

## Dinner Meeting

Monday, September 25, 2006

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

Fellowship Hall

At Trinity Presbyterian Church

3115 Providence Road



### Dinner Program Topic will be:

### “The Catawba Valley Scottish Society and Its Reflection of Early Mecklenburg”

Mr. Bob Deaton, chairman of CVSS, will give an engaging presentation on the Catawba Valley Scottish Society. The presentation will include an aerial tour of Rural Hill Plantation, the homestead of Revolutionary War hero, Major John Davidson. It is a 265-acre property in the Hopewell Community in North Mecklenburg County. The plantation is on Neck Road just north of Hopewell Presbyterian Church.

The presentation will include a tour of a number of buildings in the homestead area surrounding the ruins of the brick mansion "Rural Hill". Among those buildings is a 1760's style of home. He will also discuss the various events the Catawba Valley Scottish Society conducts during the year for people to celebrate the rich heritage and culture of the Scots in the area.

Mr. Deaton is a native of Cornelius, North Carolina. Among his many accomplishments was the origination of the Loch Norman Highland Games. He remains a Life Patron of those games.

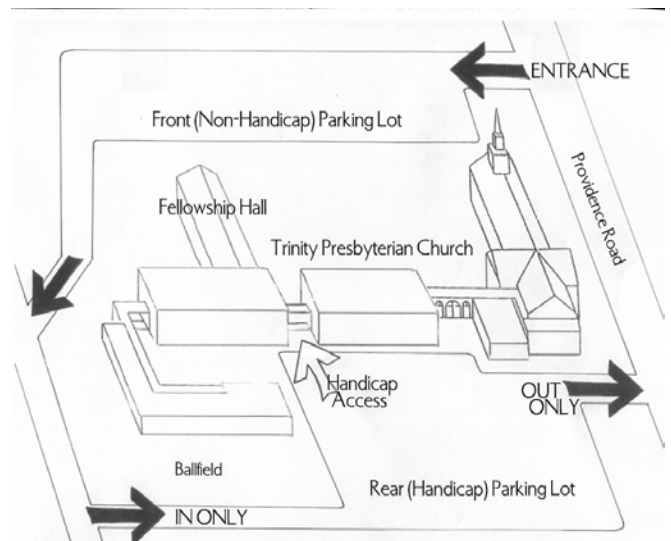
**Reservation Form to be returned by  
Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2006.**

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



## Remarks from the President...



The Fall is upon us yet again and we have things to report!

First, Linda Dalton has secured a great speaker for our September 25th 2006 meeting. Robert "Bob" Deaton is going to introduce us to the Catawba Valley Scottish Society.

Second, a long-standing dream of the MHA to have a bronze statue of Captain Jack funded and prominently placed uptown is taking place! The

May 20th Society is taking the lead in raising \$450,000.00 to commission a monument-sized horse and rider to be placed in a specially-prepared site at the intersection of Kings Drive and Fourth Street across from St. Mary's Chapel and Central Piedmont. Fundraising will begin this Fall. If you wish to make an individual commitment, please see me and I will direct you to the right person. The MHA hopes to make an organizational commitment and welcomes your contributions to that end! The County will accept the donation of the piece if we can get it funded. This is a once in a generation project which will leave a lasting leg-

acy for all of our descendants!

Third, on each table at the meeting will be a letter from the Charlotte Museum of History. It seeks all of our support in its efforts to provide a meaningful historic venue which preserves and recognizes our Revolutionary War heritage. Please give their request prayerful consideration!

Finally, think about membership. We have great food and great programs! Invite a friend or give us their email address and we will invite them. See you on the September 25th!

## From the Docent Committee Barbara Jackson, Docent Chairman

It was a long, hot summer, but tasks had to be accomplished. And so the docents worked at the various sites, did preliminary planning for the revision of our education program, and moved our library and resource materials from a former location into the Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church where we now hold our monthly meetings.

Remaining are the chores of evaluating, filing, and organizing the collections of books, periodicals, records, and tour materials which were accumulated over decades. When our new library is opened during the autumn, docents will have at our disposal a

room with a desk and chair. We will have access to the valuable MHA reference and circulating resources which will enhance our presentations to the public.

Our regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 9:30am with refreshments. Our business meetings begin at 10:00am followed by a program. We welcome you to attend our meetings which are held in the Fellowship Hall at the Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church. Highlights of the first two autumn programs are:

*September* - Dr. Harry Watson, Professor at UNC Chapel Hill, will illuminate the life of Wil-

liam Richardson Davie and his contributions to life during the colonial period.

*October* - Kay Moss, researcher, author, teacher, and curator, will present a program which will focus on 18th and 19th century life in our area.

The MHA Docents extend an invitation to persons who are interested in joining us. Docents work in various capacities as researchers, interpreters, and demonstrators at sites throughout the region. If you would like to be a part of our group, or if you know someone who is interested, please contact me at [Rtbjmjack@aol.com](mailto:Rtbjmjack@aol.com).

### OCTOBER MHA Docent Meeting

Please join us on Tuesday, October 3, 2006 in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church, 101 West Sugar Creek Road, in Charlotte.

At 11 AM Kay Moss, researcher, author, and teacher, will present "Facts, Folklore, and the Prodigious Pig of Knowledge." It will be a program for curious folk, interested in researching and/or interpreting 18th or early 19th-century life in our area.

Join in an interactive examination of documents, artifacts, and experiments related to the early Southern Backcountry. Discussion will revolve around what we know, what we don't know, and how to tell the difference.

We hope to stir the curiosity of new and experienced docents, as well as armchair historians and antiques enthusiasts. Remember: "We all are smarter than any of us."

Kay Moss is the adjunct curator for the 18th Century Backcountry Lifeways Program at the

Schiele Museum in Gastonia, NC. She is author of *Southern Folk Medicine, 1750-1820*, *Journey to the Piedmont Past, A Backcountry Herbal of Plants Both Wild and Cultivated Likely to be Found in Dooryards and Kitchen Gardens in Frontier Communities of the 18th Century*, *Decorative Motifs from the Southern Backcountry*, and co-author of *The Backcountry Housewife: A Study of 18th Century Foods*.

Refreshments will be served at 9:30 AM. The business meeting will begin at 10 AM. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

VISIT US  
ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT  
[WWW.MECKDEC.ORG](http://WWW.MECKDEC.ORG)

## Hugh Torance House and Store, a Mecklenburg Historic Site

Hugh Torance House and Store, the oldest standing store in North Carolina, is located at 8231 Gilead Road in Huntersville. It is operated by a separate board of directors, under the auspices of MHA, as a 501(c)(3) non-profit. It is open to the public for tours the 3rd Sunday each month from 2pm - 5pm. Group tours can be arranged by calling the site 704.875.3271. A small admission is charged.

To update you on Torance, we finally have a new restroom building out back.

For years and years, the site has been handicapped because it had no running water or restrooms. Visits and events had to be quick! And school tours were not possible.

Thanks to the generosity of the Town of Huntersville and their hotel/motel tax which goes for tourism, funds were provided to build the new restrooms. Rev. Jeff Lowrance, president of the Torance board of directors, oversaw the contractor and construction. Plans for the restroom building were provided by Terry Dalton and DMR Architecture. The board is now working to have this site added as a choice for 3rd grade Mecklenburg

County school tours. Now that we don't have to visit the woods or drive all the way back to the interstate, we can stay longer and learn about the Torance family who built the Hugh Torance House and Store and the beautiful brick Cedar Grove mansion next door. Please come and visit soon. The next tour Sunday will be September 17 from 2pm - 5pm.

## Gift Membership to MHA...

Consider giving a gift membership to family, friends and clients. It's a marvelous way to enjoy outstanding programs on Charlotte Mecklenburg history, dinner and fellowship. The proceeds benefit M.H.A. Checks may be made payable to "M.H.A." per the following table [right].

You may mail your check to:

M.H.A. Membership Chairman  
P.O. Box 35032  
Charlotte, NC 28235

You may also bring your check with you to the dinner program.

category	single	couple
senior citizen (over 65)	\$12.50	\$20.00
general	25.00	45.00
patron	50.00	90.00
life (single payment)	300.00	500.00
student	free	n/a

## September 25 Dinner Meeting Reservation Form

**Mail to: Mecklenburg Historical Association  
2401 Sharon Road  
Charlotte, NC 28211**

Please make checks payable to Mecklenburg Historical Association  
Questions? Please call Linda Dalton, 704.364.1618.

Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (total) for \_\_\_\_\_ seats (\$11 for Seniors)  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (total) for \_\_\_\_\_ seats (\$13 for all others)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name Tag)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name Tag)

Reservations must be made by Wednesday, September 20, 2006.

Mark your calendars now for future meetings of the Mecklenburg Historical Association. The next meeting is scheduled for **November 27, 2006.**



***"Preserving Mecklenburg's Heritage"***

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Post Office Box 35032  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28235

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