

2007 NAIL-RAY ANNUAL MEETING**NORTH CAROLINA—DAVIE, ROWAN, AND RANDOLPH COUNTIES**

The 2007 gathering of the Nail-Ray Association will be held June 6-10 in the North Carolina Piedmont. Fred Rich, his mother Ann Rich, and Janie Swaringen (all are descendants of John Nail and his wife Margaretha Booe) will be the local hosts for this meeting. John Nail, Revolutionary War Veteran and son of Caleb Nail/Gottlieb Nagel and his wife Margaret, will be the focus of our visit. John Nail was a Revolutionary War soldier and probably a member of several hunting trips with Daniel Boone. In the 1820s, he and his family remained in Rowan County (later Davie County), unlike the families of Henry Nail and Thomas Ray families, who moved to Shelby Co., IN.

We will visit Old Salem in Winston-Salem, NC, and Salisbury, NC. We will have two bus tours. One will be a tour of the historical sites of Davie Co., NC, associated with John Nail (the oldest son of Caleb Nail) and Revolutionary War sites in Davie County. We will also visit other sites of interest to our Nail and Ray families, including a surviving segment of the Great Wagon Road and a road that Daniel Boone surveyed. The other bus tour will combine a visit to the Guilford Courthouse Military Park, the site of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse during the Revolutionary War, and a tour of Randolph County to visit the area where Thomas Ray lived before moving to Rowan County in the 1810s and the site of the Bell's Mill skirmish, in which Thomas participated. It is possible that both John Nail and Thomas Ray participated in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse as members of the North Carolina Militia.

How To Get There

Mocksville is located approximately 25 miles southeast of Winston-Salem, NC, on Interstate 40. Winston-Salem is easily accessible via Interstates 40, 77, and 85. It is served by the Piedmont Triad International Airport, located about 25 miles from Winston-Salem, NC.

Where To Stay (Please be sure to identify yourself as part of the Nail-Ray Family Group)

In Winston-Salem: For the Winston-Salem portion of our meeting, you can stay in Mocksville or in Winston-Salem. The choice is yours. In Winston-Salem, for June 5 and 6, 2007, we have reserved a block of rooms at The Hawthorne Inn & Conference Center, 420 High Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 800-972-3774 or 336-777-3000, www.hawthorneinn.com. The rate is \$79.00 for a standard room and \$119.00 for a suite. A continental breakfast is included, but a full-service restaurant is also available for breakfast. **If you decide to stay at the Hawthorne Inn, you must make your reservations before May 3, 2007, and let them know that you are part of the Nail-Ray Association. Please note the date is May 3, 2007.** (If you miss this deadline, you can make reservations in Mocksville for a couple of weeks. Mocksville is about 25 miles from Winston-Salem.)

In Mocksville: Our "headquarters" motel will be the Comfort Inn and Suites, 629 Madison Rd., Mocksville, NC. We have reserved a block of rooms from June 5 through June 10, 2007. It is just off of I-40, at exit 170, in Mocksville. Please call 1-336-751-5966 (they do not have an 800 number) and make your reservations. The rooms are \$64.99 per night plus tax. We have a block of rooms reserved at this reduced price for the group so please let them know that you are part of the Nail-Ray Group. All rooms include a continental breakfast, and "wifi" or modem is also available. **Please make your reservations at the Comfort Inn before May 30, 2007, and let them know that you are part of the Nail-Ray Association.**

The Festivities Begin in Winston-Salem with a tour of Old Salem, Wednesday June 6

For those who can arrive in the area by evening of June 5, we have a special treat, a day-long visit to Old Salem in Winston-Salem. We can tour individually, but we can also arrange a couple of group tours---here are the possible costs: The "All in One Experience" (4-6 hours) is \$17 per ticket for 14 people or more and \$20 per ticket for fewer than 13 people. The Tannenberg Organ Recital is \$8.00 for 20 or more or \$6.00 with another Old Salem ticket purchase; the recital is 45 minutes long, and the price includes the history and a recital by a professional organist. The Museum of Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) takes about 1 and 1/2 hours and is \$11.00 for 14 people or more or \$12.00 for fewer than 14 people; the ticket price includes admission to the Toy Museum. Please let me know how many in your family will be coming and what tours (if any) people would like to take. I will let you know about the third week of May how much to send to me for the tours, when I know how many will attend. The web site for Old Salem is <http://www.oldsalem.org/>.

Tour of Randolph County and the Guilford Courthouse Military Park, Thursday June 7

Thursday we have planned a bus tour to Randolph County to visit the area where the Ray, Byerly, and Briles families lived. Our first stop on our way to Randolph County will be the grave of Jacob Byerly and his wife Mary at Beck's Church in Davidson County. The Briles family appears to be the family of Mary Brals, wife of Philip Byerly and mother of Margaret Byerly and John Byerly, who married Hutson Ray and Gilly Ray, respectively. Next we will drive through land near the Uwharrie River where Thomas Ray, John Ray, and others owned land. We will also visit the site of the reservoir covering the site of Bell's Mill skirmish in which Thomas Ray participated, and then we will head for the Guilford Courthouse Military Park to learn about one of the important battles of the Revolutionary War, in which American Forces under the command of Gen. Nathaniel Green fought those of General Cornwallis. Few records remain of who in the North Carolina Militia fought in this battle, but it is likely that John Nail and others from the Rowan County Militia took part. Thomas Ray may have also been there because he was involved in the skirmish at Bell's Mill just the day before. After visiting the military park, we will have supper at the Libby Hill Seafood Restaurant near the military park. Recommended reading: *The Road to Guilford Courthouse: The American Revolution in the Carolinas* by John Buchanan, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1997 (in paperback). Recommended movie: *The Patriots*. A web site is available about Bell's Mill at <http://home.earthlink.net/~glstrader/index.html>. The web site for the Guilford Courthouse Military Park is <http://www.nps.gov/guco/>.

Tour of Davie County Sites Associated with John Nail, the Revolutionary War, etc., Friday June 8

Our bus tour of Davie County will be conducted, in part, by Aubrey Wensil, President of the Davie County Historical Society, and assisted by Janie Swaringen and Fred and Ann Rich and David Ross. We will be visiting the Heidelberg Cemetery (the site of the old Heidelberg Church where the Nail family worshipped and was baptized and buried in the 1700s and early 1800s), a surviving segment of the Great Wagon Road (on which some of our ancestors came to North Carolina), several sites with Revolutionary War significance, the Joppa Cemetery where Daniel Boone's parents are buried (and maybe unknown members of the Nail family), and other sites of interest to our families, including the land granted to Caleb Nail, Garden Gate Vineyards located on or near land that Thomas Ray owned around 1820 and near land that Jacob Keller was granted, and land that John Nail (son of Caleb) owned. After the tour, we will have a North Carolina barbeque dinner prepared by the local barbeque chef Dean Allen. It will be held in the fellowship hall of the Cornatzer United Methodist Church (1244 Cornatzer Road---travel Highway 64 east from Mocksville to Cornatzer Road, turn left; church is 3 miles). At this dinner, we will also have a talk presented by Mr. James W. Wall, the author of the *History of Davie County*. Recommended reading: *The Great Wagon Road from Philadelphia to the South* by Parke Rouse, Jr., 1992 (available in paperback); *History of Davie County* by James W. Wall (available from the Mocksville Public Library); and Eleanor Neumayer's article on the Nail and Boone Families, which will be available at the meeting.

Annual Business Meeting and Tour of Salisbury, NC, Saturday June 9

So that we can maximize the time we spend on our tour of Salisbury, we'll have our annual business meeting at 9:00 a.m. in a room in the Mocksville Public Library. Afterward we will tour Salisbury, NC, the county seat of Rowan County where the Nails probably went to buy needed supplies and sell the products of their farming. Included in our tour Saturday will be a visit to the Old English Cemetery, which was the site of the Salisbury Goal/Jail at which John Nail served guard duty as a member of the North Carolina militia. His guard duty is the only surviving documentary evidence that John Nail served in the Revolutionary War. After this visit, you are free to tour Salisbury on your own or come on group tours, including a tour of the Braun House (a wonderful stone house built about 1760 by Michael Braun, a German immigrant) and a tour of the Rowan Museum. The transportation museum is also quite good. We will have dinner at the Wrenn House, 115 South Jackson, St., in Salisbury at 6:30 p.m.; its web site is <http://www.thewrennhouse.com/home.htm>.

Church at the Cornatzer United Methodist Church, Mocksville, Sunday (June 10)

We will attend services at 11 a.m. at the Cornatzer United Methodist Church (1244 Cornatzer Road---travel Highway 64 east from Mocksville to Cornatzer Road, turn left; church is 3 miles).

Gift to the Mocksville Public Library in memory of Eleanor Neumayer. Eleanor Neumayer, one of the planners of the first Nail-Ray Meeting in North Carolina, passed away on January 31, 2007. Eleanor was very active in planning our first visit to Davie County in 1987. Several of us are planning to make a donation to the Mocksville Public Library in her honor. Please consider joining us by also making a contribution. We will have more information about this at the business meeting.

RESERVATION FORM (deadline May 5/18/07)

Number		Sub-total
_____	Nail-Ray Dues for 2007, \$10.00 per mailing address	\$ _____
_____	Old Salem, Wednesday, June 6 (need head count, send \$ later)	
_____	Admission (see above)	
_____	Organ Recital (see above)	
_____	Museum of Southern Decorative Arts (see above)	
_____	Tour Bus Trip to Randolph County and Guilford Courthouse Park, Thursday, June 7 (Bus = \$30.00 per person)	\$ _____
_____	Tour Bus Trip of Davie County and Barbeque Dinner, Friday, June 8	
_____	Bus = \$30.00 per person	\$ _____
_____	Dinner = \$11.00 per person	\$ _____
_____	Tour of Salisbury, Saturday, June 9	
_____	Braun house admission fees = \$2.50 per person	\$ _____
_____	Rowan Museum admission fee = \$2.50 per person	\$ _____
_____	Dinner at the Wrenn House (\$20.50 per person)	\$ _____
	Total Amount Enclosed	\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail this form and a check (made out to the Nail-Ray Association) to...

Janet Ross, Treasurer
Nail-Ray Association
7788 Ballston Dr.
Springfield, VA 22153-2302
e-mail: jmorganross@juno.com