

FOUNDATIONS

*Quarterly newsletter for the Matthews Historical Foundation
and the Matthews Heritage Museum*



Preserving Matthews Together

By Bob Aycock

Preserving our town's history is truly a community effort. Every exhibit, tour, and program is made possible by the people who believe in the importance of sharing our town's story. From longtime supporters to first-time visitors, it's the collective passion of our community that brings history to life.

Each week, our dedicated volunteers contribute hours of service welcoming guests, leading tours, and creating meaningful experiences for visitors of all ages. Their enthusiasm and knowledge ensure that everyone who walks through our doors feels connected to the history of Matthews. We are deeply grateful for our Docents and our Foundation Board, whose continued support and advocacy help expand our reach and strengthen our impact in the community.

Partnerships have also played a vital role in our success. Whether working alongside local organizations, hosting groups, or collaborating on community events, these shared efforts demonstrate the power of coming together to care for our history.

As we look ahead, we are reminded that this important work doesn't happen alone. It happens because of you, our volunteers, members, partners, and supporters. Thank you for helping us preserve Matthews' past and guarantee its stories continue to inspire future generations.

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Caring for Historic Spaces

Much of the Matthews Historical Foundation's work happens behind the scenes, making sure that our historic spaces are carefully maintained and preserved for future generations. From ongoing upkeep at the Historic Reid House to the stewardship of the Massey-Clark House, this work is essential to protecting the physical places that bring Matthews' history to life.

Earlier this year, important exterior repairs were completed at the **1879 Massey-Clark House** by Patrick Parente, whose exceptional craftsmanship helped restore and strengthen this treasured structure. His work included replacing softened boards, repairing the back door, and restoring damaged wood around the windows. Thank you to the ongoing support of our Foundation Members and to all who help keep our historic properties well cared for and ready to welcome visitors.

President's Corner

By Becky Willard

We're excited to invite all of our friends and Foundation Members to the **3rd Annual Fine Art and Craft Show** at the Historic Reid House & Gardens on **Friday, April 24** and **Saturday, April 25**. This special event has quickly become a favorite spring tradition, bringing together talented local artists in one of Matthews' most beautiful historic settings.

As our spring fundraiser, the event plays an important role in supporting our ongoing efforts to preserve the rich history of Matthews. Proceeds help care for the Historic Reid House and support the work of the Matthews Heritage Museum, protecting these treasured places so they continue to serve our community for years to come.

We hope you'll join us for a wonderful weekend of arts, crafts, and community. For more information, please email tbwhitley58@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

**3rd Annual Matthews
Fine Art and Craft Show**

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE
MATTHEWS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Friday, April 24th, 5:30-8pm
Saturday, April 25th, 10am-4pm

At The Historic Reid House & Gardens
134 W John St, Matthews, NC

Please join us Friday, April 24th from 5:30-8pm
for an evening meeting the Artists in the
Historic Reid House & Gardens

Enjoy appetizers and drinks courtesy of the
Matthews Historical Foundation

Donations are encouraged to help
support the Historic Reid House & the
Matthews Heritage Museum

Sponsored by
Weaver, Bennett & Bland, Attorneys at Law
& the Matthews Historical Foundation

BE PART OF PRESERVING MATTHEWS' STORY

The Matthews Historical Foundation continues to grow thanks to the support of community members who value our town's unique past. We invite you to play a role in protecting and sharing the history of Matthews. By becoming a member, you help sustain our programs, care for historic spaces, and carry these stories forward for generations to come.

Join us: matthewshistoricalfoundation.com/membership

Milestones Worth Celebrating

Looking back, 2025 was a remarkable year for the Matthews Heritage Museum. We welcomed **3,981 visitors**, a **37% increase** over 2024, and had the pleasure of hosting guests from **14 different countries**, highlighting the growing reach of Matthews' story.

This success was made possible by our incredible volunteers, who contributed **812 volunteer hours** and welcomed our average **332 visitors each month**. Your enthusiasm and dedication bring our mission to life, and we are truly grateful for your continued support. Thank you for being part of such an unforgettable year!



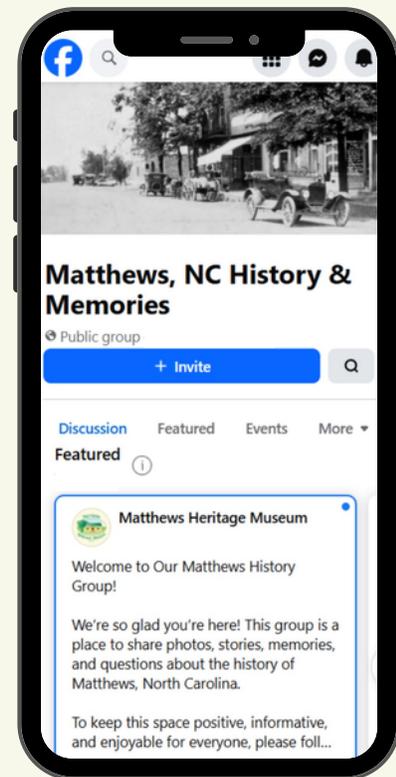
From the Director's Desk

By Bob Aycock

Do you have photos, stories, or memories of life in Matthews? Or are you curious about the people and places that shaped our town? We've launched a new Facebook Group, **Matthews, NC History & Memories**, and we'd love for you to be part of it!

In the group, you can share old photos, tell your favorite Matthews stories, ask questions about local history, and connect with others who share a love for our town. Whether you're a longtime resident, a former neighbor, or new to the area, this is a welcoming space to celebrate and preserve Matthews' story, together.

Scan here to be part of Matthews' story:



COME EXPLORE WITH US

Explore Matthews history through our Walking Tours, Historic Cemetery Tours, and seasonal programs. There are plenty of opportunities throughout the year to experience the stories that shaped our town. For the latest tour dates and event details, visit: matthewsheritagemuseum.org/events. You can also join our email list to stay informed about upcoming programs, new exhibits, and the latest news from the Museum.

PRESERVING OUR PAST FOR THE FUTURE

The Matthews Historical Foundation extends its appreciation to all our members for their ongoing interest in and support of the Foundation and its initiatives. For 39 years, we have achieved remarkable milestones, and we are excited for what the future holds. Every project and event we undertake is made possible by the generous contributions from our members, sponsors, and benefactors. Your support is invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment. Together, we can continue to preserve and celebrate our community's rich history for generations to come. Thank you for making our work possible!

To view our membership levels, please visit our website:
matthewshistoricalfoundation.com/membership

Checks can be mailed to:
Matthews Historical Foundation
P.O. Box 1117
Matthews, NC 28106

*As a 501(c)(3) organization, your donations are tax deductible.
No donation is too small or too large.*



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matthewsreidhouse.org

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Visit our websites
matthewshistoricalfoundation.org
matthewsheritagemuseum.org
matthewsreidhouse.org

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Compiled & Edited by Bob Aycock