



ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2015 Newsletter

**AHS: Expanding and Sharing
Knowledge of Athens History**



Early 20th-century postcard of the Morton Building (*Vintage Athens*, Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, Inc., 2002).

AHS PROGRAM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11: KEITH B. PLUMMER AND HIS *SOUL OF ATHENS* DOCUMENTARY ON THE MORTON THEATER

On Sunday, October 11, at 3:00 p.m., at the Athens-Clarke County Regional Library's Appleton Auditorium, AHS will show *The Soul of Athens*, director/cinematographer Keith B. Plummer's new twenty-seven-minute movie on the history of the Morton Building. The Morton Building opened in downtown Athens in 1910 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Morton housed several African-American businesses, as well as the Morton Theater—today one of the oldest surviving vaudeville theaters in the United States—in fact, according to one source, *the* oldest built, owned, and operated by an African American (<http://www.visitathensga.com>). This movie is the first in-depth documentary on the Morton Building and Theater, owner and builder "Pink" Morton, and the building and theater's influence on the that part of the downtown black business district, called "Hot Corner."



After the showing, Mr. Plummer, the owner of Plumgood Productions, will talk about the making of this movie and his other historical documentaries, which include *Before the Memories Fade: Voices from the Civil Rights Movement*. His films and projects have won numerous awards and film festival selections. As a director he has become nationally recognized for producing documentaries on important but often all-but-forgotten events in African-American history.

As usual, this program is free and open to the public. Donations by non-members, however, are appreciated. Look for the donations basket on the membership table. Or you can join at the membership table before or after the program. A reception with refreshments will follow the program.

**AHS FALL RAMBLE TO BE HELD AT BEECH HAVEN
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2:00 - 4:00
Story on page 2**



Stone steps in Beech Haven gardens (photos by Pat McAlexander)

AHS FALL RAMBLE TO BE HELD AT BEECH HAVEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2:00 - 4:00

A “ramble” is defined as a leisurely walk or stroll for pleasure; rambles stop to view interesting sights along the way. Our AHS Fall Ramble for members and their guests will be held at the Beech Haven estate on Sunday, November 8, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Our leaders will be Helen and Nat Kuykendall and Lucy Rowland.

The property known as Beech Haven is hidden within a forest off the Atlanta Highway at the Middle Oconee River; it’s on the right as you head toward the



Camel-backed bridge at Beech Haven (photo by Pat McAlexander)

mall, shortly after the intersection of Broad and Alps and just past the Blind Pig shopping center. The estate contains an abandoned summer house and the remains of a garden built over a century ago (about 1910—the same year as the Morton Building!) as a summer retreat for the well-to-do Rowland family. The property is a unique model of the Arts and Crafts movement (1870-1920), a period in architecture and decorative arts characterized by simplicity of design, hand-crafted objects, and local materials (*American Herit-*

age Dictionary, 2011). The two-story hand-hewn house designed by Effie Rowland includes fireplaces made of stones brought up from the river and a stone porch fountain that was fed by a nearby spring. The Asian-influenced garden elements were made by her husband, Charles, who observed these designs through his travels in support of Presbyterian foreign missions. There are stone sculptures and hand-built bridges in the gardens along with the basins of past ponds also fed by springs on the property.



The fireplace inside the house at Beech Haven

Athens-Clarke County acquired the house and land—a little more than 80 forested acres—a few years ago as an addition to the publicly owned greenway along the county’s Middle Oconee and North Oconee Rivers. It has been leased to the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation for a minimal amount while that organization oversees fundraising efforts and the stabilization of the house and bridges.

This is a rare opportunity to visit Beech Haven, which is not yet open to the public. And according to Helen Kuykendall, “November is a great time to tour the estate; many of the garden remnants are more apparent after the leaves drop.”

Ramble participants need to be able to walk uneven, unpaved terrain. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring drinking water. There are no bathrooms or water at the site. To reserve a spot on the ramble, email or call Kevin Garrison (kbg1976@gmail.com, 706-207-1550) no later than Monday, November 2, and give your name and contact information (email and phone number/s). The first thirty to contact him will be placed on the list. We will email participants a map with specific directions and parking information. If it rains, the ramble will be re-scheduled.

Members: Watch for your invitation to our Holiday Party in November.

ATHENS HISTORIAN TO BE MAILED TO MEMBERS

Athens Historian editor James Reap reports that the upcoming fall edition will feature two articles about well-known Athens landmarks: Founders Memorial Garden and Lucy Cobb Institute. Maureen O'Brien, Horticulturalist and Manager of Founders Memorial Garden on the University of Georgia campus has written "The Founders Memorial Garden and Women Who Touched It," focusing on the women associated with the site and its evolution. Professor Emeritus Mel

Hill, has written the history of the restoration of the Lucy Cobb Institute and Seney-Stovall Chapel with federal government funds to serve as the University's Institute of Government and as a memorial to long-time Georgia Congressman Carl Vinson. Hill's article derives from his unique perspective as Director of the Institute of Government as plans were formulated, funds acquired, and restoration completed. We hope to have this issue in the mail to members this fall.

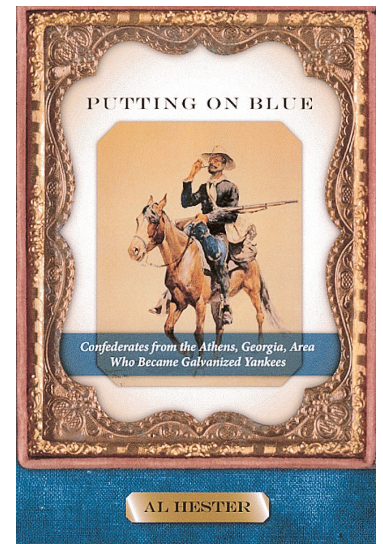
NEW AHS PUBLICATION: AL HESTER'S *PUTTING ON THE BLUE: CONFEDERATES FROM THE ATHENS, GEORGIA AREA WHO BECAME GALVANIZED YANKEES*

AHS has formed a partnership with Al Hester, a long-time member of AHS, for the publication of his book *Putting on Blue: Confederates from the Athens, Georgia Area Who Became Galvanized Yankees* (Greenberry Press). The book is about local Confederate soldiers who became "Galvanized Yankees"—soldiers captured by the North who elected to fight for the Union in wars against the Indians in the West in return for their release from Yankee prisons. The story that Al tells in this book is fascinating, with its descriptions of Yankee prisons, Indian wars, and anecdotes about our area's "Galvanized Yankees."



Mr. Hester has donated the book to AHS. In return, we will do the marketing. James Reap states, "I ... believe it will be a quality publication with color both on the covers and inside, printed with crisp laser printing." We thank Al for his generous contribution to the Society.

"The Siege of New Ulm" by Henry August Schwabe depicting the Battle between Dakota Braves and settlers in 1862. Courtesy of Wikipedia.com



Cover of *Putting on the Blue: Mounted Infantryman* by Frederick Remington.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED AT JANUARY PROGRAM AND MEETING

Our January meeting will include with its program (to be announced) a vote by AHS members on the slate for the six new members of the Board of Directors. In accordance with our bylaws, six of the twelve Board members' two-year terms expire each year. This year the six members whose terms end are Dexter Adams, Theresa Flynn, Kevin Garrison, Janet Patterson, Ashley Simpson, and George Smith. A nominating committee of three or more AHS members will be appointed soon by the president; that committee will select the next slate of six Board members. Officers will then be selected from the Board. If you have suggestions for Board nominees, send them to Pat McAlexander (patmcalex@gmail.com) and she will pass them on to the nominating committee once it is appointed. **The Board members whose terms expire can be re-nominated.**



Speaker Tom Michael (back row middle) is flanked by Moina Michael family members who attended his talk. He holds two books: Moina's *The Miracle Flower* and Barbara Elizabeth Walsh's *The Poppy Lady*.

AHS JUNE MEETING ON MOINA MICHAEL, “THE POPPY LADY”

Many of us remember buying—or selling—red paper poppies on Armistice Day when we were children. On Sunday, June 14th, at 3:00 p.m., at the A-C-C Library, the Athens Historical Society presented a program on the founder of that poppy campaign: Athenian Moina Michael. Two talented Town and Gown actors were part of this AHS program: Patrick Najjar read John McCrae's beautiful "In Flanders Fields" which inspired Moina's campaign, and Gay McCommons read the poem Michael wrote in response, "We Shall Keep the Faith."



The audience at the program

Then Tom Michael, the great-grandson of Moina Michael's brother, Willie Michael, gave an illustrated talk, "Flower Power: How Moina Michael's Poppies Raised Millions for Veterans," that told Moina's story. Working at a New York City YMCA on the Columbia University campus as a hostess for soldiers, Michael was inspired by the John McCrae's 1915 poem to make the poppy a memorial symbol for those lost in World War I and later, for all veterans. In the U.S. from the 1920s through the 1950s, the sale of red paper poppies raised money for "veterans of foreign wars." Although this practice has declined as a tradition here, Moina Michael's poppies are still vital symbols

memorializing veterans in Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. This year, for example, the Tower of London was surrounded by thousands of red ceramic poppies. Not only did we learn about the life and accomplishments of this accomplished lady; we also learned how to pronounce her first name: "Mo-eena."

A reception followed, where poppy seed cakes were appropriate refreshments and attendees could meet, mingle, and talk to the speaker and other members of the Michael clan.

MATT POLEY HIRED AS AHS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The AHS Board has recently hired Matt Poley as an administrative assistant. Matt is in his late twenties. He has a strong background in history and interest in historical research. He received his B.A. in History from Middle Georgia State University in Macon. His research interests include Native American history and American history. Matt has authored papers with a focus on Native American abuse in Georgia and on historical interpretations of previous scholarship. Additionally, he has presented papers at MGSU's Annual Historical Conference and is a member of the Middle Georgia State History Student Organization.

He is currently studying the preservation practices of historic sites in the South. Matt was born in Tampa, Florida, but was raised mostly on a small farm in Jackson, Georgia, 46 miles southeast of Atlanta. In 2010, Matt moved to Macon to attend MGSU and fell in love with the "city of churches." There, while earning his degree, he assisted with youth programs at the Tubman African American Museum and enjoyed giving tours to friends at the Ocmulgee National Monument. During these years (2010 – 2014) Matt's work as a videographer also allowed him to travel over most of the United States. Matt recently moved to Athens with his better half, Emily, while she completes her undergraduate degree at UGA. Here in Athens he is currently Cox Media's newest member. He is excited to be working with AHS as well; and he will continue studying history, particularly of this city and surrounding areas. If he is not working, you can find him reading, wandering around downtown, or jogging down Barnett Shoals Road.



AHS MEMBERSHIP LIST

In the past, our membership year was from January 1 to December 31 regardless of the time of year a member joined. We have now changed to an **Anniversary Date Cycle** so that a membership extends for one year from the date the member joined. The bulk of our members' renewals are due in December 2015 or January 2016, since so many of you joined when we were still on the old cycle.

Below is a list of our current members as of September 1, 2015. We have tried to make it as accurate as possible, but because we have two methods of joining (online/credit card or paper renewal/ check), we may not be totally up to date. If you have joined but your name does not appear, write to the newsletter editor Pat McAlexander (patmcalex@gmail.com) and we will put your name(s) in the January issue. Or if there are errors in your name as it appears, also let Pat know. To everyone who has joined, thank you for your support of AHS.

Patron (\$100)

Theresa Flynn & Douglas Hellmann
William L. Foster
Frances Johnson
Wilucia Green
Milton Leathers
Drs. Hubert H. and Patricia J. McAlexander
Carlton Mell
David Sherman
Kathy B. Prescott and H. Grady Thrasher
Tom Wilfong

Supporting (\$50)

Dexter Adams
Paul Adams
Brian Aikens
Ed Benson
Dr. Benjamin and Ann Crawford Brackett
Laura Carter
Ethel and Verner Chaffin
Tom and Sara Cooney

Vince and Barbara Dooley
Mrs. Anna Dyer
Rutherford Ellis
Todd Emily
Fritz L. and Gayle D. Felchlin
Kathy Hoard
Diane and Rick Jerue
Richard and Fran Lane
Nan Leathers
Deborah McAnallen
Charlotte W. Meador
Janet and Alex Patterson
James Reap
Evelyn and Greg Reece
Donna and Richard Sasser
Ann Shumpert
J. Simpson
Elinor T. Terrell
Beth A. Thurmond
Dr. Lothar L. and Lucy Nickerson Tresp
Dr. Arvid and Melissa Vasenden
Hubert H. Whitlow, Jr.

Family (\$30)

Diane and Buck Adams
 Allan and LaVerne Barber
 Jim and Sallyanne Barrow
 Ronald and Svea Bogue
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Bostrom
 Steven A. and Teresa L. Brown
 Marguerite and Charles Burch
 Ann and Harvey Cabaniss
 John Lewis and Sharla S. Campbell
 Jerry Crawley
 Jerry and Wanda Crawley
 Patty Curtis
 Ronald E. and Carolyn Moore Daniel
 Tony & Elizabeth DeMarco
 Larry Dendy
 William and Amanda Dopson
 Blair and Betsy Dorminey
 Gary and Faye Doster
 Maxine P. and Ken Easom
 Wallace B. and Charlotte K. Eberhard
 Sarah Elie
 Thomas L. and Evelyn R. Glenn
 Charles Gluodenis
 Tom and Virginia Green
 Bob and Jodie Guy
 Gilbert and Margaret Dowdle Head
 Al and Conoly Hester
 Peter and Susan Hodgson
 James Howland
 Charles Hull
 Nedra and Sydney Johnson
 Mary Linnemann
 Betty Littleton
 R.K. and Jane W. Mann
 Ronald R. and Zhanna P. Rader
 Capt. and Mrs. Leonard Sopera
 Ed Segraves
 David G. Seibert
 Ashley Simpson
 George W. and Nancy I. Smith
 Joel A. Stowers
 Dr. Emory and Fran Thomas
 Dr. and Mrs. Billups P. Tillman
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Tillman
 Mr. and Mrs. John C. Waters
 John and Patricia Whitehead

Individual (\$20)

Mary Abbe
 Rufus Adair
 Allen County Public Library
 June M. Ball
 John Barrow
 Leona Meriwether Benkoski
 Connie Bond
 Steven S. Bush
 James Cantrell
 Jean Burge Channell
 Miriam. Chisloman
 Catherine Comer
 Frances Covert
 Louis Crow
 Elizabeth Dent Curtis
 Ann Darby
 Heidi Davison
 Rosalyn DeVorse
 Dr. Carol Downs
 Susan C. Field
 Mary Flynn
 Emma Foley

Hilda S. George
 Max Gilstrap
 Rev. Dr. James Henry
 Teresa Hixson
 Mary D. Hutcherson
 Tom Jackson
 Elaine L. Kalber
 Donna G. Keith
 Elizabeth G. King
 Judith E. Kitchens
 Michael W. Kitchens
 Theodore LaMontagne
 Barbara Laughlin
 Ron Laughton
 Rufus Emory Lavender
 Jane Marston
 Judy A. Masters
 Michael McDonald
 John R. Moore
 Mrs. Robert Bird Moore
 Leslie Morris
 Elaine Collier Neal
 Scott Nesbit
 David O'Bannon
 Gwen Ingram O'Looney
 Elizabeth Pape
 Eileen Plummer
 A. Elizabeth Powell
 Mary Quinn
 Beth Randolph
 Karen Whelchel Redwine
 Dr. Mark Reinberger
 W. Richardson
 Susan Garrison Rogers
 Marsha Richman Rosenthal
 Joan Lewis Salloum
 Skip Shockley
 Bill Simpson
 Dr. Valdon W. Smith
 Peggy Hoard Suddreth
 Donnie Summerlin
 David Sweat
 J. Bryson Tanner
 Sam Thomas
 Frank Thornburg
 Robert Thornton
 D. Davant Turner
 Frank A. Uhler
 Livia S. Wade
 George D. Walker
 Ashlee Watson
 Jeff Weinberg
 Beth Whitlock
 Frances M. Williams
 June Willis
 Thomas Yoder
 Mrs. Dotty Zazworsky

REMEMBERING

Janey M. Cooley
Patricia Cooper
Marion Rice

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HARGRETT

Since researchers of Athens and area history frequently use materials in the Hargrett library, we are publishing this update on it.

Earlier this year, Chuck Barber and Kat Stein were named the Co-directors of the Hargrett Library at UGA's Special Collections Libraries. They succeed Dr. Toby Graham, who was named University Librarian and Associate Provost last fall.



Chuck now leads the public service, outreach activities, and exhibit planning for the Library. He has been with the Libraries for over twenty years, previously serving as the Assistant Director of the Hargrett. Kat oversees the management and preservation of the collections, including over 3,000 historic manuscript collections, 400 collections documenting university history, and 200,000 volumes of rare books and Georgiana. Prior to joining the Hargrett she served as the head of arrangement and description, managing the holding of the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies.

The Richard B. Russell Library, which houses the Hargrett Rare Book Room and Manuscript Library—a treasure trove for researchers (photo by Pat McAlexander)

While researchers in Hargrett will continue to receive the same high quality reference service and assistance that they have come to expect from Libraries staff, there will be

a greater focus on public programming and events in conjunction with exhibits. Chuck states that “it is the goal of the Libraries to provide a wider variety of programming to a diverse audience and to be more actively engaged with the community.”

The Hargrett will continue to allow for increased availability of collections through digitization projects that provide access to scanned documents through the Digital Library of Georgia and the Digital Public Library of America. In 2014, the Library completed a large collaborative digital project with the Atlanta History Center and Georgia Historical Society to make over 60,000 items documenting the Civil War experience in Georgia available online. This year the Library will begin to focus on digitizing its colonial era papers.

One additional development in the Hargrett Library is the recent hiring of an electronic records archivist who will assist the Library in collecting modern university records and manuscripts. Steve Armour, who currently serves as a processing assistant, will bring the Hargrett into the modern era of collection acquisition and preservation in a world that so heavily depends on email and electronic files. --

Katherine Stein Interim Co-Director Technical Services and University Archives, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Special Collections Libraries, University of Georgia Athens GA, 30602 [706-542-5484](tel:706-542-5484) kshirley@uga.edu <http://www.libs.uga.edu/hargrett/>

THE HISTORY (AND MYSTERY) OF A COPYRIGHT



One of AHS's large 1974 prints of the 1874 Athens maps; framed over a fireplace at the McAlexander home

In its mission to make Athens history available to modern researchers, the Athens Historical Society undertakes to issue publications. Those publications are, of course, copyrighted by AHS. As holder of the copyright on an item, AHS has the exclusive right to publish it, whether on paper or electronically.

One of our most popular copyrighted publications has been a large, suitable-for-framing version of the 1874 map of Athens by W.W. Thomas, adapted for the AHS by the UGA Cartography Lab in 1974—over forty years ago. But lately we have been wondering, why hadn't anyone before us made a reproduction of that 1874 map? And why had none of us actually seen the 1874 original?

With a bit of digging in the AHS archive and personal recollections, we found the answer: there *is* no 1874 printed map. Instead there is a gigantic hand-drawn map on linen-backed paper, large enough to carpet a modest-sized room. Thomas's hand-drawn behemoth is still stored at the Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library, but it has been withdrawn from public viewing due to its fragile nature. That was the map that the UGA Cartography Lab had replicated for AHS. Under the leadership of the late Patricia Cooper, the AHS had had that replication of the map copyrighted and printed for sale to the public in the large version so often seen

framed on the walls of Athens homes and businesses. When we compared the original room-sized map to the recreated version, we saw that, fortunately, the recreated map captured all the significant information found on the original. AHS is currently reissuing the 1974 version of the map, both on note cards ("map cards") and in a larger format (though not so large as in 1974) that is suitable for framing. —**Steven Brown**

HISTORICAL LOST AND FOUND

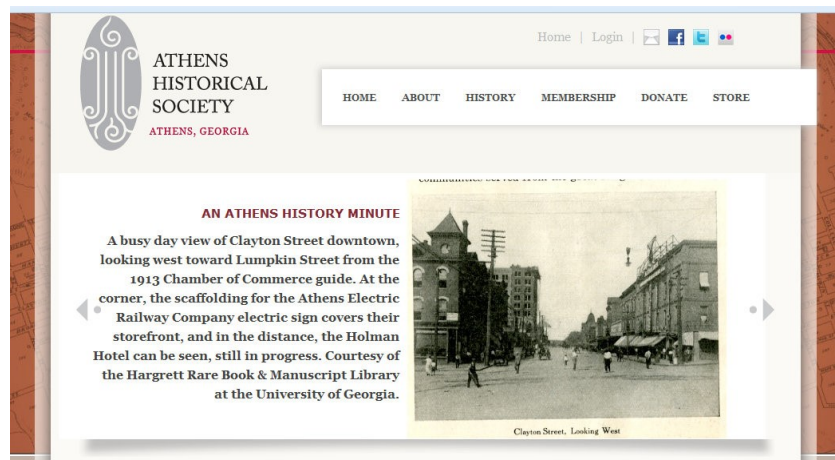
Still lost: William Lafferty's 1886 bankruptcy papers. William Lafferty was a well-liked and respected merchant in Cobbham from at least 1881 to 1885. His variety store sold such merchandise as boots and shoes, glassware, "all kinds of groceries," and fruits and vegetables in season. A news item in the *Athens Banner* in 1881 commented, "The residents of Cobbham would not know how to do without Mr. Lafferty's store." But in 1886 his business failed due to "short crops and inability to collect accounts due him" (*Weekly Banner-Watchman*, December 14, 1886.)

William Lafferty's great-grandson, who has been looking for Mr. Lafferty's bankruptcy papers (see last AHS Newsletter), has sent AHS updated information regarding his search: "... I have already contacted the Athens Courthouse and I think they told me that it would have been handled by the U.S. Courthouse in Macon [where Lafferty moved after his store closed]. But the U.S. Courthouse in Macon said that their records did not go back that far and that I should check with the Archives in St. Louis. St. Louis said they did not have the papers. So, if the bankruptcy paperwork still exists, it is probably in the basement of the Courthouse in Athens. My next trip to Athens, I would like to go through their files and see if I can find anything. . . ." Athens Historical Member Bryson Tanner has offered his help and the two men have been in contact. (Thanks to Gary Doster for sending us period newspaper clippings on William Lafferty.)

Still Lost: A photograph of Adjutant Thomas P. Oliver, 24th Georgia Infantry.

Found: Thomas P. Oliver's grandson and great-grandson, both living in Athens. AHS received a fascinating letter from his great-grandson. Here are some excerpts: "I am Thomas Robert Oliver, age 75. I am the great-grandson of Thomas Parks Oliver. My father is Thomas Parks Oliver III, age 96, who is the grandson of T.P.O. . . . We are both members of The Brig. Gen T.R.R. Cobb, Camp 97 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. It might be of interest that T.P.O. was a second Lt. of the 24th Regiment that was fighting on the sunken road behind a stone wall at the Battle of Fredericksburg on Dec. 13, 1862, when Gen. T.R.R. Cobb was mortally wounded. In March of 1862, Gen. Cobb had written to his wife and said that "the 24th Ga. is the most undisciplined set of rowdies that I have seen in the service". However, he would have been proud of them that day, as they carried the day, and defeated the 116th Penn. who was charging their position. . . . T.P.O. was the son of a Methodist Minister, Jackson Oliver, a circuit rider in the North Ga. Appalachian foothills and very much against slavery. . . . So Jackson's son, T.P.O., wasn't fighting for slavery. He signed up when the North invaded the South. He was strongly for States Rights." Thanks to AHS member George Smith for putting Thomas Robert Oliver in touch with us.

Found: Information on AHS logo. Readers have asked who designed the AHS logo described in the last newsletter. The original logo was selected in 2012 from those submitted to an AHS logo design contest coordinated by then-Board member Patrick Mizelle. That winning logo, by Mr. Shea Tighe of Charleston, SC, was further refined by graphic artist Eleonora Machado and since then by other AHS members. AHS has been using various versions of the logo, always keeping the three symbolic elements: the roots (the past), the column (the present) and the flame (the future).



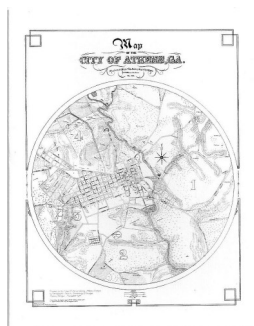
AHS WEBSITE

You really should visit our website (www.athenshistorical.org), overseen by Theresa Flynn, chair of the AHS Website Committee.. All current members should have been sent a password for the members-only part of the website. If you have forgotten or lost your password, you can request a new one on the homepage. If you have joined AHS but have not yet been sent a password, contact Theresa (th.flynn@gmail.com), with AHS in the subject line,

The website is a little history document in itself as well as an update on our present organization. It includes a list of articles in past *Athens Historians* (click on *History* at the top of the page, then on *Athens Historian*); stories on our past events (click on *About*, then on *News*) and an illustrated feature called "An Athens History Minute" (click on the arrows at the top of the homepage for various "minutes"). In the members-only section are AHS newsletters published between 1999 and 2012 (click on *membership*, then *members only*, then *newsletters*) and a list of current members (in the same menu, click on *membership directory*).

The website also has an online store (click on *store*) where you can order publications such as past copies of *The Athens Historian*, books by authors who have done AHS programs, an 11 x 14" shrink-wrapped print of the 1874 map of Athens (\$10), and a print of the 1874 map, double-matted at 16 x 20" (\$25). The newest product here will be note cards with the 1874 map of Athens.

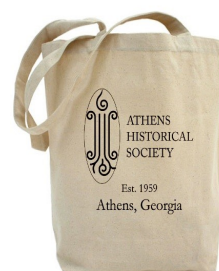
In the online store you will find a link to the Café Press website page, (or go to <http://www.cafepress.com/athenshistoricalsociety>); on this site you can buy mugs, key-rings, tee shirts, water bottles, iPad covers, tote bags—all with the Athens Historical Society logo. Type *merchandise* or the specific desired product in the search bar. So treat yourself to some of these items or order some as holiday gifts! The map cards will be available not only from our website but from several local merchants and at the Athens Welcome Center.



**An AHS Make a Note of It
1874 Athens Map Card. (\$12)**



**AHS mug, Café Press
(\$14.99)**



**AHS Tote Bag, Café
Press (\$16.99)**

TO JOIN AHS OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP.....

All members in the membership list on pages 5 and 6 are current. To renew if you are a past member or to join as a new member: either fill out this form and mail it, with your check payable to the Athens Historical Society, to P.O. Box 7745, Athens GA, 30606-7745 or join using your credit or debit card on our website at <https://www.athenshistorical.org/membership-join>.

Joining or renewing on our website is faster and more efficient.

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address 1: _____ Email Address 2: _____

An email address is requested for online newsletters and member updates.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS: Individual \$20; Family \$30; Supporting \$50; Patron \$100; Business \$250. Please consider an additional donation.

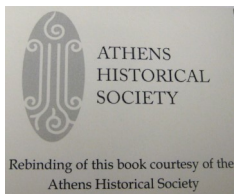
Enclosed: My dues: \$ _____ Added donation: \$ _____ Total: \$ _____

WHAT SAY YOU? RESPOND TO OUR SURVEY

Your Athens Historical Society wants to know what you think! Hopefully you received and enjoyed the Spring 2015 newsletter. Enclosed with that newsletter was a brief questionnaire in which your AHS officers and board members seek your input into what AHS programs and member benefits you enjoy the most and what additional events or programs you would like to see offered. The questionnaire also seeks your opinions on such vital matters as the communication methods best suited to reach you, and whether membership dues are sufficient to operate the organization as it is currently structured.

Thus far, we have received 28 responses, and the insight provided in those completed questionnaires is enormously helpful. However, these 28 responses represent only about 10% of our membership. Consequently, we request that any members who have not yet completed a questionnaire take a few minutes to fill one out and return it to us.

After we obtain a sufficient number of responses, we will report to the membership on what a majority of you thought the AHS is doing right and what you would like to see in the future. If you are unable to locate your questionnaire, we will have some available to pick-up at our next program on October 11. You can also contact any of your AHS officers or board members to make arrangements for another questionnaire to be provided to you. We look forward to hearing from you!—**Michael W. Kitchens**



AHS DONATION TO ATHENS-CLARKE HERITAGE ROOM

The Heritage Room in the Athens-Clarke County Library has roughly 100 city directories, UGA staff & student directories, and phone books spanning the 1950s-2000s that need to be re-bound. They are frequently used and many are falling apart. The library does not have a budget for bindery repairs, and the Heritage Room has had to subsist on donations to maintain its collection. Knowing the importance of this room to research on the city of Athens, the Athens Historical Society has made a donation of \$1000 to help cover the cost of these repairs. The donation was viewed as part of the AHS mission “to discover, collect, and preserve all materials, especially original and source materials, pertaining to Athens and regional history.” A book plate giving credit to AHS will be pasted in the covers of the repaired directories we have funded.

Upcoming: The Bartram series will be held August 22-December 23 to celebrate the 250th anniversary of John and William Bartram's expedition in Colonial Georgia, sponsored by UGA Libraries, the Bartram Trail Conference, the Georgia Natural History Museum, the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, the UGA College of Environment and Design, and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts. All of the events are held at the Russell Special Collections building except for two on Saturday, October 10 at the State Botanical Garden. See www.libs.uga.edu/hargrett/bartram/ for details.

HER SMILES SAY IT ALL!

PATRICIA COOPER RECEIVES HULL AWARD

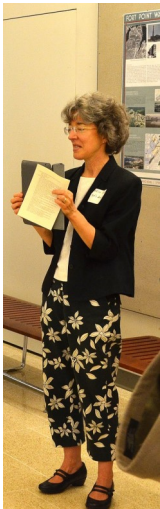
On Tuesday, May 26, AHS hosted a reception to honor Patricia Irvin Cooper for her many accomplishments over the years and to award her its highest honor, The Augustus Longstreet Hull award. The event was organized by Board member Theresa Flynn with the help of Melissa Tufts, Director of the Owens Library and Circle Gallery of the UGA College of Environment & Design, where the event was held. On the day of the reception Pat, who was in ill health, realized she would not be able to attend. Her daughter, Professor Alice Cooper of the University of Mississippi, attended in her stead and videoed the event for her.



At Pat Cooper's home after the event: Mayor Denson presents Pat with the key to the city. (photo by Melissa Tufts)

Three speakers recounted Pat's many contributions to Athens. Melissa Tufts talked about the materials Pat had donated to the Owens Library--a wonderful resource for researchers. James Reap, who had nominated Pat for the Hull award, described the areas of historic, natural, and cultural preservation to which Pat had devoted her efforts over the years, including her work to preserve the Old Athens Cemetery, her research on and documentation of historic

structures in Clarke and surrounding counties, and her publications on vernacular architecture. Athens mayor Nancy Denson told of all that Pat, along with her late husband, Homer Cooper, had contributed to Athens-Clarke County in other areas as well. In appreciation of Pat's historical contributions, AHS President Ashley Simpson presented Pat with the Augustus Longstreet Hull Crystal Book award, and in appreciation of her civic contributions, Mayor Denson presented her with the Key to the City. Both the Hull Award and the Key were accepted for Pat by daughter Alice. Tributes were also given by Karen Prasse of the Georgia Museum of Art; Mike Wharton, formerly of Sandy Creek Nature Center and now ACC Leisure Services; Charlotte Thomas Marshall, celebrated local historian and author.



Daughter Alice Cooper videoing the speakers at the event

After the reception, a small delegation—Mayor Denson, James Reap, Melissa Tufts, and Ashley Simpson-- brought the Hull Award and Key to Pat's home and presented them to her in person. Ashley reported, "It poured rain outside, but inside there was warmth and unity." Pat was "frail but articulate"; she seemed to enjoy this visit with old friends. She was appreciative of those who attended the reception and of the awards.



Pat thanks AHS President Ashley Simpson for the Hull award. (photo by Melissa Tufts)

Pat died on Friday, June 5, only ten days later. Ashley Simpson summed up the AHS event well: "Pat Cooper was honored during her last hours . . . [But as well as] . . . presenting a well-deserved award, we provided a platform for people and groups to come together and thank her for her many contributions to Athens Clarke County :.. These are the moments that elevate and transform AHS."

AHS Newsletter

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