

Lagniappe*/North Caroliniana

compiled by Plummer Alston Jones, Jr.

Editor's Note: "Lagniappe/North Caroliniana," the newest feature column of North Carolina Libraries, is envisioned as a complement to "North Carolina Books." As such, "Lagniappe/North Caroliniana" will feature reviews of materials in various non-book formats presenting fictional or nonfictional accounts on North Carolina or the Southern regions which include North Carolina (e.g., the Appalachians, the Southeast, the Old South, the New South, etc.). Publishers and creators of nonbook materials which meet these criteria should forward materials for possible review. Reviews of up to 250 words are welcomed and will be considered for publication. Send materials and reviews to Plummer Alston Jones, Jr., c/o Iris Holt McEwen Library/LaRose Resources Center, Elon College, P.O. Box 187, Elon College, NC 27244-0187.

North Carolina Popular Culture: A Review of Selected Current Materials

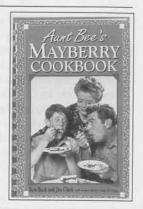
by Lula Avent

opular culture is defined by the Popular Culture Association as "those productions, both artistic and commercial, designed for mass consumption." An increase in leisure reading by students and the public, as well as scholarly interest in popular culture, has resulted in a demand for more popular culture material in libraries. There is a wide range of popular culture material on North Carolina in both print and nonprint formats. Topics include sports, cookbooks, material on the Andy Griffith Show, travel videos and cassettes, "how to" guides (golf, basketball, tennis), games, popular fiction (historical romance novels, mysteries, science fiction), and many more. Libraries formerly relied on donations, flea markets, garage sales, and estate sales as ways of collecting popular culture materials. Today many popular culture items can be purchased from local publishers and book dealers. Another way of acquiring popular culture materials is directly from the association or organization responsible for producing the item. Though collecting popular culture materials can be challenging, the results are worthwhile. The following sample of in-print popular culture materials illustrates the variety of items available.

Print material

Ken Beck and Jim Clark. *Aunt Bee's Mayberry Cookbook*. Nashville, TN: Rutledge Hill Press (513 Third Avenue South, 37210), 1991. 244 pp. \$12.95. ISBN 1-55853-098-3 (paper).

Aunt Bee's Mayberry Cookbook contains more than three hundred recipes for many foods served by America's favorite aunt and others in the fictional town of Mayberry. Among the recipes included are Beef Stroganoff Barney, Courthouse Crock Pot Spaghetti Sauce, Aunt Bee's Kerosene Cucumbers, Otis's Dipsy-Doodle Cake, and Security Bank Bread. Aunt Bee's cookbook offers these entertaining recipes along with memories from the show. There are many photos and excerpts of dialogue from the show, as well as a list of the cast, production crew, and writers. This book is a treasure for those who love "The Andy Griffith Show."



*La•gniappe (lăn-yăp´, lăn´ yăp´) n. An extra or unexpected gift or benefit. [Louisiana French]

Jerry Bledsoe. North Carolina Curiosities.

Chester, CT: Globe Pequot Press (10 Denlar Drive, Box Q, 06412).

Telephone: (800) 243-0495. 2nd ed., 1990. 223 pp. \$9.95. ISBN 0-87106-528-2 (paper).

North Carolina Curiosities is a handbook to off-beat sites and activities that do not appear in regular travel guides. Jerry Bledsoe, a columnist for the Greensboro News & Record, divides the state into three regions and arranges the entries alphabetically by county within each region. He describes the significance of the site or activity, lists its hours of operation, gives directions for getting there, admission information, and telephone numbers. Black and white photos illustrate some of the sites. There is an index.

Starting with the coast, the reader will not want to miss the mysterious hoofprints in Bath; the Blue Crab Derby in Morehead City; Mule Day in Benson; Fred, the stuffed firehorse in New Bern; and the Collard Festival in Ayden. Attractions in the Piedmont include Robert Lindley's Studebaker Rest Home in Snow Camp, the world's largest stump and rest zoo in Bynum, America's only trucking museum in Cherryville, the world's largest bureau in High Point, and Lizard Lick's lizard race. In the mountains, visitors can celebrate Beech Mountain's Garbage Day, visit Lee Medford's bottle house in Forest Hill, participate in a wash tub race in Chimney Rock, or take a ride down the original waterslide in Pisgah Forest. This is only a sample of what is included in this "outlandish guide to the dadblamedest things to see and do in North Carolina."

Calendars, Games, and Memorabilia

Ken Beck and Jim Clark. *The Andy Griffith Show Calendar*. Winston-Salem, NC: John F. Blair (1406 Plaza Drive, 27103-1470), 1992. \$9.95. ISBN 0-89587-084-3.

The Andy Griffith Show Calendar reflects some of the spirit of the fictional town of Mayberry. Each month features important events in Mayberry and birth dates of the cast. Dates such as Barney's first resignation, Aunt Bee's learning to drive, when Gomer first said "Shazam!," the Rev. Tucker's "dry as dust" sermon, and the last CBS prime-time airing of the show are some of the events listed. There is also a list of the cast, production crew, and core writers.

North Carolina: [puzzle]. Shelia Austin and Barbara Pierce; drawn by Time Harris. Hutchinson, KS: Puzzlin State, 1990. \$7.95. ISBN 0-87106-499-5. Distributed by Globe Pequot Press, 10 Denlar Drive, Box Q, Chester, CT 06412. Telephone: (800) 243-0495; FAX (203) 526-2655.

This one hundred-piece puzzle is both entertaining and educational. It includes facts such as the state song, motto, flower, bird, insect, reptile, stone, mammal, tree, flag, fish, shell, and a picture of the state capital. All one hundred counties are included, with each county seat indicated. Sites of historical events such as Bentonville Battleground, Bennett Place, Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, and Alamance Battleground State Historic Site are shown. Geographical points of interest, cities and rivers, and names of some of the famous people who lived in the state are also included.

Videos

The Outer Banks of North Carolina.

Cocoa, FL: Space Coast Video Productions, 1989?. VHS; 12 min. \$19.95. Order from Broadfoot's of Wendell, 6624 Robertson Pond Road, Wendell, NC 27591. Telephone: (800) 444-6963.

This twelve-minute video shows a world of recreation, leisure, and natural beauty. Travelers will learn where to pursue their favorite vacation activities, such as wind surfing, fishing, camping, photography, horseback riding, or hang gliding. Major attractions such as the Wright Brothers Memorial, Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, Ocracoke Lighthouse, Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, and the Elizabethan Gardens are featured. Viewers can explore Ocracoke Village, the Elizabethan shops and houses in Manteo, and relive events from the legend of Blackbeard. Both the photographs and narration are good. This video can serve as a useful guide both for people who are planning to visit and for armchair travelers.



North Carolina Libraries

The Great Smoky Mountains. Cedar Rapids, IA: Stamats Film & Video, Inc. (427 Sixth Ave. S.E., P. O. Box 2789, 52406-9962). Telephone: (800) 553-8878. 1988. 30 min. \$19.95; also available on laser videodisc for \$29.95 and on audiocassette for \$9.95.

In this video the viewer is treated to a magnificent view of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the most visited of the country's national parks. Beautiful aerial photographs graphically illustrate the natural beauty, history, recreational activities, and wildlife of the area. Scenes of virgin hardwood forests, pristine streams and waterfalls, mist covered mountains, and a stretch of the famed Appalachian Trail are only a few of the breathtaking scenes in this video. The music of Jackson Berkey of Mannheim Steamroller sets the perfect tone to match the colorful photographs. The narration, by one male voice, is professional and informative. This video is excellent for armchair travelers who want to see, but not necessarily experience first-hand, the wonders of the Smokies.

Magazines .

Jazzscope (1989-; Jeff Badgett, ed.; Chapel Hill, NC: North Carolina Jazz Network, Inc. (P. O. Box 2467, 27515-2467). Telephone: (919) 967-6256; free; quarterly).

Jazzscope, published by the North Carolina Jazz Network, is a newsletter that promotes jazz events and jazz concerts. It includes articles about people throughout North Carolina who perform jazz in concert halls, art centers, and night clubs. It also features articles on people who write or talk about jazz on radio or television. There is a calendar of upcoming jazz events in North Carolina.

Carolina Gardener (1988-; L. A. Jackson, ed.; Greensboro, NC: Carolina Gardener, Inc. (P. O. Box 4504, 27404). Telephone: (919) 294-8199; bimonthly; \$14.00).

Carolina Gardener is a regional publication designed to cover South Carolina and North Carolina, but judging from some of the letters to the editor, people from the Tidewater area of Virginia also read the magazine. Issues feature articles on public gardens, such as the Elizabethan Gardens and information on indoor and outdoor plants, landscaping, herbs, aquatic gardens, vegetables, organic gardening, and more. Valuable regular features that increase the magazine's appeal include tips on gardening, a calendar of events, plant introductions, profiles on plants, a catalog corner, classified ads, a buyers' guide, and product reviews.



Sound Recordings

Southbound Visitor's Guide to the Blue Ridge Parkway: An Interpretive Guide from Blowing Rock to Cherokee. Woodruff, SC: Rogers Associates (3301 Highway 101 North, 29388), 1988. \$9.95.

Accompanied by a map of the sights along the Blue Ridge Parkway, this talking guidebook should prove useful for a first look while behind the wheel. The guide, narrated by Allen Bookout, describes sights along the one hundred seventy miles of the Parkway in North Carolina. There are two cassettes, a northbound version from Cherokee to Blowing Rock, and a southbound version from Blowing Rock to Cherokee. The tapes are keyed to mileposts that mark a driver's progress along the parkway. The listener is instructed to turn the tape off at certain points and to turn it back on at upcoming mileposts. The narrator does an excellent job of presenting scripts that entertain as well as inform. The tape contains historical, geographical, and geological information, as well as information about accommodations. An unexpected and attractive feature is the inclusion of singing and storytelling by natives along the Parkway.

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