Welcome from Kesha Talbert, NCPC President

The July issue of the NCPC Newsletter is largely devoted to reflecting upon the work of NCPC over the last year; however, I would like to also direct your attention to the year and the opportunities ahead. It is our goal to support preservation efforts and preservation professionals here in North Carolina by providing educational resources, professional networking, advocacy, and preservation grants. NCPC has done this with excellence for many years and our members, donors and friends can expect more of the same in the 2019 fiscal year.

This year we will again be providing affordable workshops in locations throughout the state. Topics will be relevant to people in various roles of caretaker for cultural property – from museums and history centers to academic libraries to municipal grounds crews who maintain local cemeteries and public monuments. Our annual conference will focus on community engagement and how we can best steward shared or collaborative information/collections. Funding for preservation efforts is tight across the spectrum, and access is particularly limited in the local and community level sectors. A continuing effort of NCPC is to award Preservation Grants and scholarships to our programs to help meet this need in our state.

The Board of Directors will continue working diligently to ensure the stability and success of NCPC for the future with goals for additional fundraising initiatives, enhancing the member experience, and improving the systems and procedures for our financial accounting and reporting. There is a lot on our plate this year and our seven standing committees...
President’s Welcome (continued from p. 1)

and two ad hoc committees are all gearing up to make this possible. The committees are comprised of both Board members and volunteers from the membership. Please take a look at the list of committees on our website and consider ways that you might be able to participate or invest in our efforts.

I encourage everyone to make the most of their membership this year and look for new ways to engage with the NCPC community- take a workshop, attend the conference, submit an article to the newsletter, or join a committee. The success of NCPC throughout the years has been a result of the dedication of our members and volunteers, the high standard of professional excellence of the preservation community throughout the state, and the willingness of all to share and gain knowledge. I look forward to serving this community as the NCPC President this year. It is a privilege to work along side of such a talented and dedicated Board to support the multitude of preservation efforts in North Carolina.

Sincerely,
Kesha Talbert

Immediate Past President’s Message

Dear Members and Friends of NCPC,

Time has flown by since I wrote my President’s Letter which appeared in the July 2017 NCPC newsletter! I am happy to report, as I move into my new role as NCPC Immediate Past President, that our organization has so far successfully weathered the retirement of its long serving Executive Director Robert James. One reason NCPC has been able to continue its mission to help ensure the preservation of our state’s rich heritage is due to the efforts of its Interim Executive Director Beth Doyle. I would fill up this edition of the newsletter if I listed all the small and large tasks Beth has undertaken. Many of these tasks involve the administration and day-to-day operation of NCPC, which in turn make possible the workshops, grants, and other outreach activities NCPC has come to be known for. I’ve enjoyed working with Beth this past year and look forward to continuing to do so.

I also want to thank the members of our Executive Committee who assisted me during this transition period. Our Secretary Corinne Midgett, Treasurer Karen Feeney, and our very able incoming President Kesha Talbert. Thank you for all you’ve done. Our current Board of Directors deserve thanks as well for helping to work through this past year. Their willingness to serve and volunteer their time and talents shouldn’t be overlooked, as well as their abilities to navigate across the state for meetings!
Message from the Immediate Past President (continued from p. 2)

I am stating the obvious, but nonprofit organizations like NCPC would quickly expire without members who support and recognize its value. Even more important are the members who raise their hands and get involved. This organization has been blessed with numerous past and present members who were able and willing to raise their hands to get involved. However, occasionally we need to be reminded of this need or else everyone assumes all is well. If you would like to get involved with NCPC and serve on a committee, become a board member, or simply host a workshop, let us know. Gains can quickly be lost, and there is still much to do to help ensure NCPC remains a reliable and capable partner our libraries, archives, historic sites, and museums can look to for assistance.

Budget Summary

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The Executive Committee and the Interim Executive Director spent much of the year working on issues that followed from the retirement of Robert James from the Executive Director position. These include:

**Meeting with the preservation officers from our three Sustaining members:** Duke University Libraries, North Carolina State University Libraries, and North Carolina University Libraries. We discussed changes in NCPC leadership; improvements made in the past fiscal year; and future improvements to the organization.

**Working closely with committee chairs** to shift more day-to-day duties to committees that had been done by the Executive Director. These shifts right-size the Executive Director position and allow us to have a better idea of the requirements and resources needed for this position. As we move forward into FY2019 there will be discussion regarding this position.

We made several changes that allowed us to save money on administrative costs and to better track our budget:

**Switching teleconference providers** to FreeConferenceCall.com so that board members can make free conference calls with their committee members. Going to a free service has saved just over $700 from the previous fiscal year.

**Reorganizing our budget reporting methods** to make tracking our budget easier. This will also make filling out tax forms and the NC Solicitation License faster and easier.

**Sorting through the NCPC Archives** according to our records retention policy. This sorting has significantly reduced the physical size of the archives to the point that we no longer need to pay for storage of these records. This generated a savings of $1300 per year.

**Meeting with an accountant** to discuss budget tracking and general budgeting issues. This meeting was free and set up through our membership in the NC Center for Nonprofits.

Finally, I’d like to issue a special thank you to our board members’ institutions. Their willingness to cover travel costs to board meetings this last year led to a significant savings for NCPC.
2017-2018 Workshops

Intermediate Book Repair Workshop
On September 29, 2017, Craig Fansler, Preservation Librarian at the Z. Smith Reynolds Library of Wake Forest University, conducted a book repair workshop in his on-campus book repair lab. Attendees came from all over the state of North Carolina and even slightly outside of it (Johnson City, TN). Participants made four-flap enclosures, pamphlet binders, and archival boxes. They practiced spine replacement and learned how to work with heat-set tissue and Japanese paper.

Introduction to the Care of Historic Cemeteries
On Friday, November 3, 2017, the High Point Museum hosted a workshop on the preservation of historic cemeteries, taught by Jason Church, Materials Conservator at National Center for Preservation Technology & Training. Attendees came from museums, historic sites, libraries, and from as far away as Summitville, IN, and Atlanta, GA. Jason began the day by discussing the importance of cemeteries. Not only do they contain significant amounts of historic and genealogical data, but they also serve to showcase the artistic, creative, and technical values of their respective cultures and time periods. In the afternoon attendees were given the chance to participate in some hands-on preservation as the workshop moved from the museum to Oakwood Cemetery where they cleaned a section of grave markers.

Costume Mounts
On May 21, 2018, Paige Myers, Textile Conservator at the NC Museum of History, led a workshop at the museum in Raleigh on mannequin making with Fosshape. Fosshape is a thermoplastic felt that can be cut, sewn, and steamed into a variety of shapes. Its versatility and low cost makes it very useful for making forms for exhibition.

Sixteen participants from across the state enjoyed a full day of hands-on practice in making wig bases, arms, legs, and torsos. Each participant received a yard of two different weights of fosshape to use to make examples to take home. After lunch, Paige gave a demonstration of making paper hair for exhibits. Many different hairstyles can be achieved using twisted craft paper and stainless steel pins. Participants were given materials lists and encouraged to return to their institutions to put the techniques they’d learned into practice.
2017 NCPC Annual Conference

Battling the Bloom: Mold Protection for Collections

The 2017 annual conference (November 13, 2017, at NC State University’s McKimmon Center) addressed preventing, identifying, and remediating mold in archival and object collections. Experts from the fields of conservation, preservation, and industrial hygiene helped participants learn about the risks mold poses for buildings, artifacts, and collections stewards.

The headline speaker was Susan Duhl, a Baltimore-based conservator with expertise in paper collections and broad knowledge of disaster recovery and collections management. Dr. Wayne Thomann of Duke University shed light on mold’s risks to human health, North Carolina conservators David Goist and Corey Riley shared in-depth information about caring for paintings and objects, and Reid Thomas of the State Historic Preservation office discussed mold mitigation in historic buildings.

Didn’t make it to the conference? Attended but now need a refresher?

Arm yourself with knowledge and resources to “battle the bloom” with the information provided by the presenters.

Highlights include:

- Mold dynamics and the basics of control
- Battling mold on historic buildings, paintings, and objects
- Health considerations

(Direct link: https://ncpreservation.org/programs/conferences#previous)
2018 NCPC Preservation Grant Recipients

The NCPC Preservation Grants Committee received and reviewed seven preservation grant applications in the spring of 2018; this is the largest number of applications NCPC has ever received. Three of the proposals were funded. Grantees’ stories will be featured in future newsletters.

$2,000 to Duke Homestead State Historic Site for replacement windows for their historic tobacco barn known as “Third Factory.”

This tobacco barn was the first one that Washington Duke built for his tobacco manufacturing company, W. Duke and Sons, predecessor of the American Tobacco Company. All 8 windows need replacing. The grant funds will cover about half of the costs; Duke Homestead will supply all other required funding.

$960 to Mendenhall Homeplace of Historic Jamestown Society for conservation of rare materials.

Richard Mendenhall’s circa 1811 home exemplifies the community of Quaker trades people and farmers who actively opposed slavery, promoted education for all, and labored to create a life of peace and simplicity during troubled times. Grant funds will be used to preserve an 1815 edition of Jesse Kersey’s *A Treatise on the Fundamental Doctrines of the Christian Religion* and to digitize and reproduce a scrapbook of the Mendenhall and Hobbs families.

$850 to Duke University Medical Center Archives (DUMCA) for a Nilfisk vacuum.

Duke University Medical Center Archives (DUMCA) often receives donated collections of materials. A HEPA vacuum can remediate mold and gently remove dust, frass, and other fine debris from incoming collections, keeping these harmful materials out of the repository and keeping existing collections safe from incoming contaminants. The NCPC grant will cover about half the cost of the vacuum; DUCMA will pay the rest.
A Brief History of the NCPC

The North Carolina Preservation Consortium developed from a series of meetings in 1989, and on March 12, 1990, the organization was incorporated in the State of North Carolina. Four years later in August of 1994, NCPC received permanent non-profit status from the Internal Revenue Service. During these early years, the organization was ably lead by Harlan Greene. When Harlan returned to his native Charleston, South Carolina, in the late 1990’s the torch passed to Robert James, who had been an active member from the beginning. When Robert stepped down in 2017, the Board of Directors named Beth Doyle to be interim executive director. The NCPC is a statewide leader in providing education and grant funding related to the preservation of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

About the NCPC Board of Directors

NCPC is an all-volunteer organization. Board members serve because they are dedicated to NCPC’s mission and see the value our organization provides its members.

Members of the NCPC Board of Directors come from organizations all across the state. We strive to represent a wide range of institutions including museums, archives, libraries, and historic sites—small, medium, or large. We also strive for broad geographical representation. [Contact information for board of directors members](#) is available on the NCPC website.

The NCPC Board of Directors consists of seventeen members. The president, vice president/president elect, immediate past president, secretary, and treasurer comprise the executive board, and the remaining twelve people serve as at-large members.

Term limits vary depending on the position. At-large members each serve a 3-year term. Treasurer and secretary are 2-year terms. The vice president is president-elect, then president, and then immediate past president, making for a 3-year term. The immediate past president serves as chair of the annual conference planning committee. For more information on these positions, please [see our Bylaws page](#).

The map above shows the locations of our board members’ institutions. As you can see, we could really use some representation from “down east.” But regardless of where you’re from, if you’re interested in serving on the board please [contact Interim Executive Director Beth Doyle](#)!
Membership Report

In 2017-2018, NCPC had 27 individual memberships. We strive to keep dues affordable, at just $25 ($10 for students).

NCPC members:
⇒ receive registration discounts on our preservation workshops and annual conference
⇒ can hold leadership positions on the consortium’s board of directors, committees, and task groups.
⇒ join a respected state-wide network of preservation advocates.

NCPC is grateful to our institutional members. Fifty archives, conservation centers, historic sites, libraries, museums, and similar organizations support the preservation of cultural, educational, and historical collections in our state.

Why be an institutional member?

For as little as the cost of four individual memberships, all the employees of member institutions enjoy the benefits listed above.

Only institutional members, however, can apply for preservation grants!

Want to learn more? See our membership page!

Appreciation

The NCPC board of directors expresses appreciation to board member Adrienne Berney, who recently tendered her resignation. As Chair of the Education Committee, Adrienne organized many successful workshops and was also instrumental in organizing the 2018 Annual Conference. Barbara Ilie from Durham County Library has been appointed to fill Adrienne’s position on the Board of Directors.

The board would also like to thank:  

Our workshop and meeting sponsors:
- High Point Museum
- Cemetery Preservation Supply Company
- Mooresville Public Library

Our 2017 Conference sponsors:
- Gaylord Archival
- Hollinger Metal Edge
- HF Group
- The Society of North Carolina Archivists
Your membership dues support NCPC conferences, workshops, scholarships, and other programs that enable individuals and cultural institutions to preserve North Carolina heritage and culture. But your dues only cover part of the expenses. NCPC is a registered 501c3 organization, so your donations are tax deductible.

**When you’re completing your membership renewal form, consider adding an additional donation to enhance your contribution!**

(Or you can [donate online right here, right now!](http://www.ncpreservation.com))