



GREETINGS
December 2024



The Friends of Historic Halifax continues its mission in supporting the Historic Halifax state site.

WE ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION!!!! The Visitors Center at Historic Halifax is gutted, but the historic buildings are open and the staff continues to welcome visitors to the historic district. We anticipate the opening of a wonderful new visitors center in the latter part of 2025. The open rotunda is being closed in and will be a reception area. All the exhibits are being redesigned. In addition, work at the WR Davie House will also be soon underway. So stay tuned for grand openings and ribbon cuttings.

As we close this year, we celebrate the events at Historic Halifax. Much is happening. We continue to offer avenues to learn about the stories that happened here in our county and shaped the founding of the United States. Your membership in the Friends of Historic Halifax helps us in so many ways...from purchasing greenery and candles for the holidays to flags and flagpoles for the site. We appreciate your support and hope you will continue to be members in 2025.

We support and coordinate with the 250th Commemoration of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence celebration. There will be events and presentation throughout the months

Upcoming in 2025:

The Lafayette Bicentennial Celebration of his farewell tour of 1825:

1. Sunday January 19th, 3-5 pm at the AG Center near the new Halifax County Courthouse: A free presentation on the **Life and Contributions of Lafayette by Hank Parfitt**, board member of **American Friends of Lafayette and resident of Fayetteville, NC. Reception at 3 with presentation at 3:30. We all know Lafayette served under George Washington but here is the “rest of the story”.** Website for American Friends of Lafayette.....<https://friendsoflafayette.wildapricot.org/>.
2. **February 27th**
Beginning at 5:00 pm, there will be a reenactment of Lafayette’s visit to Halifax on his farewell tour. “Lafayette” arrive from the river to the sound of canon fire and be welcomed at the Eagle Tavern by the “son of WR Davie”. He then will be escorted by the town’s people to the Hen and Hog Restaurant for a dinner. The welcoming event is free but tickets for the dinner will be sold on line. At the dinner, “Lafayette” will be toasted with the original thirteen toasts. The following day, “Lafayette” goes to Enfield and will be greeted at “The Cellars”. Stay tuned for more details.

Halifax Resolves Day Saturday April 12, 2025: The Resolves Program is scheduled for April 12th at 2:00 but there will be events throughout the three day celebration. There will be music and a laser show on the steps of the historic courthouse Saturday night.

Other Projects in Historic Halifax:

1. The outlining of the historic courthouse that was located this past year using ground penetrating radar.
2. Discussion for designing trails along the Roanoke River frontage.
3. Development of a book on Halifax 1776

4. Landscaping at the WR Davie House

FOHH continues to offer the wonderful book, *The Historic Architecture of Halifax County*, for sale at \$60.00. They can be purchased either at the Halifax Library or the Tap Room in Historic Halifax. All the revenue goes toward projects and events in Historic Halifax. They make wonderful gifts to anyone who has a connection to Halifax County or appreciates old houses.

JOIN US! We welcome your annual FOHH membership and all contributions to Historic Halifax. We will keep you informed of happenings through emailed newsletters and posts on Facebook pages. Come visit us often. If you are interested in being a volunteer at the site, send us an email or talk to staff at the site. We appreciate you. Thank you for your support. Share the application for membership. Give a membership for a holiday for birthday gift.

We are proud of our history and the part we played in the founding of this country. There are many stories to tell..... the Underground Railroad, the Ram Albemarle, Sir Archie, Andrew Jackson, the Masonic Lodge, Lord Cornwallis, Lafayette, George Washington, Cornelius Harnett, the Native Americans, John Paul Jones, and William R. Davie and the founding of the first state university at Chapel Hill.

Thought for the day...

Only through studying history can we grasp how things change, only through history can we begin to comprehend the factors that cause change, and only through history can we understand what elements of an institution persist despite change.

WEBSITES TO FOLLOW...

For Lafayette: [Lafayette 200 – Bicentennial of Lafayette’s Farewell Tour 2024–2025 the Nation’s Guest](#)

For Historic Halifax: Facebook for Historic Halifax or Facebook for Friends of Historic Halifax

For 250th Commemoration: [Home Page | america250 \(nc.gov\)](#) and [visithalifax.com](#).

2024 Board of Directors FRIENDS OF HISTORIC HALIFAX EIN 82-4702120:

Karen Vaughan (chair), Kathy White (vice chair/secretary), Jim Small (treasurer), Larry Armstrong, Joyce Tillery, Ada Shields, Suzann Anderson, Al Richardson, Dennis Doran, Cheryl Edwards, Reverend Michael Ridic, Sr.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS can be obtained either at visitors site/Tap Room or by emailing FOHH1776@gmail.com.

HANK PARFITT OF FAYETTEVILLE, NC

Presentation on Life and Contributions of Marquis de Lafayette

Sunday January 19th, 2025 3-5 pm

Reception

