GARNER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 8, Number 3 | November 2026

Our mission: Preserving the history of Garner and nearby crossroads, educating youth and promoting Garner's story in and outside of the community.

Help Keep Garner's History Alive: Join or Renew for 2027

The Garner Area Historical Society depends on members, donors, and volunteers to keep the museum open, care for our collections, and share local history with the next generation. Your 2027 membership makes this work possible. Join or renew today at garnerhistorymuseum.org or at https://givebutter.com/garnerhistory and help keep Garner's history alive!

2027 Membership Levels

Student under 18 • Free

Student over 18 • $20

Individual • $45

Family • $70

Corporate • $500 first year (includes brick); $300 thereafter

Sustaining • Starting at $10/month

Checks may be made payable to the Garner Area Historical Society. Credit card payments are available through the Society's website.

Visit the Caboose



Museum & Caboose Hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

The restored caboose is open for tours during regular museum hours at the Garner History Museum at the Depot, 106 Pearl Street.

All Aboard! Caboose Restoration Successfully Completed



The Garner Area Historical Society is thrilled to announce the successful completion of the Caboose Restoration Project. This important piece of railroad history has been preserved for future generations.



From the caboose's journey through Garner to its restoration at the Depot, this project shows how far we have come. A new brick walkway also offers a lasting way to honor people and families who helped preserve local history.



Through individual donations, community fundraisers and grants, supporters raised more than $45,000. All funds were dedicated to the restoration, including structural repairs and historically appropriate improvements.

The restored caboose is now open for tours during regular museum hours. Thank you to every donor, volunteer, contractor and community supporter who helped keep Garner's history on track!



A Rainy-Day Grand Opening

The caboose officially welcomed visitors during Firefighters Day, despite torrential rain that forced organizers to cancel the rest of the festivities. At least 30 visitors braved the wet weather to tour the newly restored caboose, making its opening a memorable success.



Around the Museum | Events & Community

Christmas Open House



Sunday, December 6, 2026 • 2:00 p.m.

Join us at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 6, for the Garner Area Historical Society Christmas Open House. Celebrate the season and enjoy time together at the museum.

Museum Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving Week: The museum will be closed for the holiday week.

Winter Refresh: The museum will close beginning December 20 and reopen February 3. Our volunteers will use this time to refresh displays and prepare new opportunities to discover Garner's history.

Ghost Light: Echoes of the Revolution at GPAC

GHOST LIGHT
Echoes of Our Revolutionary Past

Tim Stevens' Ghost Light: Echoes of the Revolution brought the American Revolution close to home through imagined voices of ordinary people caught in the conflict.

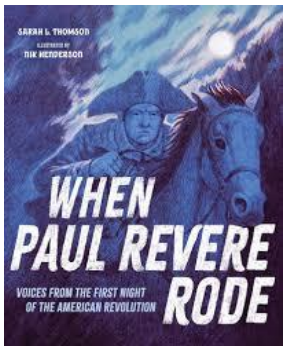
Patriots, Loyalists, Native Americans, enslaved individuals and local leaders faced difficult choices as the struggle for independence divided communities.

Produced to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of our nation, the play highlighted the history of our own community. Tim generously donated proceeds to the Garner Area Historical Society.

His book featuring the characters depicted in the production is available for purchase at the museum.

Stories, History & Ways to Give

Story Walk: When Paul Revere Rode



November 19 – December 2 | By Sarah L. Thomson

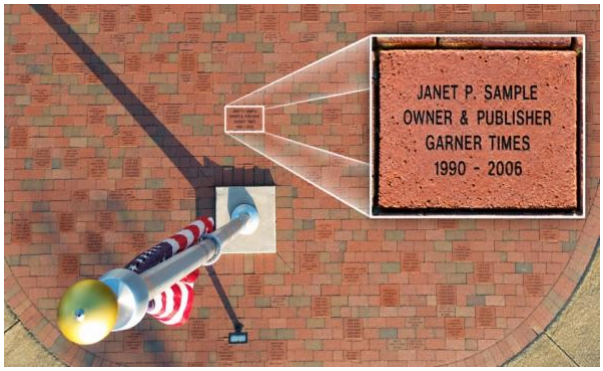
Reading Age: 7 to 10 years old (Grades 2 through 5).

Story and Perspectives

• **Midnight Ride:** The book follows the events of April 18, 1775, when Paul Revere warned colonists that British troops were marching.
• **Diverse Voices:** Instead of focusing only on famous leaders, the text uses poems and prose to share the views of ordinary people.
• **Unique Characters:** Readers meet a stable boy who delivered news of the march, a woman melting pewter spoons into bullets, and an enslaved man who woke up a blacksmith.
• **Revere's Voice:** One poem is written from the personal viewpoint of Paul Revere

(Book covers and descriptions were copied from Amazon.com)

Give a Lasting Gift: Commemorative Bricks



Honor a loved one, family member or an entire family with a commemorative brick. A meaningful gift that also supports the museum and the new walkway. Purchase one today at https://givebutter.com/garnerhistory

4 × 8 inch brick • $125
8 × 8 inch brick • $175

Honoring Our Local Heroes, One Brick at a Time



The Garner Area Historical Society is proud to partner with Garner Local Heroes to recognize individuals who have made a difference in our community. Each recipient is honored with a personalized commemorative brick along the new walkway leading to the restored caboose at the Garner History Museum.

These bricks serve as lasting tributes to the people whose service and dedication help make Garner a special place to call home.

A huge thank you to Doin Work NC for their hard work installing the new brick walkway.

With sincere appreciation, we recognize those individuals and organizations who brought our caboose renovations to life

Cindy & Mark Horney
CinMarx Home Services

Victor Conner
Conner Iron Works

Gary Cuthbertson
GEC Welding

Seth Smalling
Doin' Work NC

Shawn Capps
Jason H. Pope Electrical

Jack Groden
Auto Interiors & Tops

Jim Baker
W.T. Bain Masonic Lodge

Patrick Land
Land Painting

Engineering Department
Town of Garner

Volunteers & Docents
Garner History Museum

Garner Rotary Club
Grant

Garner Mid-Day Rotary Club
Grant

Downtown Garner Business Incentive Grant Program
Grant

Thank You for Supporting the Museum



Preserving Garner's History

The Garner Area Historical Society and Garner History Museum at the Depot are staffed by volunteers and supported by donations. We welcome your help preserving Garner's history for future generations.

Get Involved

Volunteer, become a member, visit the museum or share local history with us. Your support makes our work possible.

Contact & Visit

Email: Contact@GarnerHistoryMuseum.org

Website: GarnerHistoryMuseum.org

Facebook: @Garner History

Phone: (984) 200-9612 (voicemail)

Mail: P.O. Box 156, Garner, NC 27529

Museum: 106 Pearl Street, Garner, NC

Hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

We are now operating under the corporate umbrella of Garner Area Historical Society, a 501(c)(3), as the **Garner History Museum**