

Rural Hill's Amazing Maize Maze

Special Bulletin - October 2011

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What do 7,000 feet of trail, 466 individual turns, 125 intersections, 32 days of fun, 12 hidden map pieces, 7 acres of corn and 4 "levels" add up to?

Answer: ONE BIG MAZE!

Rural Hill's Amazing Maize Maze is now open weekends through November 6 with Family Friendly Friday Flashlight Mazes on every Friday in October and the first Friday in November. Come visit the giant seven acre maze of corn, relying only on your group of friends and/or family to navigate your way out.

It is "cornfusion" with approximately two and a half miles of pathways in a working corn field. The Amazing Maize Maze challenges your skills as you look for mailboxes containing clues, "Kernels of Knowledge," and of course, the Victory Bridge that leads to the exit. With Rural Hill volunteers and staff available to help when needed, the Amazing Maize Maze is designed to be navigated in 1-2 hours.

The Rural Hill Amazing Maize Maze is an imaginative use of a corn field so comfortable shoes are suggested. Water stations are on site and visitors are permitted to bring in their own food and beverages. Vendors will be onsite with snacks, ice cream, soft drinks and water available for purchase. Hayrides and inflatable fun are available for a small charge on Saturdays and Sundays.

Additional activities scheduled on select weekends include "Cabin Days" at the 1760's homestead featuring demonstrations of 18th century skills such as open-hearth cooking, blacksmithing, cabin building and more. Please visit www.ruralhill.net for full details.

Admission for ages 13+ is \$10 per person and youth ages 5-12 are \$7 per person. Children 4 and under are admitted free of charge. Tickets may be purchased in advance via www.ruralhill.net.



NEW! Rural Hill presents SEVEN and SEVEN October 15

7k run + 7 acres of corn = 1 great race! Presented by McIntosh Law Firm, the unique distance of a seven kilometer trail run plus the mental challenge of a seven acre corn maze will challenge the body and mind. The race will begin at 9:30 AM and finish across the "victory bridge" of Rural Hill's Amazing Maize Maze.

The 7k will travel around the course of Historic Rural Hill's Trail System, crossing over grassy open fields, through thick woodlands, and skirting along the edge of Mountain Island Lake. Upon their return runners have the option of being re-orientated to the maze rules or simply advancing (time will not be stopped for orientation.) From there it is the runner's task to complete the seven acre challenge by searching for all 12 mailboxes hidden within. These mailboxes contain pieces of the map which will guide the runner out of the maze and onward to victory!

Not ready to race? No worries, we need volunteers to help man the checkpoints! All volunteers will be given a free pass to a day maze to use at their leisure!

Registration and more information can be found at www.ruralhill.net.



The Amazing Maize Maze - How is it Made?

With help from our partners at the American Maze Company, each year an aerial flyover helps to plot the trails needed to create our Amazing Maize Maze for the season's theme. Then it is hours and hours of hard work in the heat to convert our corn fields into fun for you. The best part...we love what we do and we are excited for everyone to visit Rural Hill!

Full event information and advance tickets are available online at www.ruralhill.net

Fellowship Challenge 2011



Rural Hill hosted its annual "Fellowship Challenge" on Tuesday, August 30. The Fellowship Challenge is a time of fun and fundraising for charities, and also allows Rural Hill to test the quality of its Amazing Maize Maze and the ability for the puzzle to be solved. Members of the area's tourism programs, parks & recreation departments, destination organizations and members of the media were invited to compete in teams to complete the Maze to earn money for a favorite team charity. The top three time-finishing teams in each category are able to donate their winnings to their favorite local non-profit charity. First Prize: \$500; Second Prize: \$300; Third Prize: \$200.

The winners of the 2011 Fellowship Challenge were: First Place completing the Maze with a time of 28 minutes – the Huntersville Park & Recreation Team comprised of Steven Roberson, Sierra Davenport, Scott Treon, Michael Jaycocks and Ben Benshoof playing for Angels and Sparrows Soup Kitchen; Second Place with a time of one hour and three minutes – the Visit Lake Norman Team comprised of Cyndi Cearbaugh, Courtney Wolfram, Mark Cearbaugh, Lori Kasprzak, and Huntington Daley playing for Historic Rural Hill; and Third Place with a time of one hour and five minutes - Huntersville Connection & The Huntersville Herald Team comprised of Lynn Marshall, Phyllis Rozzelle, Chris Churchill, Cindy Dorman, Jill Swain, April Rozzelle, Melissa Spinelli and Tammy Rojas playing for Historic Rural Hill.

Other teams that participated in the Fellowship Challenge included Latta Plantation Nature Center, Mooresville Tribune, Country Suites of Lake Norman, The McIntosh Law Firm, Carolina Raptor Center, Courtyard – Lake Norman, McDowell Nature Center and Residence Inn.

Thank you to all who volunteered and participated in a great afternoon of fellowship and fun!



About Rural Hill

Rural Retreat, as it was first established, was the homestead of Major John and Violet Davidson. John Davidson served in the American Revolution and was one of the original signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. The small homestead ultimately developed into a thriving plantation. Today, Rural Hill is a restoration in progress. There are 265 acres of magnificent rural vistas, farm animals and walking trails throughout the site.

Rural Hill is open to the public Monday through Saturday and offers a variety of activities such as guided tours, self-guided walking tours, many education programs and our two and a half mile hiking trail.

Reservations are encouraged. *Please note:* These activities may be suspended during our special events that are held throughout the year.

For a complete calendar of events, please visit us at www.ruralhill.net. or give us a call - 704.875.3113.



Rural Hill extends a special

THANK YOU

to its Community Partners:

**Bojangles, McIntosh Law Firm,
Mountain Khakis, Comfort Suites,
Highland Brewing Company, Eno,
Fairfield Inn, The Kilted Buffalo,
Town of Huntersville,
Mecklenburg County Parks &
Recreation, The Real Yellow
Pages, Midas Spring Water,
Hauser Rental, Bubba's BBQ,
EyeBenders Media, and Lynn
Ladder and Scaffolding.**



Rural Hill's Amazing Maize Maze

Now through November 6, 2011

www.ruralhill.net

- Open Friday 10 AM – 5 PM and 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Saturday and Sunday 10 AM - 6:30 PM.
- “Flashlight Mazes” held Fridays through November 4. Tickets are available at 6:30 PM and will be sold to all in line by 8:30 PM. BRING YOUR OWN FLASHLIGHT!
- Daytime admission: \$10 for ages 13+ and \$7 for ages 5-12. Children ages 4 and under are free.
- Admission for the Flashlight Maze: \$15 for ages 13+ and \$10 for ages 5-12. Children ages 4 and under are free.

Tickets may be purchased in advance
via the website or at the gate



John Taggart photos

Historic Rural Hill

Celebrating 250 years in 2010-2011, Rural Hill is located at 4431 Neck Road (off Beatties Ford Road) in Huntersville, 28078. The former homestead of Major John and Violet Davidson, the 265 acre site is maintained and promoted by Rural Hill, Inc. and features annual events such as the Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games, the Rural Hill Amazing Maize Maze and the Rural Hill Sheep Dog Trials. Rural Hill, Inc. is a non-profit organization supported through membership and donations, and with proceeds from its events utilized for the preservation of historic Rural Hill and its education efforts. For more information on events or for financial support accepted securely online, please visit www.ruralhill.net.

