.

**Living History programs** will be available at the Beaufort Historic Site all summer long for learning new skills and history. These hands-on workshops and demonstrations illustrate the traditional arts, crafts, and necessary skills of early Beaufort residents. Workshops for the month of June are as follows:

- **Blacksmithing Demonstration**—Wednesday, June 6, at 11 a.m. Keith Bischer will demonstrate the traditional craft of blacksmithing. Free and open to all ages.
- **American Flag Retirement Ceremony**—Thursday, June 14, at 5 p.m. Doug Cawman will host an American flag retirement ceremony. Free event; feel free to bring a flag that needs to be retired.
- **Black History Bus Tour**—Saturday, June 16, at 11 a.m. Curtis Oden will conduct a special English double-decker bus tour about black history in Beaufort. Tickets are \$15 per person.
- **Decoy Carving Demonstration**—Friday, June 22, beginning at 10 a.m. Members of the Core Sound Decoy Carvers Guild will be on the grounds from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. demonstrating the art of carving decoys.

For reservations and tickets for the Old Homes Tour and these popular and space-limited Living History programs, stop by the Welcome Center at 130 Turner Street, call 728-5255 or visit [beauforthistoricsite.org](http://beauforthistoricsite.org).

## ORIGINAL POETRY

### Feed the Meter

*This memory comes from Shoreline contributor Jim Turner. He shares this about the poem: "My maternal grandmother, Matilda Daeke, was German, and she was a true matriarch in every way. Many of my cousins and I loved to gather at our grandparents' home during summers and on weekends where we enjoyed the wonderful tales told by Fritz, my granddad. At bedtime every night, Matilda ordered all us kids into the kitchen where we lined up and were administered the nightly dose of Milk of Magnesia. She insisted it was good for us, but we were all sure it would kill us."*

## Doses

By Jim Turner

The Cousins lined up every night  
Toe to heel with eyes shut tight.  
Our lips were formed in a pained grimace and  
Mouths were opened slightly.  
Nobody spoke.  
We all knew better.  
Oma knew what was best for us and  
Any complaints just added to the coming dose.  
Matilda stood in front of the kitchen sink  
In her clean white apron—the uniform.  
She held a dark blue bottle in one hand  
And an old tarnished tablespoon in the other.  
She poured the chalky liquid  
Into the spoon till it almost overflowed,  
Then forced it over our lips.  
And onto the hiding tongues.  
Our eyes tightened more as we swallowed.  
She dismissed each of us in turn and we moved on  
To make way for the next anxious cousin in the line.  
Milk of Magnesia was a miracle drug, she said.  
It would surely save our lives.  
Some of us died anyhow.

*Poets among us are invited to submit original poetry to [shoreline@townofpk.com](mailto:shoreline@townofpk.com). Editorial deadlines are listed on page 3 of The Shoreline.—The Editors*