



# ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter 2016 Newsletter

## AHS: Expanding and Sharing Knowledge of Athens History



Al Hester, author of *Putting on Blue* (center), with current AHS President Janet Patterson and *Athens Historian* editor James Reap.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**

### **ANNUAL MEETING: ELECTIONS, PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **PROGRAM: AL HESTER ON HIS NEW BOOK, *PUTTING ON BLUE***

On Sunday, January 17, at 3:00 p.m. the Athens Historical Society will hold its annual meeting at the Athens-Clarke County Library's Appleton Auditorium. The program will be Al Hester speaking on his just-published book, *Putting on Blue: Confederates from the Athens, Georgia Area Who Became Galvanized Yankees*.

The book, in Al's words, "is the story of 52 Confederate soldiers who were captured and placed in horrific Northern prisons with little hope of quick release to return home. The Lincoln administration offered them freedom from prison if they would swear their allegiance to the Union and enlist in special regiments to serve in the West. . . . The newly enlisted soldiers were called 'Galvanized Yankees.'" The book has fascinating stories of Yankee prisons, Indian wars, and anecdotes about our area's "Galvanized Yankees," several of which Al will share in his program.

If you are a Civil War buff or are interested in the

settlement of the American West, you will be interested in this talk—and in his book. *Putting on Blue* is co-sponsored by the Athens Historical Society and The Green Berry Press. It is printed on quality paper with crisp laser printing, and includes a gallery of 45 photographs, engravings, and illustrations, many in color. The retail price is \$17, but AHS members may buy it at the discounted price of \$12. If you order it from the AHS website, that price will include shipping. The book will also be available for sale at the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, where we ask that you pay with check or cash. Al will be available for autographs after the meeting. You can renew your membership at this time.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Before the program, President Janet Patterson will present the Annual Report of our organization, and members will be asked to approve for a two-year term the slate of four new and two returning Board members. See pp. 2-3

## NOTICE TO AHS MEMBERS

In October our AHS president, Ashley Simpson, resigned after serving almost two years. AHS Vice President Janet Patterson has been Acting President since and will continue to do so until the next President is chosen by the Board from its members. In accordance with our bylaws, this will occur at the Board's first meeting after the new slate is approved by AHS members. We thank Ashley for the many hours she has put into this organization while she was President, and we thank Janet for overseeing this transitional period.

## 2016 SLATE OF BOARD MEMBERS



**Svea Bogue** earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California in speech communication. She moved to Athens, Georgia, in 1975 with her husband, Ron Bogue. For several years, she served as the Executive Director of the Athens Clean and Beautiful Commission. Later she worked for 12 years in retail sales at Foster's Jewelers and JWR Jewelers. She also served on the Clarke County Board of Education for 14 years. Since retiring, she has joined the Georgia Museum of Art Docent group giving tours to adults and students. In January Svea will join the Athens Library Board of Trustees for her third five-year term. She has also maintained an active interest in genealogy for the last fifteen years. **sveabogue@gmail.com**

**Janine Duncan** was born in New Orleans and raised at Camano Island, Washington. She holds degrees from Gonzaga University and The University of Georgia, and her career path has traveled through television, Wall Street, non-profit fundraising and website design. Currently employed as the preservation planner for the UGA Grounds Department, Ms. Duncan is charged with the research, preservation and day-to-day care of historic campus landscapes and features including Old Athens Cemetery, the Arch, and the North Campus cast iron fence. Janine is the author of *Preliminary Research of Free Blacks in Loudoun County, Virginia 1850-1860: Identity, Settlement Patterns and Cultural Landscape* and is completing research for a book about WPA construction at the University of Georgia. Other interests include travel, cooking, reading good books, wandering through antique malls, and locating the name of the Duncan ancestor who was "encouraged" to leave Scotland. **janined706@gmail.com**



**Theresa M. Flynn** (returning Board member) has history and English degrees from UGA, and an MLIS, with a focus on Information Policy & Management, from FSU. She worked a few years as a technical writer in the software industry before becoming a librarian, where she was a mainstay in the Heritage Room for several years and created the popular *This Day in Athens* blog. She was a contributor to the 2014 publication, *The Tangible Past in Athens, Georgia*, including running their website and Facebook page. She has been on the board of AHS since 2012, chairs its Website committee, and runs its Facebook page. She lives with her husband of 19 years, Doug Hellmann, in Five Points, where she is working on a variety of projects. **th.flynn@gmail.com**

**Kevin Garrison** (returning Board member) is a Commerce, Georgia, native and a graduate of The University of Georgia and The University of Mississippi School of Law. He makes his career as a financial advisor with Morgan Stanley. Kevin has many interests, in particular his passion for classic cars. Other interests include the architecture, design, and culture of the early to mid-twentieth century; general aviation; model railroading; and the history and culture of Great Britain. Kevin is a member of the Athens-Clarke County Historic Preservation Commission, the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery, and the First Presbyterian Church of Athens. **kbg1976@gmail.com**





**Angela Stanley** earned her Bachelor's degree from Fordham University and her Masters in Library Science with a certificate in Archives, Preservation and Records Management from Queens College. She began her career with the New York Public Library in 2008 and is now entering her third year at the Athens-Clarke County Library, where she was recently promoted to Head of Archives and Special Collections. She is a frequent lecturer on genealogy and library resources, and has presented at several conferences. She is currently pursuing her Digital Archives Specialist certificate from the Society of American Archivists. Angela's interests include the history of the book and print culture, Athens history, yoga, and the near-constant pursuit of an excellent cup of coffee. [astanley@athenslibrary.org](mailto:astanley@athenslibrary.org)

**Sam Thomas** was born in North Carolina, raised in South Carolina, and graduated from Winthrop College in Charlotte, N.C. He served for fifteen years as the Curator of the Culture & Heritage Museum in York County, S. C. and as an officer in numerous South Carolina historical societies. He was also a technical advisor for the Mel Gibson film *The Patriot*. Sam has published numerous magazine and journal articles and several books including *A Rising Star of Promise: The Civil War Odyssey of David Jackson Logan* and *Shanks: The Life and Wars of General Nathan G. Evans*. He came to Athens in 2006 as curator of the T.R.R. Cobb House for the Watson-Brown Foundation. [sthomas@trrcobbhouse.org](mailto:sthomas@trrcobbhouse.org).



The other six Board members elected last year will be completing the second year of their terms. They are Steven Brown, Larry Dendy, Mike Kitchens, Pat McAlexander, Evelyn Reece, and Beth Whitlock (pictured above). Dexter Adams, George Smith, and Janet Patterson are stepping down from the Board. A special thanks to George who has served as AHS Treasurer for 12 years! We think he has set a record.

## Welcome, new AHS members (as of press time)!

Ray F. and Ernestine Broussard  
Peggy and Denny Galis  
Amanda Holmes

Michael McDonald  
Thomas Michael  
Reggie Vipperman



# PAST ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS

## October 11: Keith B. Plummer and His *Soul of Athens* Documentary on the Morton Theater



**Keith B. Plummer introduces his documentary *The Soul of Athens* about the Morton Building (by Matt Poley)**



**Keith Plummer and Sally Ann Barrow talk at the reception after the program.**



**Attendee examines Steven Brown's display on the Morton at the reception. She said when she was very young, her father took her to the woman dentist in the Morton.**



**Administrative assistant Matt Poley and Acting President Janet Patterson celebrate a successful program. (Last 3 photos by Pat McAlexander)**



## November 15: Holiday Party

Guests begin to arrive at Taylor-Grady House; here, by the name tag table, we can identify (left to right) Gary Doster, Diane Adams, Heidi Davison, James Reap, and John Whitehead



Janet Patterson and Carol Reap smile for the camera.



Attendees enjoying the spread on the dining room table at the Taylor-Grady house. Board member Kevin Garrison (center) said it was like the loaves and fishes, as more dishes kept appearing. (above photos by Mike Kitchens)



Expanding and sharing Athens history even at the party: Gary Doster shows Steven Brown a draft of his latest research: a history of the Georgia Railroad Depot on Carr's Hill. (by Pat McAlexander)



## November 22: Ramble at Beech Haven, led by Lucy Rowland and Nat Kuykendall



Ramblers listen as Lucy Rowland (second from right) considers her next point about Beech Haven. (by Pat McAlexander)



After being rained out on the first try, we couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day to ramble.

Board members on the Ramble—  
Beth Whitlock,  
Pat McAlexander,  
Kevin Garrison,  
Larry Dendy (by  
Steven Brown)



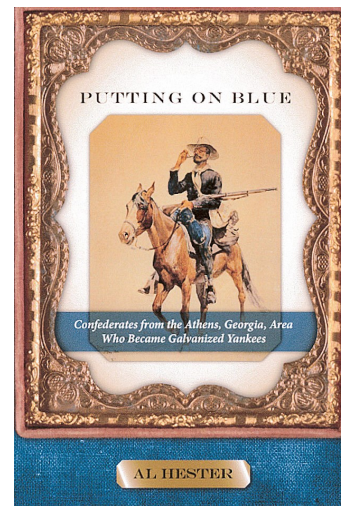
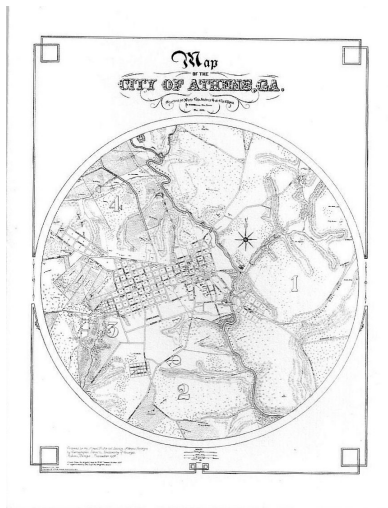
AHS Ramblers gather on the camel-backed bridge near the end of their Beech Haven tour (by Matt Kuykendall)

**Thanks to Nat and Lucy for a wonderful tour!**



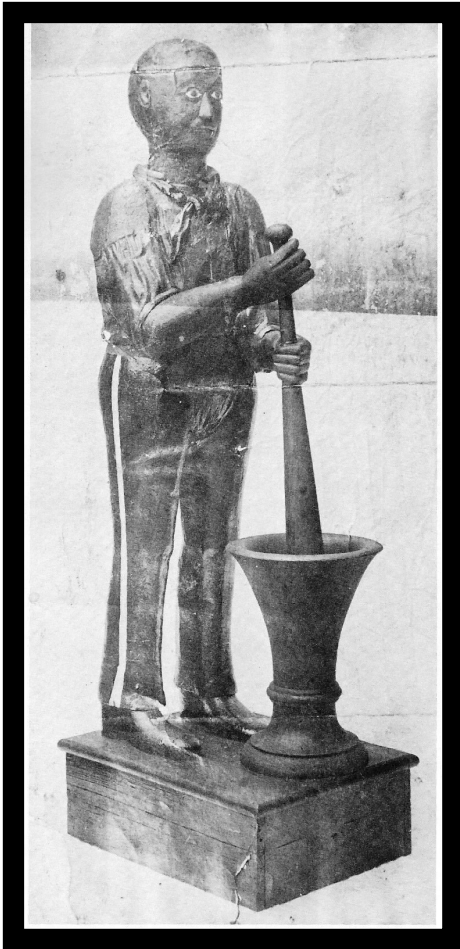
# AHS NOTES

- The pictures of the Moina Michael program and family in the last issue of the AHS Newsletter were taken by Mike Kitchens.
- We are looking for a name for this newsletter. If any of you have any suggestions, please email them to Pat McAlexander (patmcalex@gmail.com), editor. She would also appreciate any other suggestions you have for the newsletter.
- Updates on the AHS website: Since Ashley's resignation, some of the maps advertised for sale in our last newsletter have not been available as expected. We are working to have them available soon on our website. Currently, however, you can order our beautiful note cards there. There are the cards depicting the 1874 map of Athens, and now two new ones: one showing George Cooke's famous 1845 painting "A View of Athens from Carr's Hill," the other a recently discovered lithograph, c. 1850, of Franklin College. Sold in sets of 8 for \$20, these two new cards are in full color. Each sale benefits AHS, with a portion also going to Hargrett's map conservation efforts. Finally, also available is Al Hester's *Putting on Blue* (discounted to \$12 including shipping for members, so log in before ordering). AHS logo merchandise is still available via the Café Press link.

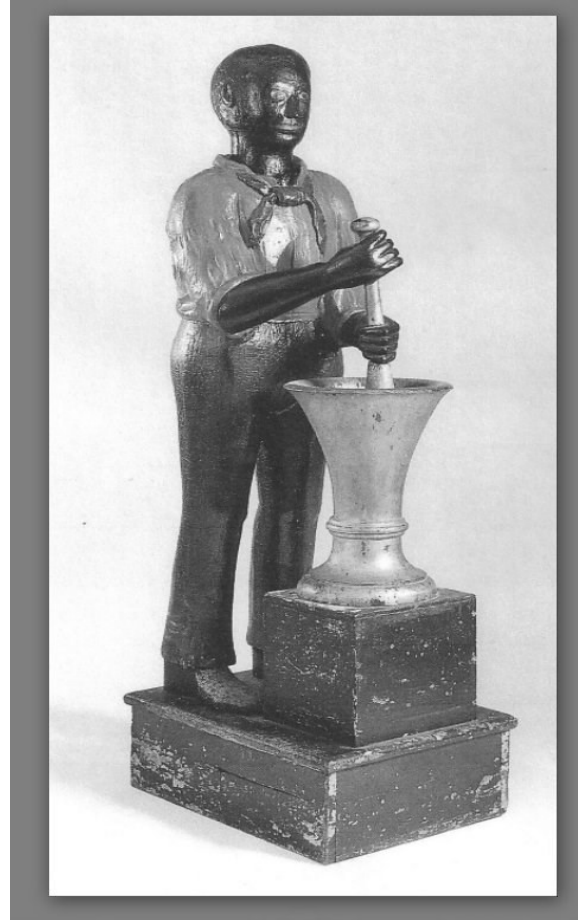


- Thanks to James Reap for his work on the 2015 *Athens Historian*, which is being mailed soon, perhaps with this newsletter. Also thank you to Evelyn Reese, who donated her Taylor-Grady "thank you" day to AHS for our holiday party.
- And a fact of interest: At the holiday party, John Barrow, telling us he was enjoying teaching at UGA, noted that he is the seventh generation of his family to teach or serve as an administrator at the University!

# HISTORICAL LOST AND FOUND



**The Tom Long found in Elberton**



**The Tom Long that surfaced in New York**

## Another Athens Mystery

Crawford W. Long, famous for discovering the use of ether as an anesthetic in 1842, moved to Athens from Jefferson in 1850. There he continued to practice medicine and opened a drugstore on Broad Street, Long Drug Store. According to James Reap in his book *Athens, a Pictorial History*, a statue dubbed “Tom Long,” depicting a figure stirring a pharmaceutical mixture in a bowl with a baseball bat, stood before the store. It was carved from hickory wood in 1850 by Charles Oliver, an Athens sign painter. In the late nineteenth century it disappeared. Dr. A.B. Long, Crawford Long’s son, found it in Elberton and had it refurbished. Then it disappeared again and reputedly turned up at an auction in New York.

We have two questions about Tom Long. 1) Is the creator of the statue, Charles Oliver, related to Thomas Parks Oliver (“TPO”) of earlier AHS newsletter Lost and Found articles? 2) Is the New York statue the same one that was in Athens? See the two photographs above of Tom Long, one taken after it was found in Elberton and refurbished (before it disappeared again), and the other of the one that surfaced in New York. Do the differences (at least five) suggest that this is a totally different statue? **Email your responses to Pat McAlexander at [patmcalex@gmail.com](mailto:patmcalex@gmail.com). Thanks to Ashley Simpson for this item.**





**ATHENS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

**ATHENS, GEORGIA**

**THE ATHENS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
AND  
THE ATHENS-  
CLARKE HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**



**ATHENS-CLARKE  
HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION**

Our AHS Facebook page reveals that people often, understandably, confuse the Athens Historical Society and the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation. The two are complementary organizations which support each other's work and have many members in common. However, they have distinct identities and goals. AHS seeks to expand and share knowledge of all elements of Athens' history—its people, places, and events. It does so through conducting research, holding regular educational programs and receptions, and sponsoring publications, rambles, and historic markers in Athens. It also attempts to assist people with their research on Athens' past, answering queries that come to its Facebook page, website, and email address. And, usually yearly, it gives the Hull award, named after nineteenth-century historian Augustus Longstreet Hull, to an individual who has contributed significantly to knowledge of Athens history.

The Heritage Foundation also sponsors publications, educational neighborhood walks, and social events (including a wonderful holiday fund-raiser and the semi-annual Fun-n-Friends at historic sites), but its focus is to preserve the historic "built environment" of Athens. It supports the formation of historic neighborhood districts, seeks to control inappropriate infill, funds selected historic properties and sites (such as the Welcome Center at the Brumby House), and gives awards to those who have preserved or renovated historic Athens buildings. It can take a stand on conflicts in Athens involving razing and construction of structures.

Most of the queries on our AHS Facebook page appropriately raise questions regarding Athens history. For example, Pat Chernishkin of Hilton Head, SC, wrote us:

I have a hand-written book written to an Anna E. Mitchell from her friends in 1859. It looks like they graduated from the Tracey Cobb Institute (?), and wrote messages to each other. Do you have any information on this Institute or who Anna E. Mitchell was?

Here are excerpts from the AHS answer (by Theresa Flynn):

What a treasure--I wasn't aware those sorts of books existed.

The school was the Lucy Cobb Institute, founded in 1859 by Athens attorney Thomas Rootes Reade Cobb, author of the Georgia and Confederate Constitutions, to provide local, high quality education for the girls of Athens and surrounding areas. Right before the school opened, T.R.R. Cobb's daughter, Lucy, died, and the board elected to name the school for her. (T.R.R. Cobb died at the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862.) The school operated until 1931, providing academic training for girls and young women that was equal to the training in male schools (oratory, Latin, sciences, mathematics, as well as art, music, and literature). . . .

Here's a short summary of Anna Mitchell's life: Anna E. Mitchell, b. 11 April 1841, d. 29 Nov 1882. Daughter of Giles and Sarah Ann E. Long Mitchell. Mother was sister to Crawford Long; father was grandson of one of the first families to settle in Athens in the early 1800s. Her father

served as a state representative and was an attorney, UGA Class of 1827. Anna had two older brothers, James T. and Samuel D., and one younger sister, Sarah E.

She married Edward P. Eberhart on 8 Jan 1882 at the age of 41 at the home of her uncle, Col. S. P. Thurmond, on Dougherty St. in Athens. Anna died the day her son, Giles M. Eberhart, was born. Her infant son died 29 Nov 1882 and is buried with his mother on the Mitchell family lot at Oconee Hill Cemetery.... I hope this is helpful--there are many local historians who would love to see your book if you are ever in Athens. It sounds delightful.

However, another query to the AHS Facebook page, from a UGA journalism major, shows how the Athens Historical Society is sometimes confused with the Athens Heritage Foundation:

Good morning, I am reporter for Grady NewSource and today I'm looking into the grocery store that is going up on the intersection of Prince and Pulaski. I would like to hear what your organization thought about this development. I am working under deadline and would like to come out to talk to someone within the next couple of hours. If someone could get back to me or refer me to someone who I could talk to, I would appreciate it. Thanks.

AHS (through Theresa Flynn) explained to this young woman that she needed to get in touch with the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, which “focuses on historical preservation and development” and told her how to get in touch with that organization, specifically their director Amy Kissane. We hope the young woman was able to meet her deadline. We also hope that this article illustrates the distinction between AHS and ACHF.

## WINTERVILLE’S CARTER-COILE DOCTORS MUSEUM RE-OPENING

**“Was there really once a doctor who set broken bones, delivered babies, performed all types of surgery, and came to his patients' homes at any hour of the day or night? In our sophisticated, automated, and specialized age, the family doctor who treated all illnesses has almost been forgotten -- except in Winterville, Georgia, home of the Carter-Coile Country Doctor's Memorial Museum.” –from the Carter-Coile Doctors Museum website.**

The Carter-Coile Doctors Museum, located next to the Winterville Public Library, is housed in a small white clapboard building that once was the office of late nineteenth-century doctor Dr. Warren Carter (1852–1908) and later Dr. Frank Coile (1865-1941). Dr. Carter graduated from a medical college in Atlanta around 1870 and opened his office in the building when it was located on the town square on a lot near the street, in front of the present Winterville Police Department. Dr. Coile moved into the building later, when his office burned.

The building was restored in the 1970s through donations from former patients and friends of Dr. Coile. The Museum has been opened and closed a number of times since then. But now, an enthusiastic group of community members has been working hard to again **The Carter-Coile Museum**





reopen the Museum. Using generously donated funds from the Marigold Festival Board of Directors, the Museum was renovated by Mike Todd and crew. Broken boards were replaced. Holes in walls were filled. A handicapped accessible ramp was built and installed. Walls were painted – and much, much more.

New curator Lee Hartle writes, “To my knowledge, there are only two or three country doctor's museums in the US!!! So, we have something pretty unique and special.” Lee goes on, “The Museum is not 100% complete (is a museum ever really ‘completed’?), but I'd say it is around 2/3's done. Just to be inside the recently renovated building is a treat in and of itself. The hardwood floors and ceiling are quite stunning.” The diplomas of both Dr. Coile and Dr. Carter are on display inside the museum, along with an operating table, photographs, books, various surgical tools, various medicine bottles, and a set of dentists' utensils.



**Operating table on display (photos by Lee Hartle)**

The Museum had a “soft” opening on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m., which led to the city’s famous Christmas in the park event. Plans are underway now for the Museum’s future. According to Lee Hartle, “We must look toward staffing, storage, collections management, research, displays and exhibits, marketing.”

**Your purchases support the mission of the AHS: to discover, preserve, and share information about the history of Athens and Clarke County, Georgia, through our programs and publications. Please shop early and often!**

**Visit <https://www.athenshistorical.org/index>**



**CHECK THIS NEWSLETTER'S ADDRESS LABEL TO SEE IF IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. YOUR RENEWAL DATE IS AFTER YOUR NAME. IF YOU RECEIVED A COMPLIMENTARY COPY, CONSIDER IT AN INVITATION TO JOIN AHS!**

We hope you will support—or continue to support—the work of AHS in expanding and sharing knowledge of Athens history. If you are already a member, the renewal date of your membership is noted after your name on your address label. (Many of your membership renewals are due this January!). If you are not a member or have let your membership lapse, please join now! To join by check, fill out the form below and mail it, with your check payable to the Athens Historical Society, to P.O. Box 7745, Athens GA, 30604-7745. To join or renew online with credit or debit card, visit <https://www.athenshistorical.org/membership-join>.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_

*An email address is requested for online mailings and updates.*

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS (circle your chosen level) Individual \$20; Family \$30; Supporting \$50; Patron \$100; Business \$250.**

**Your annual membership amount:     \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please consider an additional tax-deductible contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**AHS Newsletter**

**Editor: Pat McAlexander**

**Formatter: Beth Whitlock    Proofreader: Larry Dendy**

**Printing: Bel-Jean**

**Website: [www.athenshistorical.org](http://www.athenshistorical.org)**

**Facebook page: Athens Historical Society (Athens, GA)**