



October 30, 2018

For Immediate Release

Contact: 704.875.3113 or office@ruralhill.com

Rural Hill Welcomes Two New Members to Its Board

Huntersville, NC: Historic Rural Hill is honored to announce the addition of two new members to its Board of Directors. Bill Gaither and Maren Werts have joined the leadership team for the historic venue owned by Mecklenburg Country and managed by Rural Hill Inc. The 265-acre site is part of what was a 12,000-acre estate. Major John Davidson, a member of the militia during the Revolutionary War, acquired the property in 1765 named it Rural Hill. The property now hosts annual festivals and events including the Loch Norman Highland Games, Amazing Maize Maze, North Carolina Brewers and Music Festival, and Sheepdog Trials & Dog Festival in addition to cultural offerings and living history demonstrations.

Rural Hill Chairman of the Board Robert McIntosh notes, "The addition of Bill and Maren will make our Board more responsive to the needs of Historic Rural Hill while helping our programming continue to appeal to a broad cross-section of the people we are trying to serve. They both have the energy, drive, and insight to continue Rural Hill as a premier destination for cultural events."

Bill Gaither served as CEO, President, and part owner of the now-named American Tire Distributors. The company was sold in 1999 and he continued as Chairman of the Board for approximately one year. In 2003 Bill launched Feetures, a high-end sock company, along with his cousin, Hugh Gaither. Bill works as a commercial broker and Senior Commercial Advisor with Newport Properties, a real estate business owned by his wife, Kate. He joined Team Newport in 2006 to serve the Lake Norman region, which is one of the most popular and rapidly growing areas in North Carolina.



Maren Tallent Werts is a Cornelius native and attorney practicing with Church Watson law in the area of family law. A member of MENSA, Maren graduated from UNC Chapel Hill with a bachelors in English and Interpersonal Communications, and later with her law degree. Maren has served on the boards of the Davidson Community Players, the Lake Norman Community Health Clinic, Cornelius Cultural Arts Group, and the Lake Norman Chamber Young Professionals. In addition to her legal work, Maren owns a thriving art business marentallent.com.



Celebrating more than 250 years in history...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 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.com.

###