

# FOUNDATIONS

*Quarterly newsletter for the Matthews Historical Foundation  
and the Matthews Heritage Museum*



## Keep Moving Forward

*By Bob Aycock*

One of my favorite quotes by Walt Disney starts off with, "There's really no secret about our approach. We keep moving forward—opening up new doors and doing new things."

As you may have already noticed, this newsletter has undergone a fresh makeover, inspired by the desire to explore new horizons. I hope you find the new format appealing and I would be delighted to receive your feedback.

It's truly astonishing to reflect on the fact that I've assumed the role of Director for over a month now. This brief period has seen remarkable progress, and my enthusiasm remains unbridled as we step forward, open new doors, and embark on exciting new journeys in the months that lie ahead. Together, let's keep the spirit of progress burning brightly—keep moving forward!

### IN THIS ISSUE

---

**MATTHEWS ALIVE  
PARADE RECAP**

---

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

---

**FROM THE DIRECTOR'S  
DESK**

---

**2023 READER'S CHOICE  
AWARDS**

---

**A NOTE OF THANKS**

---

**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
UPCOMING EVENTS**

---



## Matthews Alive

The Matthews Historical Foundation and Matthews Heritage Museum were thrilled to be part of the festivities during the Matthews Alive Parade on Labor Day weekend. Our gratitude goes to Urban Architectural Group for their generous sponsorship of the Matthews Heritage Museum float. We'd also like to extend our appreciation to Renfrow Hardware for contributing special farm props, including a cotton basket, burlap sacks, and an antique plow, that added a

## President's Corner

by Becky Willard

We would like to officially welcome Bob Aycok as the new Director of the Matthews Heritage Museum. Bob has served on the Board of the MHF since 2018 and recently took over the Director position. You may have seen Bob and his family recently at the Matthews Alive parade heading up our float, courtesy of Urban Architectural Group, featuring antique farm equipment loaned to us by Renfrow Hardware. It was a beautiful day for the parade and the Matthews Alive festival. Please stop by the Museum soon to visit Bob and get a tour from one of our wonderful docents!



## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

With 5 years on the MHF Board, I am thrilled to embrace the position of Director, offering my support to both the Foundation and the Museum. I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated Docents. Your warm welcome and invaluable support during my transition have made this a smooth process. Thanks to you, I've gained the knowledge necessary for a successful tenure ahead.



unique charm to our float. It was indeed a fantastic day for a parade, and we were delighted to share it with our wonderful community!

MHF President Becky Willard was driven by Board Member Kress Query. On the Museum float were two of our wonderful docents, Joe Brandenburg and Barbara Stegall, portraying Dr. and Mrs. Reid, Board Member Anne Bennett, and Museum Director Bob Aycok, along with his two daughters, sister, and nephews.



## Thank You

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Tom Hager, who generously volunteered his time and expertise to restore the brick pathway at the Reid House and the stairs of the carriage house. Behold the incredible transformation for yourself in these before-and-after photos. Tom, your invaluable support is deeply appreciated!

# 2023 READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

The Matthews Heritage Museum and the Historic Reid House were both winners in the 2023 Best of Matthews-Mint Hill Weekly's Reader's Choice Awards. Becky Willard accepted awards in August for Best Museum (Matthews Heritage Museum) and Best Historic Site (Reid House) from Matthews-Mint Hill Weekly. Thank you to everyone who voted for us!

# SAVE THE DATE

Please save the date for these exciting upcoming events to benefit the Matthews Historical Foundation:



Join us for our **2nd Annual Holiday Party** at the Historic Reid House on **Thursday, December 7th, from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM.**

Prepare for a delightful evening filled with delectable cuisine, a lively auction, captivating music, and much more!



Our **Inaugural Art Show** will be held at the Historic Reid House on **Friday evening, April 12th, and continue through Saturday, April 13th.** Discover the creativity

of six talented local artists as they showcase and offer their remarkable works for sale, including captivating oil paintings, exquisite jewelry, handcrafted pottery, and more!



One of the Area's **BEST KEPT SECRETS**  
2018 Best **LOCAL HISTORIC SITE**

Contact us today to book your event!

704.849.7368  
matthewsreidhouse.org

*Charming & quaint, it is an ideal setting for your next event!*

Wedding Ceremonies • Outdoor Weddings  
Rehearsal Dinners • Wedding Receptions  
Bridal Luncheons • Anniversary Celebrations  
Charity Events • Private Parties • Luncheons  
Business Meetings • Corporate Functions  
Reunions • Film & Photography Location

## Matthews Historical Foundation Board of Directors

Becky Willard, President  
Bob Aycock, Vice President  
Brian Antal, Treasurer  
Carol Cullis, Secretary  
Paula Lester, Historian  
Anne Bennett  
Chuck Bennett  
Kress Query  
Jim Taylor  
John Urban  
Tina Whitley

Ex Officio  
Sandy Duncan  
Bill Helms  
Marilyn Sczech

## Matthews Heritage Museum Docents

Erin Barrett  
Joe Brandenburg  
John Camenga  
Gloria Clackum  
Gregg Coleman  
Julia Hanson  
Eileen Linz  
Michael Meath  
Elinor Minshew  
Lanell Owenby  
Meghan Sharpe  
Kathy Shonts  
Barbara Stegall

Museum Director  
Bob Aycock

Visit our websites  
matthewshistoricalfoundation.org  
matthewsheritagemuseum.org  
matthewsreidhouse.org

*Foundations* is a publication of the  
Matthews Historical Foundation and  
the Matthews Heritage Museum  
Edited by Bob Aycock, Director