

Old Yarn Spins New Story

The oldest section of the Tavern will soon offer new interpretations

This spring the Keeping Room will highlight 18th-century textile making through a vignette portraying spinning. Baskets of wool, flax, colorful yarns, flax wheel, yarn winder, drop spindles and other equipment will help tell the story of this important aspect of 18th-century domestic life on the Michie's Tavern-Plantation. Tours of the Tavern are free to local residents.



Lecture/Luncheons

Local historian speaks at Michie Tavern to a sell-out crowd

Award-winning author, historian and illustrator Rick Britton lectured on *Albemarle Boys in Pickett's Charge* during a luncheon-lecture on February 25.

Due to the enthusiastic response to the event, Michie Tavern will be offering approximately six more lecture/luncheons by Rick Britton in 2010-11. Those wishing to be on the email list should contact cconte@michietavern.com. Simply write Lecture Information on the subject line. Reservations will be required for these special events



Exhibit Will Pay Tribute To Civil War Michie

The great grandson of innkeeper, William Michie, will be the focus of an exhibit which commemorates the 150th anniversary of this country's greatest national crisis.

During the American Civil War Charlottesville and Albemarle supported Jefferson's concept of states rights and liberty while continuing the terrible contradiction of slavery. The University of Virginia supported a Confederate Hospital; local volunteers formed the 19th Virginia Regiment serving in the Army of Northern Virginia. Charlottesville was now "Camp Jefferson." Although local volunteers served in all branches of the Confederate Army, Charlottesville saw only a skirmish in 1864 when Union General George Armstrong Custer raided along the Rivanna River. Custer was beaten off by Stuart's horse artillery but would return to accept the formal surrender of Charlottesville in 1865.

The Michie family was deeply involved in supporting the Confederate cause during the war. Henry Clay Michie, great grandson of innkeeper, William Michie, took part in Pickett's Charge. He survived the war which took him from Harper's Ferry to Fort Delaware.

He is just one of 14 Michie men and women who either fought for or actively supported the Confederacy's doomed attempt at Independence. "Boots" Michie was the first family member to die in the war. Boots was shot in the back on May 24, 1861, after compelling a saloon crowd in Denver, Colorado, to drink to the health of Jefferson Davis.

Look for this exhibit to open by January 2011 in the Tavern's upstairs Assembly Room.