

# GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Spring 2010

# Volume 12, Issue 1

# for the Affiliate Chapters

Georgia Historical Society ■ 501 Whitaker Street ■ Savannah, GA 31401 ■ [www.georgiahistory.com](http://www.georgiahistory.com) ■ 912.651.2125

## **PROFITING FROM THE PAST USING LOCAL HISTORICAL RESOURCES TO PROMOTE TOURISM**



*Cherokee County Historical Society's Rock Barn will host the May 21st workshop in Canton.*

The Georgia Historical Society (GHS) will be presenting four free workshops for its Affiliate Chapters and interested cultural institutions this spring focusing on local heritage tourism. The workshops, conducted by GHS staff, will train workers and volunteers in the use of local historical resources, including historical markers and online tools, for promoting heritage tourism in their communities. These one-day workshops will encourage participants to identify local cultural resources and develop ideas and strategies for incorporating these assets into local tours and history programs.

The workshops will be held throughout the state in:

- Thomasville on May 7  
Thomas County Museum of History
- Savannah on May 17  
Georgia Historical Society
- Canton on May 21  
Cherokee County Historical Society's Rock Barn
- Augusta on June 11  
Historic Augusta, Inc.'s Lamar House

Presentations will include examples of successful strategies by local groups throughout Georgia, while break-out sessions will allow participants to engage fellow professionals in brainstorming activities and the formation of plans for increasing tourism numbers at their institutions. Further, in this challenging economic climate, workshops will highlight the use of new technologies that allow for wider audiences in developing and enhancing existing programs while limiting staff hours and overhead costs. Particular attention will also be paid to strategies for capitalizing on the upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the American Civil War, and the anticipated increase in tourism associated with it.

The workshops will also provide a great opportunity to network with individuals involved in the tourism industry in your area as well as representatives from the Georgia Department of Economic Development. Training materials and a certificate of completion will be given to all participants at the conclusion of the workshop.

Contact Will Hanley at (912) 651-2125 ext. 22 or RSVP to [bwilliams@georgiahistory.com](mailto:bwilliams@georgiahistory.com).

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## PUTTING OUR 'MARK' ON THE PAST



Georgia Historical Marker waiting to be unveiled.

The Georgia Historical Society (GHS) has administered the official state historical marker program since 1998. Since that time, through a detailed and competitive application process, GHS and its independent historical marker review committee have continued to expand both the range of subjects commemorated throughout the state and the geographic diversity of the state's historical markers.

In addition to the ongoing state marker program, GHS is also erecting several historical markers to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. This project is a piece of a larger effort developed by the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) to capture the increased flow of tourists anticipated during the upcoming anniversary period. These markers will help

tell the complete story of the Civil War in Georgia and in terms understandable to all by focusing on previously un-told stories.

Unfortunately, this cause of advancing the appreciation of history has suffered several blows recently. Due to dire state budget concerns, GHS and the marker program have received ongoing funding cuts resulting in drastic reductions in the number of historical markers erected annually. As a result, the program now risks being dissolved or significantly altered. Currently the marker review committee can approve four marker applications per year - a decrease from six last year, twelve three years ago, and twenty applications in 2000. This represents an 80% reduction in funding since GHS first began administration of the program. However, despite these difficulties we continue to receive quality applications and put markers in the ground. The work is just as important as ever and Georgia's rich heritage still needs to be recognized.



Members of the St. Peter Claver Catholic Church and School in Macon, Georgia and GHS Historical Marker Coordinator Will Hanley.



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## FROM THE AFFILIATES

### Georgia Archives

#### Call for GHRAB Award Nominations

Is someone you know doing outstanding work using, preserving, or making accessible original historical records? Think about your historical society or library, county or municipality, researcher or local historian, educator or student. The Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board (GHRAB) wants to encourage and reward their efforts. GHRAB has twelve different award categories for individuals and organizations.

Nominations may be submitted by the June 1, 2010, deadline. Award recipients are honored by the Georgia Secretary of State and the GHRAB Board at a ceremony during Archives Month in early October 2010. To nominate, visit [www.GeorgiaArchives.org](http://www.GeorgiaArchives.org) and click on 2010 GHRAB Awards Program. There you can complete the one-page nomination form and view previous award recipients. Questions? Contact GHRAB at 678-364-3718 or [ebarr@sos.ga.gov](mailto:ebarr@sos.ga.gov)

### The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History

#### The African American Golf Exhibition

April 1 - May 31, 2010

Opening Reception: Monday, April 5, 2010 from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm in the museum's Conference Room.

The exhibition will feature the artwork of Samuel Barnes, a local self-taught artist, and will explore the role of African Americans in golf with a special emphasis on the role of the black caddie.

Costs: Adults \$5 Seniors \$3 Children \$2  
(706) 724-3576

### Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History

A People of the Land: Lowcountry Portraits  
The Photographic Work of Vennie Deas Moore  
June 1 - July 31, 2010

Born and raised in the South Carolina Lowcountry, Moore has been a witness to its ever-changing community. Through her writings, research, and especially her documentary photography, where she follows in the traditions of Zora Neale Hurston and Dorothea Lange among others, Moore captures impactful and powerful stories through her words and images.

Moore received her education at the South Carolina Medical University and George Washington University. Among the books she has published is the latest entitled, *Home: Portraits from the Carolina Coast*.

A People of the Land is a nationally traveling exhibition organized by McKissick Museum, The University of South Carolina.

Moore will also be conducting a photography workshop on the Canal Sunset Photo Cruise during the Augusta Photography Festival, Saturday, June 12, 2010 from 6 to 9 pm at the Augusta Canal Interpretive Center. For class description and fee, or to register, please visit [AugustaPhotoFestival.org](http://AugustaPhotoFestival.org) and click the Workshops tab.

Opening Reception:  
Sunday, June 6, 2010, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History  
Conference Center at 1116 Phillips Street, Augusta, GA 30901

Cost:  
Adults \$5; Seniors/Military \$3; Students \$2  
Exhibition can be seen during normal museum operating hours

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## FROM THE ARCHIVES HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BACKLOG



Here are some collections that have recently been processed from the Georgia Historical Society's backlog. All of these collections had previously been surveyed by GHS staff and are finally being processed so that they can be accessed by users.

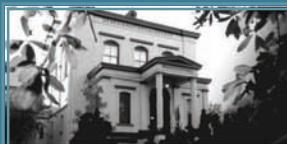
**MS 1616: Fred A. Birchmore papers, 1935-1939.** This collection includes postcards, photographs, correspondence, and one book which detail Fred A. Birchmore's trek around the world on his bicycle. Birchmore began his trek around the world in Gotha, Germany in 1935 where he bought his bicycle named, Bucephalus. He then rode his bike throughout Europe, Crete, Cyprus, Egypt, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, the Philippines, and finally across the United States back to his home in Athens, Georgia. It is estimated that Birchmore traveled approximately 40,000 miles, of which 25,000 were on his bicycle and the remainder by boat.



Fred A. Birchmore and Bucephalus



One of Fred A. Birchmore's correspondences with his mother, Mrs. F. G. Birchmore of Augusta.



GEORGIA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Visit the Georgia Historical Society's Library and Archives

501 Whitaker Street, Savannah

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**MS 1795: Katherine Morrell Driscoll letters, 1942-1947.** Within this collection are letters written by soldiers from various branches of the military serving in World War II. The soldiers wrote their letters to Driscoll from their military bases and would recount their memories of visiting her at the "Little House," her home in Savannah, Georgia as well as their experiences in the military and serving in the war.

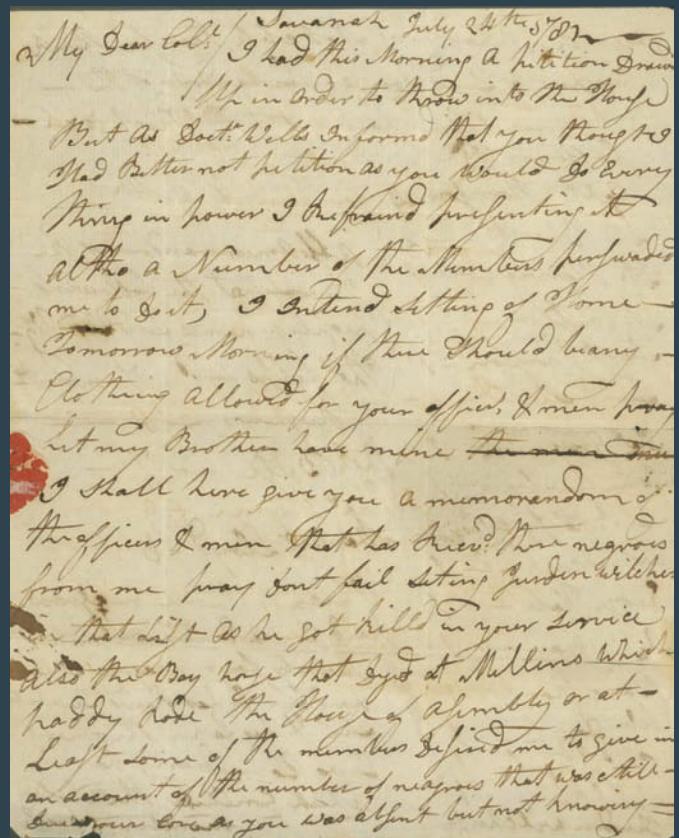


Stereograph of Hodgson Hall, circa 1901.

**MS 1833: Hodgson Hall (Savannah, Ga.) stereoviews, 1901.** This stereoview offers us an earlier look of the interior of Hodgson Hall, the main reading room of the Georgia Historical Society from 1901.

**MS 2065: James Stalling letter, 1782.** James Stallings served in the American Revolutionary War as a captain under Lieutenant Colonel James Jackson of the

Georgia Legionary Corps. Capt. Stallings wrote to Lieut. Col. Jackson on 24 July 1782 from Savannah, Georgia and included a list of officers and men who requested African Americans from Stallings in return for their service.



Letter by Revolutionary War Captain, James Stalling, to Lt. Col. James Jackson.

**MS 2112: Count d'Estaing memoir, ca. 1785.** Charles Henri, Comte d'Estaing (1729-1794) was a French naval commander sympathetic to the American Revolutionary cause and attempted to take Savannah from the British in 1779. This is brief memoir written by Count d'Estaing regarding his involvement in the American Revolutionary War, particularly of the siege of Savannah in 1779. This memoir was written most likely around 1785 and is written in French.



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