

MHA NEWS

Dinner Meeting

Monday, March 30, 2009

6:30 pm. Dinner; program following at 7:15 pm

Fellowship Hall

At Trinity Presbyterian Church

3115 Providence Road



Dinner Program Topic

"Mary Anna Morrison"

The March program will feature a real treat! Nora Brooks, noted living historian will portray Mary Anna Morrison Jackson, the celebrated widow of Stonewall Jackson. She will recount her life with the noted General Thomas Jackson in the first person. Nora is a Union County school teacher who instructs in the honors program in U.S. history with a focus on the Revolution and the Civil War. She has received many honors and awards including the Horace Mann-Lincoln fellowship, Zebulon Vance Award, and Teacher of the Year at Sun Valley High School. Her interpretative performance will be a delight to all as it has audiences in Charleston, Richmond and Raleigh. This is a program you do not want to miss! Jane Johnson and Kathy Herran have done it again... another great program!

Review of our last dinner program

"A Call to Arms: The Story of Camp Greene" was presented to us by Jack Dillard. Camp Greene, the WWI training camp from 1917-1919 was the home to tens of thousands of Doughboys and horses. Based in the Dowd house, a vast military base housing tents, artillery, stables, administrative offices, hospitals, and social buildings, extended as far as Steele Creek. The base contained over 6,000 acres.

Jack brought an interesting hi-tech photograph which was about fifteen feet long. It portrayed an assemblage of hundreds of men in a large field facing a tall scoreboard with a diamond on it. The assemblage was viewing the latest in high tech wizardry. The World Series was playing and telegraphs

were sending out a play-by-play broadcast throughout the United States. Runners took the telegrams and converted the message into a placement on the scoreboard which also featured the locations of the players. The multitude could track the action. A miracle....what would they think of next?

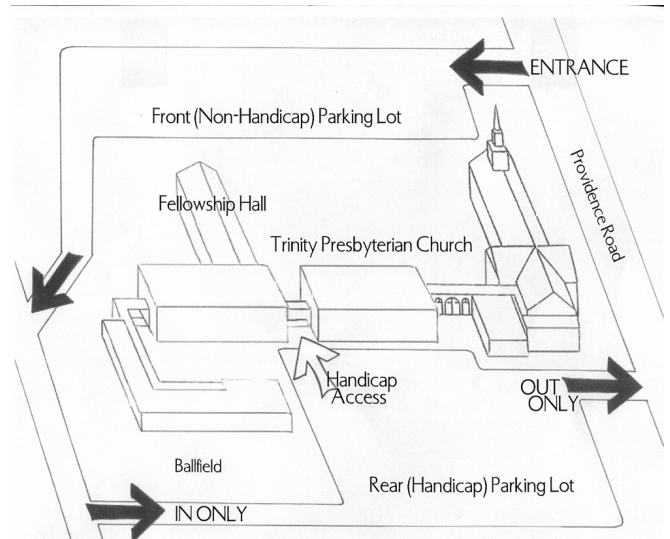
Camp Greene brought in revenue to fuel growth, introduced Charlotte to the Paris Symphony and French Zouaves, introduced an influx of young men from all over the country to a small southern city, survived the Spanish Flu epidemic and demonstrated the creativity of City leadership in being adept at seizing any opportunity to improve Charlotte's fortunes.

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The MHA meets in Trinity Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall.
3115 Providence Road



Remarks from the President...



Spring is coming and the rebirth of the earth brings comfort that the cycle of life is unaffected by the crisis in the financial markets. Soon jonquils, yellow-bell, japonica, redbuds,

cherry, and crocus will offer us color to contrast the gloom!

And as Spring arrives, it marks the season for Nora Brooks' performance. She will follow a grand presentation by Jack Dillard on Camp Greene. A short review is on this newsletter's front page.

Time to Renew Your Membership

You will note in the program the categories of membership. You will receive the annual membership request soon. Please consider making a gift to enhance the balance of proceeds in our Treasury of some \$36,000.00. You may honor any person or deceased member of our organization with your gift. Jim Williams, Treasurer, and Luther Moore serve as guardians of your contributions and every dime is accounted for! We get no trips, club memberships, or retirement plans as a part of Board service.

American Revolution Magazine

A new magazine about the American Revolution has appeared on the scene and we are very excited about it. It is called, appropriately, *American Revolution* and is a delightful read for anyone interested in our history. You can get a free trial copy by simply sending your name and mailing address to the editor, David Reuwer, at Davidreuwer3@aol.com or by mail at American Revolution, PO Box 1716, Camden, SC, 29021. We will also have copies available for purchase at \$8.95 at the next MHA Meeting. *American Revolution* is published by SCAR, the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution. This is a volunteer, non-profit organization of profes-

sional and amateur historians and others interested in our history who are dedicated to researching and preserving our past. For the past five years they have been holding symposia, field trips and roundtables while publishing an internet journal, all in preparation for this moment. *American Revolution* is a professionally produced, slick-paper magazine (74 pages in the current issue). It contains a mix of well documented scholarly papers on campaigns and battles plus news such as the planned American Revolution Center Museum at Valley Forge, the endangered Princeton, NJ battlefield site and Horn in the West Historical Drama in Boone, NC to name just a few. We think that you will enjoy reading this magazine and will subscribe once you have seen it. And the first copy is Free! Please feel free to pass this announcement on to anyone or any organization you feel might be interested in this fine publication.

The History List

If you have an email address and have not given it to us, you are missing a lot of news about upcoming events of interest to the History Community. There are now over 520 names on The History List. They receive a note from us every week about events coming up the next weekend at local historic sites plus announcements of special events and both the MHA Newsletter and the MHA Docent Dandelion Newsletter. If you do email, you really need to be on this list. Plus you can still get your MHA Newsletter by US Mail if you like. To enroll, sent a note to james.h.williams@mindspring.com and I will put you on the list.

Treasurer's Report

Our reluctant decision last year to increase the MHA membership fees and dinner prices has been successful and your MHA is now running on a break-even basis, year to year. Your

treasury now holds a total of \$48,409.80. Of this, \$11,515.28 is reserved for repairs to the gravestones at Settlers Cemetery due to a major contribution some years ago. The balance of \$36,894.52 is reserved for current expenses and future worthy projects. In the last few years the MHA contributed a total of \$7,000.00 to the May 20 Society to fund the Captain James Jack Bronze statue which will be erected in the Little Sugar Creek Greenway near CPCC in the next year of two. Part of this contribution enabled the early fundraising effort that made this project a success.

Thomas and Susannah Polk say "Thank You, MHA."

The current phase of Settlers Cemetery repair, funded by your MHA, has been completed. This involved rebuild-



ing the brick boxes and replacing the table stones on eight graves, including those of Thomas and Susannah Polk and several family members. We will be continuing this work in the coming year which will exhaust the current Settlers Repair Fund. Contributions to this fund of any amount are most sincerely welcomed as there is still a good deal of repair to be done.

In Memoriam

We note with sadness the passing of John Alexander, a beloved and devoted member.

From the Docent Committee Jo Anne Dickens, Chairperson

The Docent Committee of the MHA has elected new officers and has held a retreat for planning the year 2009. Jo Anne Dickens is the new leader and is very ably assisted by her board. Our plans include interesting programs on and off the campus of Sugaw Presbyterian Church, held the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of our beautiful Christmas Tea celebration which will take place on Monday, December 7, at the church. How's that for plenty of notice? We also plan a trip to Brattonsville on September 1 and would love to have you join us.

Please call Hazel White (1st VP) at 704-598-1794 or e-mail hwhite@CarolinaRR.com for further information. We are also planning a day trip to Lincoln County with an extremely knowledgeable guide on April 15. The cost will be somewhere between \$40-\$50, including lunch, transportation, etc., and you are welcome to join us. Deadline for reservations is April 1. For more information, contact Rachel Abernathy 704-366-2618 or deaber@bellsouth.net. The Historical Education Committee is planning dates in January and February of

2010. More information on this later. Another big project in the works is an historical fashion show at an historical location (great food to be a feature!) within the next several months. We plan to boost the historical clothes closet's needs with any profit from this event. LOTS MORE on this as plans progress. Come join us for programs at 11:00 a.m. any 1st Tuesday at our regular meetings. The refreshments can't be beat!

Membership Renewals

If you have not yet renewed your membership for this year, you can use the form below to do so. Or consider giving a gift membership to someone you know who will be interested in the MHA.

You may mail your check to:

MHA
P.O. Box 35032
Charlotte, NC 28235

Membership form:

Name _____
Address _____
City, State and Zip _____
E-Mail Address _____
Please send my MHA Newsletter by:
Email US Mail Both

category	single	couple
senior citizen (over 60)	\$15.00	\$25.00
general	30.00	50.00
patron	60.00	100.00
life (single payment)	300.00	500.00
student	free	n/a

March 30th Dinner Meeting Reservation Form

**Mail to: Mecklenburg Historical Association
c/o Kathy Herran
5015 Sharon Woods Lane
Charlotte, NC 28210
or email: kathyherran@hotmail.com**

Please make checks payable to Mecklenburg Historical Association.
Questions? Please email Kathy Herran (kathyherran@hotmail.com) or call her at 704.553.0936.
Please mail your check one week before the dinner so we know how many meals we need.

Enclosed: \$ _____ (total) for _____ seats (\$12 for Seniors)
\$ _____ (total) for _____ seats (\$14 for all others)



"Preserving Mecklenburg's Heritage"

Post Office Box 35032
Charlotte, North Carolina 28235

ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT
WWW.MECKDEC.ORG
