

The Salem Museum & Historical Society

Located in the 1845 Williams-Brown House

801 East Main Street

Salem, VA 24153

540-389-6760 ~ ~ www.salemmuseum.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Salem Museum To Host First Ever Wreath Exhibition and Silent Auction

What: Thirty beautifully decorated wreaths to deck the halls at the Salem Museum; each available for bid in a silent auction

When: November 16th to December 4th. Museum hours Tuesday to Friday 10 to 4, Saturday 12 to 5.

Where: The Salem Museum

801 East Main Street, Salem, VA 24153

540-389-6760; info@salemmuseum.org

Located in the historic Williams-Brown House of Longwood Park

Cost: Exhibition free and open to the public

Detailed article follows. Images are available upon request.

Salem Museum Halls to Be Decked by Unique, Hand-crafted Wreaths

We know the Holidays have come when the wreath goes on the door. It keeps silent vigil there through December, welcoming cheery visitors and lightening hearts. A tradition going back centuries, the Christmas wreath is one of our most enduring--and endearing--symbols of the season.

This year for the first time, the Salem Museum will host a special exhibition of hand-crafted wreaths; each lovingly created by the local community and donated for the cause. Best of all, all will be available for purchase through a silent auction that will support the Museum.

“We are very pleased to offer this Wreath Exhibition to the public this year,” said Connie Stone, a museum board member and coordinator for the event. “This will be a great way for local businesses, organizations, and individuals to support the museum while celebrating the season.”

The wreaths have been donated by local businesses, clubs, and individuals and are crafted to showcase the unique personalities of the creators. “Each wreath is different, and each is delightful!” said Stone.

For instance, Salem Rotary, a major supporter of the new Dog Park in town, created a “Best Friend” wreath replete with doggie toys. The offering of the Roanoke Chapter of the Herb Society of America features a vibrant collection of dried flowers reflecting the beauty of nature. Religious themes are featured on several from church groups, while others reflect the nature of the business that created the wreath. R. M. Johnson and Sons Jewelry crafted a wreath in glitzy golds and silvers, while the wreath of the Lax Loft, suppliers of lacrosse equipment, shows two players ready to hit the field.

The overall result is a delightfully eclectic collection guaranteed to raise the spirits of even the scroogiest Grinch.

The Salem Museum Wreath Exhibition opens Nov. 16th and runs through the Museum’s annual Holiday Homes Tour on Dec. 4th. Throughout that time visitors are invited to make bids on as many wreaths as they like in the silent auction. Bidding is anonymous, so a bidding number can be picked up from the reception desk at the Museum. The winners may take their wreaths home after Dec. 4th, in plenty of time to deck their own halls.

“We expect a great response, and hope to make this a Christmas tradition in Salem,” noted Stone. “Bid early and bid often!” she added cheerfully.

Visitors to see the wreath exhibition, which is free and open to the public, are also invited to see the fascinating exhibits at the Salem Museum, including “The Fiery Ordeal Through Which They Passed: Salem and the Civil War” and the ever popular “Lakeside! Sixty Summers of Ups and Downs.” Tickets to the Holiday Homes Tour on Dec. 4th will also be on sale at the welcome desk.

The Salem Museum is located in the antebellum Williams-Brown House of Longwood Park, at 801 East Main Street in Salem. No admission is charged for the Museum galleries.