

Rosedale News

Margarette Joyner, Editor



Historic Rosedale

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<http://historicrosedale.org>

It is the mission of Historic Rosedale to interpret three important themes: the ancestral families who owned the house and surrounding property, the enslaved and freed African Americans who worked and lived on the land through many generations, and the unique architectural features, decorative arts, and natural landscapes that are showcased in the 1815 historic house and its nine acres of gardens and grounds.

African American Legacy Project *By Barbara Jackson*

Reading & Writing & Arithmetic

The African American Legacy Project at Historic Rosedale emphasizes the importance of education. To have a successful democracy each individual needs to contribute. Children should receive equal opportunities for success in formal education activities. Children should be taught how to develop critical thinking skills. Children must have a feeling of self worth and pride in their ethnicity.

Our efforts to promote education have been displayed through exhibits, tours, lectures, the arts, workshops, and through individual and collective discussions. Each visitor to Historic Rosedale should leave the premises: 1. feeling a sense of beauty based upon the gardens, architecture, and furnishings, and 2. with a sense of the importance of humanity based upon sense of self pride and the desire to promote democracy. We aim for all visitors to experience the strengthening of their attributes.

Rosedale's acknowledgment of remembrance is a garden located beyond the pavilion. Exhibits are also available in our dedicated space in the main house throughout the year highlighting the accomplishments of African Americans in music, art, and inventions despite the circumstances in which they lived. These exhibits are included in our house tours. Tours (\$15 fee) are available from Wednesday through Saturday at 11:30 and 1:30. For interest in our programs, please feel free to email: margarette.joyner@historicrosedale.org.

Barbara Jackson, Chairperson
African American Legacy Project
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Weaving the Tale

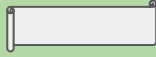
Family records show that Molly Cook McCulloh married Archibald Frew Sr. about 1770, but no official records of this marriage have been found. She was the mother of Sarah and Archibald Frew. According to family records, Molly died January 1, 1790, in Edenton, NC; and her husband died October 7, 1783 in Halifax. Sarah was 11 and Archibald 7 when their father died. It is believed they were raised by Molly's brother, their uncle, Isaac Cook. - *Jim Williams, Mecklenburg Historical Association*

Tidbit

Independence Square is a Major Historical Site

In the 1700s, two major pathways came together in Charlotte. One was the Great Wagon Road, built by European settlers stretching from Philadelphia to Georgia and the other was a large Native American trail. Today, these roads are Trade and Tryon and they intersect at Independence Square.

What's Next?



Stitched in Tradition: 200 Years of Bridal Elegance

March 27th - June 27th

Wedding dresses dated from several decades will be displayed throughout the house.

Included will be the original dress from Adeline Caldwell, (Dr. Caldwell's daughter), shoes belonging to Sara Caldwell, another of

Dr. Caldwell's daughters, and a custom designed and created African wedding dress by our very own AAL Project Coordinator, Margarette Joyner who is a gifted textile artist.

Thrift and Vintage Pop-Up

April 11th - 10:00 - 2:00

This event will feature local vendors selling secondhand clothing, accessories, and vintage goods, encouraging sustainability, affordability, and community engagement in a historic setting. Vendor tables are a mere \$30. For more information, please contact hunter.hamilton@historicrosedale.org

Crafter's Market

May 2nd - 10:00 - 3:00

This event features handmade items for sale by local artists such as Naomi Rankin, Nellie Ashford, our blacksmiths, and other craftsmen who set up in our open-air pavilion. Entrance to the Market is **FREE** and vendor tables are available for \$25.00 each, through our website.

Moving Spirits Dance Classes

May 2nd, 9th, 16th - 12:30 - 1:30

FREE dance instruction will be provided in the African Diaspora and West African dance traditions under the direction of Moving Spirits Dance Company. Join us under the pavillion for this moving experience!

From the Garden

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

A Time Of Hope

As winter's chill departs
The warmth of spring arrives
Seeing daffodils and crocus blooms
Allows hope and rebirth to thrive.

Birds soar in the sky so blue
Nature flings open its door
Our hearts are filled with joy and delight
At this time of hope evermore!



From the Executive Director

Deanna Witte-Walker

I am pleased to report that the daffodils, crocus, and hellebores are in bloom at Rosedale. How can it be that there was a foot of snow on the ground just about a month ago? I look forward to the next three months, as I have yet to experience "Spring at Rosedale." I'm told it is spectacular.

Similar to the re-energized spirit of the season, Historic Rosedale has seen renewed spirit of late. There has been considerable activity on the committee level – relating to blacksmithing, collections, membership, garden, exhibits, etc. I have been spending time networking with other local non-profits and granting agencies to remind them of Rosedale's significance and to encourage involvement. Things have been busy for all – staff, board, and volunteers.

As members, we welcome and appreciate your participation and funding. We realize you support Rosedale already but invite you to consider if there might be more ways you'd like to contribute. Feel free to give me a ring or send an email, if you'd like to share ideas. deanna.witte-walker@historicrosedale.org

Happy Spring!

About the Inhabitants

by Cheralyn Lambeth

Cherry was born on the plantation of Thomas Davidson, the first husband of Sarah Frew Davidson. After Thomas' death in 1801, she was sold off, however, Sarah bought the lot that included her in her late husband's estate. When Sarah remarried the following year, Cherry was brought with her to the Grove Plantation where she spent most of her life. She was the children's nurse according to family accounts. When Sarah Frew died in 1812, Cherry was charged with taking care of the children along with caring for her own four children: Ann, Edmond, Joe, and John. According to Caldwell accounts, Cherry was then brought to Rosedale after Harriet Davidson Caldwell died of erysipelas on July 4, 1845. It is unknown if she ever saw her own children again. After having raised Harriet, Cherry took care of Alice, who was less than a year old when her mother died, along with the other young children of the family, particularly the girls. Stories about her were passed down from generation to generation within the family. One favorite story was that Cherry loved to smoke her pipe, but Dr. David Caldwell forbade smoking in the house. So, Cherry smoked in the girl's bedroom late at night, taking care to hold her pipe so that the smoke was carried up into the chimney.

Descendant Spotlight by Margarette Joyner

Laborers by Martin Foil

A word from our Blacksmith

REGISTRATION NUMBER 689	1. NAME (Print) GEORGE KLUTZ	ORDER NUMBER 139
2. ADDRESS (Print) Ben Del	(Middle) NANNAPOLIS	(Last) NC
3. TELEPHONE None	4. AGE IN YEARS 21	5. PLACE OF BIRTH CROSS
6. DATE OF BIRTH Mar 15 1909	(Town) NC	7. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP USA
7. NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mr. Warren Klutz	(First) NC	8. RELATIONSHIP OF THAT PERSON Brother
9. ADDRESS OF THAT PERSON Ben Del	(Town) NANNAPOLIS	(County) NC
10. EMPLOYER'S NAME Coca Cola	(Town) NANNAPOLIS	(State) NC
11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Coca Cola	(Town) NANNAPOLIS	(State) NC
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
REGISTRATION CARD D. S. S. Form 1	16-17108	(Registrant's signature) George Klutz

George Klutz (1909 - 1978) was the son of John Klutz and Ada Caldwell Johnston Klutz. Ada's parents were *George and Fanny Caldwell*. Mr. Klutz, at age 31, enlisted in the Army during World War II on April 17, 1941, at Fort Bragg, N.C. According to the World War II Army Enlistment Records, he had a grammar school education and worked in textiles before enlisting. His registration record dated October 16, 1940, lists him as being 5'8" tall, complexion of light brown and having a scar on his left forearm.

Winter is almost over and there's a hint of spring inside the Historic Rosedale blacksmith shop! Resident blacksmiths are looking forward to warmer weather and sharing our ancient craft with our guests! We have smiths in the shop most Saturdays to demonstrate and educate visitors about the enslaved smiths of Rosedale. While you're visiting the shop, be sure to ask to take a turn at operating the forge bellows! Remember to check out the Rosedale Gift Shop – we have many hand forged items available for sale!

[Homepage - Historic Rosedale](#)



The Gift Shop

By Hunter Hamilton

"With spring in full bloom at Historic Rosedale, we're delighted to welcome the new season and the renewed sense of energy it brings to our grounds and gift shop. While you'll still find the classic favorites our visitors love, we're excited to welcome several new vendors who are adding even more variety and creativity to our shelves. We invite you to stop by, explore what's new, and support the talented makers who are now part of the Historic Rosedale gift shop this season."

Did you know?

Thomas Jefferson wrote more than 19,000 letters in his lifetime, with many still praised for their eloquence and historical insight. He used a polygraph device to make copies of his letters, ensuring his correspondence would last for future generations.

Join the Friends of Historic Rosedale

We've all heard it - *Membership has its benefits*. This holds true at Historic Rosedale. Members receive a host of benefits: Free grounds admission, free guided house tours, discounts at the gift shop, on event tickets, and in some cases discounts on site rental fees. Most importantly, membership fees help fund the often-overlooked general operating expenses of the Foundation. Preservation and special programming can be funded by grants and large individual donors, but it is the everyday expenses of running the site and the Foundation that suffer most from a lack of financial security. This is especially true for private foundations which receive no government funding. Is becoming a member important? **YES!** Become our friend and join today!

[Membership - Historic Rosedale](#)



- Digital SLR camera**
- Storage rack for folding chairs**
- Rechargeable battery powered drill**
- Garden volunteers**

Poetry Corner

"Nothing Gold Can Stay"

Robert Frost, 1923

*Nature's first green is gold, Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower. But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf. So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay.*

A Word From The Board

by Janet Levy

Historic Rosedale has been a part of North Tryon Street since 1815, and open to the public since 1993.

The year of 2025 was, in many ways, another step forward for Rosedale. We hired a new Executive Director, Deanna Witte-Walker, who has been successful in bringing in several new grants to support our efforts. Through the commitment of Margarett Joyner, the African American Legacy (AAL) Project Coordinator and the ongoing efforts of the AAL committee, led by Ms. Barbara Jackson, our AAL programming has expanded, with an especially rich selection of events for this year's Black History Month. Through the work of Hunter Hamilton, the offerings in the Gift Shop have expanded, and volunteers have increased which contributes to house tours, special events, blacksmith programs, and garden support. Cher Lambeth has continued to work on managing and protecting our collections, and received a donation of a gorgeous late 19th century mourning dress. In addition, she is finalizing a long period of work on a book about Rosedale which will be published by Arcadia Press. The gardens are relatively quiet this time of year, but very soon the magnificent spring blooms will arrive! Meanwhile, Clarence (Bud) Pittman provides essential maintenance work for the grounds. Without its dedicated staff, Historic Rosedale could not survive. In the next Newsletter, I plan to highlight the work of some of our volunteers. The work of these dedicated people is supported by contributions from members, friends, and visitors. I hope you will continue your support.