

NORTH CAROLINA

400th visitors have opportunity to enjoy state shopping spree

Visitors to North Carolina for the 400th Anniversary celebration have the opportunity to participate in a favorite sport of many trying to meet a budget — discount buying.

North Carolina is one of the best shopping centers in America with over 200 factory outlets and name brand discount shopping outlets in the central part of the state alone. Furniture, clothing, lingerie, linens, shoes, dinnerware, rugs, pottery, toys, cookware, uniforms, pianos, wallpaper and chandeliers are all offered at discount prices at various locations across the

state.

The buys are so good that many travel agents in the eastern United States schedule bus tours to some of the areas with heavy concentrations of discount items.

Offered for sale are items ranging from first quality name brands to irregulars and closeouts which are priced accordingly.

Most of the outlets are located near major traffic arteries in cities and towns all over the state.

The largest center for discount buying is Burlington where there

are two outlet shopping centers in addition to over 20 independently operating outlet stores.

But many other major outlets are located in Raleigh, Durham, Roanoke Rapids, Gastonia, Asheville, Asheboro, Lexington, Salisbury, Kannapolis, Concord, Greensboro, Lumberton, High Point, Winston-Salem and Eden.

The manufacturers range from top to mid-line products. Some offer catalogues to interested customers, most accept credit cards, all are accessible to shoppers.

Why is North Carolina home to

so many factory outlets and discount shopping stores? Partly because of the early history of manufacturing in the state.

Before the advent of the automobile, many places in North Carolina were not easily accessible, but labor was and remains cost effective. Manufacturers found the state an ideal location with a ready work force, and an abundance of raw materials to provide goods for the rest of the country.

They also discovered that their employees were interested in owning products they themselves had helped to make, so were

their friends and families.

As a result, employees' stores featuring company manufactured products began opening their doors and finding an accessible market. Word of mouth created an active market and more and more manufacturers got into the business.

Outlet guides are available for a small fee from Central publications, P. O. Box 2550, Greensboro, North Carolina 27402 and Carolina Publications, P. O. Box 2550, Greensboro,

North Carolina 27407.

Free maps to area outlets are available through Gibson's Discount Center, 122 North Van Buren, Eden, North Carolina 27288; 1502 Fabrics, P. O. Box 2471, High Point, North Carolina 27261; Tobacco, U. S. A., 1305 Chapman Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27403; Suit Outlet of Asheboro, 1334 North Fayetteville Street, Asheboro, North Carolina 27203; Burlington Bag and Baggage, 2679 Ramada Road, Burlington, North Carolina 27215.

N.C. Museum of History begins 1984 membership drive campaign

The North Carolina Museum of History Associates has begun their 1984 Membership Campaign with the appointment of the Museum's Perquimans County Committee, which includes Mrs. Joseph H. Towe Sr., Chairman; Mr. Johnnie White; Mrs. Essie B. Turner; Mrs. Walter L. Humphlett Jr.; and Mrs. J. Kelly White.

The Museum Associates, a 9,000-member statewide support group for the North Carolina Museum of History and 24 state historic sites, provides educational programs and artifact displays for every county of the state.

Mrs. Towe announced a new museum program, "North Carolina's First Ladies," which was produced and funded by the Museum Associates. The audiovisual program features gowns in the museum collection which belonged to the wives of 23 of North Carolina's governors,

beginning with the Revolutionary period to the present.

In addition to the gowns, the audiovisual shows portraits, artifacts, and memorabilia, providing the additional information about the personalities and accomplishments of this state's first ladies.

According to Mrs. Towe, "Now that North Carolina history is once again a required subject at the eighth grade level after a 13-year lapse, the Museum Associates has funded several educational resources and audiovisual programs for every eighth grade classroom in the state."

Last year the Museum Associates used membership funds to provide an audiovisual entitled "The Roanoke Voyages/America's 400th Anniversary" for all schools in the state that include an eighth grade.

Later this year a cassette tape and filmstrip of "North Carolina's First Ladies" will be

mailed to every school in Perquimans County which includes the eighth grade.

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