

A Step Back in Time

A STEP BACK IN TIME – MT. AIRY, NC (OR MAYBERRY RFD)

Date: Thursday through Saturday, September 13, 14, 15

Depart: 8:00 A.M. on Thursday, September 13
Lower Patton Parking Lot, BRCC

Return: Approximately 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 15

Cost: \$542.00 Single occupancy
\$451.00 Double occupancy

Registration Deadline: August 10, 2018

**** WE MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 30 TRAVELERS****

Activity Level: Moderately Easy+ Leisurely walking over primarily even surfaces. Some standing required and climbing some stairs.

Included: Transportation, daily continental breakfast, accommodations for two nights, two dinners, all tours and admission fees, tips, snacks, taxes, driver gratuity, and insurance.

Not included: Alcoholic beverages and lunches.

***IF REGISTRATIONS EXCEED THE CAPACITY OF THE MAYBERRY MOTOR INN, SOME TRAVELERS WILL BE HOUSED IN ALTERNATIVE (BUT EQUAL) ACCOMMODATIONS. IN THE CASE OF A TRIP WAITING LIST, PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO BRCLL MEMBERS.**

Have you ever felt yourself longing for the 'good old days'? Do you watch reruns of *The Andy Griffith Show* and find yourself thinking of simpler times? Well, this might be the trip for you. Come with us and explore the hometown of Andy Griffith and the location of the fictional town of Mayberry RFD. Our trip will begin with a drive through the beautiful Yadkin Valley and on to the outskirts of Mt. Airy. Here, we will stop for lunch, which will be on your own. We will then continue into town, where our first stop will be The Andy Griffith Museum, which is home to the single largest collection of artifacts and Memorabilia related to the star. Highlights include actual props, wardrobe and other artifacts from *The Andy Griffith Show* and *Matlock*. After our visit to the Museum, we will proceed to the Mayberry Motor Inn to check in and give you time to settle into your rooms before heading out for dinner. The Mayberry Motor Inn, a vintage 1950s property, is family owned and operated. Our dinner destination will be the Gondola Restaurant in downtown Mt. Airy. Once we have had dinner, we will proceed to the historic Earle Theater, where musicians from all around the area gather with their instruments for a Thursday night jam session. This tradition has been going on for many years and provides great entertainment for locals and visitors alike. After the jam session, we will return to our hotel for the night.

On Friday morning, a continental breakfast will be available at the hotel. If you require something more substantial, you may walk across the street to Aunt Bee's Diner and purchase breakfast. We will be leaving the hotel at 9:00am and will meet our step-on guide for a 90 minute tour of the points of interest in Mt. Airy and the surrounding area. You will see Barney's Café, Walker's Soda Fountain, Snappy Lunch, Wally's Service Station, and many other sights. We will also stop at the world's largest open-air granite quarry. After our tour, we will proceed to the Museum of Regional History to see the collection, which comprises a wide variety of artifacts and photos depicting the fascinating history of this beautiful valley which is known as the Hollows. Our docent will begin with the area's natural history, the story of its famous granite quarry and the lives of the Saura Indians of the 1600s. Other exhibits show life in a typical pioneer village, Rosenwald Schools, Agriculture to Industry, antique cars, a 1946 fire truck and fire station, and many more. Once we have concluded our tour of the Museum, you will have free time in the downtown area to have lunch and explore the many quaint shops on Main Street. Lunch will be on your own: a list of suggested restaurants will be provided. We will gather together in mid-afternoon and return to the hotel to relax and prepare for dinner, which will be in downtown Mt. Airy at the 13 Bones Restaurant.

After dinner, we will take a ghost tour of downtown Mt. Airy. The Museum of Regional History sponsors *The Ghost Tour*, a 90 minute, lantern-lit walking tour through Mt. Airy's streets and its historic past. You will hear about 13 of our 'less mortal' friends and some of Mt. Airy's resting places. Total walking distance is about 1/3 of a mile. The tour operates in rainy weather: although not in severe weather. If you would prefer to sit and have a glass of wine and listen to some music, you may proceed to the Old North State Winery which is across the street from the Museum of Natural History. Yadkin Valley wines are among the finest in the area. You will be at the Winery for 90 minutes while the remainder of our travelers are on the ghost tour. **Please choose one of these activities when you register for the trip. If you would rather return to the hotel after dinner, that would also be possible.** Upon completion of your chosen activity, we will return to the hotel for the night.

Mt. Airy Registration, September 13 - 15, 2018

On Saturday morning, a continental breakfast will be available at the hotel. It will be time for us to pack our things and get ready to leave our hotel in time to return to the historic Earle Theater for the broadcast of the WPAQ 740 Merry-Go-Round live radio show. The first broadcast was in 1948: they haven't missed a year since then and are celebrating their 70th year of live broadcasts this year! The show was started with the idea of providing a platform to showcase the abundant musical talent in the local and surrounding areas. They continue to do that today. The area is rich in musical history and is home to many mountain music festivals in the summer. At the conclusion of the radio broadcast, we will board our motor coach for the journey home.



I'm sure that some will feel sadness at leaving, but will savor the memories that have been made during the last couple of days. We will stop in the Mt. Airy area for lunch, which will be on your own, and then return to BRCC.



EdVentures	Mt. Airy "Mayberry" Registration	Total Cost	Check #
Mt. Airy Thursday, Sept. 13 through Saturday, Sept. 15	\$542.00 per person single Name: _____	_____	_____
	\$451.00 per person double Name #1 _____ Name #2 _____	_____	_____
Friday Night Activity	North State Winery _____ Ghost Tour _____	No Extra Charge	_____

#1 Name: _____ **Phone:** _____
Last First (for name tag) MI

Address: _____
Street City State/ZIP

E-mail: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ **Phone:** _____
 (Please list someone who is NOT on the trip.)

#2 Name: _____ **Phone:** _____
Last First (for name tag) MI

Address: _____
Street City State/ZIP

E-mail: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ **Phone:** _____
 (Please list someone who is NOT on the trip.)

Pursuant to College Procedure 8.1.1, Blue Ridge Community College reserves the right to use photographs, motion pictures, and electronic images of students who are age 18 or older for marketing and promotional purposes. Objection to the use of an individual's photograph in such a manner may be made in writing to the BRCC Director of Public Relations.

A Railroad Enthusiast's Delight

A Railroad Enthusiast's Delight

Thursday, October 25, 2018

Depart: 7:45 a.m.

Return: 6:30 p.m.
(approximately)

Cost: \$115.00

Depart from and return to Lower Patton Parking Lot, BRCC

Registration Deadline:

September 21, 2018

Activity Level:

Moderate: Periods of walking over even and uneven surfaces. There may be stairs and extended periods of standing.

Included: Motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, lunch, insurance, all tours and admission fees, all taxes and tips.

Not included: Alcoholic beverages

Have you ever wanted to experience what it would be like to ride one of the famous narrow-gauge railways that are such an integral part of WNC history? Well, this is your chance to ride one of the few remaining routes that were so famous back in the mid to late 1800s. This railroad was nicknamed 'eat taters and wear no clothes', but was officially called the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad (ET&WNC). A small portion of the original route is preserved via the Doe River Gorge Railway and is operated by Doe River Gorge Ministries near Hampton, TN. Our ride through the Doe River Gorge will follow roughly two-and-a-half miles of the old ET&WNC Railroad that was developed in the 1800s. Views that can be seen from the train include historic rails, narrow ledges and 130-year-old tunnels. The ride will be fully narrated by enthusiastic volunteers and will last approximately 45 minutes.



After our ride on the railroad, we will head to Johnson City, TN, where we will have lunch at Tupelo Honey Cafe, located in the historic Clinchfield Railroad Depot. The depot has been fully restored using all original materials, except for the roof, and is a historic landmark. After lunch we will visit East Tennessee State University (ETSU), home to the George L. Carter Railroad Museum. This museum is operated by members of the Mountain Empire Model Railroaders

and the George L. Carter Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. It comprises more than 5,000 sq. ft. of display space with railroad artifacts and four operating model train layouts in four different scales. The 1,300 sq. ft. operating layout of the ET&WNC RR is in its fifth year of construction and depicts the narrow-gauge railroad from Johnson City, TN to Cranberry, NC in the 1920s and has been featured in a national and international narrow-gauge model railroad magazine for the past four consecutive years. George L. Carter was the founder of the famed 277-mile Clinchfield Railroad, which crosses four mountain ranges and runs from Elkhorn City, KY to Spartanburg, SC. It was the last major Class I Railroad constructed in the United States, having been completed in 1909 to haul coal from Eastern Kentucky and Tennessee to South Carolina and connecting ports for overseas shipments. The museum will be opened specifically for our tour on this date.

And we have saved the best for last! We are extremely fortunate to have a step-on guide with us who will be providing expert commentary on our trip. Ray Rapp recently conducted an excellent class for us on *Railroads in WNC* and is currently Co-Chair of the WNC Rail Committee, Inc. He recently curated the exhibition at the North Carolina Transportation Museum, *How the West Was Won: Trains and the Transformation of WNC*. Ray is also an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Political Science and former Dean of the Adult, Continuing Education and Summer Sessions at Mars Hill University. His knowledge in this area is extensive and I'm sure he will lead us to many interesting places on this trip that only he would know about.

After an exciting day, we will return to BRCC.



Basilica of Saint Lawrence

97 Haywood St
Asheville, NC

Thursday, November 8,
2018

9:30 a.m. at the
Basilica

Cost for Basilica Tour:
\$20.00

This tour must have a
minimum of 10, but is
limited to 25
participants.

Activity level:

Moderately easy at the
Basilica

Walking tour of Asheville

The walking tour will
take place after the
Basilica tour, as
indicated.

Cost of Walking Tour:
\$20.00

Lunch is not included in the price of the tour.

This tour must have a
minimum of 10, but is
limited to 15.

Activity Level:

Moderate on the
Walking Tour – must
be able to walk
approximately 1 mile
which contains some
incline and will have
some uneven surfaces.
A walking stick may be
helpful.

**Registration Deadline For Both Tours:
October 24, 2018**

In the event of
inclement weather, the
walking tour will be
cancelled.

There is no rain date.

**The Art & Architecture of the Basilica of Saint Lawrence, Asheville
and**

A Walking Tour of Downtown Asheville

Join us on a self-drive trip to Asheville for a docent led tour of the Basilica of St Lawrence, one of Asheville's architectural treasures. The Basilica was designed in the Spanish Renaissance style by architects Rafael Guastavino and Richard Sharp Smith, the architects of Biltmore House. Guastavino is renowned for creating elliptical free-standing domes using a unique system of building with flat tiles set in mortar. There are no beams of wood or steel in the structure. The Basilica has the largest Guastavino dome in the country, but his work can also be seen in Biltmore House, Grant's Tomb, the Great Hall at Ellis Island, plus many other locations in the USA. This tour will last for approximately one-and-a-half-hours.

After our visit to the Basilica, for those who are interested we have arranged an approximately one to one-and-a half hour walking tour of some of the highlights of downtown Asheville. We will need to move our cars from the Basilica to the Wall Street/Battery Park parking structure and then we will have lunch at a Wall Street restaurant, which will be determined later. Lunch is not included in the cost of the trip. We'll then start our walking tour, which will be conducted by an Urban Trail docent. The walking tour will be concentrated in a culturally rich area and will require the ability to walk approximately one mile. The name of the restaurant and a map of the area to be covered on the walking tour will be provided with the instructional letter you will receive approximately two weeks prior to this combined activity. If you would like to take part in the walking tour only, we will be meeting at 1:00 pm outside the *Climbmax Climbing Center* on Wall Street, which is very close to the parking garage.

Please indicate on your registration form if you will be participating in one or both activities and whether or not you will be joining us for lunch.

Carpooling for this activity is encouraged as there is limited parking in the Basilica parking lot. Some street parking will also be available. These two activities, the Basilica tour and the walking tour, are priced separately for your convenience.

In the event of rainy weather, the walking tour will be cancelled. However, the Basilica tour will continue as scheduled.



A Holiday Potpourri

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Depart: 12:45 p.m.

Return: Approximately 10:00 p.m.

Depart from and return to Lower Patton Parking Lot, BRCC, corner of Airport Rd and College Drive

Cost: \$105.00

Registration

Deadline:

November 1, 2018

Activity Level:

Moderately easy: leisurely walking over primarily even surfaces. Some standing required and possibly some stairs.

Included:

Transportation, tours, bottled water and snacks, dinner, all taxes, insurance and driver gratuity.

Not included: Alcoholic beverages

A HOLIDAY POTPOURRI

If you need a little nudge to get you in the spirit of the holidays, join us for an afternoon and evening packed with shopping, history, dining and lots and lots of holiday lights.

We'll begin our explorations in Rutherfordton, NC, which was founded in 1787. This town was in existence before there was a Constitution of the United States and before George Washington was elected as America's first President. Rutherfordton is a city of firsts. It was the location of the first U.S. Post Office in western NC which was established in 1796. It was home to the first newspaper published in the western foothills and mountain region, the North Carolina Spectator and Western Advertiser, which was first printed in 1831. For a few brief years in the 1830s and 1840s, the hill country to the west and north led the entire U.S. in the mining of gold. Although raw gold was abundant, gold coins as a medium of exchange were not. There was no way to sell gold or exchange it for goods and services, and no safe way to transport it to the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia. At the height of the gold rush, Christopher Bechtler, an experienced metalworker, emigrated from Germany and established a coin-producing operation in Rutherford county that is known as the most successful private mint in U.S. history. By 1832, the family began striking \$1.00 coins, in addition to \$2.50 and \$5.00 coins. They hold the distinction of being the first gold dollars ever created in America.

Upon arrival, you will be given time to wander the streets and shops of this charming town, to catch up on some last minute shopping or to just take in the local sites. Be sure to visit *The Gallery*, which displays and sells the work of many of the local artisans. Rutherfordton also claims to have the largest Christmas Tree in WNC in its town square. We will then gather for a guided tour of the historic Bechtler House, where the Bechtler family minted more than \$2.24 million in gold coins. We will be shown a video and our guides will explain the fascinating history of this culturally rich area.



After the tour, we'll have an early dinner at Scoggins Restaurant. You will have the opportunity on the trip to Rutherfordton to make your dinner choices. This will enable us to enjoy a leisurely meal with a minimum amount of waiting time. Dinner is included in the cost of the trip.

After dinner, we'll board our motor coach and travel to nearby Forest City to see the holiday lights. Their display is rated in the top three in WNC with more than a million lights throughout the city. We'll then take the long way home in order to see the transformational display of lights in the sleepy little town of McAdenville, which is also in the top three and boasts over 500,000 lights. We



will drive the 1.3 mile stretch through town, which every night turns into the spectacular creation which has earned McAdenville the distinction of being named 'Christmastown USA'. After we have seen both places, we will put the displays to a vote and come up with our own rankings! We will then head back to BRCC with visions of sugarplum fairies dancing in our heads! Or perhaps that will be the spots in front of your eyes from looking at so many lights!

EdVentures Registration, September - December, 2018

	Price	Total
A Railroad Enthusiast's Delight, Thursday, October 25	\$115 x ____	
Basilica of Saint Lawrence Thursday, November 8	1) Basilica Tour (20 limit) \$20 x ____ 2) Walking Tour (15 limit) \$20 x ____	1) _____ 2) _____
A Holiday Potpourri, Tuesday, December 4th	\$105 x ____	

Make check payable to **BRCC (Blue Ridge Community College)** and mail to:
Blue Ridge Center for Lifelong Learning, 180 West Campus Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731

#1 Name: _____ Phone: _____
Last
First (for name tag)
MI

Address: _____
Street
City
State/ZIP

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ Phone: _____
 (Please list someone who is NOT on the trip.)

#2 Name: _____ Phone: _____
Last
First (for name tag)
MI

Address: _____
Street
City
State/ZIP

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ Phone: _____
 (Please list someone who is NOT on the trip.)

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*** TRIP CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY ***

We understand that you occasionally may have to change your plans due to unexpected events. If you need to cancel a trip and **WE ARE ABLE TO FILL YOUR PLACE FROM AN ACTIVE WAITING LIST**, you will receive a full refund minus an administrative fee of \$10. If there is no wait list, refunds **CANNOT** be given.

Members will be given first priority on the wait list.