

Dinner Meeting

Monday, November 15, 2010

6:00 pm — Holiday Bazaar with Appetizers and Beverages;

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

Fellowship Hall
Trinity Presbyterian Church
3115 Providence Road



Upcoming Dinner Program

David Granberry, presents "How to Access Mecklenburg Records and Deeds"



David Granberry decided to run for the office of Register of Deeds in early 2008. His campaign was mostly supported by the local real estate paralegals and he pulled off an upset victory and took office in December 2008.

Science in Business Administration. He decided to try a paralegal program in 1988 and finished in August 1989. Charlotte became his home in 1992. In 19 years as a real estate paralegal, he searched titles in 75 out of 100 North Carolina counties. Researching got me interested in history and genealogy. He is the proud father of two daughters: Natalie is 14 and a freshman in high school; Jasmine is 8 and is in second grade.

cess records and deeds. This will be a great help as our members research their family histories and other projects.

Upcoming MHA Meeting Dates

Mark your calendars!

March 28, 2011 - In honor of Women's History Month, Kathy Herran will present a program on her new book, *They Dared To Roar*. This is a collection of biographies of nine women who impacted the 19th century.

May 23, 2011 - To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, Nora Brooks will present her first person rendition of Julia Grant with interesting information about U. S. Grant and R. E. Lee and the war as a whole.

Mr. Granberry is from Goldsboro, NC, from an Air Force family, so he moved around a lot (Japan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Thailand, North Dakota). His first job was working in tobacco fields in summer. He graduated from North Carolina Wesleyan College in 1986 with a Bachelor of

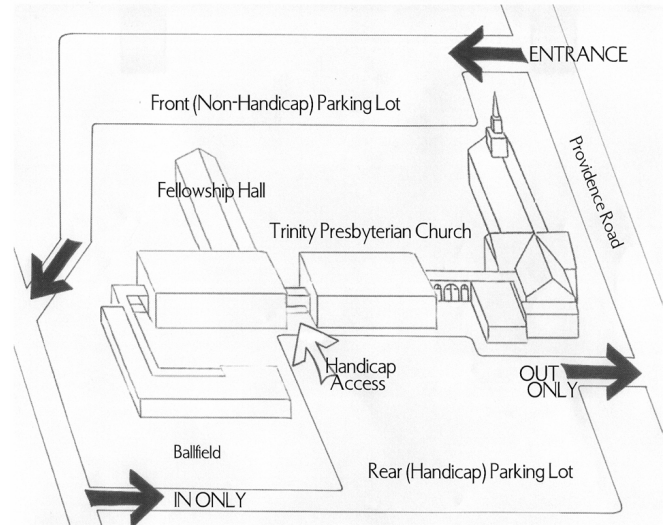
Being Mecklenburg's Register of Deeds has been very enjoyable for Mr. Granberry and has required learning a great deal of information! Mr. Granberry will share with us how the public may ac-

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



Remarks from the President

NOTICE THAT THE NOVEMBER 15th DINNER MEETING BEGINS EARLY AT 6:00 pm this time. Your Board thought it would be fun to add something different to our last meeting of the year. The Holiday Bazaar and festive dress for this meeting will be fun for all of us.

MHA members, we LOVE the crowds we continue to have for our dinners and programs! Thank you for your support. We also love it when you bring guests along so they may enjoy the food, fellowship, and history. As your Board of Directors, we want to remind everyone to be sure to make your reservations for dinner. All

reservations should be in by the Thursday BEFORE the Monday meeting and that includes all guests. Remember, you do not have to pay by the Thursday before (you may pay at the door), but you have to make the reservation by e-mail or phone call to Kathy Herran so we can get an accurate head count for the caterer. Thanks!

Please take the opportunity to renew your MHA membership for 2011 with the blank elsewhere in this newsletter. Jim Williams will also be happy to take your renewals at the dinner meeting and will have the list of those who have already renewed, if you need to check. This will

cut down on the number of renewal letters sent out in January and save us money.

Be sure to review the History Calendar in the newsletter. There are some wonderful Christmas events coming up at multiple historic sites that you won't want to miss. I look forward to seeing all of you at our November meeting and hope you have a blessed Christmas season. We'll be back in the Spring!

Linda Dalton, President
704.661.8470 | leaseace@aol.com
Mecklenburg Historical Association
<http://www.meckdec.org>

Holiday Bazaar

COME EARLY at 6pm to the MHA DINNER MEETING, MONDAY, NOV. 15

Do your Christmas shopping early!!

Join us at 6:00pm before the MHA Dinner Meeting for appetizers, wine and beverage. Shop the bazaar which will include a Silent Auction Book Sale hosted by MHA and the Robinson-Spangler Carolina Room of the Public Library. The proceeds of the sale will benefit the Carolina Room's book budget. The books will be on a variety of subjects, but are mostly historical in nature. Some are former library copies, but not all are used. If you win the bid on any books, you may pay for them at 6:30 or after the MHA meeting.

Also, the following books by our wonderful local authors will be for sale. What perfect gifts for those on your list who are interested in history! In addition, beautiful Queen Charlotte blown glass ornaments will be for sale.

All sales are final and cash or personal check will be accepted for payment. What a fun way to kick off the holiday season. Remember - come early at 6:00pm!!

They Married Confederate Officers by Kathy Herran. This is the story of Anna Morrison Jackson, the widow of CSA Lieutenant General Stonewall Jackson and her five sisters who also married Confederate officers. This local story discusses the founding of Davidson College and follows the saga of the Morrison family against the backdrop of the Civil War. *20% Discounted Price for MHA Meeting \$20.00*

They Dared To Roar by Kathy Herran. HOT OFF THE PRESS. JUST RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLISHER. This is a collection of biographies of nine women who impacted the 19th century. Their stories bring to life the early days of social reform by highlighting their upbringing, education, relationships, and the environment that motivated them to change and serve our country. *20% Discounted Price for MHA Meeting \$23.00*

Backcountry Fury, A Sixteen-Year-Old Patriot in the Revolutionary War by Dr. Tony Zeiss. This book chronicles eighteen months in the life of sixteen-year-old Thomas Young during 1780-81. Thomas lived and fought in the South and North Carolina backcountry during America's Revolutionary War. His memoirs provide the framework for this remarkable story which exemplifies sacrifice, courage, and determination in the pursuit of liberty and in the founding of a new republic. *Retail Price \$20.00*

Queen Charlotte Limited Edition Ornament produced by Marion Redd. This is a beautiful authentic German hand blown glass ornament. Limited edition of 500 - numbered. Only 25 remain available. Based upon the life-size sculpture "Queen Charlotte Walks in Her Garden" by noted sculptor Graham Weathers. A great symbol of Mecklenburg for your tree. All profits to go Mecklenburg Historical Association. *Price \$40.00*

Chain of Error and the Mecklenburg Declarations of Independence by V. V. McNitt, republished by the MHA with a new introduction and Brief Sketches of the signers added.

This is a closely reasoned and thorough description of the two declarations of May 20 and May 31, 1775 which were the earliest declarations of independence from Great Britain in the American colonies. *Retail Price \$25.00*

A Life in Antebellum Charlotte: The Private Journal of Sarah Frew Davidson, 1837, edited by Karen McConnell, Janet Dyer and Ann Williams, with a forward by Mary Kratt, and published by The History Press, Charleston SC. This is a transcription of Sarah Davidson's Journal for 1837, with additional historic information written by the editors.

1837 was a pivotal year in the history of North Carolina with the development of the gold mining industry and the construction in Charlotte of the first branch of the US Mint. Other events described include the education of slave children and Sarah's religious introspection and commitment. *Retail Price \$20.00*

Your Affectionate Daughter, Isabella, by Ann Williams, published by Bright Mountain Books, Asheville, NC. This is the story of Isabella Torrance, preserved through letters and other records now held in the Rare Book and Manuscript Collection of the J. Murrey Atkins Library at UNCC.

The story is written from the points of view of those who lived it and told in the language they spoke. It tells the story of growing up on a wealthy antebellum plantation in Mecklenburg County and at the Salem Female Boarding School; of pioneering in primitive conditions on the Mississippi frontier; and of Isabella's return to Mecklenburg as a young widow with a small child. *Retail Price \$18.00*

From the Docent Committee
Tuesday, December 7, 2010
Christmas Tea

Please join us for the MHA Docent Christmas Tea, our social event of the year celebrated with the entire history community. The Tea will take place in

the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church, 101 Sugar Creek Road West, at 10 a.m on Tuesday, December 7. Sharon VanKuren will lead a program of remembering Christmas's Past. We'll have a table of historic clothing appropriate to the season, and everyone is encouraged to bring a special memory, ornament, recipe, or

anything you'd like to share from your own past Christmas's or those of your ancestors.

We'll begin at 9:45 with a brief business meeting followed by the program at 10. After the program we'll enjoy delicious food and festivity. Visitors are not only welcome, but encouraged.

Historic Rosedale Events

<http://www.historicrosedale.org>

Oyster Roast and Low Country Boil.

Saturday, November 6 from 3 to 6 pm. Come to Rosedale's annual fund-raiser and enjoy a delicious spread on the plantation lawn. The house will be open and there will be activities for children. Bluegrass music provided by the "Flat Possum Hoppers". Advance adult tickets are \$35; at the gate: \$50. Children 4 – 12,

\$12; under 4 are free. Make advanced reservations by October 29, by visiting the web site or mailing a check to the address above.

Wartime Christmas. Saturday, December 4 from 1 to 4 pm. What was Christmas like for the typical family during World War II? Historic Rosedale will honor the strength of our nation by examining the practices of those preparing for hardship, struggling for peace, yet finding joy during the holiday

season during the Second World War. Admission for World War II veterans is free.

Wassailing Across the Color line: An Antebellum Christmas. Saturdays and Sundays, December 11, 12, 19, and 20 from 1 to 4 pm. Dr. David Caldwell and his wife Adeline invite you to visit their home and enjoy Christmas preparations with their family, and learn about slave Christmas traditions from their Negroes. The time will be the 1850s, Adeline is the "new" mistress of the house, and Victorian decorations have become the vogue.

Membership Renewals

Membership renewal letters for the 2011 calendar year will be mailed in January. 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

November 15, 2010 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)

Hugh Torance House and Store

The Hugh Torance House and Store invites you to a Gala Open House on Sunday, November 14th from 2 – 5 p.m. Board members will serve wine, punch, and festive snacks, give mini tours, and tell visitors about this special site. Hugh purchased the land in 1779 and lived there as a merchant and farmer. Shortly after 1800 he enlarged his log house to include a residence and store for his son James who kept the store from 1805 to 1825. James later became Mecklen-

burg's most prosperous cotton planter, and built Cedar Grove, the adjacent 1830's grand plantation house. This is the oldest standing store building in North Carolina.

The site has generally been open one Sunday a month from April through September. They would like to enlarge this schedule, so they are holding the open house to increase public awareness and attract potential volunteers. The event is

free, although donations will be gladly accepted. Everyone is welcome! Questions? Would you like to volunteer for training as a tour guide? Call Linda Dalton 704.661.8470.

Directions: Take I 77 to Huntersville exit 23, which is Gilead Road. Turn west (away from Huntersville) on Gilead Road and follow it for about 2 miles. The Hugh Torance House and store will be on your right, 8231 Gilead Road.



"Preserving Mecklenburg's Heritage"

Post Office Box 35032
Charlotte, North Carolina 28235
Phone: 704-333-6422

VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.MECKDEC.ORG

Upcoming Events

The History Calendar

Admission charged at all events unless otherwise noted.

Check the Charlotte Regional History Consortium website for other events.

www.charlotteregionalhistory.org

Latta Plantation

5225 Sample Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 2312, www.lattaplantation.org

Charlotte Gold Rush. Saturday, November 6 from 10 am to 4 pm

Learn about Charlotte's rich gold mining history and pan for gold at the miner's cabin while listening to live music. Visitors can also tour the plantation house, grounds, and out-buildings, meet the farm animals, and see the honeybee exhibit.

World War II Living History. Saturday, November 13 from 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, November 14 from 1 to 4 pm

World War II soldiers will be on the grounds providing weapons demonstrations, displaying period vehicles, and talking about life during the war.

A Plantation Christmas. Friday and Saturday, November 26 and 27 from 10 am to 4 pm

Begin the Christmas season by stepping back into an 1860s Christmas. The plantation will be decorated for a time period Christmas. Visitors will learn about 1800s Christmas traditions and meet a Victorian St. Nick in the plantation house, see open-hearth cooking in the kitchen, and a slave Christmas in the cabin.

Candlelight Christmas. Saturday, December 4 from 6 to 9 pm

Step into an 1820s Christmas at Latta as you tour the plantation by candlelight. Visitors can meet animals in the carriage barn, see dancing in the house, meet Mr. and Mrs. Latta, enjoy the excitement of children before bedtime, see a Christmas meal being prepared in the kitchen, a slave family celebrating in the cabin, and more!

The Charlotte Museum of History

3500 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC, 704 568 1774, www.charlottemuseum.org

Living History Days

Weaving. Various techniques with Kenneth Webb. November 6 and 21, December 5 and 18; 1 to 4 pm each day.

18th Century Loyalist Soldier. Discussion by Stacy Brogden, December 11 and 19; 1 to 4 pm each day.

A Scholar's Forum – The Touch of Civilization Means Death to Them: Comparing American Colonization of the Sioux and Russian Colonization of the Kazakhs, 1850s to 1930s.

Tuesday, November 9, from 7 to 8:30 pm

Lecture by Steven Sabol, Associate Professor of History, UNCC, Editor-in-Chief, First World War Studies. Sabol's first book, Russian Colonization and the Genesis of Kazakh National Consciousness, examined the emergence of Kazakh intellectuals and efforts to create a national identity among nomadic peoples. In addition, he is the Director of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Center at UNC Charlotte and directs the Native American Studies Academy. Reservations are required.

American Indian Celebration. Saturday, November 13, from 11 am to 3 pm

Join us to honor American Indian Heritage through traditional song, dance, art and storytelling. See how the American Indians have sustained traditions, beliefs, and a true record of their past through ceremony, song, dance, and art.

Civil War Lantern Tour. Saturday, November 20, from 6 to 9 pm

Relive the Civil War as you take an in-depth look into the conditions, hopes, and fears of common foot soldiers. As you progress through camp settings on the grounds of the Homesite, you will see campfires, smell the cooking, and listen to stories from the period. Reservations are required.

A Scholar's Forum – We Are What We Eat: Food as Methodology in Cultural Analysis. Tuesday, December 14, from 7 to 8:30 pm

Lecture by Debarati Dutta, Professor, UNCC. Dr. Dutta's interactive presentation will use personal observations, experiences, ethnography, and literary analysis to present an alternative way of examining how foods of a culture can be used as a tool to understand narratives of migration. Reservations required.

President James K. Polk State Historic Site

12031 Lancaster Hwy., Pineville, NC, 704 889 7145 www.polk.nchistoricsites.org

Christmas in Mecklenburg County with the Polks. Saturday, December 11 from 11 am to 3 pm

Visitors will see a living history vignette in the main house. Each building will be decorated in the 19th century style. Come and learn about food and customs from Christmas in 1802. Free event.

The Carl J. McEwen Historical Village

7601 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd. 704-573-0726 www.minthillhistory.com

Salute To Veterans. Friday and Saturday. November 5 and 6

Friday at 7 pm. "The Last Meeting" General Jackson and General Lee will meet around the campfire to plan the battle at Gettysburg. Bring a blanket or chair.

Saturday from 9 am to 3 pm. Exhibits of military memorabilia will be on display, along with demonstrators and re-enactors representing the Civil War era. Flag retirements by Boy Scout Troop 144.

Rural Hill

4431 Neck Road, Huntersville, NC, 704 875 3113, www.ruralhill.net

Amazing Maize Maze. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 5 – 7. Flashlight Maze will begin at dusk on Friday, November 5.

The 9th Annual Rural Hill Amazing Maize Maze is ending on November 7th. Check web site for hours. The theme for 2010 is the "Conestoga Wagon," the transportation that many 18th century settlers used to move down the Great Wagon Road from Pennsylvania to Mecklenburg.

Annual Sheep Dog Trials. Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14.

Gates open at 8 am each day

Over 100 herding dogs will compete for points toward the national championship. Sanctioned by the United States Border Collies Handlers Association, the Trials are open to any herding breeds, but the majority of entries are Border Collies. The Sheep Dog Trials are based on tasks that a working dog is asked to do on the farm. Points are earned for each phase of work. In addition to the regional sheep dog competition, Rural Hill will offer a variety of family activities including hayrides around the farm, an antique tractor display, logic mazes, the Rural Hill Highland Cattle, and more! The 1760's Davidson Family Homestead site will be open for visitors with open hearth cooking and blacksmith demonstrations.

Schiele Museum

1500 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, N.C. 704 866 6900 www.schielemuseum.org

Harvest Day. Saturday, November 20 from 10 am to 4 pm

Skilled interpreters labor by the open hearth roasting, baking, and stewing a salmagundi of 18th century delights. Hunters make ready their firearms while swapping stories of the "ones that got away". At the close of the day, costumed interpreters sit down to partake of the Harvest meal in the manner and spirit of our ancestors.

Colonial Christmas. Saturday, December 11 from 2 to 6 pm

Celebrate Christmas in the 18th-century style.

Join us in the "Procession of the Yule Log", decorating with greenery, singing early American carols, and English country dancing. As the day draws to a close, gather with our Backcountry family for the traditional Candlelighting Service and scripture reading. Enjoy a taste of Christmas pudding and hot gingered apple cider.

Gaston County Museum

131 West Main Street Dallas, NC.
(704)922-7681, #2
www.gastoncountymuseum.org

Book Talk and Signing. The History of Gastonia and Gaston County NC: A Vision of America at Its Best by Robert Ragan. Saturday November 6 at 1 pm

This new work encompasses early settlement, agriculture, mining and timber industries, followed by the founding and development of the textile industry which dominated the commerce and culture of the region for over a century. It tells the history of Gastonia – which grew from an inconsequential village at the crossroads of two railroad lines in 1876 into one of the largest textile centers in the country.

Annual Holiday Open House. Friday December 10 from 3 to 7 pm

Enjoy the Town of Dallas Christmas Parade beginning at 4 PM. Our free Annual Holiday Open House Program features Christmas traditions and fun for the whole family. Take part in cookie decorating and historic crafts, hear live music, and sample holiday treats.

Historic Brattonsville

1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells, SC,
803 684 2327
www.chmuseums.org/ourmuseums/myco/index.htm

Living History Days: Preserving the Harvest Saturdays, November 6, 13 and 20 from 10 am to 4 pm

Costumed interpreters bring to life the 18th and 19th centuries. Witness life in the Carolina Backcountry through historic farming, food preservation, and open hearth cooking. Learn about historic methods of preservation including the secrets of our eggs that have been preserved without refrigeration for the past 18 months.

Through the Looking Glass: The Brattons in Black and White

Sunday, November 14 at 1:30 and again at 3 pm. Step through the looking glass during this 45-minute tour and discover what the Brattons valued: freedom, family, work and home. Ponder what the world was like on the other side of a mirror's reflection as you learn how the

Bratton slaves defined the same values.

Living History: Hearth to Table, Saturday, November 27 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Examine the role food played in people's lives in the past. Travel through the 18th and 19th centuries and see how different people prepared and consumed their foods, from the earliest colonists in the 1760s to the slaves and wealthy planters of the 1840s. Experience the preparation, cooking and ceremony behind the food we all take for granted.

Living History Days: Christmas Preparations, Saturdays, December 4 and 18, from 10 am to 4 pm. Costumed interpreters bring to life the 18th and 19th centuries. Witness life in the Carolina backcountry through activities such as hoeing cotton, open hearth cooking and weaving.

Christmas Candlelight Tour, Saturday and Sunday, December 11 and 12 from 3 pm to 9 pm

Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site

9621 Reed Mine Rd., Midland, NC 28163,
704 721 GOLD (4653)
www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm

A Golden Christmas, Saturday, December 4 from 10 am to 4 pm. Enjoy the only Christmas candlelight tour you can take in the daytime! The underground mine tunnels will be decorated for the holidays and special holiday-themed tours will tell how Christmas was celebrated over the years at Reed Gold Mine by John Reed, and other miners and their families. The Stamp Mill, circa 1895, will also be open for tours. The celebration continues in the Visitor Center with crafts, historical demonstrations, musical performances, and free refreshments.

Andrew Jackson State Park

196 Andrew Jackson Park Road, Lancaster, SC
803 285 3344
www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1797.aspx

Candlelight Tours, Saturday, November 13, from 6 to 7:30 pm. Join us for a candlelight tour and catch a glimpse of early settlers living in the Waxhaws. Experience 18th century daily life, similar to Andrew Jackson's boyhood experience, and see the events that shaped the community as you step back in time. Designed for all ages.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site

438 Fort Dobbs Road, Statesville, NC
704 873 5882 www.fortdobbs.org

Soldiers in Iredell County. Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14, from 10 am to 4 pm. Historic interpreters will present a timeline of the soldiers who have passed through the area over

the past 250 years. Visit with Cherokee warriors, militia of the Revolution, Johnny Reb and Billy Yank, World War II GIs and modern servicemen. Weapons firing demonstrations will be featured, as well as on-going demonstrations of 18th Century camp life.

Winter on the Western Frontier. Saturday and Sunday, December 11 and 12, from 10 am to 4 pm. Set on an open hilltop, the military post at Fort Dobbs was a cold, lonely place to spend the winter. Learn how the provincial soldiers stationed at the fort deal with the harsh season and celebrate the Advent of Christmas. Demonstrations include on-going camp life, military drill, musket and cannon firings.

Kings Mountain National Military

Park SC Hwy 216. I-85, Exit 2 in North Carolina. Follow the signs. 864-936-7921
www.nps.gov/kimo

Veterans Day Encampment, Saturday, November 13 from 9 am to 5 pm. Re-enactors from the Backcountry Militia will be camped at the park. Visit the militia encampment and enjoy weapons demonstrations.

Cowpens National Battlefield

I-85 South Carolina Exit 83, follow signs,
864-461-2828 www.nps.gov/cowp

Howser House Open House, Saturday, November 27 from 11 am to 4 pm. The 1803 stone Howser House will be open to the public for tours. The house is open twice a year to the public.

Kings Mountain State Park

I-85 Exit 8 in NC and follow the signs.
www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/945.aspx

Christmas on the Farm, Saturday, November 27 from 11 am to 3 pm. Come join us for a Christmas celebration 1850s style. Reenactors will be cooking over the hearth in our 1800s Homeplace using traditional methods of the period. We will also be making decorations, wreaths, corn husk angels, and decorating our tree. There will also be crafts to take home and hot cider to drink. Discover the Christmas of your ancestors as it was just beginning to take its modern form.

Duke Mansion

400 Hermitage Road, Charlotte,
704 714 4448 www.dukemansion.com

Duke and Lee: Electrifying the Carolinas. Sunday, November 14 at 3 pm. Members of the Lee family led by Tom Hanchett will bring the story of the Lees and Dukes, and electrifying the Carolinas, to life with personal stories and reflections. Free event.