



SUMMER 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

- Tuesday, May 16th at 6:30 – **Book Discussion Group:** The Mountaintop School for Dogs by Ellen Clooney
- Wednesday, May 24th at 4:30 – **You Are Here Lecture*:** Ray Daniel, “**Bear Safety: Learning to live with the natives**”
Bear Safety: Learning how to live with the natives. Presented by Ray Daniels of the Wildlife and Fisheries department.

JUNE

- Saturday, June 10th at 2:30 – **Author Talk: Barry Blair**
Barry Blair is a native of Virginia and grew up in the Roanoke area. He currently makes his home in Jonesborough, TN. He is a graduate of East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, TN. In his first novel, Unwound, Blair introduces us to a world of intrigue in professional baseball. Skip Bailey leads the NY Yankees to a World Series Championship and he returns to East Tennessee for the offseason, but a trail of deceit, murders, and money laundering cause his life to become unwound. All for a Song is Blair’s second mystery in which Detective Jake Bender deals with the murder of Johnny Rose, an over-the-hill Opry star. The Nashville homicide detective works to uncover the mystery surrounding the case as Bender’s ex-wife, the mayor of Nashville with her eye on the governorship, wants it solved quickly resulting in a wild ride around Music City. A third novel, Superdeaths, finds Jake Bender, retired Nashville homicide detective recently retired to his farm in East Tennessee, asked by the FBI to help in looking for a former high school teammate who has recently escaped from prison. It turns out that he is one of two former Tennessee Vols football players who are suspected of trying to fix the Super Bowl some twenty some years before. The other is now Tennessee’s highly successful football coach. The problem is that everyone who was involved is starting to turn up murdered.
(Authors generally offer books for sale at Author Talk Events.)
- Tuesday, June 13th at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*:** Jimmy Guignard
A native North Carolinian with family roots in Banner Elk, Dr. Guignard is the author of Pedaling the Sacrifice Zone: Teaching, Writing and Living above the Marcellus Shale. This book explores his experiences watching the rural Pennsylvania area he and his family settled in turn into an industrial sacrifice zone during the Marcellus shale drilling boom. He will discuss fracking, its impact on the environment and how this book came to be.
(This book will be available for purchase)

For more information and updates, check out BannerElkBookExchange.com

*The Tuesday Evening and You Are Here Lectures are co-sponsored by the Greater Banner Elk Heritage Foundation. See what else they have going on at www.BannerHouseMuseum.org

- Tuesday, June 20th at 6:30 – **Book Discussion Group: The Risen by Ron Rash**
- Tuesday, June 27th at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*: Ray Russell of RaysWeather.com**
Ray Russell of RaysWeather.com fame will be speaking about his running of the entire length of the Blue Ridge Parkway last May as documented on RelayWithRay.com. Dr. Russell is an entertaining storyteller and will give us details on the run, the challenge and joy, as well as the fundraising efforts for this beautiful and important “highway” in the mountain area we love. We may even get him to discuss his interesting weather forecasting career which began as a hobby.
- Wednesday, June 28th at 4:30 – **You Are Here Lecture*: Lisa Smith: Wildcrafting-Native Plants and Their Uses**
Lisa is the owner and chief soapmaker at Forage Soaps, headquartered in Newland, NC. Informing her talk are her Masters Degree in Biology and Organic Chemistry and extensive coursework in Ethno-Botany. She has been wildcrafting and making soap for over 20 years and is a certified herbalist and aromatherapist. Lisa will be bringing some of her lovely products to sell at the event or you can find her at www.ForageSoaps.com

JULY

- Saturday, July 8th at 2:30 – **Author Talk: Jerry Shinn**
Celebrated journalist and author Jerry Shinn has written a long overdue biography of broadcasting pioneer Charles Harvey Crutchfield, who began his career as a 17-year-old announcer on South Carolina’s first commercial radio station and ended as head of Jefferson-Pilot Broadcasting. Charles Crutchfield was the father of modern radio and television broadcasting in the Carolinas, a great story on its own, but Shinn captures the essence of the man as a visionary who cared deeply about those who worked for him and the public audiences who were informed by his work. The book is titled A Voice of His Time, a Biography of Charles H. Crutchfield; Shinn has also written a biography of LoonisMcGlohon, Loonis! Celebrating a Lyrical Life and a recent novel, Dixie Autumn, a mystery dealing with romance, racial issues and family dynamics set in upstate South Carolina in the 1960’s.
(Authors generally offer books for sale at Author Talk Events.)
- Tuesday, July 11th at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*: Dr. Karl Campbell: “Who Is a Real American? The History and Politics of Immigration”**
. Campbell will discuss our present immigration debate from a historical perspective by reviewing the many ways Americans have thought about, and fought over, immigration and national identity in U.S. and North Carolina history. He is a professor of history at Appalachian State University and has lived in the High Country for over 25 years. Karl has also written a well-received book on the life and legacy of Sam Ervin, Senator Sam Ervin, Last of the Founding Fathers. This will be an interesting and educational evening for all.
- Tuesday, July 18th at 6:30 – **Book Discussion Group: Miller's Alley by Anna Quindlen**
- Wednesday, July 19th at 4:30 – **You Are Here Lecture*: A Special Story Telling Event: Facepainting to Ellie's Long Walk**
Noted area facepainter, Trish Daniels, will transform listeners into the hero dog of the story as well as the forest creatures she meets on her adventure.

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- Tuesday, July 25th at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*: Randy Johnson**
Randy Johnson, author of Grandfather Mountain: The History and Guide to an Appalachian Icon will speak about his 40-year love affair with this beloved mountain. Johnson started Grandfather Mountain's modern trail program in the 1970's and has been writing and researching the mountain and the high country ever since. "I set out to truly honor not only Grandfather Mountain, but also the heritage and history of the people of Avery and Watauga counties." This book is a finalist for both the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award the Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Awards in the travel category. (This book will be available for purchase, along with two of his other books on hiking.)

AUGUST

- Tuesday, August 1st at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*: Jerry Turbyfill: Revisiting the ETWNC Railroad**
Jerry Turbyfill, a local expert will speak on "Revisiting ETWNC Railroad." Jerry has been Vice President of the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society for the past eight years and was instrumental in the restoration of the Linville Depot. An Avery County native, Jerry will share history and human interest stories about the early days of railroading in the North Carolina mountains. Come prepared to be entertained and informed!
- Saturday, August 12th at 2:30 – **Author Talk: Marcee Corn**
A recent transplant from Birmingham, AL, Marcee now lives in Banner Elk and loves her new life in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Marcee and sister, Susan McCulloch co-authored Unclaimed Baggage, a memoir of their mother's journey with Alzheimer's disease. Marcee has recently written a novel, Always Thaddeus, which is a timeless tale of lost love complicated by circumstances that quickly spin out of control. Set on the picturesque island of Owls Nest, Maine, the author paints stunning images of the distinctive coast of Maine with its rocky shoreline shaped by the unforgiving turbulent sea. Andrew Morgan, the main character, chases and finally finds his lost emotions, mends his brokenness, and is left with nothing but his inborn hope. Contrary to the natural beauty depicted in the pages of this romantic mystery, the reader soon realizes that malicious intent is lurking in plain sight. (Authors generally offer books for sale at Author Talk Events.)
- Tuesday, August 15th at 6:30 – **Book Discussion Group: Mister Owita's Guide to Gardening by Carol Wall**
- Tuesday, August 22th at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*: Panel Discussion on Banner Elk**
Joe H. Perry, Charlie B. VonCanon, and Jean Webb will join a panel discussion on "Banner Elk in Days Gone By". Joe H. and Charlie B. grew up in Banner Elk and were schoolmates all through elementary and high school. Jean is a well-recognized "fount" of information about the history of this area. Bring your questions and be ready to hear lots of stories from the good ole days.
- Wednesday, August 23rd at 4:30 – **You Are Here Lecture*: Native Americans in These Mountains**
Native Americans in these Mountains: trading and traveling between the tribes of East Tennessee and the Joara Settlement. Presented by archeologist Jay Franklin, Ph.d, of East Tennessee State University. For more information on the University, check out www.ETSU.edu

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SEPTEMBER

- Saturday, September 9th at 2:30 – **Author Talk: Mary and Wayne Williams**
Authors Mary and Wayne Williams present "Lily Learns to Swim." Inspired by one of their own Labrador retrievers, "Lily Learns to Swim" tells the true story of how a puppy learned to swim. This delightful children's book is illustrated by Olivia Schaeff. Mary Williams was an award winning public school special educator for 30 years and an adjunct professor for Appalachian State University. Wayne Williams taught recreation and park management for 37 years and retired as a professor emeritus from Appalachian State University. This book will be available for sale at the event.
- Tuesday, September 12th at 7pm – **Tuesday Evening Lecture*: Michael Vines**
Dr. Michael Vines, a professor of religious studies at Lees-McRae College, will provide a thought-provoking evening with his lecture, "An Introduction to Islam". He will discuss the life of the prophet Muhammad and provide an overview of basic Islamic beliefs and practices. Such a relevant topic as this is sure to spark a great deal of discussion!
- Tuesday, September 19th at 6:30 – **Book Discussion Group: State of Wonder by Ann Patchett**
- Wednesday, September 20th at 4:30 – **You Are Here Lecture*: Doug Hundley, Founder of *The Avery Apple Project*--POSTPONED TO OCTOBER 18!**

OCTOBER

- Tuesday, October 17th at 6:30 – **Book Discussion Group: Lady Cop Makes Trouble by Amy Stewart**
- Wednesday, October 18th at 4:30 – **You Are Here Lecture*: Doug Hundley, Founder of *The Avery Apple Project***
Over 200 years ago the first settlers, in what is now called Avery County, began clearing homesteads in these Southern Highlands. One of the first things they did was to plant apple trees. Where did these apple trees come from? What kind were they, and why these? The history of the American Apple is the history of our country, going back hundreds of years, even beyond our ancestors' arrival. A secret? There were no American apples; not until our ancestors brought to these shores, the seed. Then a whole new line of American apples were created by magic! "By magic," you say? Come and find out. Now, many have been lost, and these heritage varieties are almost forgotten. The Avery Apple Project began 15 years ago with the mission of finding and saving the heirloom apples of our County. This project by the Avery County Extension Center has delivered and helped citizens plant over 40 heirloom varieties, totaling 5,000 apple trees in the last 10 years. Come hear this significant part of American history and see the original heritage apples that have been ripening here, in our mountain area, for the last 200 years.

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