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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GATHERING IN THE GARDENS**  
**A Sumptuous Spring Evening in the Tryon Palace Gardens**

NEW BERN, NC --- Appetizers, desserts, entertainment, and incomparable décor set the stage for the 2008 Gathering in the Gardens at Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens on Friday evening, May 9th from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. The event, which will be held on the Palace's South Lawn, is an annual fundraiser for the Tryon Palace Council of Friends.

“We want everyone to know this event is open to the public. It’s going to be a casual, fun evening with great food and music,” says Charles Deigert, event chair. “Last year the Gathering in the Gardens attracted over 300 attendees and we’re going to increase that number this year. The support from local restaurants and businesses is outstanding!”

Area restaurants, caterers, stores and distributors donate appetizers, desserts and beverages. A wide variety of musicians donate their services, as well. This year AccuCopy donated printing services. All funds raised will go towards special programming at the Palace.

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Tickets are available from committee members and at the Tryon Palace Visitor Center, Cooks and Connoisseurs, Fraser's Wine and Cheese and Mitchell Hardware. A limited number of tickets will be available the night of the event. For further information, contact Karen O'Connell at 514-4933 or [koconnell@tryonpalace.org](mailto:koconnell@tryonpalace.org).

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Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, located in New Bern, N.C., is an agency of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources. Tickets and tour information are available at the visitor center located at the corner of George and Pollock streets. The visitor center and the first floor of Tryon Palace are accessible to visitors with disabilities. For directions and further information about special events, programs or group tours, phone 800.767.1560, 252.514.4900 or check out our web site: [www.tryonpalace.org](http://www.tryonpalace.org)