

Dinner Meeting

Monday, May 23, 2011

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

Fellowship Hall
Trinity Presbyterian Church
3115 Providence Road



Upcoming Dinner Program

Dr. Tom Hanchett Presents — Romare Bearden's Charlotte



ROMARE BEARDEN'S CHARLOTTE, 1911, is a new on-line exhibit by Levine Museum of the New South in partnership with the Main Street Carolina Project at UNC Chapel Hill. It visually displays Sanborn maps, city directory data and vintage photographs, taking visitors back to Charlotte in the years around the birth September 2, 1911, of the nationally renowned artist Romare Bearden.

Curator Dr. Tom Hanchett will give us a virtual tour.

http://mainstreet.lib.unc.edu/projects/bearden_charlotte/



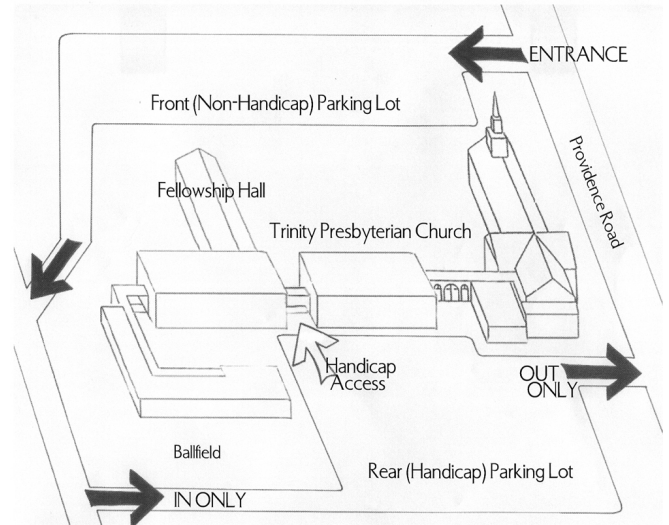
©Frank Stewart/Black Light Production
Bearden in his New York studio with a picture of his Charlotte great-grandparents Rosa and H. B. Kennedy.

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



Remarks from the President

It's our favorite time of year again - celebration of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. I believe in it so much, it's my car tag!



I'm easy to find in traffic!! My grandchildren's eyes roll back in their heads when I make them recite the meaning of the two dates on the North Carolina flag. Everyone who lives in North Carolina should know those dates. Please join us on the Square on May 20th at 11:30 for the annual Meck Dec celebration. It's always lots of fun.

I'm really looking forward to Tom Hanchett's talk on Romare Bearden and hope you will all join us for the May 23rd dinner at Trinity Presbyterian. There are many wonderful opportu-

nities throughout our history community to learn something new or visit something old. Please take advantage of the history calendar events. All of you have a restful and safe summer and we'll be back together in September.

-Linda Dalton, President
Mecklenburg Historical Association
leaseace@aol.com
704.661.8470

May 20th Plans

Get out your 18th and 19th Century clothing and get ready for "fun on the square." May 20th falls on a Friday this year and, after last year's extravaganza, we return uptown to the usual spot.

On Friday, May 20th, at 11:30 am we will gather on the square with muskets and cannon, and fife and drum for addresses by politicians and other VIPs. The Meck Dec will be

read followed by traditional toasts with Huzzahs! and musket and cannon fire. Then we will parade to Settlers Cemetery to honor Col. Thomas Polk, first stopping at two newly relocated state historical markers for brief dedications.

Interpreters should arrive at the square at 11:00, or earlier if possible, mingle with the crowd and hand out Meck Dec copies while the soldiers play music and march up and down. Parking is available on the streets around the square – 8 quarters for 2 hours.

The speaker for Thursday night, May 19th is Andrew Roberts – the well known English historian and TV personality who is also the author of 12 books. This is an invitation-only event, but reenactors and docents in 18th or 19th century dress are welcome, and needed, and get in free. Tell us if you plan to be there so we can let you know the details as they develop. Don't we have fun when we dress up? Jim and Ann Williams at mhadandelion@mindspring.com.

Upcoming Events

The History Calendar

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted.

Check the Charlotte Regional History Consortium website for other events.
<http://www.charlotteregionalhistory.org>

Historic Rosedale

3427 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC, 704 335 0325, <http://www.historicrosedale.org>

Old-Time Music Jam & Ice Cream Social, Sunday, July 10 from 1 to 4 pm, free.

Free Ice Cream plus Storytellers Guild of Charlotte, song circle, lap dulcimers, slow & fast jams, and clogging demonstration. Free parking. Historic Rosedale house tours available at half price.

Latta Plantation

5225 Sample Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 2312, <http://www.lattaplantation.org>

World War II Reenactment. Saturday and Sunday, May 21 – 22, from 10 am to 4 pm

Celebrate Armed Forces Day at Latta at this event held in honor of veterans. See the Allied and Axis forces recreate a battle of the French

countryside. World War II veterans will be admitted free and all other veterans and active duty military will receive discounted admission.

Living History Weekend. Saturday, May 28 from 10 am to 4 pm; Sunday, May 29 from 1 to 4 pm.

Support Historic Latta Plantation at this living history extravaganza! See demonstrations and participate in hands-on activities across the plantation, including open-hearth cooking, spinning, weaving, beekeeping, dancing around the maypole, woodworking, fire starting, old-fashioned games, and craft activities to name a few. Enjoy a hot meal and listen to live music!

Hugh Torance House and Store

8231 Gilead Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 3271, <http://www.torancehouseandstore.org>

Regular Tour Schedule Resumes. 1st and 3rd Sundays, May through September, 2 to 5 pm.

The site is located two miles west of I 77 exit 23 (Gilead Road). With an enthusiastic group of new docents, we have increased our Summer tour schedule from one Sunday a month to two. In the late 18th century Hugh Torance built a fine log home. At the turn of the 19th century it was modified to become Mecklen-

burg's earliest store, and later became part of the county's largest antebellum cotton plantation. Come visit the site and learn nearly a century of rural, mercantile, and plantation history from a family that kept extensive records through the generations.

The Charlotte Museum of History

3500 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC, 704 568 1774, <http://www.charlottemuseum.org>

CMPD Family Day, Saturday, May 28 from noon to 3 pm, free

On the closing weekend of the Beneath the Badge exhibit, Family Day visitors will have the opportunity to interact with some of the men and women that serve our community. Observe demonstrations by the Canine Unit, SWAT Team, and Bomb Squad. Learn crime prevention techniques and crime scene search tactics.

Life in the 18th Century Summer Camps. July 11-15 and July 25-29

4 to 6 year olds, from 9 am to noon, 7 to 12 year olds 9 am to 3 pm

Explore colonial life at our Life in the 18th Century Summer Camp. Campers will learn about colonial trades, cooking, the lives of soldiers, and more. Activities will include living history demonstrations, crafts, games and historical

...reenactments. Admission: \$70 for 4 to 6 year olds, \$170 for 7 to 12 year olds; discounts for members.

Digging Through the Past Archaeology Camp, July 18-22 and August 1-5

4 to 6 year olds, from 9 am to noon, 7 to 12 year olds 9 am to 3 pm

Delve into history through objects at our Digging Through the Past Archaeology Camp. Campers will investigate how archaeologists discover treasures, and how they learn about the lives of people in the past. Admission: \$70 for 4 to 6 year olds, \$170 for 7 to 12 year olds; discounts for members.

Registration for camps is available online. Please contact Elizabeth Huseman at ehuseman@charlottemuseum.org or 704 568 1774 x130 for additional information.

Hezekiah Alexander Homesite Twilight Tours, Saturday, June 4 at 6; 6:30, 7, and 7:30 pm.

Special tours in the summer twilight, with re-

freshments.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site
12031 Lancaster Hwy., Pineville, NC,
704 889 7145 www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

Living History, Saturday, May 14 from 10 am to 4 pm, Free.

The site will feature civilian and military life in the 19th Century. There will be interpreters depicting the lives of soldiers during the Revolutionary War and the Mexican-American War. Activities include open hearth cooking, book-binding, woodworking, spinning and weaving, and 19th century games for visitor participation.

Second Saturday Programs.

All events are from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free.

Threading the Story: The Form and Function of Spinning and Weaving. Saturday, June 11

This program will focus on the process of creating fabric from cotton fiber to yarn to clothing. Staff will interpret the various steps that are involved in the fabric making process. Visitors will learn about spinning, weaving, knitting, and dyeing. The market area will feature the creations of local artisans.

The Art of Music in the Mid 19th Century. Saturday, July 9

This program will feature music that was popular during President James K. Polk's administration, from classical to folk, and visitors will get the chance to try their hand at making music. We will have artisans who will sell instruments and sheet music plus a hands-on area where visitors can make simplified versions of instruments.

Breaking the Mold: Mixed Media Creations, Saturday, August 13

This program will focus on utilitarian and decorative objects from wood, metal, and clay. See a blacksmith demonstration, learn about the art of woodworking, and meet with local potters. Visitors can try their hand at creating pottery.

Membership Renewals

Membership renewal letters for the 2011 calendar year have been mailed. You can save your organization the costs of printing and mailing by renewing now. Please fill in the form, make your check payable to the Mecklenburg Historical Association, and mail it to P. O. Box 35032, Charlotte, NC 28235. If your employer has a "matching grant" program, or you are retired from such an organization, please include the matching grant form with your check.

Membership form:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

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

May 23, 2011 Dinner Meeting Reservation Form

Mail to: Mecklenburg Historical Association
c/o Jane Johnson, 210 Pineville Forest Drive, Pineville, NC 28134
or email: JJCNC@aol.com

Please make checks payable to Mecklenburg Historical Association.
Questions? Please email Jane Johnson (JJCNC@aol.com) or call her at 704.544.0698.
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
Phone: 704-333-6422

VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.MECKDEC.ORG
