



Fall 2023

HISTORY MATTERS

Fall 2023

Message from the President.....

After serving several terms as your President, I admit it. I was burned out. Thank heavens for Ed Malowney who stepped up and brought some fresh ideas and a more business-like approach to the Historical Society. The next time you see Ed, please thank him for what he has done and continues to do for the Society. I know he would appreciate a few high fives. He deserves them.



While Ed was President, I enjoyed working behind the scenes on several projects that are very special to me. One of them is Wreaths Across America. With the Patriots of Liberty Chapter of the DAR taking the lead, this year on December 16th, we will place fresh holiday wreaths on the graves of veterans buried in eight local cemeteries: Resthaven, Old Big Creek, Big Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Pineview, Rogers-Bell, Pleasant Hill, Providence Baptist Church, and the Maxwell Family Cemetery. I encourage you to use the order form *provided in this issue* to purchase a wreath or two. To accomplish our goal, we will also need volunteers to transport wreaths to the cemeteries, lay them on the graves, and pick them back up after the holidays. To find out more about Wreaths Across America or volunteer opportunities, email Jennifer Boren at jboren52@gmail.com.

Thanks to the City of Alpharetta and a little financial assistance from the Historical Society, the wall surrounding the grave of Susan Key Camp Garrison and her husband Russell Davis Garrison is being repaired. When Susan died in 1861, the City of Alpharetta was only three years old. It did not yet have a cemetery, so Susan's father, Arthur Tarpley Camp, donated land to the City for a burial ground. Susan was the first person to be buried in Resthaven. Russell, who died in the Civil War, was the fourth. In addition to repairing the wall, the City is placing some decorative benches and planters in the cemetery. What a wonderful way to honor those who came before us. See pictures of the work in progress further down in this issue.

Interestingly, Susan's sister-in-law, Savilla Charles Garrison, is involved in another one of my special projects. Savilla was the wife of Eli McConnell. I'm part of a small group of concerned citizens working to preserve Savilla and Eli's 1840's home on Arnold Mill Road. So far, our efforts have resulted in the McConnell-Chadwick house being selected by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation for its 2023 Places in Peril list. Many thanks to Larry Chadwick, current owner of the house, for his help and support for this important preservation project. I'll keep you posted on our progress.

AOMCHS was scheduled to sponsor issue debates for the upcoming Alpharetta municipal election. Once again, we were partnering with Appen Media and the Alpharetta Business Association. Plans were

cancelled when, to our surprise, none of the incumbents, including the Mayor, drew opposition. There was one open position on the City Council, but only one person qualified for that post. That being the case, Alpharetta has canceled its municipal election.

At their August 21st meeting, the Mayor and City Council unanimously approved a new Memorandum of Understanding between the City and AOMCHS. Ten days later, Jackie Angel and I signed it on behalf of the Historical Society. We are indeed fortunate to have a City government that is so supportive of what we do. I look forward to our continued partnership. Special thanks to Kim Manning and Ed Malowney who worked together to ensure that we have an agreement that truly benefits both the City and the Historical Society.

Lynn Sickeler, our Program Chairperson, has planned an exciting mixture of traditional programs and field trips. October's program will feature a panel of longtime residents who have agreed to share with us their memories of growing up in the area and of watching its many changes. Please join us on October 19th at the Log Cabin. Bring some memories of your own and perhaps a friend or two.

*~Pat Miller
AOMCHS President*

CORRECTION:

Apologies to Ben Hollingsworth who was left off the list of the 2023-2024 AOMCHS Board of Directors in the last newsletter. Ben is serving as the Publicity Chair.

Alpharetta/AOMCHS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)



The MOU between the city of Alpharetta and the Society was signed and made official on August 21, 2023 in the city council chambers. This agreement will guide our partnership with the city for the next ten years.

*Pictured: Jackie Angel,
AOMCHS Secretary and
Pat Miller, AOMCHS President*

(Photo courtesy of James Drinkard, Alpharetta Asst. City Administrator)

Upcoming Programs – Fall 2023

Members and visitors are all invited!

October 19, 2023 at the Log Cabin, 7pm

Alpharetta Like It Used to Be

Join us for stories and a question-and-answer program from a panel of people who are native to the Alpharetta area or are long-time residents. We'll have social time prior to the meeting and refreshments will be served also.

November 16, 2023 Field Trip to Roswell

Barrington and Bulloch Halls

Join us as we visit these historic homes in the scenic center of Roswell. We'll meet at the Mansell House at 10:15am to carpool. The cost is \$16 for the docent-led guided tours. We'll enjoy lunch together after the tour. Lunch place to be announced at a later time. Be on the lookout for an RSVP email from Pat in November.

December 2023 at the Log Cabin

Holiday Luncheon

Join us for a meal and a good time at our annual holiday lunch. You don't want to miss eating the delicious food, socializing with friends and future friends, and seeing the Log Cabin decorated for the holidays! The date and time will be announced later.

From Our Past

This excerpt is taken from the June 1984 newsletter. Looks like food trucks aren't really a new thing 😊

The Ways and Means committee reports that our society will take the screen-enclosed flat-bed trailer, "The Good Eatin' Place" built by William Ferguson and named by Ann Ferguson, to Cumming, Georgia on the 4th of July. There we will park it on the east side of the courthouse for the entire day and attempt to sell sausage and biscuits, old fashioned fried apple pies, and Coca-Colas. Volunteer jobs are available (1) cashier (2) cooks (3) drink-box attendants and (4) salespersons. Perhaps we will replenish the Society's treasury with a really great day of sales. We need at least \$700 to finish paying for the Xerox copier we recently purchased.

Mansell House News

Jeannie Goodwin Announces Her Retirement

For many years Jeannie Goodwin, with a rotating group of volunteers, has managed the Mansell house. She's scheduled events, attended more weddings and birthday parties than she can count, and advised our guests on a variety of topics – everything from table settings to local caterers.

Jeannie has cared for the Mansell House as if it were her own home. Under the MOU, the Historical Society is only responsible for the house's interior, but Jeannie has made it a point to make certain that the City is aware of any exterior work that needs to be done.

For many years Jeannie has wanted to create a brides room. This year that goal was finally achieved as she oversaw the conversion of the space of our former archives room into a beautiful dressing area.

Jeannie formally announced that she will retire on December 31st. We congratulate her on a job well done and wish her all the best in retirement.

Great Part-time Job Available

Jeannie Goodwin's retirement has created a vacancy for a Mansell House Coordinator. We are looking for someone who can keep the Mansell House open to the public from 10:00am to 2:00pm two days a week. In addition to these 8 hours, this person will also be paid to attend Mansell House events, most of which will be on weekends. We also hope to hire some assistants who will attend events at the house when the Coordinator is not available.

If you have a flexible schedule, an interest in history, and a love of party planning, this could be the perfect job for you. If you're interested, please contact me at ptatumiller@gmail.com.

~Pat Miller

Happy Birthday!

October

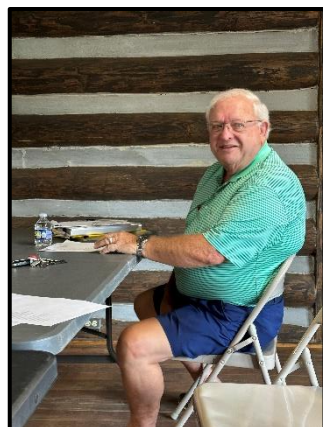
10/2 Cindy Hogan
10/5 Lynn Sickeler
10/9 Donna Loudermilk
10/10 Doug Ross
10/17 Michael Buchanan
10/17 Cynthia McAtee
10/18 Helene Cochran-
Jones
10/22 Janice Cronan
10/30 Connie Mashburn

November

11/10 Jackie Angel
11/10 Pat Miller
11/17 Dick Freeman
11/20 Joan Compton
11/20 Eugene Fouts
11/21 Buck Baillie
11/24 Charlie Reavis
11/25 Kim Woods

December

12/6 Tracie Mara
12/7 Carolyn Fouts
12/10 Deborah Eves
12/17 Sarah Drepaul
12/28 Marge Pierce
12/31 Carol Price



Ed Malowney had a birthday in August. He enjoyed being serenaded by Shack Lewis with a surprise saxophone version of *Happy Birthday* at the AOMCHS Board meeting.

(photos courtesy of Jackie Angel)

From the Historian

The J.J. Webb Building was constructed in 1910 at the northeast corner of North Main and Academy streets. Two mules, pulling a mill stone, were used to sand the hardwood floors. One observer said it took the mules two days to smooth the floor. In its early years it housed numerous businesses, including Shirley Brothers Mercantile, Milton County Bank, Weatherford Grocery, Hagood Grocery, Bates Grocery, and the medical practice of Dr. James Morris. A wide stairway led to the upstairs. At times, the top floor was used as an auditorium for community gatherings. If bad weather occurred during the Milton County Fair, the ribbon prize ceremony was held here. On weekends during the 1910s, the space was reserved for roller skating. In the early 1930s, C.P. Brady and his sons Ben and Loyal purchased the building which over time became known as the Brady Building. The family opened a gasoline station and auto repair shop. Later they offered a taxi service, although it was rarely used. Around 1950, the Brady family opened a Chevrolet dealership and created a one car showroom in space once used as an office. In the 1940s, Ben and Loyal obtained a military surplus vehicle which they fashioned into a fire truck. With considerable help from Brady employees and volunteers, Alpharetta's first volunteer fire department was established. The Brady brothers closed their businesses in the late 1960s. The building was razed and a bank was built on the vacant space.

~Connie Mashburn



J.J. Webb Building, North Main and Academy Streets

(photo courtesy of Billy Bates estate)



During the 1930s and early 1940s, the Brady family operated a duck pin bowling alley and pool hall in the upstairs space. It was a popular spot but was closed at the beginning of World War II. This original sign from the bowling alley is the property of Connie Mashburn. *(photo courtesy of Jackie Angel and Connie Mashburn)*

Member Spotlight

Pat Miller

Pat Miller has served four terms as president of the Alpharetta and Old Milton County Historical Society. She began her fifth term (non-consecutive) in July 2023. During her first presidencies, the Alpharetta and Old Milton County History Museum in Alpharetta's City Hall was completed and the MHS student built FFA Log Cabin was relocated from the grounds of the original Milton High School to Milton Avenue Park where it is now once again available to the community.

When she was born at Emory University Hospital in 1946, Pat Tatum became the sixth generation of her family to live in Atlanta. She spent most of her childhood in Brookhaven where she attended Brookhaven and Woodward Elementary schools and Cross Keys High School. Pat has a BA in Radio/Television Journalism from the University of Ga. Following her graduation from UGA, Pat went to work for WETV (now WABE-TV) and WABE-FM, the public television and radio stations owned by the Atlanta Board of Education. During her long public broadcasting career, she was a founding



member of the Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. She served as an officer of the organization and wrote the first two local Emmy telecasts.

In 1969, Pat married Fred Miller. They had one child, son Kirk. She is also the proud grandmother of two granddaughters, Sarah and Nora, about whom she can talk incessantly.

Prior to moving to North Fulton in 2014, Pat lived in Stone Mountain where she began her involvement with local history and genealogy. She served on the Board of the Stone Mountain Historical Society.

Pat's paternal grandfather Henson Tatum, and great grandfather Jesse Alphas Tatum, lived in Alpharetta.

Her great, great grandfather, Jesse Tatum, moved to the Roswell area in the 1840s. He and his wife Sarah are buried in the Old Roswell Cemetery. Shortly after Pat moved to North Fulton, she saw a newspaper notice inviting interested persons to attend a meeting about the cemetery. She very soon found herself heavily involved with the Roswell Historical Society that was working to restore the cemetery. At that same meeting, she

met Gwendolyn Dinsmore who was the Awards and Historical Markers Chairperson. Gwendolyn recommended Pat as her replacement on the RHS Board. Pat now writes the historical markers in both Roswell and Alpharetta. She has written the script for a tour of Roswell's African American Pleasant Hill Historical Cemetery, as well as the script for *Beyond My Stone*, a tour of the Old Roswell Cemetery.

Pat is also a member of the Johns Creek Historical Society and is a founding member of the Milton Historical Society. Pat's involvement with all these historical societies led her to form the North Fulton History Alliance which brings together the presidents of all the North Fulton historical societies to see how the organizations can work together. To date, the historical societies have produced two joint programs. The first celebrated the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. The other focused on Alpharetta's historic Bailey-Johnson School.

Other current projects include working with the Patriots of Liberty Chapter of the D.A.R. and Wreaths Across America to place holiday wreaths on the graves of veterans buried in Resthaven, Pineview, Old Big Creek and five other local cemeteries. Pat, who seems to love hanging out with dead people, is a trustee of Old Big Creek Cemetery and frequently teaches people how to correctly clean tombstones. This month, ACT1 Theater and AOMCHS join forces to present the *Restless in Resthaven* cemetery tour to call attention to Alpharetta's early history. Some of the proceeds will be reinvested in Resthaven.

Pat has been working with the developer who plans to preserve and re-purpose the historic Bailey-Johnson School. She is also a member of a small group of history lovers who have developed a plan to save the McConnell-Chadwick House in the City of Milton.

Wreaths Across America

This year on December 16th, the Alpharetta and Old Milton County Historical Society will join again with



(photo courtesy of Jackie Angel)

the Patriots of Liberty Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to participate in **Wreaths Across America**. All across the country holiday wreaths will be placed on veterans' graves to honor and remember those that have served in our military. Due to last year's generous support from our members and community, the Patriots of Liberty Chapter was able to add four new cemeteries for a total of eight in the North Fulton area. They are Rest Haven, Pineview, Old Big Creek, Big Creek Primitive Baptist, Pleasant Hill Baptist, Providence Baptist, Rogers Bell, and Maxwell cemeteries. Wreaths Across America is a national event that takes place on **Saturday, December 16th, at 12:00 noon**, here and across the United States. You are all invited to attend. The wreaths are now being sold at a cost is \$17 each. Your support of this worthy event is greatly needed and appreciated. Order using the form below by printing/ mailing to the address on the form. It is pre-filled with the DAR Group ID# and Location ID#. Online orders can be made by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code on the form.

If you would like to attend one of the wreath laying ceremonies on December 16th, please contact Historical Society member and Patriots of Liberty chapter member, Jennifer Boren, who is the WAA location coordinator, at jfboren52@gmail.com.

~Jennifer Boren



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

2023 Wreath Sponsorship Order Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local and community cemeteries each December for National Wreaths Across America Day.

Your donation will ensure the placement of a veteran's wreath for one or more veterans laid to rest at the participating location of your choice.

All sponsored veteran wreaths are shipped directly to the location selected by the sponsor on this form. Wreaths are not shipped to individual wreath

sponsors.

SPONSORSHIP TYPE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$17.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$68.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$170.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,700.00		

For quicker processing and the convenience of paying with a credit card, debit card, Google Pay, or PayPal, veteran wreaths may be sponsored online by scanning the QR Code above or by visiting: www.wreathscrossamerica.org/GA0270P

You should be the only one to enter your credit card information at checkout on the Wreaths Across America website. For your security, do not share this information with anyone else who offers to place an order for you. To verify the validity of the QR Code, always check that wreathscrossamerica.org is part of the web address when sponsoring wreaths online.

If you prefer to pay with a check, please complete this form and mail it along with your check to Wreaths Across America at the address listed in the box above.

Please make checks payable to:
Wreaths Across America
 PO Box 249
 Columbia Falls, ME 04623

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.
 Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in
 our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

CHECK #		CHECK DATE		SPONSOR NAME FOR DISPLAY <i>If different than name on check.</i>	
GROUP ID(s)	GA0270P			EMAIL ADDRESS	
LOCATION ID(s)	GARHCA			PHONE #	
DOLLAR AMOUNTS(s)				MAILING ADDRESS	

To split your donation between multiple groups and/or locations, please list the IDs and dollar amounts for each.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Please note in memory/honor of requests do not place a wreath on a specific loved one's grave.

Thank you for supporting our mission to REMEMBER, HONOR, and TEACH!

IN MEMORY OF REQUEST	The "In Memory Of" Name will be listed on the Wreaths Across America online Remember Wall, along with your personal message.
NAME FOR MEMORY WALL POST	
SPONSOR EMAIL ADDRESS	
MESSAGE (optional)	

IN HONOR OF REQUEST	An email will be sent to your chosen recipient from Wreaths Across America letting them know of your donation of sponsored veteran wreaths in their honor.
RECIPIENT NAME	
RECIPIENT EMAIL ADDRESS	
MESSAGE (optional)	

Constitution Week

The Log Cabin was decorated for Constitution Week by the Patriots of Liberty Chapter of the D.A.R. who held their monthly meeting there. In addition to meetings, the Cabin is available for use by the community. We've hosted family reunions, Milton High class reunions, quilting classes, scout troop meetings, and other similar gatherings. We hope you'll consider booking the Log Cabin for your next event. To view and reserve the Log Cabin, please contact Jim Spruell at 678-517-8476 or jimspruell@gmail.com



The Patriots of Liberty Chapter enjoyed using the Log Cabin for their September meeting featuring Constitution Week. Johns Creek Mayor John Bradberry attended and commented on what a jewel the cabin was. The DAR expressed thanks to the AOMCHS for allowing them to use the cabin for this special occasion.

Johns Creek Mayor John Bradberry presents Constitution Day Proclamation to DAR Regent Debra Kielly at the Log Cabin.

(photos courtesy of Jennifer Boren)





The city of Alpharetta Cultural Services Department has a wealth of information about local history. Be sure to check it out!

- Historical Online Tour Story Map of Alpharetta History – take a look at Alpharetta’s History and Historical Markers through an online interactive story map at:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f37f45610ba94828a4029e81f3e92462>
- Much more Alpharetta history can be found at:
<https://www.alpharetta.ga.us/government/departments/recreation-parks/cultural-services/alpharetta-history>
- The Cultural Services Department/AOMCHS is looking to add to the Story Map tour and is looking for help gathering any information on the following. Anything that the public has to share would be greatly appreciated. The locations are:
 - Pineview Cemetery
 - The Spence House
 - Old Milton courthouse
 - Any other historical information or photos about any/all of the sites listed on the online tour (see link above) would be greatly appreciated.
- The Cultural Services Department is giving the information area at the Crabapple Silos a much-needed facelift. Any information the community might have in regard to the old farm property or the history of the Silos would be great to add to our research for this project.



If you have information to share, please email ptatummiller@gmail.com

Upcoming Camps at the Log Cabin

Camp registration can be found here: <https://www.alpharetta.ga.us/government/departments/recreation-parks>

Youth and Teen Art Classes

FIBER PAINTING with Sarika Jaswani

One day fiber painting workshop. You will learn to make art with yarn on the flat surface to result in a “yarn painting”.
Materials included.

AGE: 7–12

COST: \$45 Resident/\$67.50 Non-Resident

DATE:	DAY:	TIME:	ACTIVITY #:
Nov 11	Sat	2–3:30pm	31490
Dec 2	Sat	2–3:30pm	31473

Teen and Adult Art Classes

FUN WITH FIBER With Sarika Jaswani

"Fun with Fiber" is a program spread over 7 weeks that includes learning of beginning, intermediate to advanced level of crochet course with guidance from American Craft council certified instructor.

AGE: 13+

COST: \$50 Resident/\$75 Non-Resident

FEE: \$25 supply fee payable to instructor at first day of class

DATE:	DAY:	TIME:	ACTIVITY #:
Jan 6–Feb 17	Sat	1:15–2:15pm	31458

HOLIDAY CARDS & ORNAMENTS with Greg Stone

'Tis the season getting cozy by the fire with family and friends, decorations, and sharing moments with loved ones. In this workshop with Stone Dairy Press Print Club, learn the basics of carving linoleum and using stamps to create custom holiday cards and paper ornaments! No printmaking experience necessary. Materials included.

AGE: 8–15

COST: \$50 Resident/\$75 Non-Resident

DATE:	DAY:	TIME:	ACTIVITY #:
Dec 7	Thu	5–7:30pm	31467

Performing Arts – Youth/Teen and Adults

IRISH MUSIC & DANCE FOR KIDS!

A fun way to start learning more about instrumental folk music and dance. We will start learning the Irish tin whistle, the bodhrán (Irish drum), and sing traditional Irish songs. All music is taught by ear. We'll also explore Irish myths, the Irish language, and the basics steps of Irish dancing.

AGE: 8–11

FEE: \$12 supply fee payable to instructor at first day of class

COST: \$175 Resident/\$262.50 Non-Resident (7 sessions)

DATE:	DAY:	TIME:	ACTIVITY #:
Jan 8–Mar 4 (skip 1/15, 2/19)	Mon	6–6:45pm	31546

IRISH MUSIC CLASS FOR FIDDLE, FLUTE, PIANO

This is a class for musicians that play violin, flute, or piano and are interested in learning traditional Irish music. Music is taught both by ear and with sheet music. Students will build a basic tune repertoire of jigs, reels, etc. while learning standard ornamentation. At the end, students will be able to play an Irish session or Ceili dance. You must bring your own instrument.

AGE: 12+

COST: \$175 Resident/\$262.50 Non-Resident (7 sessions)

DATE:	DAY:	TIME:	ACTIVITY #:
Jan 8–Mar 4 (skip 1/15, 2/19)	Mon	7–7:50pm	31446

CÉILÍ DANCING: SOCIAL DANCE FOR ADULTS

Ceili Dance is a form of social dancing for teens and adults. Join us to learn the most popular dances such as The Walls of Limerick, Siege of Ennis, Haymaker's Jig, etc. Some dances are with two lines, a line of women facing men and other dances are performed in a circle. A fun and popular form of social dancing in America and Ireland for all ages.

AGE: 16+

COST: \$175 Resident/\$262.50 Non-Resident (7 sessions)

DATE:	DAY:	TIME:	ACTIVITY #:
Jan 8–Mar 4 (skip 1/15, 2/19)	Mon	8–9pm	31450

Scenes from Camps at the Log Cabin



Preservation News

Two Alpharetta Historic Designations in One Night!

On Thursday, September 14, 2023, two historic homes in Alpharetta moved from the Contributing list to become Designated Historic Structures under the Historic Preservation Incentive Ordinance.

The Earl Wood House at 531 South Main St built in 1919.

and...

The Gardner House at 133 Cumming St built between 1915 – 1930.

Simply put, the Historic Preservation Incentive Ordinance, enacted in 2015, grants various incentives to property owners and developers in Alpharetta to agree to restore and preserve, essentially forever, these old homes. There were 55, now 53, properties on the Contributing list. There were 5, now 7, properties on the Designated List.

The Wood House

The interesting part is re-telling some of the wonderful stories of lives spent in these magical homes from Alpharetta's past. That's where Connie Mashburn comes into the picture. At the meeting, Connie recognized Linda Snelson, the granddaughter of Earl Wood. Earl Wood purchased the property in 1926. Earl Wood's 3rd great grandfather was Henry Wood 1, the Revolutionary War vet. Henry Wood 2, Earl Wood's 2nd great grandfather moved his family to the Alpharetta area in the 1830s.

Linda had previously donated a copy of the deed to the Society which showed that the 38-acre property sold for \$9,000. As a young girl, Linda remembers propping her bare feet on the front porch rail and looking out at rolling pastures.

Having just gathered eggs, Earl Wood shows off his filled basket. The white, two-story house still stands today. It's located on the north side of S. Main Street, south of Wills Road. (Photo courtesy of Linda Snelson)



Shelling peas on the back porch are, left to right, J.W. Burgess, Mae Burgess, Lounett Shaw Burgess (back to camera), Gail Burgess, Louvenia Weatherford Burgess, Talmage Burgess, and John R. Shaw. (photo courtesy of Howard and Elsie Knight)



Wood House today – front elevation (Photo courtesy of Shack Lewis)



Wood House – restoration rendering (courtesy of Shack Lewis)

The Gardner House

The property surrounding the Gardner House was purchased by Emiline Gardner in 1907. Her son, Sherman Gardner, built the home from timber harvested from the property. Sherman owned a cotton gin on Milton Ave. before serving as the Alpharetta Police Chief in the 1940's.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Lautrell Gardner, Sherman's daughter-in-law, prior to the meeting. She had quite a few stories to tell and it was difficult to keep up with her! One story that I found interesting is how the house was built. After the timber was harvested, it was hauled to be milled in Marietta. Lautrell said that Sherman was so particular that he had a special barn built on Cumming St. where the wood was

allowed to cure for two years. Knots in the wood were strictly prohibited. Three of the Gardner women lived in the loft of the barn while the house was being built.



Gardner House today—front elevation (photo courtesy of Shack Lewis)



Gardner House – restoration rendering (photo courtesy of Shack Lewis)

For more technical info about these 2 projects, see <https://alpharettaga.portal.civicclerk.com/event/2925/files>

For more historical information about historic properties, come visit with us at the Log Cabin and tour our archives and library.

~Shack Lewis

Shack is the AOMCHS vice president, vice chair of the Alpharetta Historical Preservation Commission, and a local Realtor and musician.

Out and About in Alpharetta with Ben Hollingsworth

In the last newsletter, Ben asked “Can you name these influential Alpharetta residents?”

The answer was Carroll and Frances Byers who were significant in the business of downtown Alpharetta. Congrats to the two people who got the answer correct! The first email was from **Linda Mansell Martin**. The second to get the correct answer was **Lynna Lee**. Each had a very interesting personal connection.

Carroll owned a furniture store on Alpharetta Highway near Sun Valley. The building he rented for his furniture store was on property owned by Linda Mansell Martin's dad. Lynna Lee worked at Arbor Terrace Assisted Living when Carroll was a resident there.

Frances owned the Cotton House, also selling furniture and accessories. She had a vision for the future of downtown Alpharetta. She bought the Oliver, Waters, and McCollum buildings on Milton Avenue because she wanted to preserve these rundown buildings by updating the facades. She added a brick storefront with wood trim in a Williamsburg style. She wanted to create a model for storefronts in downtown Alpharetta. Not long afterward, the City created codes that renovations and new construction had to follow these styles.



This quarter’s question from Ben is “*What is the significance of the name of this street that intersects Old Milton Parkway near downtown? The street name is Kingry Lane.*”



Send your answers to Ben at bhollart@comcast.net Get the answer right and you’ll get a “shout out” in our next newsletter!

~Ben Hollingsworth

Membership Programs

Summer Recap

July 2023

Bailey-Johnson Basketball State Champions Ring Ceremony, Alpharetta City Hall



When the Bailey-Johnson school basketball team won the Georgia Interscholastic Association Class-B State Championship in 1965, there was very little hoopla. Bailey-Johnson, which opened in 1950 as the Alpharetta Colored School, served Black students in 1st through 12th grade until Fulton County Schools were desegregated in 1967. So, 58 years later, a group of people including Lamar Jones of Monk's Painting, Tom Bower of Clipper Petroleum, retired coach John Cohen, the Alpharetta and Old Milton County Historical Society, and the city of Alpharetta decided it was time for that hoopla. Members



of the team and a large audience gathered on July 17th at the Alpharetta City Hall to see the team members receive state championship rings and letter sweaters. After the ceremony, the group gathered in the Community Room for a reception hosted by AOMCHS. Later, Pat Miller, AOMCHS President who has done extensive research on the Bailey-Johnson school, said "I think that's the most fun people have ever had in the city council chambers!"

~Jackie Angel

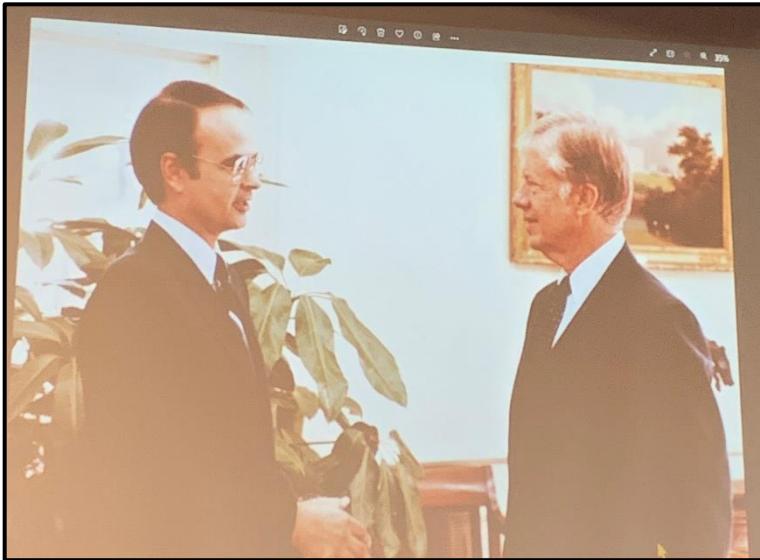
*Pictured upper left: Pat Miller addressing the group
Pictured left: Charles Grogan accepting his championship ring
Pictured below: members of the 1965 Bailey-Johnson team
(photos courtesy of Mary Jo Malowney)*



August 2023

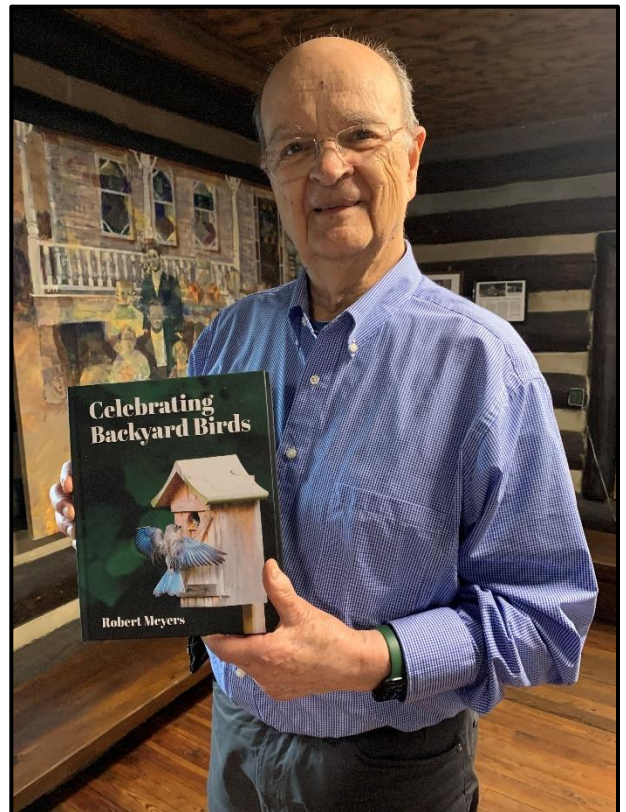
Local Historian Bob Meyers at the Log Cabin

Bob discussed his Shirley family roots, his careers in the Foreign Service, as a salesman, a glassblower, and an author. He also writes a current weekly column in Appen Newspapers. Many of you may have seen his beautiful book *Barns of Old Milton County*. He has a new book now that we'll all want to get a copy of--*Celebrating Backyard Birds*.



Bob with President Carter

(Photo courtesy of Bob Meyers)

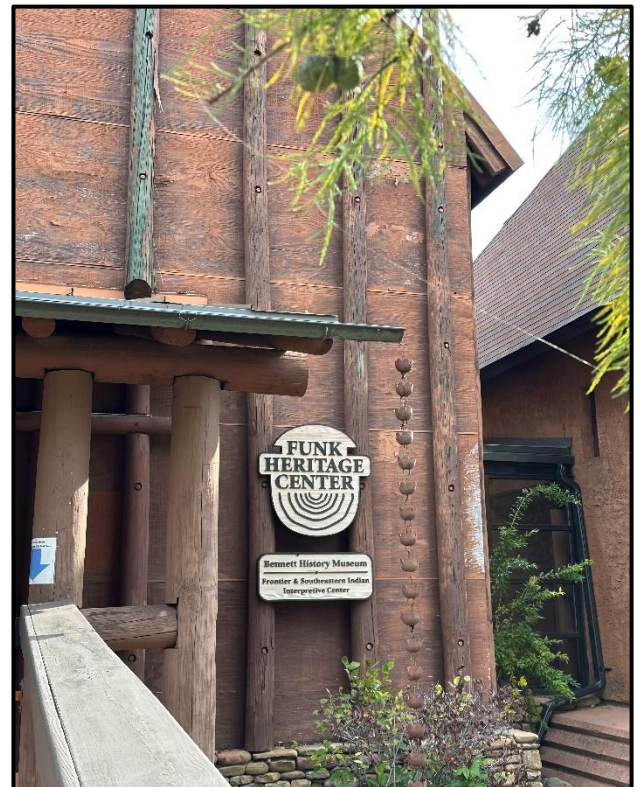


(Photo courtesy of Shack Lewis)

September 2023

Field Trip to the Funk Heritage Center, Reinhardt University

The Funk Heritage Center tells the story of the early Appalachian Settlers and Southeastern Indians through the collection, care, and exhibition of art and artifacts. The **Bennett History Museum**, which is inspired by Native American architecture, houses artifacts from the Hickory Log excavation site in Canton, GA, as well as Native American art from across North America and a one-of-a-kind historic hand tool collection. On a lovely Fall day, a group of Society members enjoyed visiting the museum and the stories told by docent Tom McElhinny. Tom started by telling us about Native American life along the Etowah River in N. Georgia going back 12,000 years when woolly mammoths actually roamed through the area. We saw depictions of this time through dioramas and exhibits featuring artifacts excavated in the area. Human Indian remains and artifacts are still found to this day when land is being developed. Throughout the museum we saw deer skins, a canoe carved out of a cypress tree, and colorful feathers and beads. We also toured the Native American Art Gallery that included paintings, baskets, sculptures, and pottery. The Center also houses the Sellars Gallery of Historic Hand Tools which is a unique collection featuring tools from more than 100 crafts.





Not only is the large collection of tools interesting, but the way the tools are displayed is like a beautiful work of art in itself. Before finishing our visit, we enjoyed lunch amongst Reinhardt students at the Gordy Family Dining Center on campus. Frank Gordy of the Varsity is a Reinhardt graduate. A good time was had by all!

~Jackie Angel



HICKORY LOG

HISTORY BENEATH OUR FEET

Archaeologists found the Hickory Log site in Canton, Georgia. They quickly realized it contained important information about the Native Americans who lived in this area for nearly 10,000 years. Researchers excavated large portions of the site to learn more. They discovered hundreds of soil features and recovered thousands of artifacts that helped them understand how people made tools, built houses, cooked food, and protected themselves, and how life changed when Europeans arrived and settled in North Georgia.



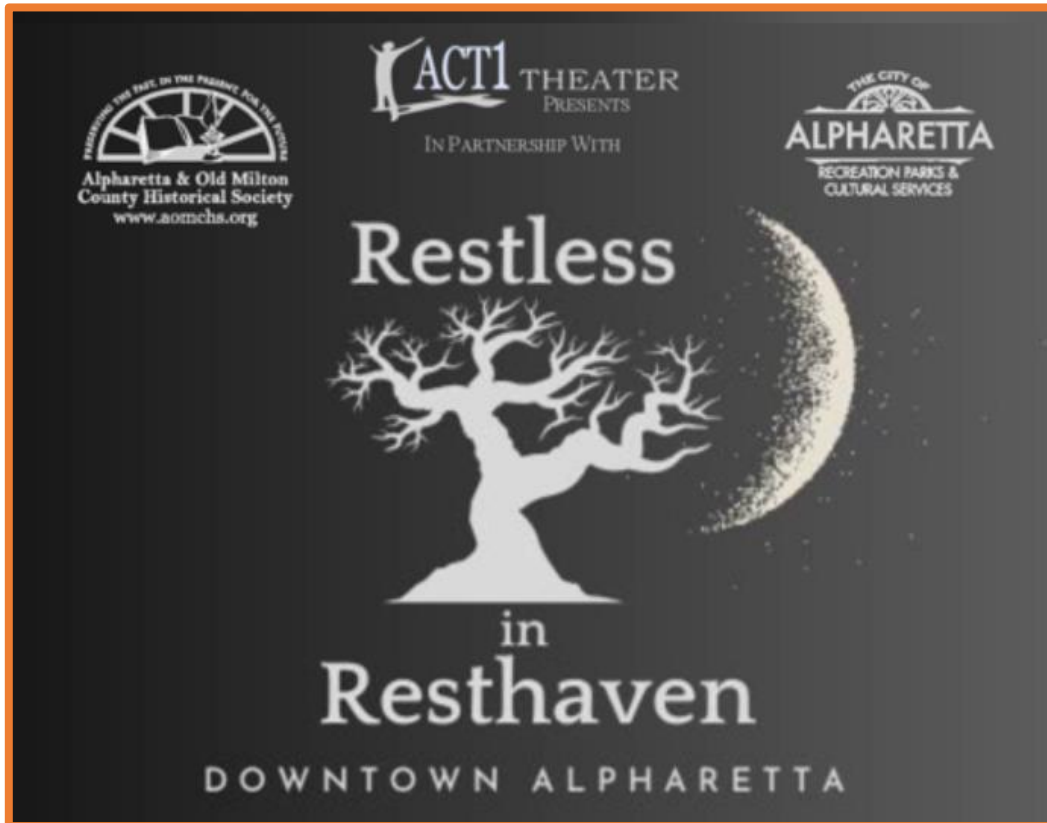


(photos courtesy of Jackie Angel)

Restless in Resthaven

A historic walking tour of Downtown Alpharetta and Resthaven Cemetery, *Restless in Resthaven* is interactive street theater that will introduce you to historical figures from Alpharetta's past. Sponsored by ACT1 Theater, AOMCHS, and the Alpharetta Cultural Services Department, this will be a fun activity for everyone—young and old, native Alpharettans, and those new to the area. Plan to join us on Friday, October 20th or Saturday, October 21st. The meeting place will be in the City Center with the exact location announced soon. Tickets can be purchased in advance at this link:

<https://www.simplerix.com/e/restless-in-resthaven-tickets-143154>



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Reminder: Membership dues are paid annually and ensure you stay on our roster and receive all society communication and news. Dues are used to help with the Society's expenses. Dues are \$20 for a single membership and \$30 for a family membership. Current members who are 80 years old and older are designated as *Lifetime Members* and no longer need to pay a membership renewal fee. Dues can be paid online at <https://form.jotform.com/223174503583151>, in person by cash or check at our monthly membership meetings, or by mailing a check to:

AOMCHS Treasurer/Kim Roddy
Mansell House
1835 Old Milton Parkway
Alpharetta, GA 30009



The Alpharetta & Old Milton County Historical Society (AOMCHS) is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization governed by the State of Georgia. It operates under a Board of Trustees consisting of elected trustees, officers, and standing committee chairpersons. The motto for the Alpharetta & Old Milton County Historical Society is “Preserving the Past, in the Present, for the Future.” The Mansell House & Gardens is managed by the Historical Society and is located at 1835 Old Milton Parkway, Alpharetta. It is a special events facility that can be rented as a special place for families to celebrate the important events of life such as Births, Weddings, Graduations, Reunions, Showers, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Christenings, and more. The AOMCHS also manages the MHS FFA Log Cabin on Milton Avenue which also can be rented for events. The Log Cabin houses the Society’s archives. For more information on becoming a member of the Alpharetta & Old Milton County Historical Society, please contact: Bonnie Steadman, Interim Membership Chair, at bsteady1@earthlink.net or Ben Hollingsworth, Public Relations Chair, at bhollyart@comcast.net

- Follow us on *Facebook* at the Alpharetta & Old Milton County Historical Society page
- Website: www.aomchs.org
- Information regarding handicapped parking at the Log Cabin can be found at https://aomchs.org/current_cabin.pdf

History Matters, the AOMCHS newsletter, is published quarterly
Content provided by members of the AOMCHS
Newsletter Editor: Jackie Angel, AOMCHS Secretary