

Cartography and Cocktails provides a different view of the history of Cashiers Valley

Maps of the Southern Appalachians made during the 1800s showing Cashiers Valley, nature prints, hors d'oeuvres from Good Food and cocktails were a winning combination for the Cashiers Historical Society members who attended "Cocktails and Cartography" at Arrowhead in Cashiers on Friday, June 13th.

Board member Pat Camp arranged the event, which brought renowned map collectors John and Ginger Duncan of Savannah, Georgia, to Cashiers with a selection of historic maps, reproductions, old prints of native and exotic flora, and golf prints for display and sale.

Several individuals joined the Cashiers Historical Society in order to take part in the event and all membership proceeds were designated for the Zachary-Tolbert House.

The following day, the Duncans put their maps and prints on display at the Zachary-Tolbert House when it opened for tours.

John Duncan, a professor of history, took time while they were at the Zachary-Tolbert House to examine some of the printed materials that were passed down with the artifacts left to the Cashiers Historical Society as contents of the home. Several books and magazines with personal signatures of former residents of the house were discovered in the collection and Duncan discussed ways for preserving the printed materials.



Chairman Millie Lathan looks on while her husband, Bob Lathan, center, discusses an historic map with collector John Duncan at "Cocktails and Cartography," held June 13th.

We are grateful to Pat and Ehney Camp for hosting "Cocktails and Cartography," and to John and Ginger Duncan for sharing their expertise with us. We look forward to similar events in the future.

Past Times

A Newsletter of the Cashiers Historical Society

September 2003



Clemson University most generously provided transportation and lunch for the first Cashiers Historical Society Ramble on June 5th to visit the Calhoun mansion at Fort Hill, S.C. Architect Ellen Harris, the project architect for the Zachary-Tolbert House, worked on the restoration of Calhoun's home as well.

Clemson/Calhoun connections with Cashiers explored on first Cashiers Historical Society Ramble

Kicking off a season of Cashiers Historical Society activities was a memorable Ramble to the John C. Calhoun home at Fort Hill in Clemson, S.C., on June 5th, hosted by Clemson University.

The group was transported to Fort Hill in grand style in a bus sent by the University, where they were met by curator Will Hiott and preservation architect Ellen Harris, AIA, the architect who oversaw the restoration of the Zachary-Tolbert House and arranged the visit for our group.

Following the tour, the Cashiers group was welcomed by University officials at a special luncheon where Jane Nardy spoke

of the historical ties between John C. Calhoun and the Cashiers area.

Calhoun was a U.S. Senator for South Carolina who died in 1850. His estate passed on to his daughter and her husband, who made a gift of the home and much of the plantation lands when they died. The legendary statesman is of particular interest to the Cashiers Historical Society because of his connections to Cashiers.

One of the first references found by historian Jane Gibson Nardy was from an 1830s survey of Cashiers, which indicates John

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Cashiers Historical Society wins prestigious Carraway Award of Merit for Preservation

We are pleased to announce that the Cashiers Historical Society has been named a 2003 recipient of the Gertrude S. Carraway Award of Merit for the restoration of the Zachary-Tolbert House.

The award is one of twelve given yearly by Preservation North Carolina, the premier foundation supporting historic preservation in the state. The awards are made possible through the generosity of the Kellenberger Historical Foundation.

The mission of Preservation North Carolina is to protect and promote buildings, sites and landscapes important to the heritage of North Carolina. The Carraway Award is presented to individuals and organizations that have

demonstrated an outstanding commitment to historic preservation.

"It is indeed a pleasure to honor your work in this manner.... Congratulations on this notable preservation achievement," said J. Myrick Howard, President of Preservation North Carolina, in his letter to CHS Chairman Millie Lathan announcing the award.

Jane Nardy and Ann Austin traveled to Greensboro to accept the Carraway Award on Saturday, September 13th.

On behalf of the Cashiers Historical Society we want to thank you for your generous support which has made the restoration of the Zachary-Tolbert House, and consequently this award, possible.

CHS membership has grown dramatically this year and we have reached our 2003 goal of 250 members! If you would like to join the fun, contact Doreen Hastings at 828-743-6439.

Ann Austin, Martha Crouch Black, Pat Camp, Linda Cravey, Tom & Wendy Dowden, Mitchell Dunn, Danae Griffin, Doreen Hastings, Beth Jones, Carol Kennedy, Millie Lathan, Darla McBurney, Anna M. Cameron, Jane Nardy, Sarah Nelson, Joan Newton, Kathleen Rivers, Alice Stanly, Robert Red Tolbert, Eleanor Welling

Members:

Doreen Hastings, Treasurer
Jane Nardy, Secretary

Officers:

Millie Lathan, Chairman
Ann Austin, President
Eleanor Welling, 1st Vice President

CHS Board of Trustees

Cashiers Historical Society
An affiliate of The Village Conservancy
P.O. Box 104
Cashiers, NC 28717
(828) 743-9002

For Sale

Four wooded acres near Cashiers' town center, with views of Chimney Top and Rock Mountain, includes a bucolic mountain meadow. This beautiful piece of land was donated to the Village Conservancy, Inc., for the benefit of Cashiers Historical Society by CHS board member Martha Crouch Black. The cost is \$125,000 and proceeds from the sale will be used to fund ongoing projects at the Zachary-Tolbert House. For more information, call Ann Austin at McKee Properties, (828) 743-3411, extension 27.

Educational program expands with Founders' Day

Founders' Day at the Zachary-Tolbert House will be held on Thursday, October 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. About 90 third and fourth grade students from Blue Ridge, Summit and home schools are planning to attend.

It will be a day of hands-on learning as students experience life in antebellum Western North Carolina making crafts and observing skills that would have been common in Cashiers Valley 150 years ago.

The children will make their own cornhusk dolls and churn butter. They will see thread spun from wool and then woven into cloth. Pioneer games will be played. And when they go home and tell their families about the stories the storyteller shared, they won't even know they spent the better part of the day being "educated."

Founders' Day at the Zachary-Tolbert House will mark the



Eleanor Welling

first time all of Cashiers third and fourth grade students have come together for an educational opportunity, says Eleanor Welling, Founders' Day and Education Committee chairman.

The preparations alone have brought teachers and educators together to plan meaningful activities for a wide spectrum of history students. Staff members from the Mountain Heritage Center at Western Carolina University have also helped with the planning.

Of course, tours of the house will also be part of this special day.

It is hoped that Founders' Day will be an annual event promoting pride in our community and an appreciation for the heritage of Cashiers Valley. Two tireless workers in this process have been Eleanor Welling and Jan Wyatt, and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Calhoun ties to Cashiers Valley . . . continued from page 1

C. Calhoun was among a group of businessmen that had promoted a Cincinnati to Charleston Railroad across the Blue Ridge. As part of this endeavor, William Sloan wrote of having "the Hon. J.C. Calhoun for one of [his] rodmen and his son, Col. A.P. Calhoun, as the other rodman" while surveying the ridge dividing the Keowee and Little Rivers, across the Chattuga [sic] Ridge into Cashiers Valley. It was there, according to Sloan's report, that they stopped, finding that the change in elevation was too great for a railroad. This reference is recorded on page 93 of *The History of Jackson County, North Carolina*.

Once a person has gone over the mountains, it seems it is hard to keep them home. A book written in South Carolina in 1891 titled "The Foggy Days and Now," and authored by a Mr. Sloan contains a chapter about South Carolina folks visiting Cashiers

Valley, including the Calhouns.

"On one occasion while traveling through the Blue Ridge Mountains, Mr. John C. Calhoun, Col. Gadsden and my father, Col. Sloan, stopped over night at a mountain cabin home. There was but one spare room, and in it a bed and a pallet. My father arranged for himself and Col. Gadsden to take the pallet and Mr. Calhoun to take the bed. About midnight, the mail carrier stopped in, and seeing but one person in the bed, he said, 'Git furdur thar, old horse, and we'll spoon,' and proceeded to pile in with the Senator."

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Jeffrey Burden, director of Clemson University's new graduate program in historic preservation, the Clemson-Cashiers connection will continue, as the University has committed to assisting CHS in developing its master plan.

Volunteer Spotlight

One of the most faithful volunteers for the Cashiers Historical Society since its beginning has been Jean Dugger.

Jean began visiting Cashiers with Jane Gibson Nardy when she was 13 years old, and began attending Zachary reunions about the same time. She has owned a home in Cashiers since 1986.

Whenever there has been a need for someone to rake, sweep, give tours, or carry garbage away from the Zachary-Tolbert House, Jean has rolled up her sleeves and pitched in. She was present at the first luncheon at the Hank's House and was one



Jean Dugger with the Zachary-Tolbert House woodcuts.

of five CHS members to go to Monticello for guide training. In September, volunteer guides will experience Jean's hospitality first hand as she hosts a thank you luncheon.

Over the past few years, Jean's diligence has resulted in a training video for tour guides, and ornament and magnet wood cuts of the Zachary-Tolbert House. In fact, the Cashiers Historical Society is Jean's favorite charity.

Jean said she enjoys working with all the Cashiers Historical Society Board Members. And the Board wants to say, "Thanks, Jean, for all you do!"

Pinnacle at Pinchot draws peak attendance for Cashiers Designer Showhouse

Plans for the sixth annual Cashiers Designer Showhouse were ambitious and the public's enthusiasm for those plans made the Pinnacle at Pinchot perhaps the most successful to date, attracting record attendance and what may be, when all figures are in, record sums for the Cashiers Historical Society and Cashiers Community Center.

An on-site art show, luncheon speakers at meals catered by Good Food, as well as the participation of regionally recognized designers pushed the Showhouse up a notch.

CHS board member Sarah Nelson coordinated the committees that oversaw so many of the aspects of this special event, while event co-chairman Doreen Hastings, CHS treasurer, handled ticket sales and finances. Both women worked tirelessly for the success of the Cashiers Designer Showhouse and are to be commended.

The Mountain Gala Patron's party was co-chaired by Alice Stanly and Laura Howell. They made sure the opening night event for the Showhouse was memorable for all who attended.

CHS board chairman Millie Lathan could be seen most days manning the Showhouse Shop, which was headed up by Rosemary Smith, and members of the Cashiers Valley Community Council kept visitors coming with their van service throughout the show.

Volunteers, coordinated by Margaret Kaminer, were essential to the smooth running of the Showhouse ... from those who sold and collected tickets, to vendors who worked the art show and in the Showhouse Shop, to guides posted throughout the house and at the speakers' luncheons. We want to say "thanks" to all of those who made this Showhouse a success.

We want to say "thanks", too, to builder John Lupoli and all of the interior designers who transformed Lot 35 in Pinchot into The Pinnacle. It truly was a house of magnificent proportions with a view to match.



This year's showhouse, the Pinnacle at Pinchot, which was designed by Tim Greene and built by John Lupoli, showcased one of Cashiers' newest communities.



Rosemary Smith, left, head shopkeeper for the Cashiers Designer Showhouse, takes a moment with General Westmoreland amid the many treasures on sale at the Showhouse Shop.

My Summer as an Historical Intern

By Lydia Doyle

When I spoke with Ann Austin and agreed to work for the Zachary-Tolbert House for the summer, I didn't really know what to expect from the job because it was so different from my previous summer internships. So, at Easter I met with Ann and Millie Lathan to discuss what the job would entail. It all sounded straight forward enough: organizing Fandangos, Rambles and member events and working with the education program to take children through the house.

Then they mentioned something about organizing the graffiti in the house and I immediately started looking around for spray paint. As it turned out, I was to document all of the writing on the walls, a rewarding project which resulted in cataloging more than 120 new pieces of graffiti.

Following the graffiti confusion, Ann and Millie took me up to the artifact room, whose

door wouldn't open all the way because the room was too full of boxes. To be honest, I almost turned around right then and ran back to my job at the advertising agency. But I decided to stick it out and with the help of two archeologists - Dan and Phyllis Morse - and 500 feet of bubble wrap, we managed to get the room organized and provide a better environment for the artifacts.

I could not be happier that I did not turn around and run back to the advertising world. Working at the Zachary-Tolbert House turned out to be an invaluable experience. I enjoyed it so much, in fact, that it made me realize that historic preservation is what I want to do with my life and inspired me to apply to Clemson's masters program in historic preservation.

Thank you all for a truly wonderful summer.



Lydia Doyle at work.