SEALHFAM Conference
Horry County Museum/L.W. Paul Living History Farm
& Coastal Carolina University
March 3rd-5th, 2023
Conway, SC

Conference Schedule

Friday, March 3rd, L.W. Paul Living History Farm

8:00am-3:00pm  Registration, Farm Classroom
8:00am-3:00pm  Seed Saver Station & Swap Meet, Farm Classroom

9:00am-2:15pm

Continuous Demonstrations: These additional demonstrations will take place throughout the day, at various locations around the Farm. Attendees are encouraged to visit the demonstrators between sessions or break times. (Attendees do not need to sign up for these demonstrations.)

Cooking in the Farmhouse
Farm staff will be cooking on the wood stove in the farmhouse. They will be discussing regional dishes, demonstration techniques, and interpretation of the farmhouse. Demonstrators: Abby Geedy, Marian Calder & Tia Alford

Open Fire Cooking of Chicken Bog
The Farm will provide chicken bog, a regional rice dish, for lunch. The meal will be prepared over a fire in a large cast iron pot. Attendees will be invited to witness the cooking of the dish and learn about the history of chicken bog in coastal South Carolina. Demonstrator: Derek Frye
Gunsmith Display
An exhibit of contemporary longrifles and accoutrements representing firearms from the 18th and 19th century will be on display in the Farm Classroom. Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage award winner, Bob Hill, will be available to answer any questions about gunmaking in the past. Demonstrator: Bob Hill

Atlatl
Guests will be able to take part in learning the finer points of throwing a primitive atlatl. Demonstrator: Carolyn Dillian, Ph.D.

Flintknapping
A demonstration of primitive flintknapping skills will show attendees how early stone tools were shaped. Demonstrator: Carolyn Dillian, Ph.D.

9:00am-10:15 am  Morning Sessions

- **It’s All In Your Head: Getting Over the Fear of Head Cheese**
  Participants will learn how to bring head cheese into their foodways interpretation. They will discuss the different types of head cheese and terrines popular in different regions. This is a program that participants can demonstrate at their sites even if they do not have livestock. Presenter: Walter Hill, Director, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm (Smokehouse)

- **There’s a Tool for That! Woodworking Tools: Identification, Use and Care**
  Every museum collection has numerous tools. Sometimes it is hard to tell what time period these tools are from, not to mention what they were used for. Attendees will review tools and tool styles from three centuries. They will discuss identifying tools, tool uses, proper safety and care of tools. Rusty Robinson, Traditional Woodworker (Carpenter’s Shop)

- **Fire in the Hole! Traditional Pottery**
  Participants will learn primitive pottery making techniques and how to pit-fire pottery. This is an activity that is low cost and will explain pottery techniques like those used by Native Americans and African Americans (colonoware). Participants will learn how to build a pit-fired kiln and will get the opportunity to learn simple pottery making and firing techniques that can be easily adapted to public programming at their own sites while premade pottery is fired in the kiln. Presenter: Cary Briggs, Executive Director, Historic Camden (Syrup Shed)

- **Rags to Riches: An Evolution of Bed & Floor Rugs**
  Utilizing scrap fabric in domestic applications has always been part of our past. Although we commonly think of patchwork quilts when we think of using leftover fabric, many also used strips of scrap fabric to create useful bed and floor rugs. Making these rugs is a
great way to utilize scrap material and makes a good hands-on demonstration for visitors. Join us to start a project of your own and learn about the evolution of these rugs, as well as the variety of ways that you can incorporate them into your programming. Presenters: Marian Calder, Assistant Director, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History, Sharon Hill, Demonstrator (Church)

Break: Visitors Center

10:30am-11:45am  Mid-Morning Sessions

- **Using Indigo in Your Programming**
  Participants will learn about the importance of indigo in colonial America and design and dye a handkerchief. The program will also cover how indigo can be incorporated into educational programming that can be done both onsite and through outreach for a variety of ages. Presenters: Marian Calder, Assistant Director, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm; Karen Cox, Interpreter (Picnic Area)

- **Bringing Home the Bacon: How to Home Cure Bacon**
  Participants will learn about dry curing meat on the farm for year-round preservation and how they can incorporate curing meat at their living history site even if they do not have livestock or a smokehouse. The program will cover safe handling of meat, different types of curing techniques and smoke house operations. Participants will cure their own “side” of bacon to take home. Presenter: Walter Hill, Director, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm (Farm Workroom)

- **Born with a Silver Spoon (or Pewter): Casting Pewter Spoons**
  In the 18th and 19th centuries, pewter was a common material for making many objects used in the household. This session will teach participants how to cast pewter using original and reproduction spoon molds. Participants will learn what it will take to start a pewter casting demonstration program at their historic site. Participants will finish and take home a pewter spoon. Presenter: Robert Hill, Knifemaker/Gunmaker (Blacksmith Shop)

- **From Dryin’ Up to Scrubbin’ Down: Soapmaking on the Farm, Rendering Pig Fat to Finished Lye Soaps**
  Rendering lard and making soap were common practices on farms throughout American history. These tasks can easily be adapted to living history sites of all sizes even if they do not raise livestock. Participants will learn how to render lard and use that lard to create lye soap. Presenter: Abigail Geedy, Curator, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm (Tobacco Barn)
11:45 am-1:00pm  Chicken Bog Lunch
1:00pm-2:15pm  Afternoon Sessions

- Getting the Shakes? No Need to be Nervous Around Woodworking Tools: Making Shingles & Shakes
  Most living history sites have the basic tools necessary to make shingles and shakes in their collection. Whether your region was known for commercially producing shingles or the task was a farm craft that helped keep the family home dry, making shingles is a woodworking task that can be demonstrated with very little experience or tools. Participants will learn how to make shingles for demonstration at their sites and cover basic tool safety and identification for collections management. Presenter: Rusty Robinson, Traditional Woodworker (Carpenter Shop)

- Of Mules & Men--Plowing through the centuries with 18th, 19th, and 20th century Plows and Working Livestock in a Living History Setting
  Participants will learn about the benefits of having animals on a living history site, as well as considerations to keep in mind before doing so. Participants will also learn a brief history of draft animals in America and discuss the various types of working animals and the role they played in different time periods. Plows from the 18th, 19th and 20th century will be available for participants to plow with the equipment from the different time periods. Presenters: Ed Schultz, Master Historic Farmer, Colonial Williamsburg; Kevin Tobias, Apprentice Historic Farmer, Colonial Williamsburg; Tyler McCracken, Agriculture Interpreter, L. W. Paul Living History Farm (Tobacco Barn)

- Tan Your Hide: Traditional Bark Tanning
  Participants will learn the steps of traditional bark tanning and how, by staging tanning steps seasonally, they can introduce tanning as part of their demonstrations with very little cost and minimal mess. The program will cover tools and equipment, fleshing, dehairing, making bark liquor, scudding, and fat liquoring hides. Participants will also try their hand at sewing a business card-sized version of an 18th-century wallet. Presenters: Walter Hill, Director, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm; Marc Hamel, Cordwainer (Farm Yard)

- One Brick at a Time: Making Bricks and Lime
  Making bricks and lime were common activities in many regions throughout history. Brickmaking can be a simple low-cost hands-on project to introduce to your site for public programming. Especially for kids that enjoy getting dirty! Participants will learn the simple process of making brick molds, selecting and mixing clay and molding bricks for demonstrations. The presenter will also demonstrate how to lay out a brick kiln for those who are motivated to make and fire bricks at their sites. As an added bonus, burning shells for lime and slaking the lime will also be demonstrated to show how easily a site can make lime for whitewash, mortar, tabby or hide tanning. Presenter: Cary Briggs, Executive Director, Historic Camden (Syrup Shed)
2:15pm-5:00pm **Bonus Activities**

These activities will take place after the last session of the day. No sign up is required to participate.

2:30-3:30 **Plowing Match**, open to all conference attendees, with prizes! (Farm)

2:15-5:00 **Kingston Joinery**
Denley Caughman, proprietor of Kingston Joinery in downtown Conway, invites attendees to visit his traditional woodworking shop to see his current project and learn about joinery and furniture building in the 18th and 19th centuries. (903 3rd Avenue)

3:00-3:45 **Explore Conway**
Meet Conway's oldest citizens, our glorious Live Oak Trees. Stroll beneath Spanish Moss-draped limbs as you discover the history and lore surrounding six of Conway's mighty Live Oaks. With circumferences of more than 16' and dating to the 1400s and 1500s, these trees have a story to share and have established Conway as a Tree City USA for over 30 years. Walking tour of Downtown Conway provided by Conway Downtown Alive (Corner of Fifth Avenue and Main Street)

5:00-6:00pm **Welcome Reception, (Hors d’oeuvres) Horry County Museum (805 Main Street)**

7:00pm-until **Dinner on Your Own**

9:00pm until **Hospitality Suite, Quality Inn**

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**Saturday, March 4, 2023, Britton Hall, Coastal Carolina University**

9:00am-9:50am **Morning Sessions**

☐ **How the Honeybee Shaped America**
This session will present the early history of bees in North America and how we went from skeps to bee gums to fully inspectable frame hives. Products of the hive including honey, honeycomb, pollen, propolis and wax will be displayed. Participants will learn what it might take to install hives on site and keep them alive for public interpretation. Presenter: Nancy Simpson, Textile Craft Interpreter, Middleton Place (BRTH 101)
Dress for Success: Costuming Your Historic Site Interpreters
In this session, we’ll discuss creating and/or evaluating costumed programming policies and procedures. Participants will learn ways historic costuming can add authenticity to historic sites and enhance visitor experiences. Participants will also learn ways to evaluate costuming using best practices along with ways to get staff and volunteers excited about costuming. Marian Calder, Assistant Director, Horry County Museum & L.W. Paul Living History Farm (BRTH 108)

One Piece at a Time: Creating a Living History Farm from Scratch
This session will entail a “How To” presentation using the Foothills Farmstead as an example. The Foothills Farmstead is currently in the process of “creating” a living-history, working farm interpreting the years 1900 – 1950 in Upstate South Carolina. The presentation will cover the process of “starting from scratch” with obtaining a physical location, creating a non-profit, obtaining and moving historic buildings, obtaining grants, etc. The session will be designed to illustrate how anyone can start with “nothing” and create a living-history experience that preserves history and educates future generations at the same time. Presenter: Nicholas Gambrell, Director, The Foothills Farmstead (BRTH 110)

Break
10:25am-11:15am  Mid-Morning Sessions

Living History Meets Modern Technology
One of the perks of living history in the modern age is the reach of technology. No matter the flow of traffic at your site, creating video content can connect you to new people eager to learn about history and what that looks like at your site! This session will discuss how each of the presenter’s sites approach video creation on the different platforms they use (including YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and TikTok), as well as some advice on how your site can get started or upgrade their current approach to video content! Presenters: Abigail Geedy, Curator, Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm; Olivia Reed, Integrated Marketing Manager, Culture & Heritage Museums (BRTH 101)

All dem rice field...Growing Carolina Gold Rice
Rice cultivation and processing was at the heart of the Carolina and Georgia Low Country’s economy and life-ways. It reshaped the Low Country landscape and created incredible wealth, while also causing incredible misery. This session will discuss and demonstrate the cultivation and hand processing of Carolina Gold rice, both in water and on dry land, and its resurgence in the present day. Attendees will learn both historic and modern practices and suggestions on how to cultivate it at their site. They will also receive rice seed for planting. Presenter: Bob Sherman, Historic Interpreter, Middleton Place (BRTH 108)


**Exhibits in Collaboration with Native American Descendant Communities: Methods, Models, and Mis-steps**

The innovative exhibit *Waccamaw Indian People: Past, Present, Future* was a collaborative effort between Coastal Carolina University, the Horry County Museum, and the Waccamaw Indian People. The Waccamaw Indian People, whose traditional lands include Horry County, South Carolina, are a state-recognized tribe with cultural traditions that reflect their unique past. This project entailed the creation of an exhibit and educational material that highlights their culture and history, which is relatively unknown to the public. Coastal Carolina University students and faculty, in partnership with the Horry County Museum and the Waccamaw Indian People, used oral histories, historical archives, photographs, belongings, and collections to build an exhibit at the Museum that educates the public about the rich and diverse Native American history and culture of Horry County through community-driven interpretive text and interactive exhibits. The exhibit tells the story of the Waccamaw Indian People’s past, present, and future, as they wanted it told, using narratives gleaned from interviews conducted by students and written with an ongoing back-and-forth with tribal members to ensure that the interpretation was in line with their vision for the message. We will use this exhibit as a case study in a discussion of collaborations with descendant communities for museum professionals. Presenters: Carolyn Dillian, Ph.D., Archaeologist and Associate Dean of the Spadoni College of Education and Social Sciences at Coastal Carolina University; Katie Stringer Clary, Ph.D. Public Historian and Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Coastal Carolina University; Cheryl Cail, Vice Chief of the Waccamaw Indian People; Harold ‘Buster” Hatcher, Chief of the Waccamaw Indian People (BRTH 114)

11:30 am-12:45pm  **Lunch & Business Meeting, CCU**

**Afternoon Sessions**

1:00pm-1:50pm

**“The richer dye of INDICO, I sing...”**

While many sites do an indigo dye pot to show visitors the magic of indigo and its transformation of textiles from an odd green color to beautiful blue tones as it oxidizes, very few show how that magical dye is made. In this session we will explain some of its history and our experiences over the years with creating indigo dye cake using a two vat system, much like it was done in the eighteenth century. Presenters: Nancy Simpson, Textile Craft Interpreter, Middleton Place; Bob Sherman, Historic Interpreter, Middleton Place (BRTH 101)
- **Innovative Tours at Historic Sites**
  This session will look at some of the innovative programs and tours that the Lexington County Museum has created, including its “Murders and Mysteries” Walking Tour, and the results of those tours. Attendees will learn about the partnerships involved as well as the necessary research and planning that goes into creating these programs/tours. These tours allow institutions to educate attendees while entertaining and even feeding them. Session attendees will learn about what has worked and how some of these tours can be replicated. Presenter: JR Fennell, Director, Lexington County Museum (BRTH 108)

- **A Living Kitchen Garden for Living History Sites?**
  Are you curious to discover...What makes a Spring Tonic? What discourages animals from digging in the garden? What vegetable was grown every month of the year? What vegetable may “stir up lust” and which herb may “quicken the memory”? The basic dooryard or kitchen garden, vital to the wellbeing of an early American home, is the focus of this session. Utilizing an exciting new resource, *A Curious Garden of Herbs*, we will investigate simple techniques to make the kitchen garden - both tame and wild - interesting and useful while exploring creative methods to engage visitors in hands-on experiences. Participants will go forth from this session enlightened and eager to incorporate a *living* garden into their living history interpretation. Presenters: Suzanne Simmons, Co-author *A Curious Garden of Herbs*, Schiele Museum 18th-Century Backcountry Lifeways Specialist (Retired) & Carolyn Dilda, Co-founder of the Historic Cooking Guild of the Catawba Valley, President James K. Polk State Historic Site Interpreter (Retired) (BRTH 110)

- **How-To: Present Difficult History with Authenticity and Empathy**
  There is a lot going on with tough histories right now, and to be honest, it mostly comes down to empathy training. Most sites have some uncomfortable truths they have to wrestle with. The sites and staffs are few and far between that offer this difficult history with appropriate empathy and compassion, while still telling the truth. Carin Bloom will relate her experiences with good-better-best interpretations at various sites and present a practical jumping-off point for sites that want to start presenting with empathy and compassion, but perhaps do not have a precedent set in their past work to do so. Presenter: Carin Bloom, Manager of Education and Programming at Historic Charleston Foundation (BRTH 114)

**Break**

2:25pm-3:15pm

- **A Brief Introduction to Museum Collections Management Best Practices**
  This short session will give a practical overview of how to identify, begin and build collection management procedures that can be implemented with varying types of collections. Presenter: Lana Burgess, Clinical Professor of Art History and Museum Studies, University of South Carolina and McKissick Museum (BRTH 101)
**South Carolina 250th Revolutionary War Commission**
Planning for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution is on many minds lately. Who is doing what? What are you going to do? Where are the resources? Money? Reenactors? This session will discuss some of the plans taking place in South Carolina and tell about the South Carolina 250th Revolutionary War Commission and how they plan to support local groups across the State, honor, and celebrate our past. Presenter: Molly Fortune, Executive Director South Carolina American Revolution Semiquincentennial, Commission (SC250) (BRTH 108)

**Creating Professional Interpreters from Unlikely Sources**
Volunteers can be recruited from unlikely places, including our own homes and friend groups. This session will show how unlikely volunteers can relate their current interests to people in earlier time periods. There are all sorts of creative ways to think about people's work today and to translate it into the past, so that those with an interest in history, but who may think they have nothing to offer, can see their own experience in a new and potentially interpretive light. Computer coder? Printing press. Machinist? Pick your artisan shop. Carin Bloom and Andrew Shuler will share how they worked together to create a successful interpretation for Shuler that helped relate his career and interests to create an impactful and rare impression! Presenters: Carin Bloom, Manager of Education and Programming, Historic Charleston Foundation; Andrew Shuler, Volunteer Historic Interpreter (BRTH 110)

5:00pm-7:00pm  **Dinner & Auction, Fifth & Main**  Attendees are encouraged to dress in historic costumes that represent their site.

9:00pm until  **Hospitality Suite, Quality, Conway, SC**

**Sunday, March 5, 2023**

9:30am - 5:00 pm

**Brookgreen Gardens**
Attendees are invited to visit Brookgreen Gardens, the largest outdoor sculpture gardens in the Southeast, including the Lowcountry History Center and Native Wildlife zoo. Free admission with Conference name badge.
**Don’t forget!**

**The Seed Savers Swap & Swap Meet**

**Seed Swap**
Conference attendees are encouraged to bring seeds from their farms, families or homes to share with other attendees. A station will be set up and manned throughout the whole conference to assist with sharing. The L.W. Paul Living History Farm will provide the station, small bags for seed and a blank information form for the seed provider to fill out. The form will include information relating the history, variety, and planting details of the plants. Anyone attending can share seeds or take seeds even if they did not bring any to share. Seeds can include historic or contemporary varieties of plants and may include any type of plant; produce, vegetable, fruit, grain, flower, etc. (If you wish to contribute seeds to swap, please contact Alford.Tia@horrycountysc.gov and she will forward you a seed information form to fill out ahead of time for your convenience.)

**Swap Meet**
You know that locker/closet/drawer in your museum that has all those old exhibit parts and pieces? Spring is coming, so bring them to the Swap Meet. Here you will be able to find new homes for all those treasures that you can’t bear to see carted off to the landfill. Ideas of what to bring to trade or give include: object mounts; acid-free anything; fabric; plexiglass; security screws; tools and reproduction period clothing. Also consider any deaccessioned objects or old teaching collection items. If what you want to give away is too bulky to bring, bring a photograph on 8 ½” x 11” paper, and we’ll stick it up on the give-away board. Remember, one museum’s trash is another’s treasure!
Host Hotel Information:

Quality Inn & Suites
3345 Hwy. 501 W
Conway, SC 29526
General Phone: 843-365-2828
Rooms: $99 + tax

Mention you’re with the “SEALHFAM Conference” when making your reservation in order to receive this pricing.

Other Hotels:

Cypress Inn
16 Elm Street
Conway, SC 29526
1-800-575-5307 | 1-843-248-8199

Comfort Suites at the University
2480 Hwy 501 E
Conway, SC 29526
843-347-9292

Local Airport:

Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR)
1100 Jetport Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
https://www.flymyrtlebeach.com/

Parking Suggestions:

Parking for the Friday sessions at the L.W. Paul Living History Farm is available directly in front of the building. Parking in the grass is encouraged after the gravel spots fill.

Parking at the Friday evening event at the Horry County Museum is available on Laurel Street, behind the Museum, and in front of the Museum in a lot shared with the Horry County Memorial Library.
Parking for the Saturday Sessions on Coastal Carolina University’s Campus will be available outside of Britton Hall. See following map of the Coastal Carolina University Campus. Britton Hall is labeled #24.

Parking for the Saturday evening event at Fifth and Main will be street parking in downtown Conway. Carpooling is recommended.

Map of the Coastal Carolina University Campus

Saturday’s sessions will take place in Britton Hall (labeled #24, see arrow on map). Parking will be available in a lot adjacent to the building.