

# HOURGLASS



## **What's Inside?**

- COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT: RAIFORD ROCKING CHAIR
- FIRE TRUCK HOMECOMING
- CHEERS TO 65 YEARS!
- PILAU CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

CELEBRATING 65 YEARS OF ...ADVANCING OUR STORY

Vol. 37, No. 3, Fall 2017

*Published quarterly by the Thomas County Historical Society*

**On the Cover:** The restored 1916 American LaFrance Fire Engine arrives home on October, 14, 2017  
Photograph by Claire Timm Photography

## Welcome Home, Fire Engine

The restored 1916 American LaFrance Fire Engine came home on Friday, October 13, 2017. Welcomed by the donors who made the restoration possible, an emotional champagne toast and speeches from Director, Anne McCudden, and Leiann Orr representing the Jinright family, celebrated the truck's return. Helping hands guided the fire truck into its bay in the Flowers-Roberts Garage on the Museum's property where it will remain on display. The Museum's two Model T's were picked-up by the Heme Head crew for assessment in the hopes that they too can be restored!



## Lapham-Patterson House Happenings

### Deck the Halls

The Thomas County Historical Society has invited our friends, neighbors, and community partners to decorate a Christmas tree (star to skirt), a mantle, or a tablescape at the Lapham-Patterson House celebrating our community and its rich history. The decorations will be on display for the duration of the holiday season. All items should be in place in time for Victorian Christmas and the DAR Christmas Tea on December 14.

The public is also invited to attend readings of *Twas the Night Before Christmas* by Rev. Jeremy Rich, a TCHS Board Member, at the Lapham-Patterson House on Saturday, December 16, at 5pm and 6pm. Explore the House and holiday decorations during the open house from 5pm-7pm. This event is free and open to all.



# Cheers to 65 Years!

*Cheers to 65 Years!* was a rousing success! In a perfect twist of fate, 65 generous sponsors set a new record for underwriting support of our fall fundraiser. At the party, guests explored the newly completed Flowers-Roberts Basement, admired the completed fire engine, enjoyed a compilation of Roberts family home movies provided by Frank Roberts, and bid on our wonderful auction packages. In total, our anniversary celebration will contribute more than \$29,000.00 towards the programs and operations of the Thomas County Historical Society. The Board and staff thank all who helped to make this event possible including the Special Events Committee, community volunteers, auction donors, and vendors including Claire Timm Photography (see below), JB Crumbs, ALJ Enterprises, Singletary's Flowers, and Bird Dog Bottle Co.



## Wish List: Donations Appreciated!

Questions? Email Anne, [anne@thomascountyhistory.org](mailto:anne@thomascountyhistory.org) or give us a call 229-226-7664

Please join us in thanking Margaret and Oscar Cook for fulfilling our request for a large standing freezer, which appeared on our previous wish list. This addition to our cold storage has allowed us to relocate and stabilize thousands of negatives that comprise the Ed Kelly Collection. Thank you!

### **Garden Hoses (3)**

Our garden hoses have seen better days. Too often, they are moved around the property as needed causing damage. One hose will be dedicated to our new raised garden beds which were constructed with a built-in soaker hose connection.

### **Computer Monitors (3)**

We are in the midst of several database updates that take up screen space. Help us to work more efficiently with dual screens for each staff member.

### **Tiki Torch Stands**

Our 2018 program calendar will make full use of our property, help us to light the paths!

# Pilau Celebrates 25 Years

2017 has been a year of landmark anniversaries for the Thomas County Historical Society. Not only is it our 65th anniversary as an organization, but it also marks 25 years of a cornerstone fundraiser. First introduced in 1993 by Jasper Davis, the Annual Chicken Pilau Dinner has provided thousands of dollars towards the operations and programs of the Thomas County Historical Society. What began as a fundraising dinner for renovations to the Smith Log House and Kitchen has grown into a community tradition that draws hundreds of dedicated diners onto the Museum grounds and through our take-out lane on Jerger Street each Election Night.

For those new to pilau (we pronounce it as per-loo), it is a savory chicken and rice dish spiced with black pepper and served by the Historical Society with crackers, sweet pickles, coleslaw, and dessert. Pilau is a variation of the dish known as pilaf which is also typically a meal of rice and protein cooked in a seasoned broth.

The possible origins of pilau as a Southern food tradition are as endless as the ways that the favored dish is pronounced. Most regions across the globe have some version of this rice dish and a variety of names for it. Pilau or pilaf's introduction to the American South was likely a result of the merging of African and European food traditions in the low country of South Carolina in the eighteenth century. Pilau's popularity as a staple meal extended outward across the South over the next three centuries. Florida author Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings immortalized this southern supper in her 1942 book, *Cross Creek* and its follow-up *Cross Creek Cookery*:

*"...We pronounce the word "purloo." It is any dish of meat and rice cooked together. No Florida church supper, no large rural gathering, is without it. It is blessed among dishes for such a purpose, or for a large family, for meat goes farther in a pilau than prepared in any other way."*

This year's Pilau, held on November 7, was another great success. More than 1,000 meals were served to hundreds of our neighbors and friends. Forty-two of those meals were generously underwritten by William Crozer and distributed to community members in need by Rebecca Cannady of the United Way.

We extend our appreciation to the many cooks and serving line volunteers who have contributed their time and talent over the last 25 years to prepare and distribute the pilau enjoyed by so many, and particularly to



## THE HOURGLASS

Published by the Thomas County Historical Society

Volume VI

December 1993



Members Bill Lawson, Ed Henderson, and Paul McCollins prepare for PerLoo Dinner



Volunteers make ready for PerLoo dinner

### Chicken Pilau (per-loo) Dinner Held

The Society held a Traditional chicken pilau dinner on the grounds on November the 11th. Almost 775 members and visitors were present to enjoy this Southern specialty. Jasper Davis was the official chef for this fun-filled event. All proceeds from the dinner are going to be used for further restoration of an Ante-bellum log house kitchen which will be located on the Museum grounds. The dinner raised over twenty seven hundred dollars for the Museum's preservation efforts. The Museum thanks all those who worked so hard to make the dinner a success, and also extends its appreciation to all who came.

The major portion of the restoration of this log house is credited to the significant donations of Jasper and Marthalene Davis, and the Thomasville Antiques Show Foundation, Inc. With the help of the membership and community the complete restoration will soon be a reality.

TCHS Collection: Hourglass, December 1993

the Pilau Event Chairs present and past, Wylie Watt, Jr., Jay Summitt, and the late Jasper Davis.

We also wish to thank our 2017 event sponsor, Thomasville National Bank for their support of this event and express our appreciation to Flowers Baking Co., Thomasville for the donation of this year's dessert.

2017 Cooks: Wylie Watt, Jr., Event Chair; Josh Cone; Logan Lewis; Bo Rosser; Colin Dougherty; Paul Woody; Andy Vann; Bert Courtney; Bill Davis; Brock Bonner

2017 Volunteers: Ann McKinnon; Branson Gates; Charles Olson; David Hutchings; Janet Hutchings; David Stockstill; Evan Kelly; Jay Harrison; Lacey Harrison; Leian Orr; Lillian Hughes; Linda Moore; Lois Hand; John Hand; Mandy Zahniser; Marilyn Rhea; Randy Rhea; Rylan McDowell; Melody McDowell; Susan Hall; Suzanne Vereen; Abbey Watt; John Wood; Susan Haberkorn; Janell Miller



Left: Jay Summitt & a cook move a finished pot, 2008; Right: Pilau cooking, c. 2009

## Rebranding Nears Completion

Our journey through re-branding is almost complete! Thanks to the expert guidance of Dara Barwick Consulting and Fontaine Maury, led by Haile McCollum, the Historical Society's new vision, brand (including logo), and name (surprise!) are almost ready for their grand unveiling. Through the many conversations and brainstorming sessions with our Board, staff, and members of the community, we feel confident that the new brand identity for the Historical Society will carry us forward as we embark on the next 65 years of telling Thomasville's and Thomas County's story.

The official launch of our new brand will be at the 2018 Annual Meeting in January. Be on the lookout for a postcard announcing the date and program after the new year.

## Coming Soon at the Society

**November 28-December 31:** #GivingTuesday & ongoing #GAGives campaign

Donate now: <https://www.gagives.org/c/GGD/a/thomascountyhistory>

**December 1-31:** Deck the Halls, Lapham-Patterson House, holiday decorations, tours Friday 1pm-4pm, Saturday 10am-4pm.

**December 3:** Balfour Book Signing, 3pm-5pm

**December 14:** Thomasville Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Christmas Tea, 3pm-6pm, the Lapham-Patterson House. Tickets are \$15 each and available through the DAR

**December 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>:** Make History at Victorian Christmas, 6pm-9pm, Amphitheater. All ages are invited to design and create a Christmas card; free

**December 16<sup>th</sup>:** Deck the Halls: Readings & Open House, 5pm-7pm, Lapham-Patterson House, all ages welcome; free

**Holiday Closings:** December 24-25, 2017; January 1

# Memberships on the Rise

Between July 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> 86 members have joined or renewed their memberships. Please join us in thanking the following members for their support:

Dr. & Mrs. Robert H. Ackerman	Mr. & Mrs. Oscar T. Cook, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Keown
Dr. & Mrs. C. L. Bragg	Dr. & Mrs. William B. King	TECT
Mr. & Mrs. Russell P. Chubb	Mr. & Mrs. Richard S. Vann	Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Phipps
Mr. & Mrs. Joe E. Beverly	Dr. & Mrs. Charles E. Hancock	Ms. Linda G. Moore
Mrs. Jasper C. Davis	Dr. & Mrs. Rudolf J. Hehn	Caldwell & Langford
Mrs. Leroy B. Edwards, Sr.	Dr. & Mrs. W. Merrill Hicks, Jr.	South Georgia Spine & Joint Center
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Glenn, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Larry May	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Toole
Mrs. Kathleen Vignos	Mr. & Mrs. Tom L. Rankin	Mrs. Mary Eugenia Brown Cotten & Mr. Fred Williams
Mrs. James K. Thomas	Dr. & Mrs. Philip C. Watt	Mrs. Larry Owens
Mr. & Mrs. W. Leon Neel	Mr. & Mrs. Alvin B. Wight	Ms. Sandra W. Shaw & Mr. Mark Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Brown	Mrs. Diane Williams Parker	Ms. Kimberly Ellison
Mr. Logan Lewis	Dr. & Mrs. Edward K. Katz	Mr. & Mrs. Frederick G. Fryer
Mrs. F. Richard Miller	Allen & Allen Funeral Home	Dr. Naomi Rotter
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Lawson	Mr. & Mrs. Carl Wood	Woodleaf Senior Living
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Lanigan, Jr.	Better Builders of Thomasville, Inc.	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis LaRosa
Mrs. Charles H. Watt, III	Altman & Lane, LLC	Mr. Richard N. Bradner
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. McKinnon, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Mickey Miller	Mr. & Mrs. Steve Gilliland
Dr. & Mrs. John King, Jr.	Ms. Gale N. Whitehurst	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Kroell
Edwards Olson Architecture	Randy and Marilynn Rhea	Stacey & Sean George
Miss Nancy Pugh	Abram's MDDSI	Kathryn Travis
Mr. & Mrs. W. Gary Tucker	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Beaty	Mr. & Mrs. J.T. Harrison
Fletcher & Associates, P. C.	Ms. Suzanne Vereen	Don Rome
Georgia-Florida Burglar Alarm Co.	Mr. & Mrs. George Watkins	Rose Marie Sinnott
Thomas University	Ms. Ashley T. Jones	Mr. & Mrs. John A. Brown
Thomasville National Bank	Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Oliver	Mr. & Mrs. Warren Bicknell, III
Mrs. J. M. Golden, Jr.	Ms. Claire Buffkin	
Dr. & Mrs. Eugene C. Jarrett	Mr. & Mrs. Burton M. Courtney	
Mrs. Frances Gravely Parker	Mrs. Mickie Ivey	
Dr. G. Thomas Reynolds	Mr. & Mrs. Gene Price	
Mrs. Margaret Roddenbery	Ms. Julia F. Hickson	

For questions or corrections, please contact Amelia [amelia@thomascountyhistory.org](mailto:amelia@thomascountyhistory.org)

## Collections Spotlight

Since the Society began actively collecting artifacts, documents, and images more than sixty years ago, we have received thousands of donations. In this Hourglass we are shining a spotlight on one such donation. Given by Bill Raiford in 2006, this ladder backed rocking chair features a cowhide seat, five rungs forming the ladderback, and finials. The cowhide, believed to be the original material, is tied beneath the seat with leather strings, and still retains most of its fur.

According to Raiford, the chair was given as a wedding gift in 1765, to his ancestors, Stephen Swain and his wife, Ann Elizabeth. Ladder back chairs and rockers like this one were created across the South using available hardwoods. Cowhide or woven corn husks were common materials for such chairs' seats.



# GA Historical Marker Program

We are very excited to be part of the team at the Georgia Historical Society that will coordinate the maintenance of Georgia's historical markers. This program was set up to assess the condition of over 2,000 existing historical markers across the state. The GHS plans to implement a maintenance plan for historical markers and work with organizations such as us to coordinate marker repair and/or replacement. With programs like these in place, remote and often times forgotten historical events and locations will remain properly documented and available to the public.



## GAGives 2017: Smith Homestead Updates

GAgives on #GivingTuesday falls on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, and the retail phenomenons of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. This ongoing campaign answers the public's appetite to balance holiday "getting" with community "giving," and kicks off the end-of-year fundraising season for nonprofits. Presented by the Georgia Center for Nonprofits (GCN), the event will unify the state in an effort to raise as much money and awareness as possible for Georgia nonprofits in a 24-hour period and throughout the holiday season. Donations are welcomed beyond November 28 and can be made online or by check to the Historical Society.



This year, the Thomas County Historical Society asks you to help us further our ongoing upgrades to the Smith Homestead located on the Museum grounds. The c. 1870 Smith Log House and Kitchen are central to programming and interpretation of our community's agricultural history. Used year-round for field trips, summer camp, and adult programming, the Log House is home to many interactive experiences. Together with the Yeomen Storage Shed and our collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century agricultural equipment, the area makes up the Smith Homestead. We hope to use funds raised during #GAGIVES to reconstruct a split-rail fence to surround the homestead, support ongoing maintenance of the log structures, rebuild and relocate our reproduction well, and make strides toward conserving the farm equipment.

So far this year we have made great progress in bringing the homestead to life with: a new interactive self-guided tour designed by Intern Meme Hand; getting the loom operational with the help of Barbara Believeau, and installing subtle lighting to the log house bedroom, hall, and kitchen for use during evening events. We hope that you will consider giving towards this project!

To contribute online, visit: <https://www.gagives.org/c/GGD/a/thomascountyhistory> or the Society's online store: [shop.thomascountyhistory.org](http://shop.thomascountyhistory.org) and select "#GivingTuesday."



**THE HOURGLASS** Vol. 37 No.3  
 THOMAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 P. O. Box 1922  
 Thomasville, GA 31799-1922

Nonprofit Organization  
 U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Thomasville, GA 31792  
 Permit No. 55

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## Memorials

*Russ Jinright*  
 Betty Jinright  
 Martha Hancock

*Ken Beverly*  
 Mary Jo Beverly

*J. W. Blanton*  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Hughes

*Nancy Smith Chandler*  
 Mary Jo Beverly

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## 2017-2018 Corporate & Benefactor Business Members:



Fletcher & Associates, P.C.  
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Hampton Inn Thomasville



Thomasville National Bank

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**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](mailto:anne@thomascountyhistory.org) to learn more!

[www.thomascountyhistory.org](http://www.thomascountyhistory.org)



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