



# THE PEACOCK QUILL



Whitfield-Murray Historical Society

SEPTEMBER 2015

## CALENDAR

**WRIGHT HOTEL, CHATSWORTH DEPOT & SECTION HOUSE OPEN "Americana Music Series" at the Chatsworth Depot**  
Sat., Sept. 12, 2015  
11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER MEETING**  
Sun., Sept. 20, 2015, 2:30 p.m.  
Mt. Zion Methodist Church  
44 Wilbanks Rd., Chatsworth

**BLACK BEAR FESTIVAL**  
Downtown Chatsworth behind City Hall  
Sat., Oct. 17, 2015 10:00-6:00  
Sun., Oct. 18, 2015 12:00-5:00  
Wright Hotel, Chatsworth Depot & Section House will be open.

**CHRISTMAS SALE**  
Fri., Nov. 6, 10:00-4:00  
Sat., Nov. 7, 9:00-noon  
At the archives

## EVENT PHOTOS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

WMHS always welcomes photos of various events. Members who make—or have made—pictures of any WMHS events are encouraged to email them to Jennifer at [wmhs@optilink.us](mailto:wmhs@optilink.us).

## HISTORICAL QUESTION #14

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 thirteenth question appeared in the July newsletter: Which Murray County post office community was first named Ramsey, GA? In those days before zip codes, the mail kept getting confused with another Georgia community also called Ramsey, so our town's name was changed to something else. What was it? ANSWER: Ramhurst.

Here's question 14: What Dalton club is the oldest women's literary organization in the state of Georgia?

## SEPT. PROGRAM WILL FEATURE CHEROKEE CULTURE & MT. ZION'S 185<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Sunday, Sept. 20 membership meeting will be held at the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church south of Chatsworth on old U.S. 411. The 2:30 p.m. meeting will celebrate the 185th anniversary of the Cherokee mission work that became Mt. Zion.

DAR genealogist Sarah Roach will discuss Cherokee cultural impact on genealogy. Pastor Steve Brotherton will share a brief history of the church. Ladies of the church will serve refreshments.

Mt. Zion Methodist is located at 44 Wilbanks Rd., Chatsworth. Go about a mile south of Edna's Restaurant on old 411, & the church is on the left. We'll see you there!

## NEWS FROM THE BLUNT HOUSE

Visitors have now through early Sept. to visit the children's book display at the Blunt House. Books from the late 1800's up to modern times are there to view, read and enjoy.

A quarter belonged to the Blunt-Kirby family; the rest are from three private collections. The Blunt House, 506 S. Thornton Ave., is open every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come meet Jimmy Slider Legs, Geraldine Belinda Marybelle Scott, the Wizard of Oz and many of your other old friends from literature.

## HVAC UPGRADE ADDED TO ARCHIVES ROOM

The Northwest Georgia Community Foundation has donated \$2,100 toward an HVAC upgrade to our archives storage room. This upgrade will improve the climate in the room where many documents & photographs are stored. Donations to help with this project are welcome.

## KIRKMAN DONATES PROPERTY

Mr. Lowell Kirkman has offered to donate land adjacent to the Archives & Hamilton House property to the Historical Society. Our trustees are handling the legal work & documents to acquire this land located between the creek & Chattanooga Avenue. Thank you, Mr. Kirkman!



L-R Byron West, Nicholas Moser, Alex Spanjer, Evan Byson, Ethan Bryson. Back: Andrew Spanjer

## SPANJER COMPLETES PUMP HOUSE WORK FOR EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

Alex Spanjer recently completed requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout. He was a member of Troop 98 at the First Christian Church in Dalton. His Scoutmaster was Tim McIntosh.

Alex's Eagle project was to repair the old pump house at the Crown Garden and Archives. He was assisted by fellow Scouts pictured above. The pump house used to house the pump that supplied water to the entire city of Dalton. Project work included replacing & painting the door & window frames, removing the paint from the brick, scrubbing & cleaning, painting the trim, replacing the window with plexiglass to prevent breakage, & building a gate so that the pump house can be easily seen from the outside. The Scouts also cleaned some of the overgrowth from the spring.

## CONGRATULATIONS FOR A WELL-DESERVED HONOR

WMHS is proud of trustee Carlton McDaniel for being named Murray County's Humanitarian of the Year by the Chatsworth-Murray County Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations, Carlton!

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE NAMED

Five members & officers will serve on this year's nominating committee. Melissa Burchfield, Betsy McArthur, Martha Minor, Marvin Sowder & Patty Spanjer will work with president Tim Howard to fill officer & trustee vacancies for 2016 & beyond. Officers serve two-year terms, & trustees serve three-year terms. The work of the nominating committee will be announced at the Nov. meeting.

### INTERNS DO KEY WORK

The historical society has been blessed to have several interns this year. We greatly appreciate their contributions!

Eric Smith, a Dalton College public history major, organized the archives at the Vann House back in the spring while this summer North Georgia State University student Thomas Kendrick led a project to sort, organize & archive old Murray County court records stored upstairs in Wilbanks Building adjacent to the courthouse. His crew included Trent Smith (a recent graduate of Berry College) as well as North Murray High students Michael Loughridge & Aaron Howard along with his brother who recently graduated from Calhoun High. Special thanks to Murray County Clerk of Court Donna Flood (now a WMHS member) for pushing this project.

Murray County & a grant from the Spring Place Historic Township are purchasing archival materials to house these treasures. Several very interesting documents have been discovered!!!

Jacob Howard (Reinhardt University) & Austin Fariss (Georgia Southern) interned at the Vann House & also worked at the Wright Hotel & the Old Spring Place Church.

**DONATE ITEMS FOR CHRISTMAS & RUMMAGE SALES ANY TIME.**  
Call 706-278-0217 if pickup needed.



## RECENT DONATIONS

### To the general fund

- In memory of Michael White by the Helen & Harry Saul Foundation.
- Marilyn Arthur donated to the General Fund in honor of Marvin Sowder.
- Ellen Thompson made a donation to the general fund.

### To the archives

- Tut McFarland donated historical papers, books, scrapbooks, photographs, & vintage clothing.
- Nellena Smith made a donation in honor of Tut McFarland for the archives library & donated the book, *My History is America's History*.
- Tim Howard donated in memory of Mary Lou Kyle.
- The estate of Henry T. Kirk donated city directories for the archives library.
- Marvin Sowder donated a Civil War salt list & photographs of Tunnel Hill.
- Tim Howard donated *North Georgia Citizen* subscription receipts from 1878 & issues of *Georgia Backroads* magazine.
- Rebel Burton donated refreshments.
- Ellen Thompson donated a Cabin Crafts bath mat and spread.

### To the Hamilton House

- Three Cabin Crafts bedspreads and an antique shawl from Tut McFarland.

### To the Wright Hotel

- Joan Trimble donated antique linens.
- Linda Lunsford donated seven ledgers & record books from the Lunsford Grist Mill located in Chatsworth in the middle 20th century, plus textbooks & library books from Murray High & Chatsworth Grammar School dating to the 1930's.
- Bill & Phyllis Cosby of Rocky Face donated to the Wright Hotel Fund.
- Paul & Glenda Houston donated items.

### To the Huff House

- David **Stevenson?** donated to the Huff House in memory of Mike White an 1883 framed front page featuring Alexander Stephens & envelope with 1857 3-cent stamp.

### To the Chatsworth Depot

- Robin Baggett arranged the gift of a g-scale model train belonging to the late Stan Rogers.
- Thanks to all who have had a part in the Second Saturday openings at the Wright Hotel & Chatsworth Depot this summer. The last one is Sept. 12! Special thanks to Ted Yarbrough for coordinating these events!

### To the old Spring Place Methodist Church:

- Denise & Greg Brown donated burial records from the Fred Brown Funeral Homes in Eton & Chatsworth from the 1920's into the 1960's.
- Penny Murphy of Smyrna, GA donated an early minute book from the Free Hope Baptist Church.
- Thanks to North Murray High student Laura Alton who organized 25 years' worth of archival material about Bagley Middle School donated by Tim Howard.
- Paul & Glenda Houston donated items for the Old Church.
- Many thanks to all who donated time &/or items to make the Spring Place Festival a success again this year. The proceeds from the day totaled almost \$5,000 for the Old Spring Place Methodist Church Preservation Fund. A special word of thanks to the Spring Place Ruritan Club which continues to provide the necessary volunteers to make the Festival possible.

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Judson Jones - Chatsworth, GA  
Bill & Virginia Weaver - Dalton, GA  
Clay & Lisa Hackney - Dalton, GA  
Bonnie Grady - Dalton, GA

## THANKS TO CG&A VOLUNTEERS

Sherrian Hall, Evan Hall, Ellen Thompson, Cassandra Martin, Brynn Harris, Rebel Burton, Routh Cline, Nellena Smith, Al McGovern, Tim Howard, & Marvin Sowder.

## ARE YOU AN AMAZON CUSTOMER?

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## CONTACT US

Whitfield-Murray Historical Society  
P. O. Box 6180, Dalton, GA 30722-6180  
706-278-0217 [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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