

Read in your library's digital holdings here: <https://go.exlibris.link/99YkdtQv>

Find back issue order information here: <http://www.ncrl.edu.edu/issues/order-issues.html>

# FOR EVERY PASSION SOMETHING:

## The Myriad Book Clubs of North Carolina

by Cynthia Lewis

THE MORE YOU EXPLORE THE VAST VARIETY  
OF SUCH CLUBS IN NORTH CAROLINA,  
THE LESS MEANINGFUL BECOMES THE  
CONCEPT OF "USUAL." IT'S A TERRAIN AS  
MIXED AS THE STATE'S TOPOGRAPHY . . .

**CYNTHIA LEWIS** received her BA from Ohio State University and her MA and PhD from Harvard. She started teaching at Davidson College in 1980 and specializes in early modern British literature, specifically Shakespeare. She regularly publishes scholarship and both personal and reported creative nonfiction.



COURTESY OF MARY KATHRYN THORNTON



COURTESY OF NATALIA TUCHINA

The author would like to thank Gabriella Barrier, her able student research assistant at Davidson College, for her tireless help in collecting the information she used in this piece.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the quotations in this essay are from the author's numerous interviews and email correspondence with the speakers between August 2015 and February 2016.

ABOVE TOP **Homesick Book Group** (est. 1985, named because most of the membership had come to Greenville from other places), Greenville, 16 Feb. 2016; left to right, (front) Rhea Markello, Madge Chamness, and Mary Guy; (back) Dot Deay, Nancy Shires, Frances Mallison, Jane Munson, Anna Fay Campbell, and Lynn Marks

ABOVE BOTTOM **The Friends of the Walkertown Library Reading Group** discussing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, Walkertown, 13 Feb. 2016