



Bookshop

-HISTORIC-
Willington
 SOUTH CAROLINA



History Center

Committed to preserving our cultural resources.

*Historic Willington Day March 16, 2024
 10:00 am - 4:00 pm*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Historic Willington Day

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Gospel Fest

Friday, April 5, 2024 6 - 8 pm

Free Event by Mims Community Center & WAACC, Food vendor, Area Gospel Groups & Individuals
 Mims Center, 2458 SC Hwy 81, McCormick
 Contact: Donald Moss 864-378-2241

Juneteenth Celebration

Friday, June 7, 2024 6 - 8 pm

Free Event by Mims Community Center & WAACC
 Mims Center, 2458 SC Hwy 81, McCormick
 Performance by Gud Vybez Band
 Contact: Donald Moss 864-378-2241

260th Huguenot

Homecoming

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Registration 10 AM
 Governor's School of Agriculture
 at John de la Howe
 Featured speaker, Tom Poland
 *Letter to be sent with more information

Willington on the Way

1801 Morrah Bridge Rd.
 McCormick, SC 29835

Facebook: Willington Bookshop
 Website: <https://WillingtonSC.com>
 Email: willington@wctel.net

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday
 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join us for a day of stories and demonstrations!

Below are just a few of the many things to explore.

On-Site Exhibits

- ◆ History Center
- ◆ African American Cultural Center
- ◆ Revolutionary War/ Colonial Reenactors
- ◆ Antique/Classic Cars
- ◆ Steam Engines

Activities (self directed)

- ◆ Children's area with vintage games
- ◆ Panning for Gold Demo
- ◆ Book signing by local authors

Featured Location - Historic Morrah/McAllister Home

Restored and newly renovated by the current owners who will be leading tours and sharing the history of this fascinating home.

Food Vendor & Bake Sale

- ◆ OLA'S Southern Soul & Caribbean Cuisine - a returning favorite.
- ◆ Inaugural Willington on the Way Bake Sale - delicious baked goods and an opportunity to take "a little something" home.

Ticket Information

Purchase tickets in advance at the Bookshop or Chamber of Commerce Office. Tickets available the day of the event

- ◆ \$20 for adults
- ◆ Free for 18 yrs. and under

Historic Willington Day is an annual fundraiser for Willington on the Way. As a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization our mission is to preserve and celebrate the history of the area. Proceeds along with sales from the Bookshop and Curiosity Shop support the History Center and maintenance of the historic building.

WOTW Board of Directors

By Jean D. Able, Vice President

Lana Snellgrove, Board President, has informed Board members that she and husband, Jack, are moving from the Savannah Lakes Village to be closer to family in Tennessee. Lana has served the Board of Directors faithfully for seven years, beginning her service to WOTW as a volunteer in the Bookshop fourteen years ago. Lana answered the call to oversee Bookshop operations and continued doing this while taking on duties as President of WOTW after Sara Covin Juengst retired in 2020. Lana brought to these volunteer duties her people skills, knowledge and patience. Lana is a retired language arts teacher and spouse of a retired minister. Lana's husband, Jack, has also faithfully served as a volunteer in the Bookshop as well as a general "handyman," always willing to help where needed. Lana's beautiful personality, dedication, and leadership will be missed as well as Jack's smile and genial personality. We wish for Lana and Jack a happy second retirement full of fun and memorable times with their children and grandchildren.

WOTW Board of Directors welcomes Amy Smith and Randy Straw of Savannah Lakes Village, McCormick. Joe Floyd of McCormick agreed to another term on the Board. Joe and Randy also serve as volunteers in the History Center. Amy, Randy and Joe bring their many talents and experiences that will enhance and support the mission of WOTW.

I have agreed to serve as interim president until a president is selected by the Nominating Committee. I will end my service to the Board of Directors at the end of 2024.

We say farewell and thank you to Tim Wines as he completed his Board term, having served since 2018.

WOTW - PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Lana Snellgrove - President of Willington on the Way (WOTW)



Jack and I discovered Savannah Lakes Village 18 years ago when we started making plans for retirement. Four years later, we retired and moved here to McCormick County seven miles from Willington. I had heard of Sara Juengst from her niece who taught with me in Atlanta, and I stopped in at the Willington Bookshop to meet her. I was immediately recruited as a volunteer. And as the saying goes... the rest is history.

I have always loved books and enjoyed meeting people. It was not long before I was captivated by the history of the area and the vision that Sara and Dan Juengst had for Willington. My life has been enriched by the friends I have made, by the stories I have heard from visitors to the Bookshop and the History Center, and by the history and culture shared by the wonderful volunteers who are the life-blood of Willington on the Way.

There is a mystical quality to this place, and I am blessed to have been able to share my time and talents as well as learn and grow as a part of the WOTW community for these 14 years. Thank you to Jack, my husband, who has supported me and Willington throughout the years. Thank you to Sara for opening the door; and thank you to everyone, volunteers and visitors, who have enriched my life. I carry many stories with me that will spread the word. Willington has a bright future ahead, and I will continue my support from afar and on return visits.

WJBF CHANNEL 6 NEWS VISITS WILLINGTON

Brandon Dawson and camera crew from WJBF News Channel 6 Television's "Your Hometown Roadtrip" were on-site in Willington recently. Willington is to be featured on February 21st at 12:30PM on WJBF Channel 6. The program may be seen after the airing on WJBF's website or on You Tube by searching, "Your Hometown Roadtrip."

HISTORY CENTER

By Barry Russell, Manager

We are thrilled to announce a significant addition to our History Center collection: a new bookcase that now proudly displays Daddy Tom's original tombstone. Daddy Tom's story is a poignant reflection of the complexities of history. He was a slave in the Petiquro family household, where he was treated as a member of the family. Despite being offered his freedom, he chose to remain with the family. Upon his passing, he was laid to rest near the Badwell Cemetery, a site owned by the Petiquro family. As a slave he could not be buried within the cemetery itself. However, in honor of his memory, the family erected a beautiful tombstone.

Tragically, approximately 30 years ago, the cemetery fell victim to vandalism. Tombstones were shattered and desecrated. Among the casualties was Daddy Tom's tombstone which was broken from its base and disappeared. The community was rightfully incensed, and a committee led by Bobby Edmonds was formed to restore the cemetery. Thanks to a photograph of Daddy Tom's original tombstone, the committee painstakingly erected a duplicate and diligently repaired the cemetery grounds.

Fast forward to several months ago when, during a casual lunch conversation between two gentlemen in the northern part of the state, one of the men mentioned his hometown, McCormick. This conversation prompted the other to reminisce about a time when he used to frequent the area for outdoor sports. Remarkably, he recalled an incident from 20 years prior when he stumbled upon a tombstone, and, unsure of what to do with it, took it home, where it had been gathering dust in his garage ever since. The McCormick native was stunned, as he had been involved in the committee dedicated to the cemetery's restoration. Promptly, he reached out to Bobby Edmonds seeking guidance on the matter. Bobby's advice was clear: Entrust the tombstone to the Willington History Center where it could be safeguarded against further harm.

We are deeply honored to have been chosen as the custodians of this significant artifact of history and are privileged to have it on display at our History Center. It serves not only as a tangible link to Daddy Tom's legacy but also as a reminder of our collective responsibility to preserve and honor the past for future generations.

BOOKSHOP NEWS

By Misty Oxford, Manager

I'm honored to accept Lana Snellgrove's trust to carry on the stewardship of this beloved bookshop. Stepping into the footsteps of her incredible leadership, and those before her, is both humbling and exciting. Ms. Sara's vision for Willington as a haven for book lovers, history enthusiasts, and curious minds alike is truly inspiring, and it's a privilege to help carry that torch forward.

My love for books and historic buildings led me to join the team as a volunteer one year ago. The charming atmosphere immediately captivated me, and I found myself surrounded by like-minded individuals who, like me, are enchanted by this historic place.

Visitors to the Bookshop and Curiosity Shop may now use Credit/Debit cards for purchases.

CELEBRATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

by Jean D. Able

Willington community locals and McCormick County come together annually in Willington on January 15th to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I was invited this year by Robert Galloway to join the walk and program. Robert, a local resident, organizes the walk each year; and Dorothy C. Rivers, President of Mims Community Center #3, is in charge of the program. This year, the walk began at Willington Presbyterian Church and ended (as always) at the Mims Community Center in Willington. Mrs. Mamie (Henry) J. Banks presided over the program consisting of prayers, songs, and an impressive and inspiring speaker, Dr. Linda M. Tucker. Dr. Tucker serves as Pastor of Holy Springs Baptist Church in McCormick County.

Dr. King would be very proud that so many people continue to give of their time and talents each year in remembrance of him as a powerful, inspiring leader in the American civil rights movement.

Get Our Newsletter By Mail

This newsletter is published periodically to inform you of upcoming events and news about Willington on the Way. We are updating our records and want to make sure that you are included in our mailing. Join our mailing list by adding your address or provide us with any changes. Contact:

Jean Able email: jeanable@wctel.net

The **Huguenot Homecoming** address update for our reminder letter may be directed to Jean Able or Mike Dorn.

Mike Dorn email: mike.dorn@VELUX.com

DONATIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER (as of February 12, 2024)

Hank Baggett
Sally & Tarver Bailey
Jean S. Baker
The Bailey Foundation
Carolyn Brice
Steven W. Clark
Pam Elrod
Norman & Ann Francavilla
Carol A. Guillebeaux
Victoria Aleck Gumbiner
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Hickson
Clifford Jackson
Charles Jennings for the **Willington African American Cultural Center**
Stephany Klein
Mary Anne Linsenmeyer

Robert S. Link
Robert P. Martin- **to Sara C. Juengst Legacy Fund**
Charles M. Miller - **to Sara C. Juengst Legacy Fund**
Stan B. Noble
Paula Palaima
Katherine Pinard & Eric Juengst
Barry & Barbara Russell
Ralph Scurry
George W. Sharpton
Jeanne Sharpe
Stephen & Rosemarie Shively
Kathie Stallworth
Carol Stubbs
Brian R. & Deborah Taylor
Cynthia Webster
Gary L. Wellmaker

IN MEMORY

James H. LeRoy, Jr. - **in memory of Robert Wrenn LeRoy born in Willington April 5, 1900**
Nancy Lindroth - **in memory of Jean Price**
Bradey & Carolyn Link - **in memory of his mother, Callie B. Link**
George McKee - **in memory of his wife, Pat McKee**
Donald D. Moss - **in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius A. Moss**
Cheryl Newby - **in memory of Sandra Busbee**
Robin Reeder - **in memory of Jean Price & Rebecca McConnell**
Nancy B. Sullivan - **in memory of Nancy Jean Price**

IN HONOR

James D. & Sarah Brice- **in honor of Carolyn Brice & Wright Andrews, Jr., at Christmas 2023**
J. William Rogers, II - **in honor of Abbeville County Historical Society and Abbeville County REV250 Committee**
Janet Shelnutt - **in honor of Sara Covin Juengst**
Adele Wyatt - **in honor of her mother, Sara C. Juengst**

Thank you!

THANK YOU, Friends of Willington. Your contributions paid off the loan for the Bookshop roof repairs and HVAC repairs, with a balance going toward capital improvement needs, first of which are repairs to the Bookshop ceilings, windows, and bathroom damages resulting from roof leaks and deterioration. In-kind donations have been received in the History Center, Curiosity Shop and Bookshop. Please know all donations are appreciated and tax deductible. Special thanks for the replacement computer for the History Center. When donating, if you require a letter of receipt, please be sure to provide your name and address to a volunteer on duty.