



# THE PEACOCK QUILL



Whitfield-Murray Historical Society

MARCH 2016

## CALENDAR



### GENEALOGY WORKSHOP Sat., Mar. 5, 2016, 9:00-4:30 Brick Walls Workshop

For intermediate/advanced researchers who have hit a brick wall!  
Crown Gardens & Archives  
**CALL TO REGISTER.**

### MARCH MEETING

Sun., Mar. 6, 2016, 2:30 p.m.  
Creative Arts Guild  
Ashley Callahan/Chenille Fashion

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**SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**  
Fri., Apr. 15, 10:00-4:00  
Sat., Apr. 16, 9:00-12:00  
at the archives

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**HUFFABALOO 5K RACE**  
Run for the Huff  
Sat., Apr. 30, 8:00 a.m.

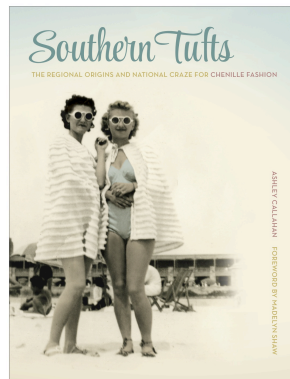
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**HUFFABALOO**  
Sun., May 1, Noon-5:30 p.m.  
at the Huff House

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**SUMMER HISTORY CAMPS**  
Whitfield & Murray Counties  
July 26, 27, & 28  
Stay tuned for details!

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**HOMEGROWN MUSIC**  
AT THE DEPOT  
May through Sept.  
Chatsworth Depot  
See article on page 2.

## MAR. MEETING FEATURES CHENILLE FASHION

The March meeting of the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society will be Sun., Mar. 6, 2:30 p.m., at the Creative Arts Guild in Dalton. Author Ashley Callahan will discuss her book, *Southern Tufts: The Regional Origins and National Craze for Chenille Fashion*. An extensive display of chenille fashion items will be on display.



Ashley Callahan, pictured below, is an independent scholar and curator in Athens, GA, with a specialty in modern & contemporary American decorative arts. She has written books & curated exhibitions on sisters Ilonka & Mariska Karasz, Hungarian-born modern designers based in New York, & Henry Eugene Thomas, a Colonial Revival furniture craftsman from Athens. She also is a contributor to *Ornament Magazine* that features jewelry & fashion. Callahan received her B.A. from Sewanee & her M.A. in the history of American Decorative Arts from the Smithsonian & Parsons.



## GENEALOGY WORKSHOP PLANNED FOR MARCH

DAR genealogist Sarah Roach returns in March with the popular Brick Walls genealogy workshop at the archives.

### March 5 all day "Let's Break through your Genealogy Brick Wall"

Brick Walls is an interactive work session structured to teach participants strategies and methods to solve genealogy problems now & in the future. Get specific ideas of how to solve your brick wall, and develop an individual research plan. Listen to other attendees' brick walls and participate with ideas for their research plans. Learn to break through many types of brick walls—which you may face in the future--using advanced approaches & analytical thought processes.

Cost for the workshop is \$35 for one-half day, \$40 one whole day, & \$70 two whole days. Call the archives at 706-278-0217 to register. Payment may be mailed to P. O. Box 6180 to reserve a place.



## MOHAWK FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANT TO IMPROVE RECORDS STORAGE

The Mohawk Foundation has awarded WMHS funds to improve records storage at the archives. Grant funds will enable removal of carpet, sealing of floor, & installation of shelving more appropriate for archival records storage. Thank you, Mohawk Foundation! Robert Webb has added additional funds to the project. Thank you, Robert!

A previous grant from the Northwest Georgia Community Foundation enabled the installation of a split heating/air system in the records storage area.

**NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
AWARDS 2016**

**PURPOSE** The Whitfield-Murray Historical Society honors groups and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the preservation of the history of Whitfield & Murray Counties.

**GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATIONS**

1. Nominated individuals may be living or deceased.
2. A nominee does not have to be a current resident of Whitfield or Murray County.
3. Nominated organizations must be active.
4. Nominations may be held up to five years.

**NOMINATION/SELECTION PROCESS**

1. Nomination forms are available in the historical society office & on website.
2. The awards committee, appointed biannually by the Society's president, selects recipients from the nominees. Up to three awards may be presented each year.
3. Any member of the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society may make a nomination.
4. All nominations must be in the headquarters office **by April 1** to be considered for selection in that calendar year.

**AWARDS**

1. Each recipient's name will be placed on a permanent plaque at the headquarters.
2. Each recipient will receive an appropriate token commemorating the occasion of receiving the award.
3. Special recognitions can also be given to express appreciation for unique contributions to the Society &/or to local historic preservation efforts.

**WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!**

- Gary Redwine - Dalton
- Mary & Michael Wise - Dalton
- Berrien & Mickey Long - Rocky Face
- Sam Gowin - Chattanooga, TN
- Charles S. Thomas - Dalton
- Joey Lynn Stafford - Dalton
- Martha Locke - Tunnel Hill
- Joey Lynn Stafford - Dalton
- Shane Teasley - Ormond Beach, FL
- Logan Patterson - Chatsworth



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS  
FOR 2016 HOMEGROWN  
MUSIC @ THE DEPOT**

The Chatsworth Depot will again host Homegrown Music on the following Saturdays, May through Sept.:

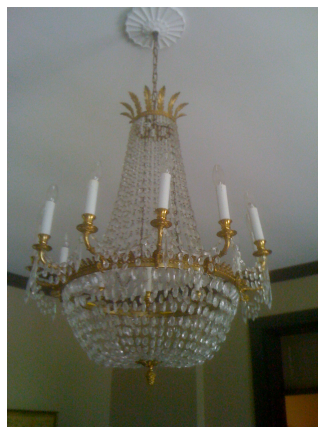
\*\*\***May 14**--North Murray Jazz Band

\*\*\***June 11**--Model Train Day with Georgia Garden Railway Society outdoor train, Master Model Maker Richard Garlinghouse, Georgia Live Steamers, Train Installations train van, & Chattanooga Modular Modelers N-Scale layout. Taylor Swilling will pick & sing as a roving troubadour. Train story reading @ the Wright Hotel.

\*\*\***July 9**--Fort Mountain Boys

\*\*\***Aug. 13**--Sweetwater Creek Bluegrass Band (Ernie Cole).

\*\*\***Sept. 10**--RJ & Tiffany  
Tours will be noon until 5:00 p.m. with the concerts beginning at 5:00.



**FOR SALE: Hamilton House chandelier. 1980s vintage. \$1,499**

**HAMILTON HOUSE DOCENTS  
SOUGHT**

Bruce Davies & the Hamilton House Committee are seeking docents. The house will be open on Fridays & Saturdays, most likely 10:00-4:00, with increased exhibits. Training will be provided. The plan is to have enough volunteers so no one docent will have to be on duty more than once or twice a month. To volunteer, call Bruce at 706-934-2150 or email him at [wbdav@optilink.us](mailto:wbdav@optilink.us).

**HISTORICAL QUESTION #17**

In each newsletter, we ask a question about local history. To check your accuracy (or to find the answer!), just go to our website: [www.whitfield-murrayhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.whitfield-murrayhistoricalsociety.org).

The sixteenth question appeared in the Jan. newsletter: What Cherokee Indian was killed racing on Thornton Avenue? ANSWER: Marvin Sowder provided the answer to this question. We've always heard that Young Bird was killed racing on what is today Thornton Avenue, but it was actually Red Bird. Red Bird lived in an 18' x 15' hewed log cabin located west of Hamilton Spring near present-day Crown Garden and Archives. John & Rachael Hamilton occupied the cabin while the brick Hamilton House was being constructed in 1840. Legend has it that the railroad embankment covered Young Bird's grave when the Western and Atlantic Railroad track bed was graded in the middle 1830s. The current marker is dedicated to the memory of Young Bird, but he actually occupied Red Bird's cabin after his death.

The Young Bird story was told based on the best information available at the time, but research has shown that Young Bird actually migrated to Oklahoma and is thought to have passed away there on 22 January 1875.

Here's question 18: Who is the only U. S. president to defy a decision of the Supreme Court, and what connection does that decision have to Murray & Whitfield counties?

**ARE YOU AN AMAZON CUSTOMER?**  
**Order through [amazonsmile.com](http://amazonsmile.com), & designate your order to benefit the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society!**

## 2016 Guidelines for Scholarship Applicants

1. Students must be seniors at one of the six area public high schools: Coahulla Creek High School, Dalton High School, Murray County High School, North Murray High School, Northwest Whitfield High School, & Southeast Whitfield High School. They must hold good academic records & plan to continue their studies beyond the high school level.
2. Applications & guidelines will be provided to the six high schools no later than February. Information will be available from guidance offices & social studies teachers.
3. Completed applications, photos, & copies of original research are due no later than Friday, April 1, 2016 to the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society.
4. The Scholarship Committee of the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society will meet in mid-April to consider applicants & select recipients. More than one award may be given at each school. Selection will be made early enough so that awards may be presented at each high school's spring awards ceremonies.
5. Scholarships will be awarded to each recipient. Each recipient will also be given a year's free membership in the Society.
6. The awards at each of the six public high schools are named in honor or in memory of educators, community leaders, & Historical Society leaders.

## CONDOLENCES TO . . .

- \* Mrs. Nancy Carter Bland & family in the death of her husband, Dr. Jim Bland of Atlanta.
- \* Judge Jim Wilbanks & family in the loss of his mother, Mrs. Lena Wilbanks.

### Donations in Memory

- \* Gary Garland in memory of Henrietta McDaniel & Odetta Howard.
- \* Jane Pate in memory of Jean German, Janelle Chandler, & Vernell Mann
- \* Bruce Davies in memory of Dr. Jim Bland.

## RECENT DONATIONS

### To the General Fund

Linda W. White  
Jeff Thomas III  
Kelly & Flora Caldwell  
Helen & Harry Saul Foundation  
Bill & Maryann McDaniel  
Ann Compton  
Jean Manly  
Sally Manly  
Ellen K. Thompson  
Marc & Penny Carpenter  
Linda Baker  
Charles Pannell, Jr.  
Leta Faye Roberts  
Bill Bowen  
Anne Farrow

### To the Wright Hotel

- \* Donation in honor of Mr. Carlton McDaniel from his son, Wayne.
- \* An early 20th century glasses case from "W.S. Lents, Jeweler & Optometrist" in Chatsworth, from Ralph Ausmus.
- \* Katherine Plemons Family donated several pieces of furniture.
- \* Donation from Glenda Houston.

### To the Chatsworth Depot

- \* Herman McDaniel for caboose restoration.

### To the Old Spring Place Methodist Church

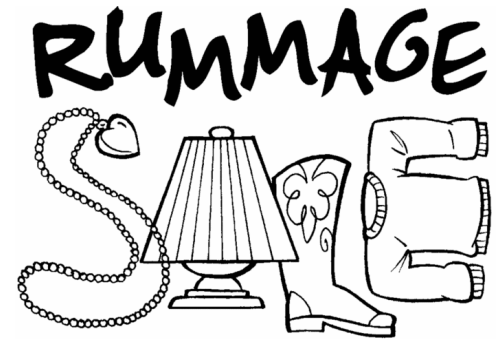
- \* In memory of Mrs. Lena Wilbanks from Bruce Broadrick, Sue & Bobby Crawford, Donna & Sid Frost, Paul & Glenda Houston, 7th Judicial Administrative District, Carlton McDaniel, & Tim Howard & family.
- \* Judy Alderman donated a framed Gene Mealer print of the old Jones/Walls Store in Spring Place.
- \* Sheila Dotson donated a copy of a historic "Teacher Institute" picture.
- \* Trudy Swilling donated pictures & materials from the Colvard School.
- \* Lynn Lyles donated handwritten jury or census documents from the 1800s.
- \* Ellen Thompson donated *Prayer and Praise* hymnbook, 1883.
- \* B. A. Wilbanks donated school memorabilia from Mrs. Estelle Middleton's teaching career.
- \* Carolyn Luffman donated historic newspaper articles collected by her mother, Mrs. Dorothy Hayes Zelinsky.
- \* Rev. Winford Casey donated a collection of minute books from the Coosawattee Baptist Association dating from the 1930s through the 1960s.
- \* Plemons & Wilbanks families donated items for the Festival.

### To Crown Gardens and Archives

- \* Mohawk Foundation grant for improving records storage.
- \* Robert Webb for improving records storage.
- \* The NEW *Sumach Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery, 1857-2015*, from Carolyn Luffman et al--amazing publication includes meticulous research about unmarked & previously unknown graves.
- \* Genealogy resource books (100!) from Al McGovern. Researchers, come look!
- \* WMHS newsletters from Ralph Densmore.
- \* Filing cabinet full of office supplies from Flora & Kelly Caldwell.

### To the Huff House

- \* A thank you to Lee Daniel and Howard Elder for the hands-on restoration of the windows in the upstairs south bedroom of the Huff House.
- \* Robert Clayborn, great-grandson of Patrick Cleburne, donated the print "At all Hazzards," #19 of 25. The print depicts Gen. Cleburne at Ringgold Gap, Nov. 27, 1863.
- \* The mantle for the hidden fireplace is being carefully constructed by Marvin Sowder & Rowland Rankin. It may be viewed at the Huffabaloo Festival on May 1.
- \* Donation from Betty K. Thomas.



**ALL TYPES OF ITEMS ARE NEEDED**  
**YEAR-ROUND FOR RUMMAGE**  
**& XMAS SALES, AS WELL AS**  
**DONATIONS OF ITEMS**  
**RELATING TO LOCAL HISTORY.**  
**DROP OFF OR CALL 706-278-0217**  
**FOR PICKUP.**  
**TAX-DONATION LETTERS**  
**AVAILABLE.**

## Special Note from the President



TIM HOWARD

2016 promises to be one of our Society's busiest years ever. **We'll celebrate 40 years of continuous historic preservation work** since the Society was reactivated during the local U. S. Bicentennial Celebration. The WMHS is the oldest, largest, & most diverse historic preservation organization in all of north Georgia, so we need to commemorate that fact! **Our standing & special projects committees are hard at work** doing what they do best. However, we are all going to have a big party in the fall, so **we need--& want--everyone to be involved.**

On Sunday, November 13, **we will have a Silver Tea to commemorate this special anniversary.** Opening remarks will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the headquarters, followed by tours, video presentations, & refreshments. Also, the Hamilton House Museum will have its grand re-opening with new displays.

**Our trustees are organizing a special capital campaign to honor those who began this version of the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society with the creation of the Founders Endowment Fund.** The initial goal is \$40,000.

**Volunteers are needed to achieve these goals.** Bruce Davies chairs the Hamilton House Museum committee. He is looking for people to sort, organize, & arrange textiles & other materials to best tell the story of our "bedspread" economic past as well as other aspects of Dalton's social & cultural life. Bruce also needs docents to help with tours, too--for **the Museum will be open regular hours each week by this fall!**

**The Archives needs a tremendous amount of work** to finally be back in tip-top shape after renovations, then the floods & fallen tree damage, more repairs & improvements to get caught up with the backlog of materials. Sorting, organizing, rearranging, displaying, archiving, &, yes, a good, old-fashioned deep-cleaning are necessary. Once all this work is complete, **the headquarters will need a regular cadre of docents to keep things ship-shape!**

And, I haven't mentioned that past-president Ellen Thompson's long-awaited book on the **historic photographs of the Whitfield County Schools** will also be published this year, too. Not only has Ellen done the research & writing, she's also financed most of the printing costs & will donate all sales to the WMHS!!!! Thank you so much, Ellen!!!

Members like her have built, sustained, & led our organization for four decades. Another reason to celebrate! Please call the office if you will help: 706-278-0217.

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**HAVE COUPONS WE COULD  
USE?**

**Office Depot, Staples & Big Lots?  
We also recycle  
printer ink cartridges.**

## GENEALOGICAL SEMINARS & WEBINARS AVAILABLE

The Georgia Genealogical Society (GGS) announces upcoming seminars. One may register for any or all of the events at the GGS website <http://www.gagensociety.org>. Check the website for webinars. Questions may be directed to Cynthia Harrison, [carh52@comcast.net](mailto:carh52@comcast.net).

\* **Ancestors: Where They Went, What They Did, and a Way to Share What We Know** Feb. 27, 2016, 9:00 - 4:00

Atlanta History Center, 130 West Paces Ferry Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30305

Presenters: Andi Criminger and Karen Molohon; Co-sponsors: Georgia Genealogical Society & Atlanta History Center (Why every family historian should have a blog!/Looking in all the Right Places: An Overview of Geography and Genealogy/Finding and Understanding Your Ancestor's Occupation(s) in the Census Records/Migration and Mapping: Oh, The Places Your Ancestors Have Been-Where Did They Go?

\* **Care and Protection of Personal Collections** Apr. 30, 2016, 9:00 -

5:00, Athens-Clarke County Library Presenters: Tina Seetoo and Christine Wiseman; Co-Sponsors: Georgia Genealogical Society, Athens-Clarke County Library Heritage Room, & the Clarke Oconee Genealogical Society. This workshop can help you be prepared for events beyond your control. You will learn to evaluate your personal collections including photos, scrapbooks, letters, & how to best store these important items to protect them for the long haul. You will also learn how to create a disaster preparedness plan.

## CONTACT US

Whitfield-Murray Historical Society

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[wmhs@optilink.us](mailto:wmhs@optilink.us)

[www.whitfield-murrayhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.whitfield-murrayhistoricalsociety.org)

Physical address: 715 Chattanooga Ave.  
Open Tues.-Fri., 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Sat., 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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