Vol. 51, No. 12

Mecklenburg Historical Association
November 2006

MHA NEWS

Dinner Meeting

Monday, November 27, 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:

"Military Music During the American Revolution"

This program promises to be entertaining as well as informative while we remember those who have served and those who currently serve in today's armed forces. Jim Williams (Fife) and Mack Bailey (Drum) will present a program on how Fife and Drum music was used in the armies of the 18th Century. This lecture/demonstration is one they have performed at various historic sites, including Colonial Williamsburg, Camden, SC and Guilford Courthouse. They will



appear in their Continental Line uniforms and explain how music was used to convey orders to the soldiers as well as to entertain them on the march. The talk will

be illustrated with the performance of a number of beats, signals and tunes of the period. Questions and comments are encouraged and we expect a lively exchange of information. Jim and Mack have been making music and reenacting the American Revolution for nearly 20 years. Jim is a retired computer salesman while Mack teaches high school math and science in Rock Hill.

Reservation Form to be returned by Wednesday November 22, 2006.

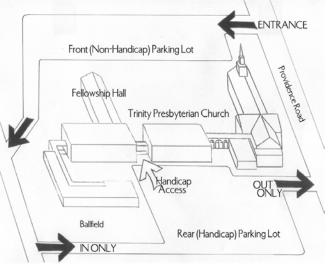
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Reservation Form

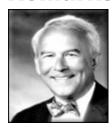


The MHA meets in Trinity Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall. 3115 Providence Road



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Remarks from the President...



Fall is here, Thanksgiving is around the corner, and Your MHA is active! Jim Williams deserves kudos for creating an email list which

allows notice of all the wonderful historical events to be routed to our members. Some of those events in the past months have included the Historic Rosedale Plantation Annual Oyster Roast on October 21st, The Waxhaws Lantern Tour on November 11th, and the Elite Antebellum Dining program on November 18th in Brattonsville. Jim is the clearing house of all things historical including researching information about Charlotte's courthouses in connection with the opening of the eighth courthouse in February 2007. Great work, Jim! Linda Dalton and Robin Cochrane are hard at work putting together the project to repair gravesites at Settler's

Cemetery with money pledged by the McColl family. Linda and Jane Estep are also making progress in electronically cataloging the artifacts of our history in the Decorative Arts Survey! The Docents prepared a program on period dress which all will enjoy. At our last meeting we pledged five hundred dollars toward the purchase of the Major John Davidson Clock and received thanks for our contribution from Bob Deaton. Chairman of the Catawba Valley Scottish Society who presented a great program on Rural Hill at our last meeting. And the Captain Jack "Spirit of Mecklenburg" public fundraising campaign will soon begin. Your MHA has contributed to the printing of splendidly-designed solicitation materials which you will see when the formal announcements are madel

Our Dinner Program Schedule for the rest of the year features pro-

grams on November 27th 2006, March 26, 2007 and May 14th, 2007. Mark your calendars!

We are looking forward to hearing the program on "Military Music During the American Revolution." Those who attend the annual celebration of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence on May 20th have heard some of this music.

Bring a friend to the next meeting. Mimi Reese turned over the kitchen to Izzy's, a local restaurant owner and Charlotte native. The last meal was absolute mouth-watering. A good program on history and a grand meal. A double treat! So help us increase our membership. If they aren't sure of history, yet, they will love the food!

See you on the 27th!

Chase Saunders President, MHA

From the Docent Committee Barbara Jackson, Docent Chairman

On October 2, 2006, the MHA Docents remembered three recently departed members through a memorial service which was held at Historic Rosedale Plantation. Rachel Abernathy, June McKinney, and Ann Williams recalled the lives of Barbara Castro, Betty Hutchinson, and Anne Batten and their numerous contributions to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg history and wider community. We will have a visual memory of these women through the beautiful roses which have been planted in their honor. A plague which will list their names will be on display in the garden. Barbara's widower, Donald Castro, donated a monetary gift and her period clothing to the MHA Docents.

October 2nd was election day for the

docents. Alice Bostic was chosen as our new queen, the title we affectionately give to our leader. She and the new board will be installed during our January meeting.

Our November program on November 7th will be presented by Matthew Keagle. He will discuss "Men's Occupational Dress, 1750-1850." You are all invited to our annual Holiday Tea on MONDAY, December 4, 2006. We will have a musical program which will melodically connect Scotland and Appalachia. Doug and Darcy Orr are the accomplished folk musicians who will perform. The program will begin promptly at 10:00AM, so come early to take your seat. Our tea will follow the special program. We will serve you delicious tea and delicacies pre-

pared by the docents. This event will be held in the Fellowship Hall at the Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church.

I have reported to you the various docent activities conducted during the past two years. The docents have attempted to increase awareness of the remarkable region in which we live. I invite you to encourage your neighbors and friends to join the docents in January when a new program in region history will be offered. Our hope is that interested people will become MHA docents.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a healthy, peaceful new year.

Barbara McCray Jackson Chairman, MHA Docents Vol. 51, No. 12 Page 3

Invitation to Christmas Tea

All MHA members are invited to the Annual MHA Docent Christmas Tea, which will take place at 10 AM on Monday, December 4, 2006 in the Fellowship Hall of Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church, 101 West Sugar Creek Road, in Charlotte. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Friday, November 24, to 704-365-2402 or mhadandelion@mindspring.com.

This year's tea will commence with a

program, "Wayfaring Strangers: Musical Connections Between Scotland and Appalachia." Doug and Darcy Orr will use music and song to illustrate how mountain folk traditions crossed the ocean with Scots and Scots-Irish settlers.

Dr. Orr retired this year from the presidency of Warren Wilson College.
One of his first acts during his fifteen-year tenure there was to found the Swannanoa Gathering, a widely respected series of summer folk arts

workshops. The Orrs, both accomplished folk musicians, are collaborating with Fiona Ritchie on a book that will tell the story of the musical connections between the peoples of Scotland, including the Scots-Irish, and the Appalachians. Ritchie is the founder and host of The Thistle & Shamrock music program, broadcast in this country over public radio stations.

A festive tea and fellowship will follow the program.

More on Military Fife and Drum from Colonial Williamsburg

Colonial Williamsburg provides a program, "Music for a Revolutionary Generation." To learn more about it, visit the website, www.colonialwilliamsburg.com. It is a pro-

gram of music popular in the colonies as well as England. The Colonial Williamsburg Fifes and Drums composed of young people (ages10 to 18) provide hundreds of performances each year. Recordings of this music are also available online.

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 60)	\$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

November 27th Dinner Meeting Reservation Form

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

Reservations must be made by Wednesday, November 22, 2006.

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

Enclosed:	\$	(tota	, <u> </u>	seats (\$11 for Seniors)
	\$	(tota) for	seats (\$13 for all others
(Nar	ne Tag)			(Name Tag)

Mark your calendars now for future meetings of the Mecklenburg Historical Association. The next meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2007.



"Preserving Mecklenburg's Heritage"

Post Office Box 35032 Charlotte, North Carolina 28235

ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT WWW.MECKDEC.ORG