



THE ATHENS STROLLER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
WINTER 2021



VOTE FOR BOARD NOMINEES MEMBERSHIP MEETING BY ZOOM FEBRUARY 22, 5:30 PM

Athens Historical Society- New Board Members

Please vote to approve our new board members (short biographies can be found in your email and the Stroller newsletter): Oscar Chamosa, Broderick Flanigan, Peggy Galis, Nicole Gustafson, and Justin Kau

Do you approve of the new slate of directors?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Submit

AHS voting form

Past AHS Board members Dan Aldridge, Larry Dendy, Pat McAlexander, Harry Neely, and Ashleigh Oatts are stepping down this year, and five individuals have been nominated to fill their slots for a 2021-2023 term. Usually we elect nominees in person at an Annual Membership meeting, but this year we are asking members to vote by email. Go to <https://forms.gle/fLrJ5QY8CSVHFKdb9> for a voting form (see image) or go to the email AHS has recently sent you for a link to click on. The deadline for voting is midnight, February 21, 2021.

The annual meeting itself will be February 22, 2021 at **5:30** via Zoom. Register for this meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84451234567> or, again, see the AHS email sent you for a clickable link. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the Zoom meeting on February 22.

Below and on page 2 is each nominee's biography and headshot.

BOARD NOMINEES



Oscar Chamosa, a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, is an historian at the University of Georgia. He specializes in urban history and the history of affordable housing in the global south. Other academic interests include the history of Latinx people in the South. Oscar has earned a PhD in history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and joined the UGA faculty in 2005. He lives in a hundred-year old house in the Buena Vista Heights neighborhood with his wife Patricia, ten-year old daughter Menina and seven-year old son Julio.



Broderick Flanigan, owner of Flanigan's Portrait Studio in East Athens, was born and raised in Athens. While working with a UGA student on an audio documentary centered on the Historic Hot Corner, he became intrigued by this lesser known part of Athens history. In 2019 the Lyndon House Arts Center featured his exhibition highlighting some of Athens Black history. This was partially inspired by Michael Thurmond's book, "A Story Untold." He also partnered with filmmaker Joe Lavine and others to produce *Below Baldwin*, a full-length documentary that sheds light on the University of Georgia's involvement with slavery. In 2020, just before the pandemic shut things down, he launched a walking tour of Hot Corner to highlight some its history. Broderick's roots run deep in the community. His great-grandfather Albert Flanigan, born in 1883, is buried in Gospel Pilgrim cemetery with a prominent headstone. Broderick looks forward to learning more about Athens history.

BOARD NOMINEES CONT.



Peggy Galis grew up in Elbert County. In 1961 she moved to Athens to attend the University in as a History major, and has been interested in Athens history ever since. She and her husband Denny have lived in an early Athens house for almost 50 years. She has worked extensively with Clarke County's public schools: she served on the founding Board of the Clarke County Mentor program and on the board of Family Connection/Communities in Schools and has been active in the Foundation for Excellence in Public Education. In addition, Peggy serves on the Board of Directors of Georgia Humanities, Board of Advisors of the UGA Press, Board of Judges of Georgia Writers Hall of Fame, and is a member of the Decorative Arts Committee of the Georgia Museum of Art.



Nicole Gustafson (here with daughter Evey) is an educator, advocate, and self-directed learner. She is the Founding Director and Facilitator of Atlas Agile Learning Center, an intentional learning space for children in Winterville, GA. In that role, she has become a voice for progressive and innovative education in the community, curating spaces that value emotional health and play over academic rigor. She was also an Associate Director and mentor at Freedom to Grow Unschool in Hull, GA as well as a Lead Teacher at an international Montessori school. As the Operations Managers at Mbare, a supplier of artisan products handcrafted in Africa, Nicole was able to spread cultural awareness and artistic diversity in the Athens community. She is a lover of the arts, especially narratives that involve contemporary social justice, psychology, and mythology. She likes exploring Athens with her two-year-old daughter, Evey, who is an excellent bike buddy.



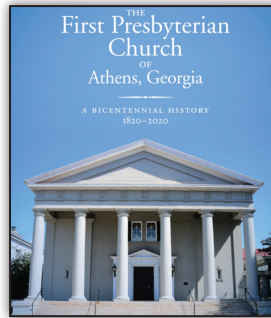
Justin Kau is a librarian and archivist at the Heritage Room, Athens-Clarke County Library. He was born and raised in Athens, but his parents are from the west, specifically Washington and Montana. He studied history as both an undergraduate and graduate, holding his M. A. in History from the University of Wisconsin--Madison. Several years later, he obtained his M. L. I. S. from Rutgers. He has written about popular music and regularly attended music concerts in Athens. His work at the Heritage Room allows him to organize archival collections and assist researchers, fostering a continued devotion to preserving history. However, he focuses more on reading a wide variety of literature, as reflected in his Greater Books project (greaterbooks.com) that he works on in the summer months when he gets a long break from his second job, grading standardized tests for the Georgia Center for Assessment.

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The 2020 *Athens Historian* is out and should have come to members' mailboxes by now. Thanks to editors Larry Dendy, Theresa Flynn, and Pat McAlexander, as well as Eve Mayes, formatter and consultant, and to all our authors.

Correction: On page 5 of the Fall 2020 *Stroller*, there was twice a misspelling of a name: it should have been LUDWIG Uhlig.

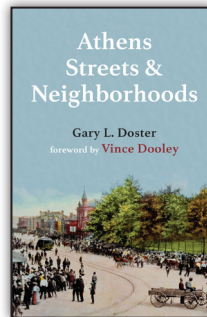
NEW BOOKS ON ATHENS AND SOUTHERN HISTORY



The First Presbyterian Church of Athens, Georgia *A Bicentennial History • 1820 – 2020*

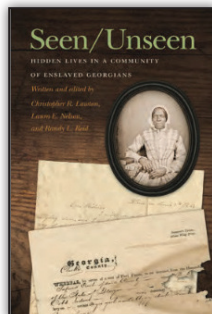
The Presbyterian Church in Athens, Georgia, was founded on Christmas Day 1820 by a group of twenty-one men and women under the guidance of the Reverend Dr. Moses Waddel, who was at that time serving not only as stated supply pastor to the new church but also as president of the University of Georgia. In commemoration of the 200th anniversary of this event, members of the church's bicentennial committee have put together a carefully researched, thoughtfully written, artfully designed history of the church, its people, and its programs. The book, some 400 pages in length, presents not only a serious, scholarly account of the historic and vital church but also a collection of attractive, reader-friendly inserts, sidebars, and illustrations that tell intriguing, inspirational, sometimes even provocative stories to capture both the history and the heart of the oldest church in the city of Athens.

Principal Writers and Editors: Ronald L. Bogue, J. Thomas Bowen, Richard B. Lane, Sam Thomas. Price: \$45.00 per book pre-ordered and paid by **February 15, 2021**; \$55.00 per book after February 15, 2021). For further information about ordering, please contact Jennifer Sunderlin at frontdesk@firstpresathens.org or call (706) 543-4338.



Gary L. Doster, *Athens Streets and Neighborhoods: The Origins of Some Street Names and Place Names in Athens, Georgia.* Foreword by Vince Dooley

Deeds had hoped to have this book, sponsored by AHS, out before Christmas, but you know what happens to the best laid plans, especially during this Covid time. However, AHS President Sam Thomas reports the book is now at the printer. Usually we sell books at our programs, and we hope when we next can hold in-person meetings, Gary can give a presentation on his book. In the meantime, we will have it for sale on our website. Details are being worked out.

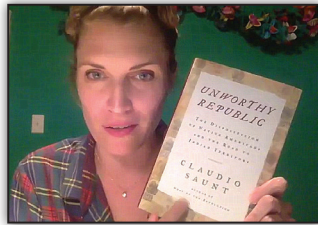


Christopher R. Lawton, Laura E. Nelson, and Randy L. Reid, *Seen/Unseen: Hidden Lives in a Community of Enslaved Georgians*

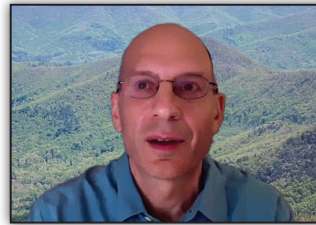
Seen/Unseen is a vivid portrait of a community of hundreds of men and women kept in bondage by the Cobb-Lamar family, one of the wealthiest and most politically prominent families in antebellum America. Drawing on the vast Cobb family papers at the University of Georgia, Lawton, Nelson, and Reid introduce into the historical record the lives of several enslaved individuals who, through letters, maintained bonds of affection, kinship, and support across vast distances of space, striving to make their experiences of slavery more bearable. This correspondence further shows how the same pathways used to support the wealth and power of the Cobb-Lamar family were used by the enslaved to help them to function within the existing system, confront the limitations placed on them, challenge what they felt were its worst injustices, and try to shape the boundaries of their own lives.

Paperback \$29.95, hardback 144.95, ebook available. Not yet released. Contact UGA Press

ZOOM CONVERSATION ON CLAUDIO SAUNT'S *UNWORTHY REPUBLIC*



Avid's Janet Gaddis displays Saunt's
Unworthy Republic



Claudio Saunt on Zoom discussing
his book

On October 22, Avid Bookshop, UGA's Willson Center, and AHS co-sponsored a Zoom conversation with Claudio Saunt, Richard B. Russell Professor in American History at UGA, and Professor Nicholas Allen, Director of the Willson Center for the Humanities. Saunt discussed his book *Unworthy Republic: The Dispossession of Native Americans and the Road to Indian Territory*. The book is described as "a masterful and unsettling history of 'Indian Removal,' the forced migration of Native Americans across the Mississippi River in the 1830s and the state-sponsored theft of their lands." In his talk, Saunt mentioned Athens figures that are in the book—for example, William Dearing, a major investor in stock that Wall Street bankers were involved in as they bought up Native American properties after the removal, and William Lumpkin, who was very involved in the politics of the removal. The hard cover is \$20.49. An ebook and paperback also are available.

MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS

The people listed below have sent us another year's dues. Since we are not collecting dues from current members for this year (2021) due to the pandemic, we will consider these people paid through 2022. New members, however, need to pay dues to be put on our list for 2021 and 2022.

Mail check to The Athens Historical Society, PO Box 7745, Athens, GA 30604-7745. Student: \$20; Individual \$35; Family \$50; Supporting \$75; Patron \$150. Include phone number, mailing address, and email address.

Gary and Faye Doster, family
Maxine Easom, family
Justin Kau, individual
Jane McPherson, family
Lois Shackelford, patron
Leslie Spornberger-Jones
Ursula Uhlig, individual
Karen Whelchel-Redwine, individual
Thomas and Ann Wilkins, supporting

Also we received:

An unsolicited contribution of \$200 from Lois Shackelford. She will be included on the membership list at the patron level.

An unsolicited grant of \$150 from The Patterson Family Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation.

Gift memberships were given to the following students who worked on our website:

Kadier Beth Duncan
Sydney Panetta
Keely Luce
Annabel Fust
Alexandra Bunting
And to their instructor, John Weatherford

Stroller Editor: Pat McAlexander
AHS email address: athenshistorical@gmail.com

Website: www.athenshistorical.org
Facebook: Athens Historical Society (Athens, GA)

Designer: Bel-Jean Copy/Print