Our history begins here. Let us start you on the journey.
The award-winning Crate to Plate fundraiser is back! Last year in response to the challenges presented by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Thomasville History Center re-imagined its annual fundraising dinner to great success. At the annual conference of the Georgia Association of Museums, Crate to Plate received the “Creativity in Crisis: Fundraising” award.

This year’s crate will feature a feast from the field. We are hard at work crafting a new box of surprises for you to enjoy at home with friends or on the grounds of the History Center.

With your support, this year’s Crate to Plate can exceed last year’s records. Sponsorships for Crate to Plate are available now and can be completed online at thomasvillehistory.org/cratetoplate or by mail using the pledge card.

Pledge Card
Name as it should appear:
________________________________________

Contact Name: ________________________________
Email: _______________________________________
Phone: _______________________________________
Mail: _________________________________________

City, State, Zip: _______________________________

$3,000  $750
$1,500  $500
$1,000  $250

Will you provide a logo?  Yes  No
Decline Benefits? (no crate)  Yes  No
Would you like an invoice?  Yes  No

Please complete the pledge card on the previous page and return it by Monday, August 16th to ensure inclusion on all printed materials.

Crates will go on sale on September 1.
Exhibits Open

The Thomasville History Center’s year-long exhibit renovation is complete! The redesigned spaces debuted during Stories in Bloom.

Few corners of the History Center were untouched by the project. Following our theme, “Thomasville: a part of place, a place apart,” staff wrote, edited, designed, and installed more than 4,300 square feet of new exhibit text panels featuring stories of Thomas County’s growth and adaptation. More than 85% of the funds spent on this project were spent locally.

New exhibits highlight the experiences of enslaved Black people in Thomas County during the Antebellum period, the County’s weights and measures set, archaeological finds from the City’s excavations at the Civil War Prisoner of War site on Wolf Street, and a new display of our Fire Department collection.

We’ve received positive reviews of our new orientation video which starts guests’ journeys into the past. The 10-minute video is narrated by June White and was produced by Summerhill Creative.

The History Center is open to the public for Independent Tours Monday-Saturday and Guided Grounds Tours are available Monday-Friday at 11am and 2pm. Members and their guest receive free admission to the History Center.

Special thanks to Claire Timm for capturing these beautiful images of our new exhibits during Stories in Bloom.
Summer camps returned this year to a great response. Though Camp Dawson operated a little differently, campers had a great time playing, crafting, and cooking their way through history. This year, instead of our typical 5 day camp model, we offered three independent days. Most campers participated on more than one day with most campers having never attended before.

Campers experienced life as the Indigenous peoples of South Georgia would have lived including grinding corn, weaving flat reed for basketry, making pottery, and more. On pioneer day, campers learned how to make biscuits over an open fire, churned butter, strung beans for drying, shelled peas, and made paper quilts. On the last day of camp, we learned about the water cycle through glass terrariums, explored the Lapham-Patterson House, and churned ice cream.

The Thomasville History Center is grateful for the financial support of this program by the Thomasville Antiques Show Foundation grant and a donation from the Thomasville Town Committee of the Colonial Dames of America. We also wish to thank the following volunteers for their contributions to the campers’ experience: Maggie LaRosa, Lois Hand, Leslie Johnson, Claire Timm, Patricia Diego, Willa Copps, Jeremy Patz, Nia Jenkins, Olga Lami-Schmizzi, and Parker McCollum.

The Thomasville History Center is grateful for the financial support of this program by the Thomasville Antiques Show Foundation grant and a donation from the Thomasville Town Committee of the Colonial Dames of America. We also wish to thank the following volunteers for their contributions to the campers’ experience: Maggie LaRosa, Lois Hand, Leslie Johnson, Claire Timm, Patricia Diego, Willa Copps, Jeremy Patz, Nia Jenkins, Olga Lami-Schmizzi, and Parker McCollum.
Calling all volunteers past and present! We’re celebrating you and all you do for the History Center. Join us for a special volunteer appreciation party on July 20 at the home of Elva Rubio & Scott Timcoe next door to the History Center. Please RSVP to Anne or Amelia by July 16. Call 229-226-7664 to RSVP.

Volunteer Spotlight

**Olga Lami-Schmizzi**

Olga was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina where she started her professional career as a translator and interpreter. In 1990, she married and moved to Michigan. In 2020, she retired from Michigan State University where she was an administrative assistant. She is a community interpreter in educational institutions and government offices, including the court system. She recently moved from Williamston, Michigan to Thomasville her husband, Dominic. Together they have two adult sons. Here passions and interests include reading (which is also essential to any profession), working with animal and vegetable fibers, dyeing and spinning them into yarn, weaving, and knitting. Through fibers she connects with her community, makes friends, learn history and nature, and pass her skills on.

**Rhonda Grim**

Rhonda is a lifelong resident of Thomas County - minus her college years and a couple of years in Rome, Georgia. She retired at the end of the 2019-2020 school year from Thomas County Middle School where she taught Georgia History for 24 of my 29 years in education. She and her husband Joel have three children John, Jill (and her husband David), and Tori, as well as their furry children Jett (a black lab) and Hunter (a cat who adopted them) and one grand-puppy Finn. Now that she’s retired, she looks forward to traveling, doing some remodeling, and serving more at her church, Gatlin Creek Baptist.
Dogust Is Back!
August 2021 | #Dogust, follow on Facebook & Instagram

The time is nearly here for the 5th annual #Dogust celebration on the History Center’s social media pages. In honor of the dog days of summer and our love for man’s best friend, we continue to scour our collections for images that contain dogs so we can feature them on social media. Don’t worry! We won’t be ignoring the felines; Saturdays will become #Caturdays and posts will be dedicated accordingly. Watch out for pet adoption features throughout the month from the Humane Society.

Get Involved
Pets are part of your family so we think they should be part of our family as well. Consider signing your furry (or scaly) friend up as a History Center member under one of our new membership categories. These funds will help support our operations to digitize and protect our fantastic collections. Your “Furry Friend” membership can be purchased at thomasvillehistory.org/memberships.

Trusty Sidekicks, $10
Invitation for up to 3 transportable pets to a special pet-friendly event in 2021
Pets’ names listed in Annual Report & fall Hourglass Membership List
Gift Item

Stay-At-Home Pals, $5
Pets’ names listed in Annual Report & fall Hourglass Membership List
Gift Item

Calendar Notes

July 20: Volunteer Appreciation Party, 5pm-7pm, 803 N. Dawson Street; RSVP’s appreciated.

August 12: Renovator’s Happy Hour at the Lapham-Patterson House, Presented by Landmarks

August 16: Please pledge sponsorship support of Crate to Plate by this date to be included in the printed invitation.

August 17: Do You Remember? The Bottom, presented in partnership with the Jack Hadley Black History Museum, Pebble Hill Plantation, and the City of Thomasville. Located at the Jack Hadley Black History Museum Library, 6:30pm, 214 Alexander Street. Free and open to all.

September 1: Crate reservations open to the public

September 9: Do You Remember? Thomasville Eateries. Tell us about your favorite Thomasville drive-ins, restaurants, lunch counters and more from the 1940s through the 1970s. 7:30pm; Free and open to all.

September 21: Hybrid Virtual and In-Person Lecture, “The Edible South,” by Dr. Marcie Cohen Ferris, Author & Professor Emeritus of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; 7:30pm. Learn more about Marcie and her research at marciecohenferris.com.

September 30: Crate to Plate; Picnic on the grounds with your crate and friends!

October 9: Hands-On Heritage Workshop: Double Bottom Baskets, advanced registration required; Members, $35, General, $40. 10am-3pm. BYO Lunch.

October 11: Fall Break Day Camp, 9am-4pm; $50 per camper; Open to Kindergarten-5th Graders

October 22,23,29,30: Tours of Old City Cemetery and Flipper Cemetery; $10 per person. Tours offered at 6:30pm and 7:30pm. Reservations required. Spaces limited.

November 2: 29th Annual Pilau Dinner; tickets will go on sale in September.

Watt Collection: Watt boys with dogs and pony.
Collections Spotlight

In celebration of the Rose Show centennial this April, the History Center installed a temporary exhibit of Rose Queen and Miss Thomasville gowns, Rose Show trophies, and more. Some of the gowns were on loan to us but many came from our permanent collections. For this *Hourglass*’ collections spotlight, we thought we would feature a few of them.

1. Pam Souders Rozell, Miss America Talent Gown, Souders Collection, 2021.024.020. Gown worn by Miss Georgia 1977 Pam Souders Rozell in the 1978 Miss America Pageant. Pam was Miss Thomasville 1976. This gown is now featured in the Davis Gallery’s 20th Century exhibit.

2. Celia Chesnut Lockerman, Rose Festival Collection, 2021.010.0003. Rose Queen 1958 Celia Chesnut reigned over the 1958 Rose Show and Festival. She wore this handmade gown for the parade. In 1959, she was named Miss Congeniality at the Miss Georgia pageant.

3. Doris Gothard Mountjoy, Rose Festival Collection: 2013.027.0001. In 1948, Doris Gothard (Mountjoy) became the first Rose Queen after being elected by her Thomasville High School classmates. Mayor Will Watt presided over her coronation at the intersection of Broad Street and Jackson Street.

4. Jackie Ponder Varnedoe, Rose Festival Party Dress, 2001.12.01, Rose Queen 1956 Jackie Ponder was crowned Miss Thomas County in 1956 and reigned over the Rose Show and Festival. The dress on display was made for and worn at parties and for festival appearances.


The History Center thanks Niki Willers, Gail Peters, Marlesa Ball Greiner, and Alison Cheney for contributing dresses and memorabilia to the collection. We owe special thanks to Tom Faircloth for coordinating many of the donations and loans. The collection will be on display again for next year’s Rose Show & Festival.
Memberships

This list reflects Personal and Business members who have joined or renewed their memberships between **February 19, 2021 and July 8, 2021.** Thank you for your support! For questions or corrections, please contact Amelia, amelia@thomascountyhistory.org.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack V. Allen, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Anderson  
Mrs. Jennie Wynn Bass Bartee  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bates  
Karen Leabo-Barry & Dick Barry  
Mrs. Mary Jo Beverly  
Mr. & Mrs. Max Beverly  
Dr. & Mrs. John A. Blackmon  
Drs. Carina & Mark Blackmore  
The Bookshelf  
Mrs. Becky Bracey  
Jeanna & Travis Bryant  
Mrs. Woodward Burgert, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Bussom  
Rebecca Cannady  
Deborah & Alan Carson  
Virginia Watt Chandler & Jack Chandler  
The Chase Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Chastain  
Laurie Clement  
Mrs. William E. Clinebell  
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar T. Cook, Jr.  
Rebecca Cunha  
Mrs. Doris M. Davies  
Mr. & Mrs. Claud Davis  
Mrs. Sylvia Jo DeLoach  
Mr. & Mrs. William M. Dickey  
Mr. & Mrs. James D. Dorris  
Dr. & Mrs. Marshall Dunaway  
Mr. & Mrs. Gwynn T. Earp  
Mr. & Mrs. William Edwards  
Mr. & Mrs. George Edwards  
Raquel & Austin England  
Mr. & Mrs. M. Tom Faircloth  
Ms. Terry Farnham  
Martha Ruth Feland  
Raymond C. Finger Architects, LLC  
Fletcher & Associates, P. C.  
Col. & Mrs. Howard Floyd  
Tracy Francisco  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce T. Fykes  
Phillip Gainous  
Deann & Morgan Garcia  
Mr. & Mrs. Charlton Griffin  
Rhonda & Joel Grim  
Ms. Susan B. Haberkorn  
Mr. & Mrs. James Hadley  
Lindsay Hafford  
Pat Hall  
Pamela Hardy  
Wendy Harrison  
Mrs. Kathryn P. Harvard  
Dr. & Mrs. W. Merrill Hicks, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Hubert Hodges, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence A. Hoppock  
Mr. Christopher Hunt  
Mr. & Mrs. David Hutchings  
Nancy & M. Stewart Inman  
Carla & William Inman  
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Ivey  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Jackson  
Dona Jackson  
Beverly Jackson  
Ms. Tamara Titus & Mr. Lane K. Jacobs  
Zachary Johnson  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry T. Jones, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Jones  
Sharon Kindred  
Dr. & Mrs. John King, Jr.  
Mary–Louise & Jasper Kirkland  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Lanigan, Jr.  
Ms. Clare Lear  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert LeGette  
Sally & Don Lewis  
Harriett Loehne  
Emeline & Edward Loughlin  
Mr. Brian McClain  
Mr. & Mrs. Ben McCollum  
Anne C. McCudden  
Dr. Annie Laurie McElroy & Mr. Bill Maddox  
Dr. & Mrs. Archibald A. McNeill  
Jean McWaters  
Mr. & Mrs. T. C. Metzner  
Ms. Connie M. Middleton  
Ms. Mariam Mirabzadeh & Mr. Dennis Beckwith  
Mary Lou & John Mirocha  
Mr. David B. Mitchell, Esq.  
Ms. Linda G. Moore  
Ashley & Steven Moulds  
K Murphy Plumbing  
Mr. & Mrs. Vanessa & Darren Patz  
Mr. Jeremy Petrella  
Ms. Ruthie Pfaff  
The Pfister Family  
Mr. Brian Prosser  
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Reagan  
Mr. & Mrs. B. Scott Rich  
Mr. Robert T. Rosenbury  
Mr. Steve E. Ruis
Memorials

Thomas Black
Mr. & Mrs. Joe E. Beverly
Mrs. Becky Bracey
Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. Olson

Logan Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. G. Warren Stafford

Ronald (Ronnie) Shepherd
Mr. & Mrs. G. Warren Stafford

Did You Know?
Membership dues comprise 15% of our annual operating budget. A generous matching grant from the Jasper & Marthalene Davis Foundation adds $1 for every $2 of every donation made for less than $499.

2020-2021 Benefactor, Sustainer, & Patron Business Members

2020-2021 Benefactor, Sustainer, & Patron Personal Members

Grand Benefactor, Benefactor, & Sustainer Personal Members
Renewed February 19–July 8

2020-2021 Benefactor, Sustainer, & Patron Business Members

Mr. & Mrs. Tim Sanders
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Silvis, Ambrose, Lindquist & Coch, P.C.
Simmons, Mills & Simmons, C.P.A., P.C.
Dr. & Mrs. James E. Smith
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Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Tucker
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Tucker
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Mr. Richard S. Vann

Susan Vann
Dr. & Mrs. Philip C. Watt
Mr. & Mrs. Wylie M. Watt, Sr.
Dianne & Bob Weinstein
Mrs. Sue White
Ms. June Bailey White
Mrs. Angela Willers
Wiregrass Electric, Inc.
Ms. Wendy K. Wood
Woodleaf Senior Living
Dr. & Mrs. Ted Wright
Betty Zay
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Zoller

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Mr. & Mrs. B. Scott Rich
Mr. & Mrs. G. Warren Stafford
Nancy & M. Stewart Inman
Alston & Philip Watt
Mrs. Mary Jo Beverly
Emeline & Edward Loughlin
MAP Engagement Grant

In early 2021, the History Center applied for and was awarded a Museum Assessment Program (MAP) Grant for Engagement by the Institute of Museum & Library Sciences and the American Alliance of Museums. This program was targeted as a goal for the current strategic plan. As a part of the program, the History Center staff and a committee made up of board and community members will review the institutions outward facing policies and procedures relating to museum visitation, education programs, exhibits, signs and way-finding, and more. After completing a series of activities internally, a peer reviewer selected by the MAP committee will visit the History Center for an in-person evaluation. After their visit, the reviewer will compile a report of things we do well and areas in which we can improve to create a better and more engaging experience for guests.

Apprentice Program Plans Underway

Plans to make a long-discussed addition to our education programming a reality are underway for the upcoming school year. Over the last several years, we’ve discussed our interest in developing what we call an “apprentice” program for high school age students to introduce them to the world of museums and cultural resources.

This program, designed to last the entirety of the school year and function like a school club, will include training for each participant in the different areas of museum work and will require volunteer hours at the History Center.

Each student will complete a capstone project at the end of the year- be it a design for a new exhibit or program, or research project. Students may participate in the program over the course of their high school career and we hope to be able to add a modest academic scholarship as a reward for dedication and completion of the program for a set number of school years.

Students will also venture out into the wider community to visit and learn from other cultural entities. The program will be open to students from all local high schools and home-school students. The application process will begin early in the school year with a projected program start date of October.
Rental Packages Updated

Did you know that you can host your next special event at the History Center or Lapham-Patterson House? We’ve reviewed our rental rate schedule and created three competitively priced and inclusive packages that we think suit the needs of most events on our properties. Review the packages on our website or contact us.

Rentals at the Lapham-Patterson House include the use of the Greenhouse Bar and full property. The Greenhouse Bar includes a beautiful wooden bar constructed by Blackwater Timber and electricity.

Guests will enjoy cocktails under the pergola and sitting on the newly rebuilt benches.

The backyards of each venue have plenty of space for a marquee tent as well as electrical hookups for lighting and music.

We’re happy to recommend vendors who have worked with us before and who are familiar with the space and considerations required at a historic property.

“I Remember...” Oral History Program

The Thomasville History Center is excited to introduce a new ongoing oral history project. Help us grow our archive of the stories and experiences of Thomas County and Thomasville. We want to collect and preserve the stories of Thomasville and one of the best ways to do that is through the voices of the community.

These short recordings will be beneficial to researchers in the future and will connect generations past, present, and future through the tradition of storytelling. Periodically, we will put out a call for memories relating to specific events and moments in Thomas County history that you or a loved one may have witnessed or played an active role in. To participate, please contact Anne at anne@thomascountyhistory.org or call 229-226-7664. Recording sessions will be by appointment only and last approximately 30 minutes.
Keep in Contact - Subscribe to our Email List!
Subscribe today on our website to receive bi-monthly updates.
We have experienced difficulty sending to Rose.net email addresses. If you have an alternate service provider (Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, etc.) please use that address to subscribe at www.thomasvillehistory.org.

Garden Volunteers Needed

Our summer garden is planted and thriving at the Smith Homestead but we need your help to maintain it. Adopt a garden patch or let us know your availability to help us to keep it weeded and harvested. You can help on your own schedule, any time, any day. This is a great project for kids and teens. Need an accounting of their hours for school or scouts? Just let us know when you sign them up!

To volunteer, contact Amelia amelia@thomascountyhistory.org or by calling the History Center.

Calling all Volunteers:
Do you have a particular historical interest, skill, or handicraft you would like to share with our visitors? We invite you to get in touch and discuss volunteer opportunities with us. Call or email Anne, anne@thomascountyhistory.org to learn more!