Vol. 51, No. 14

Mecklenburg Historical Association August 2007

# MHA NEWS

# **Dinner Meeting**

Monday, September 24, 2007 6:30 pm. Dinner; program following at 7:15 pm Fellowship Hall At Trinity Presbyterian Church 3115 Providence Road



### Dinner Program Topic will be: "My Hometown Pineville"

#### FIRST PROGRAM TO BE HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

It will feature Joe Howard Griffin, Sr. is a 5th generation Pineville resident who is our speaker in September. His topic is "My Hometown Pineville" and other than two years in the Army, he has lived there all his life. He graduated from East Mecklenburg High School and Charlotte College, now UNCC. While trained as a mechanical engineer and industrial salesman, he describes himself as a "Genealogy Nut." His research into his family history uncovered

a lot of community history. His book, My Hometown-Pineville, is in its second edition and won the 2005 Willie Parker Peace Award sponsored by the North Carolina Society of Historians. It's a compilation of history, memories, hearsay and scrapbook items about the town of Pineville, originally called Morrow's Turnout. David Morrow, who the area was named for originally, is the 5th great-grandfather of the Rev. Billy Graham.

This will be a great program. If you have ideas for programs or wish to present a program yourself, please contact any of the Board. They are Kay Majeski, Linda Dalton, Jim Williams, Luther Moore, Alice Bostic, Kathy Herran, Jane Johnson, Robin Cochrane, Marion Redd, and Allen Brooks.

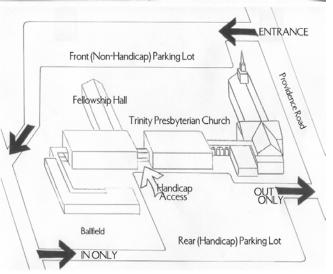
Reservation Form to be returned by Wednesday, September 19, 2007.

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



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# Remarks from the President...



Fall is fast approaching!
Children have returned to school. High school and college football seasons are kicking off.
Hopefully the

Panthers are fired up for a stellar season. The summer heat is slowly releasing its grip. Stores already announce that Halloween is here and the pace of life in a bustling city accelerates. And in the fullness of time, it is again time to turn your attention to the lineup of events presented by your MHA Board.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Our Dinner Program Schedule for this year features programs on Sept. 24, 2007, Nov. 26, 2007 (History of the Sharon Community), March

24, 2008 ( Biography of Harriet Morrison by Kathy Herran), and May 19, 2008 (Paul Buckley and Ellen Poteat on their new reference book about Elmwood Cemetery).

This will be a great program. If you have ideas for programs or wish to present a program yourself, please contact any of the Board. They are Kay Majeski, Linda Dalton, Jim Williams, Luther Moore, Alice Bostic, Kathy Herran, Jane Johnson, Robin Cochrane, Marion Redd, and Allen Brooks.

**MEMBERSHIP**. 2007 marks the 53rd birthday of the MHA. Each birthday is special for an organization such as ours. Whether or not we celebrate a 54th depends upon you. Your MHA offers interesting programs, great food, fellowship, and affordability! And this takes place in a secure location.

Jane Johnson and Kathy Herran work tirelessly to bring you great speakers to fire up your minds. Such a wonderful community resource needs to be enjoyed by more people. In business, your personal commitment to any project is measured by the slang phrase "skin in the game". If you have "skin in the game", you have something to lose if things do not work out right. If you love history, you have skin in the game! Make a commitment to find a friend to share our programs so we may thrive. Please make an effort to bring a friend to our next meeting! And if you know anyone who would be interested, please let us know and we will seek them out! See the reservation section of this newsletter for further information. Linda Dalton loves to see lots of names.

Chase Saunders, President

# From the Docent Committee Alice Bostic, Docent Chairman

As we look forward to a break from the oppressive heat of summer 2007, the docents are anticipating a new season of learning about local history and serving at our local historic sites. September brings the opportunity to learn more about the rich archival collection available at our own University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Tuesday September 4, 2007 We will meet in the Fellowship Hall of Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church. Refreshments--9:30 AM Business meeting---10 AM Program 11:00 Visitors are always Welcome. Our Speaker will be

Robin Brabham, Associate University Librarian for Special Collections, UNCC Atkins Library. Mr. Brabham is an expert on the rare books, manuscripts and archives that he is responsible for. Mr. Brabham is entering into "Phased Retirement" after 39-Plus years with the University. We look forward to his sharing reflections on the past, present and future of the **UNCC Special Collections and** highlights of his career. Everyone who does research on local history is indebted to him for his efforts to make so many valuable resources available to the public. His work

reminds us that the efforts that result in our being able to know and understand our local history are those of individuals who are passionate about telling the story. Without people like Robin, we would not have many of the original documents that illuminate our understanding of our past. The Archives at UNCC, the restored homes and museums of Charlotte all exist because individuals cared about history and spent countless hours doing the hard work of preservation, fund raising and restoration.

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## **Project Updates**

Your MHA participates in the Community. Current projects include the restoration of the Settler's Cemetery graveyard, the Catawba Valley Art & Craft Survey, and participation of the Docents and Reenactors in a number of events throughout the Carolinas.

We enthusiastically support the Captain Jack statue project. Fundraising for the commemorative, **Spirit of Mecklenburg** monument of Captain James Jack continues under the leadership of Charles Jonas and George Dewey of the May 20th Society. The approved location is on the corner of Kings Drive and 4th Street across from the CPCC campus on the Trail of

History Greenway. The MHA has contributed to funding the statue both at the organizational and individual levels. Formal public, fundraising will begin later this fall. Private fundraising is underway with great success. You, too, can contribute and have your name recognized at the site of what will be the signature bronze by which our City will be noted. Anonymous contributions are also accepted. This is a charitable donation which qualifies for the 501(c)(3) deduction. We hope to meet the budgeted goal of about \$550,000.00 by the end of this year in order to engage the artist in the production and casting of the piece in 2008. Significant contributions have been pledged already. The last time an major effort was made to

recognize history at a monumental level was in the early 20th Century when the Signers Monument which is now located on East Trade Street was erected. This is a legacy project, so please help make it happen. See me for details or call me at 704.366.6625.

#### GOOD FOOD.

Izzies, operated by a Charlotte native, and our fine caterer will offer palatable pleasures again this year.

#### SPECIAL THANKS.

For years Kay Majeski has put together this newsletter so you could all be informed. She now takes a well-deserved rest from this responsibility. Thank her when you see her.

See you on the 24th of September!

#### 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:

Kathy Herran (M.H.A.) 5015 Sharon Woods Lane Charlotte, NC 28210

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

## **September 24th 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 call Linda Dalton, 704.364.1618.

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



"Preserving Mecklenburg's Heritage"

Post Office Box 35032 Charlotte, North Carolina 28235

ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT WWW.MECKDEC.ORG