



Our history begins here. Let us start you on the journey.

On the cover: Field sketches by Virginia Rigsby.



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*.

Camp Dawson

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.



Camp L.P.H.

Taking inspiration from the Dawson Street Historic District, seven campers designed and constructed a tabletop historic district in just 3 days. Under the guidance of Nancy Tinker, Director of Thomasville Landmarks, the campers explored the Dawson Street neighborhood, observing the variety of styles, building materials, and landscaping, and learned about the guidelines of building and renovation within the district.

Charles Olson offered the campers advice on taking their design from imagination to plan and helped campers to draw their projects before construction began. Over the next two days, campers turned everyday objects like cardboard, wooden craft sticks, dried moss, and wire into a full neighborhood complete with houses, trees, sidewalks, and two parks.

The campers' district, named the Big Oak Boulevard Historic District, remains on display at the Lapham-Patterson House through August. You are invited to stop by and see the neighborhood on your next tour or at the Renovator's Happy Hour, hosted by Thomasville Landmarks and the History Center, on August 12 at 5pm.



Thanks for your invovle"mint"

You're invited to a special volunteer event celebrating the encouragement, investment, and commitment you've shown to the History Center!

Tuesday, July 20, 5 pm-7 pm

803 N. Dawson Street

Light bites & refreshments provided

The favor of a reply is appreciated by July 16

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



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.

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 #Caturday 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



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.
5. Christina Powell Maher, Loaned by Christina Powell, Miss Thomasville 2000.

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

Mr. & Mrs. Tim Sanders
 Mr. Frank Scoggins
 Silvis, Ambrose, Lindquist & Coch, P.C.
 Simmons, Mills & Simmons, C.P.A., P.C.
 Dr. & Mrs. James E. Smith
 Brenton Smith
 Ms. Jean M. Sprague
 Mr. & Mrs. G. Warren Stafford
 Thomas University
 Thomasville Motor Court, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald A. Thriffiley, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Tucker
 Mr. & Mrs. Alan Tucker
 Mr. & Mrs. Jess M. Van Dyke
 Mr. Richard S. Vann

Susan Vann
 Dr. & Mrs. Philip C. Watt
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 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

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



Thomasville National Bank



WILLIAMS & ASSOCIATES
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
 BUSINESS ADVISORS



GRAND BENEFACTOR, BENEFACTOR, & SUSTAINER PERSONAL MEMBERS

RENEWED FEBRUARY 19-JULY 8

Mr. & Mrs. V. Jack Allen, Jr.
 Karen Leabo-Barry & Dick Barry
 Carla & Bill Inman
 Sally & Don Lewis
 Haile & Ben McCollum
 Mr. & Mrs. Vanessa & Darren Patz

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 re-built 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.





Thomas County Historical Society
P.O. Box 1922
Thomasville, GA 31799-1922

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email addresses. If you have an alternate service
provider (Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, etc.) please use
that address to subscribe at
www.thomasvillehistory.org.



@ThomasvilleHistory
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@ThomasvilleHistory

www.thomasvillehistory.org

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!

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](mailto:amelia@thomascountyhistory.org)
or by calling the History
Center.

