Welcome to the first edition of the History Hunt, the newsletter from the Genealogy/Local History Room at the Lexington Public Library.

We have enjoyed many changes in the Genealogy/Local History Room this year. In March we officially moved into our new space. Previously we were located in the main building of the Lexington Public Library. Now you can find us in the Davidson County Public Library Annex at 612 S. Main St. which is part of the Davidson County Public Library Campus. We have more than doubled the space from before and are able to bring out long hidden documents, files and ephemera. During the calendar year 2017, over 6,000 patrons visited the Genealogy/Local History Room and 3,000 queries were answered as well.

Because of our new location, we also have new operating hours for the Genealogy/Local History Room. We are available Monday-Wednesday and Friday from 9am-5:30pm; Thursdays from 9am-8pm and we are open on the last Saturday of each month 9:30am-3:00pm. Because of limited staff, please call ahead for availability.

Not only do we have a new location but we have a new genealogist as well. In June, Tonya Hensley became the genealogist/historian for the Davidson County Public Library System. Tonya is a native of Davidson County, graduating from Central Davidson High School in 1991 and has been an adult services librarian for the Lexington Public Library for 23 years. She received her undergraduate degree in interdisciplinary studies from Winston Salem State University in 2012 and her Master of Library and Information Studies from UNC-Greensboro in 2015. She has been researching her own family history since 2007. Tonya enjoys reading historical fiction/non-fiction, cooking and British Television.

We have some new and exciting things happening in the Genealogy/Local History Room in 2018. Join us in January for our first History Hunters Genealogy Club of the year. Also in January, we will begin our new Historians Book Club. Our first selection will be Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown. We will be meeting on Thursday, 25 January from 5:30-6:30. Future meetings will be held in April, July and October.

Be sure to make plans to come by and see your new Genealogy/Local History Room and meet your new Genealogist/Historian!
The Genealogy/Local History Room at the Lexington Public Library is known as the Ruth Bright Stoner Genealogy/Local History Room after the donation of resources by the first president of the Genealogical Society of Davidson County. The room has grown over time and has moved as well. The current home of the Ruth Bright Stoner Genealogy/Local History Room can be found at the Lexington Public Library Annex located at 612 South Main Street in Lexington, NC.

The Genealogy/Local History Room is part of the Davidson County Public Library System and upholds its mission. The Library's mission is to provide comprehensive resources and services in support of the research, teaching, and learning needs of the citizens of Davidson County. The libraries and museum will serve as centers of enrichment, reliable information, will support the educational, civic and cultural activities within the community.

Hours of Operation

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am-5:30pm
Thursday: 9am-8pm
Last Saturday of Each Month: 9:30am-3:00pm
Please contact the Genealogy/Local History Room for availability

Contact Us:
Tonya R. Hensley, MLIS
612 S. Main St.
Lexington, NC 27292
336-242-2935
Email: genealogy.davidsoncountync.gov
Website: http://www.co.davidson.nc.us/Library/
If you need assistance in your hunt, you may contact our genealogist on staff and schedule an appointment.

Because of the time constraints we are unable to perform the research for you. We can offer you however, tips and search strategies to aid in your research.

Appointments are available in one (1) hour increments.

To schedule your session today, contact Tonya R. Hensley, Genealogist/Historian at 336-242-2935 or genealogy@davidsoncountyncgov.

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**Programs**

**The Memory Makers Club**

Every three (3) months receive a topic from your Genealogy/Local History Room through your email.

Record your memories based on the given topic in a notebook.

Once you have filled your notebook you will have a bound copy of memories that you can share with your family or loved ones.

In December, join us in the Genealogy/Local History Room at the Lexington Public Library and share some of your memories for the year!

To Join: Email the Genealogy/Local History Room of the Lexington Public Library at genealogy@davidsoncountyncgov.

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**History Hunters Genealogy Club**

1st Tuesday of each month
6:00 pm - 7 pm
Genealogy/Local History Room
612 S. Main St.
Lexington, NC
336-242-2935

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**One-On-One Search Assistance**

If you need assistance in your hunt, you may contact our genealogist on staff and schedule an appointment.

Because of the time constraints we are unable to perform the research for you. We can offer you however, tips and search strategies to aid in your research.

Appointments are available in one (1) hour increments.

To schedule your session today, contact Tonya R. Hensley, Genealogist/Historian at 336-242-2935 or genealogy@davidsoncountyncgov.

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**Historians Book Club**

Join us for our 1st book club event of the year!
Visit a branch of the Davidson County Public Library and reserve your copy today!

The Boys in the Boat celebrates the 1936 U.S. men’s Olympic eight-oar rowing team—a nine working-class boys who stunned the rowing world, transformed the sport, and galvanized the attention of millions of Americans. The sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers from the American West, the boys took on and defeated successive crews of princes and power. They vanquished the sons of Tea Party senators and senates rowing for elite eastern universities. They defeated the sons of British aristocrats rowing for Oxford and Cambridge. And finally, in an extraordinary race in Berlin they out rowed the Argus sons of the Nazi state as they rowed for gold in front of Adolf Hitler.

Against the grim backdrop of the Great Depression, they reaffirmed the American notion that we are a nation of dreamers, a nation of doers, a nation of placers. They brought to mind the tang of the South, the rhythms of the plains and the plentifulness of the Pacific. They made us feel immeasurably and deeply proud to be Americans.

The Boys in the Boat is also the heart warming story of one young man in particular. Carl Sagan by his family at an early age, abandoned and left to fend for himself. Joe Rantz rowed not for glory, but to repay his shamed self regard, to dare again to trust in others, and to find his way back to a place he can call home.

Genealogy/Local History Room, Lexington Public Library
612 S. Main St. Lexington, NC
Thursday, 25 Jan. 2018
5:30-6:30 pm
For more information contact Tonya Hensley, Genealogist/Historian at 336-242-2935 or by email at genealogy@davidsoncountyncgov
**What’s New?**

Be sure to check out these new arrivals to our Genealogy/Local History Room:

- Welcome Home to North Carolina: Churchland Elementary School and Campbell Elementary School 1995-1996
- The First White House of the Confederacy
- Civil War Commanders by Dean S. Thomas
- Reports on the Washington Silver Mine in Davidson County, North Carolina by Richard C. Taylor
- Minutes of the Evangelical Synod and Ministerium of North Carolina Convened at Fredericktown, Davidson County, North Carolina, Friday May 4, 1855
- The Claw: 1991
- From Time to Time in North Carolina by Randell Jones
- Scoundrels, Rogues and Heroes of the Old North State by H.G. Jones
- History of Tennessee Arts by Carroll Van West
- Old Trinity Cemetery Scotland Neck, North Carolina An Index 1797-1982
- Safe Houses and the Underground Railroad in East Central Ohio by Janice Van Horne-Lane

**Featured Selection**

What’s New in the Genealogy/Local History Room at your Lexington Public Library?

Come by and browse through our new books!

612 S. Main St.
Lexington, NC

Hours:
M, Tu, W, F: 9am-5:30pm
Thu: 9am-8pm
Last Saturday of each month: 9:30am-5:30pm

North Carolina Cattle Reflections: Connecting the Past to the Present by Katharine L. Brown and Nancy T. Sorrells

This resource explores the history of cattle in North Carolina from the earliest times of our state including the Spanish cattle who roamed freely as well as during such battles as the American Revolution and Civil War.

This work also details the cattle drives and the rise of the dairy industry. Additionally, you can learn about the connection between cattle farming and the soils of NC.

So visit the Genealogy/Local History Room at the Lexington Public Library and learn about the importance of cattle to our state.
Memorials & Honorariums

Have you thought of honoring your loved ones and friends by a gift of a book or books to the Genealogy/Local History Room of the Davidson County Public Library? Nothing could be more lasting, and give more pleasure than books as memorials.

A book is a permanent memorial which may bring enjoyment to hundreds of people, since it may be used over and over again. A book plate is placed in each memorial and honor book. The library will send an appropriate card to the family to inform them of the establishment of your donation.

We accept both books and money as gifts. However, be aware that we will not be able to accept duplication of books or materials that we may already have in our collection. For more information contact our genealogist

Memorials & Honorariums October-December 2017

- Tonya R. Hensley in memory of Jackie Lynn Hensley
- Lexington Public Library Staff in memory of Jackie Lynn Hensley
- Ruth Ann Copley in memory of Jackie Lynn Hensley
- Davidson County Commissioners and Davidson County Public Library Administration in memory of Jackie Lynn Hensley
- William and Candace Greene in memory of Jackie Lynn Hensley
- Phillip Conrad in memory of Richard L. Conrad
- Donna Robinson in honor of Tonya Hensley
Genealogical Society of Davison County

The Genealogical Society of Davidson County was established as a non-profit organization in November 1980 and has grown to one of the most active and fastest growing genealogy societies in the area.

Membership in the society is open to anyone interest in genealogy. Yearly dues are renewable January 1. of the year.

The society meets four (4) times a year and a newsletter and a 50 page journal are published quarterly and mailed to all members free of charge. The journal has as its aim to be a useful, informative, and interesting source of information for genealogists and historians researching connections in Davidson County and its parent counties: Rowan (before 1822), Anson (before 1753) and Bladen before (1734).

To become a member of the Genealogical Society of Davidson County or for more information you may contact the Genealogy and Local History Room located at the Lexington Public Library.
Davidson County Historical Museum

Did you know that not only do we have a wonderful Genealogy/Local History Room at the Lexington Public Library, but another member of our Davidson County Public Library System family is the Davidson County Historical Museum.

The Davidson County Historical Museum is located in the 1858 Davidson County Courthouse on the Square in Lexington, NC.

A 12-month exterior restoration of the 1858 Courthouse completed in 2014. One of North Carolina’s most distinguished antebellum buildings, the Old Courthouse is one of the only historic buildings in the area open to the public. The Davidson County Historical Museum maintains a permanent collection highlighting the natural history and culture of Davidson County which is available to the public through regularly scheduled exhibits and education programs.

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.” Marcus

Exhibitions

The H. Lee Waters Photograph Gallery

The H. Lee Waters Photography Gallery: Movies, the Cinema, and Uptown Culture, features photographs of historic uptown Lexington - the city’s cultural epicenter where people worked, congregated and even saw themselves on the silver screen. Beginning in the 1930s through the 1940s, Lexington’s studio photographer, H. Lee Waters, travelled throughout North Carolina and neighboring states making movies of “Everyday People.” Regardless of gender, age, skin color or, socioeconomic status, a few moments of fame could be yours.

Cabinet of Curiosities

Wunderkammern, or cabinets of curiosities, arose in sixteenth-century Europe as collections of exotic and intriguing objects. This cultural phenomenon is considered a precursor to the modern day museum. We’ve created our own wonder room featuring curious items from the permanent collection, including a wicker casket, a 167-year-old frog, and a local photographer’s original invention. As you enjoy curiosities you will also learn about how museums came to be - a story beginning nearly 2,500 years ago.

Lexington...the County Seat Comes of Age

Lexington is named the county seat in 1824 and incorporated by the General Assembly in 1828. By it’s 101st birthday the city is straddling rail lines sparking local ambitions and will soon become a booming manufacturing center and hub of socioeconomic development. Learn about the county’s emergence during 20th century Industrial Revolution.

Digital catalog records have been added to almost 50% of the Collection have been added to the Collections Database an is now available at http://www.co.davidson.nc.us/HistoricalMuseum/virtual_exhibit/index.htm. For information on the Davidson County Historical Museum, contact Caitlin Williams, Curator at 336-242-2035.