

∞ Past Times ∞

A Newsletter of the Cashiers Historical Society

July - August 2005

From the Chairman

Eleanor Welling

Partnerships and Opportunities

Whether there's a smoky mist rising between mountain peaks after an afternoon storm or it's one of those low humidity blue bird days, Cashiers is the perfect place to live, work and play. In an effort to add to the quality of life in our village, the Cashiers Historical Society has formed several partnerships and is offering some interesting opportunities.

Our partnership with the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival has resulted in the opportunity of a "bring your own picnic" as you enjoy an evening of music under the stars at the Zachary-Tolbert House on July 27th at 5:30 P.M. Tom and Wendy Dowden have generously underwritten the performance of the Vega String Quartet.

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Historic Daylilies for sale July 23 at 10:00 a.m.

The beautiful orange daylilies that have graced the kitchen at the Zachary-Tolbert House since the 1940's have been temporarily removed in preparation for the archaeological dig that will take place soon. "Because there are so many, we decided to share a limited number with our members," said Eleanor Welling, Chairman. They will be available, on a first come basis for \$10 a container

Chamber Music Returns to Zachary-Tolbert



Vega String Quartet

Mark your calendars! Wednesday, July 27, 2005 at 5:30 PM Chamber Music returns to the Zachary-Tolbert House. Members and their guests are invited to enjoy at 45 minute free concert with the world reknown Vega String Quartet under the tent. Following the musical presentation everyone is invited to picnic on the grounds. Picnic boxes are available at Good Foods Pantry, call 743-3573 to order.

The members of the Vega String Quartet first attracted international attention as prize winners at the Prague Spring International Music Competition in 1987. Since then the group has performed extensively throughout Asia, Europe and North America and been broadcast live on NPR's Performance Today (USA), the National Radio of China, Shanghai TV, Radio France, and the National Radio of the Czech Republic. In February 1998, the Vega String Quartet won first prize at the National Society of Arts and Letters String Quartet Competition, followed in rapid succession by first prize at the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition and first prize at the Carmel Chamber Music Competition in California.

Archaeologists Recover Fragments of the Past



Phyllis Morse, Jean Dugger, Jane Nardy and Dan Morse examine artifact.

Under the guidance of expert archaeologists, Dr. Dan Morse and his wife Phyllis, the orderly process of recovering fragments of the past at the Zachary-Tolbert House has begun. An area adjacent to the detached kitchen has been selected for investigation. To date an interesting assortment of artifacts have been discovered. They include a door-knob fragment, glazed brown pottery shards, and square headed nails.

Board member Martha Black reports: "On the first day intern Amy Kittle discovered a coin. It was very exciting, especially when we realized it was a two cent piece. Research revealed that the coin was minted in Philadelphia only between the years of 1864-1873. Its historical importance includes the fact that it was the first time the phrase "In God We Trust" was used on a coin."

CASHIERS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Mission of the Cashiers Historical Society is to preserve and interpret the Zachary-Tolbert House and Cashiers Valley in order to inspire discovery and to appreciate our past as guidance for the future.

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Published four times annually
by the Cashiers Historical Society
Chairman: Eleanor Welling

Editor: Jan Wyatt

The Cashiers Historical Society is supported by its members, by generous contributions of foundations and corporations, by grants from the Cashiers Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and all those interested in preserving the past of Cashiers.

The Past is always Present in Cashiers

Office 828-743-7710

Arlene Hendrix, Administrator

Ramble to John C. Campbell Folk School

Begun in 1925, the John C. Campbell Folk School Brasstown, N.C., was founded to preserve and share with the rest of the world the wonderful crafts, techniques and tools that the mountain people used in every day life. The website paints a vivid picture with the following words:

*Against the backdrop of the world's most ancient mountains
is a special kind of place . . .
A place where history lives . . .
where tradition lingers . . .
where people come together to discover their creative spirit.*

Today, The John C. Campbell Folk School offers a unique combination of arts and crafts classes & instruction, rich history, beautiful mountain surroundings, and an atmosphere of living and learning together.”

Our ramble will begin with carpools in private cars from Cashiers to the Folk School in Brasstown, NC. Directions will be provided with a suggested 8:30 A.M. departure time from Cashiers. Upon arrival the director of the folk school, “Jan Davidson, Director, will welcome us and provide information on the school”, said Jane Nardy organizer. The group will visit the Craft Shop, a founding member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild.

A picnic lunch is planned on the grounds. Following lunch a tour has been arranged of the History Center which highlights 20th Century Appalachia.. It will be possible to visit the individual buildings where classes will be in progress which will enable all to see the varied projects students have been working on all week. Before returning the group will stop at the historic St. John's Churchyard in Hayesville for refreshments.

The Ramble is limited to 35 people. Call Jane Nardy to check availability at 743-9002. \$15 for members \$35 for nonmembers.

From the Chairman (continued from page 1)

Don't miss the Ramble to the John Campbell Folk School on July 28 and the Showhouse Patron's Party at Lonesome Valley on August 19th. Ann Hastings and her committees are hard at work to make this the best one ever!

Our partnership with popular regional historian George Ellison resulted in an opportunity for a members' reception to introduce Mr. Ellison's new book entitled, *Mountain Passages*, and his wife Elizabeth's watercolor paintings at the High Hampton Pavilion.

Lastly, our partnership with retired archeologists Dan and Phyllis Morse has resulted in an ongoing excavation on the Zachary-Tolbert grounds. Come by sometime and watch this fascinating work. You might be invited to help sift some dirt in hopes of finding an artifact or two.

We are grateful for our partners and hope you will take advantage of some of these opportunities. Maintaining our village atmosphere by maintaining our village heritage is uppermost in our priorities. . . .and having fun at the same time makes life in Cashiers even better. Enjoy.

8th Annual Cashiers Designer Showhouse



The Homestead at Lonesome Valley

The Cashiers Historical Society will present the eighth annual Cashiers Designer Showhouse, this year at Lonesome Valley, located on Highway 64 East, just across from the Sapphire Horse Stables and 2 ½ miles from the Cashiers Crossroads. The event will benefit the Zachary-Tolbert House restoration fund and 2005 grant recipient Cashiers Community Council. The Showhouse kicks off with the “Diamonds and Denim” Patron Party August 19 at Lonesome Valley. Respond

upon receipt of the invitation, as the party is always a sellout. Additional information on the Patron Party and the Showhouse can be obtained by calling the Historical Society Office at 743-7710.

Want to get a bird’s eye, in-the-know view of this year’s Cashiers Designer Showhouse? Volunteer! The Showhouse will be open August 20 – September 4 and more than 100 volunteers – at least 10 per day - are needed. “We ask volunteers to work in three hour shifts. Many like to sign up together and make a day of it,” said Margaret Kaminer, Volunteer Chair. No experience is necessary. Margaret will hold an orientation training session August 17.

Listening! to the Stories of Cashiers Valley

Recently a group of Cashiers Historical Society members, organized by past Chairman Millie Lathan, gathered in a classroom at Western Carolina University with Professor Dr. Richard Starnes to begin training in how to gather oral histories from residents of Cashiers Valley. The Cashiers Oral History Project has been funded by a generous grant from the John M. Rivers, Jr. Foundation. Dr. Starnes suggested the group first focus on a single topic. After much discussion the group realized that what sets Cashiers Valley apart from other places is that Cashiers is now and has been for a long while a resort destination. Mark Jones, General Manager of High Hampton, related: “Guests at High Hampton have evolved through the years from the matriarch and patriarch of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida families that spent the entire summer at the inn to entire families that spend one or two weeks at the inn.”

In defining the topic, the year 1922 was set as the beginning date. It coincides with the founding of High Hampton Inn by E. Lyndon McKee, a Sylva industrialist. Mark continued: “We have employees at the inn that are the third generation in their families to work at the Inn.”

Millie Lathan said: “The committee will also begin identifying people to be interviewed including hospitality employers, employees, long time 2nd home owners and local area residents. We will begin to see the dynamics of the Valley emerge.”

Dr. Starnes concluded the workshop asking: “What will your end product be?” Bob Bryant added: “Besides the recordings, there might be material for a book.”

Meet the Staff

Arlene Hendrix, of Sapphire, NC and Savannah, GA has joined the Cashiers Historical Society as a part-time administrator. Arlene is well known to many as a great organizer who has served in the Symphony Office, Cashiers Valley Garden Club and the Sapphire Master’s Association. She will be using all her many skills as she keeps the office running smoothly. She will be handling the reservations for the Cashiers Designer Showhouse, Rambles, and other special events. She will be in the Society Office at the Community Center on Mondays and Fridays. For many years Arlene served as Director of Human Resources for Union-Camp in Savannah. Welcome Arlene.

Amy Kittle of Sumpter, SC has served this summer as our intern. She will be entering her senior year at Western Carolina University this fall. Through a grant from the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina and the Cashiers Community Fund, Amy has begun digitizing the collection in Past Perfect Museum Software. Amy has worked with Dan and Phyllis Morse and Martha Black on archaeology at the Zachary-Tolbert House. She discovered a 2 cent piece with the words “In God We Trust” On Friday and Saturdays she can be found at the house giving tours.

Welcome Board Member

Martha Wailes of Cashiers and New Orleans, LA has joined the Board of the Cashiers Historical Society. She organized last year’s Board Meeting in New Orleans and has worked on the Cashiers Designer Showhouse for the past two years.

2005 Calendar of Events

June -Sept.

Zachary-Tolbert House Tours

Every Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

- Wednesday, July 27, 2005 Highland-Cashiers Chamber Music and Picnic
Zachary-Tolbert House 5:30 PM
- Thursday, July 28, 2005 Ramble to John Campbell Folk School
Zachary-Tolbert House 8:30 AM
- Friday, August 19, 2005 Designer Showhouse Preview Party at Lonesome Valley
- Saturday, August 20 - Sept. 4 Designer Showhouse at Lonesome Valley
- Thursday, September 15, 2005 Ramble - Ballad of Kidder Cole
- Wednesday, September 28, 2005 3rd Annual Founder's Day for all area 3rd & 4th grades
- Sunday, October 30, 2005 Cycling thru History 8:00 AM
- Saturday, December 10, 2005 Cashiers Christmas Parade

Check Website for up-to-date information:

www.cashiershistoricalsociety.org



CASHIERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 104

Cashiers, NC 28717

Invite a friend to

Chamber Music

at

Zachary-Tolbert House