

CASHIERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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# Past Times

A Newsletter of the  
CASHIERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

August 2010

www.cashiershistoricalsociety.org

## Cashiers Historical Society Board 2010

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Darla McBurney, *Chair*  
David Dimling, *Vice Chair*  
Sarah Nelson, *Vice President*  
Ann McKee Austin, *Vice President*  
Linda Cravey, *Vice President*  
Arlene Hendrix, *Treasurer*  
Bonnie Heinsma, *Secretary*

Debbie Bennett  
Lindsay Builder  
Tom Dowden  
Ned Fox  
Nancy Green  
Anne Hazel  
Mark Jones  
Gillis MacKinnon

Jane Gibson Nardy  
Nancy Pankey  
Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Skip Ryan  
Alice Scanlon  
E. Clay Shaw  
Betty Smoak  
Ann Summers  
Bubba Tolbert

### STAFF

Executive Director, *Tim Osment*  
Administrative Assistant, *Mendy Queen*

### Mission Statement

The Mission of the Cashiers Historical Society is to preserve the heritage of Cashiers Valley through Stewardship and Education.

## Volunteer Curators

*The Cashiers Historical Society would like to welcome Christie & Will Wardowski as our Volunteer Curators. Over the last few months, the Wardowskis have begun the process of curating and archiving the multiple layers of our organization's collection. Collection management is a detailed and time-consuming process, often performed with little public awareness. Stop by and say hello to Christie & Will and join us in expressing our sincere thanks for their service and support.*



*A day-long acrylic painting class was held by Sue Fazio adjacent to the Zachary-Tolbert House under the cover of the Dowden Pavilion. Participants enjoyed the beautiful setting, instruction, and had their efforts rewarded with a personal masterpiece!*

## Letter from the Chair

Dear Members of the Cashiers Historical Society and Friends,

Over the past fourteen years, the Cashiers Historical Society has grown from an all volunteer to a more professional organization. With a full time Executive Director, Tim Osment, an Administrative Assistant, Mendy Queen, and an active board willing to sit in responsible committee positions, we have been able to both address challenges and accomplish our initiatives.

In order for the change in leadership to run smoothly, Tim Osment, Vice-Chairman Dave Dimling, and I have had a number of transition meetings. In the process, we have fine-tuned the board committees. Dave has been consulting board members and volunteers for their committee preferences for 2011.

Two examples of these changes include the Designer Showhouse and the Preservation Committees. For the first time, we will have a Designer Showhouse Committee. In the past few years, the Showhouse has grown into a year-round endeavor and requires constant management.

The Preservation Committee was newly formed approximately six months ago. It has two sub-committees, Faces, or Oral History, and Places, or Land & Properties. This committee is committed to promoting preservation values throughout the Valley and is working hard to determine the appropriate role for the CHS in this endeavor.

The 2010 Cashiers Designer Showhouse, Whisper Fade, at Wade Hampton Golf Club, with the theme "Designed With A View", runs Saturday, August 21 through Sunday, September 5. Our Chairmen, Susie and Denny Goode, and their cast of volunteers, have created an experience not to be forgotten.

September means Founders Day, when our local 4th and 5th graders spend a day at the Zachary-Tolbert House and Grounds. This year the focus will be on Southern Heritage Food with Lisa Bates as Chairman. With the Kitchen Dependency restored and the Tolbert-era kitchen in place, the young students will get a glimpse into the connections between food and Southern Appalachian life.

Let me close by saying good luck to my successor, Dave Dimling. It has brought me much pride and joy over the last two years to be the Chairman of the Cashiers Historical Society. Let us all continue to preserve the heritage of this beautiful Valley.

Sincerely,  
Darla McBurney



*Darla McBurney,  
Chairman of the Board*

## New Historic Kitchen Exhibit



The Cashiers Historical Society is excited to announce that the Tolbert-era Kitchen Exhibit is now complete! Stop by and get an insightful glimpse into early 20th century home life and food preparation (without electricity or running water). The Collection Committee worked with Bubba Tolbert to ensure the artifact arrangement and exhibit authenticity was true to the historical record. Creating the exhibit were (l-r), Will Wardowski, Carol Doyle, Christie Wardowski, Bubba Tolbert, and Skip Ryan.

## Summer at the Cashiers Historical Society



Local thread artist Debbie Bryant gave a “Sheep to Shawl” demonstration at the Zachary-Tolbert House Museum. Visitors learned the methods and challenges early Cashiers Valley settlers encountered before electricity and clothing stores replaced the generations-old practices of shearing, hand-spinning, weaving, and sewing.



These energetic kids from The Hampton School enjoyed a day-trip to the Zachary-Tolbert House & Grounds. They had a great time exploring the trails, creeks, house museum, & meadows.



A favorite summer activity that is becoming a tradition; the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet, under the beautiful Dowden Pavilion, provided a world-class performance to an overflow audience on the Zachary Meadow. This free annual concert is a partnership event provided by the Cashiers Historical Society and the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival.



Committee Chair Bob Bryan presented the annual Village Heritage Award to Laurelwood Mountain Inn owners, Bob & Lise Dews at an early evening, on-site reception featuring barbecue and live music. The Village Heritage Award is presented each year to the business or individual who has preserved a historic building or site in a manner that best represents the unique village character of our community. The award is a noteworthy example along the themes of “Adaptive Reuse” prevalent in many of our Cashiers Valley projects focused on historic preservation. Contact the CHS office if you have in mind a property that deserves historic recognition. It may be next year’s Village Heritage Award winner!



Historical Society member Kathie Blozan led a Wildflower Sketching & Painting Workshop on the Grounds of the Zachary-Tolbert House and under the Dowden Pavilion. Hidden talents were discovered during the three days of expert instruction in drawing and painting wildflowers in watercolor.



A grand outing on a warm summer day in Cashiers includes a guided tour of the “cool-by-the-stream” Zachary-Tolbert House Museum & Grounds. The museum is open from 11-3 on Fridays and Saturdays and the grounds are open from dawn until dusk seven days a week. Here, gift shop chairman Marty Boone gathers together a group preparing to “step back into history”.



Cashier Historical Society Historian, Jane Nardy, led a group of “Ramblers” on a history tour of Sylva and Webster. Nardy’s Rambles have become legendary and often “sell-out” before the topic is even announced. On this trek, folks explored Sylva’s Main Street, learned about the new Jackson County Library project, and visited a variety of significant homes and churches ... not to mention a circa 1888 lunch of Fried Chicken, Ham, and Chicken & Dumplings at the Jarrett House in Dillsboro. The outing ended with an afternoon tea hosted by Jackson County Historical Society Executive Director, Joe Rhinehart.



The Cashiers Historical Society Board of Trustees held their summer meeting on July 1 at the Wade Hampton Golf Club. Presiding over her final Board meeting, outgoing Chairman Darla McBurney recognized individually everyone in the room and thanked them for their support during her two-year tenure as Chairman of the Board. Notable accomplishments during McBurney’s term include the CHS becoming its own independent 501(c)3 corporation, the completion of the CHS Master Plan (with a finished Trail System and remodeled Kitchen Dependency), and the Historical Society moving into the next phase of its Strategic Plan, focusing on Cashiers Valley Stewardship & Education.



*August, 2010*

Dear Members of the Cashiers Historical Society,

Recent developments along the Historic 107 South Corridor are a cause for growing concern, and they threaten to alter the character of this tree-canopied roadway into Cashiers.

There are an unprecedented number of vulnerable properties, some historic and others just green spaces, available at this time. They present opportunities for preservation and setting the course for the future. At this time, there are few restrictions on these properties.

One historic property in the vicinity of the Zachary-Tolbert House and Grounds is currently under contract with a motel developer. As we understand it, the plan is to build a high density condominium with rentable units.

The Cashiers Historical Society is committed to promoting preservation values throughout the Valley. Over the past six months the Preservation Committee has been working hard to determine the appropriate role for the CHS in this endeavor.

Our thought is to encourage those that are conservation minded to be aware of these valuable properties in conjunction with the current depressed real estate market. There are ways to put protective covenants on these properties, and in turn protect them for future generations.

Please contact the Cashiers Historical Society Preservation Committee if you are interested in protecting this or other properties.

For additional information phone 828.743.7710, or go to the Preservation link at [www.cashiershistoricalsociety.org](http://www.cashiershistoricalsociety.org). There you may access, print, and complete the Corridor Survey (also here on the reverse side). Please return it to the Cashiers Historical Society, PO Box 104, Cashiers, NC 28717 or via email to [mendyqueen@cashiershistoricalsociety.org](mailto:mendyqueen@cashiershistoricalsociety.org).

Sincerely,

Preservation Committee  
Cashiers Historical Society



## ***PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CORRIDOR SURVEY***

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Method of Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Specific Area of Interest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you want to be a part of the solution?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Devote time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Devote resources:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you want more updates?** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to:  
Preservation Committee  
Cashiers Historical Society  
P.O. Box 104  
Cashiers, NC 28717  
Fax: 828.743.0732