

CHATTAHOOCHEE TRACINGS

Newsletter of the Historic
Chattahoochee Commission

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SUMMER 2003

HCC ANNOUNCES MATCHING SEED GRANT PROGRAM

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC) has announced the continuation of its Matching Seed Grant Program, one of its most popular projects since its establishment in 1985. Over the last eighteen years, the HCC has distributed over \$88,354 in matching monies to 49 different groups in its eighteen county bi-state region. Grants are provided on a 50/50 reimbursable basis with the goal of developing the Chattahoochee Trace's full potential for historic preservation and tourism.

This program will provide financial assistance to any qualifying non-profit organization or agency headquartered within the Chattahoochee Trace region promoted by the HCC. In addition, the project for which funding is requested must contribute to the promotion of tourism, history and/or historic preservation. All projects funded under this program must be innovative in scope and application. Projects that are a continuation of on-going programs will not be eligible for consideration. The Commission has set aside \$20,000 during FY 2003-2004 to assist in the funding and development of various projects in the Chattahoochee Trace area of Alabama and Georgia. Previous grants have been awarded in the \$500 to \$3,500 range. All projects must begin after October 2, 2003 and be completed by May 1, 2004.

Applications must be submitted on an official form provided by the HCC. Qualifying organizations should submit funding requests no later than 4:00 p.m. CDT on August 8, 2003 to: Chairman, HCC Matching Grants Committee, P. O. Box 33, Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033. Matching grant applications and detailed guidelines are available on request at the listed address or by calling (334) 687-9755, or e-mail: hcc@alalinc.net Grant recipients will be announced at the HCC's annual meeting in Dothan, Alabama, on October 2, 2003.

HCC ANNOUNCES 2003 CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY THREATENED LANDMARKS PROGRAM

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC) has announced the continuation of its Chattahoochee Valley Threatened Landmarks Program to help focus attention on buildings, structures and sites that are in danger of being lost. Each year the HCC identifies up to ten historic properties within the eighteen county bi-state region it serves that are worthy of preservation. It is hoped that this designation will encourage property owners or others to take a renewed interest in the rehabilitation of these threatened landmarks.

Between 1934 and 1960, the U.S. Department of Interior's Historic American Building's Survey identified hundreds of structures in both Alabama and Georgia that were historically or architecturally significant. Today, nearly half of the Alabama structures and twenty percent of the Georgia buildings identified in this survey have been lost. Many disappeared due to neglect while others were lost to demolition by businesses or individuals who did not have an appreciation for their unique architectural or historical qualities. Other buildings have been destroyed by fire and a variety of natural disasters.



Moulthrop House, Eufaula, Alabama

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Georgia and Alabama Expenditures Continue to Grow

Tourists spent \$23.9 billion in Georgia last year, and more of them decided to spend their time off here, according to a new report. About 42 million



people traveled to Georgia as their primary destination last year, up by more than 300,000 from 2001, according to the report by the Travel Industry of America. Of those visitors, 81 percent traveled by car. Travelers in Georgia spent \$13.9 billion in 2002 on transportation, lodging, food, entertainment and recreation, according to the report. The other \$10 billion came from indirect expenditures by visitors. The money they spent supported 207,000 tourism-related jobs in the state with 39 percent in the food service industry.

After nearly identical tallies of \$6.1 billion in state tourism revenues for both 2000 and 2001, expenditures jumped 7 percent in 2002 to close at \$6.5 billion, according to a report compiled by the Center for Business and Economic Development at Auburn University Montgomery. The report is on the Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel's Web site at www.touralabama.org. To view it, click on the "Tourist Information" link and then select "Statistical Register."



GUEST COLUMN

by Patsy Pouncey

I've driven past her for approximately 14 years and I have never failed to be struck by her imposing ageless beauty. And, not until recently, had I ever imagined that I would be captured by Shorter Mansion's mystique. Her beauty emits an allure that beckons passersby to stop and experience a time of days gone past. Once inside, she'll intrigue you with her manner and entice you into her world. You won't escape. You may leave but she has you mesmerized. She's like a siren that calls to you in the night with that haunting, yet, calming song.

Yep. I'm hooked and happily so.

When Doug Purcell, a friend for more than 25 years, called and asked if I had an interest in returning to work after a health challenge, I immediately responded affirmatively but wanted to know what he had in mind. He shared with me that the board of the Eufaula Heritage Association

was interviewing to fill the position of executive director of EHA. After submitting my resume and interviewing for the position, I began my job with EHA in an environment of which most people only dream.

I have the opportunity to share with visitors the history behind this glorious historic mansion and the charming community in which it is located. I get to book weddings, receptions, civic meetings, and various events for this graceful 'lady.' I have been appointed the task to aide in generating funds to maintain the grandeur Shorter so proudly exudes.

True, I have a challenge but the journey will be educational and rewarding.

While working with the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel (formerly the Bureau of Publicity and Information), Shorter Mansion was the essence of historic homes. Often thought of as an antebellum home but in actuality it was built in 1884, the mansion was a primary selling tool for the state's tourism program in marketing the historical structures in Alabama. Wherever we promoted the state, there

were always inquiries about the historic homes of the South such as Sturdivant Hall, Gaineswood, Arlington, Bluff Hall, Oakleigh, the Little White House, and, of course, Shorter Mansion. We took great pride in the state's



Patsy Pouncey, Executive Director Eufaula Heritage Association

historical structures. I, personally, applaud Doug Purcell and the Historic Chattahoochee Commission, the Alabama Historical Commission, and the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel for their dedication in recognizing the need for preservation of our historic properties throughout Alabama.

Today, Shorter Mansion is more popular than ever and continues to sparkle as a jewel in Alabama's history. Because of local support and pride, the 2003 Eufaula Pilgrimage produced one of the most successful events in its 38 year history. Given the effort invested by the Eufaula Heritage Association, its board, and its members, to restore the glory and grandiose of its earlier days to Shorter Mansion, I envision many challenges but, equally, many rewards in the accomplishments we all devote to the care of Shorter Mansion. I hope readers of this newsletter will stop in and say hello to us at the mansion. Like the SSS Tonic to which Mrs. Shorter was an heiress, this magnificent house can be a cure for pretty much whatever ails you.

HCC ANNOUNCES 2003 CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY THREATENED LANDMARKS PROGRAM

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In 1978, the HCC released a coffee table publication entitled The Architectural Legacy of the Lower Chattahoochee Valley in Alabama and Georgia. This was the Commission's first effort to survey and record information about endangered properties. In that same year, the HCC signed a contract with the Alabama Historical Commission to make a documented survey of buildings, ruins and sites of historical or architectural significance in Russell (excluding Phenix City), Barbour, Henry, Houston, and Dale Counties. Later, in 1979, Chambers County was added to the survey. Since that time, more extensive rural architectural surveys have been conducted with HCC assistance in Troup, Harris, Stewart, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole, Clay, Decatur, and Early Counties in Georgia and Russell, Barbour, Chambers, Henry, Dale, Lee, and Houston Counties in Alabama.

Survey material on file at the HCC office will be consulted as part of the selection process for endangered properties. Nominations will also be solicited from area citizens as well as historical and preservation groups within the Chattahoochee Valley. The HCC's Rural Architectural Survey Committee will review all nominations and select the properties to be designated as threatened landmarks.

Two historic properties were identified under this Chattahoochee Valley Threatened Landmarks Program in 2002. According to this list the region's most vulnerable historic sites were: Moulthrop House, Eufaula, Alabama; and Old New Hope School, Lanett (Fredonia), Alabama.

Threatened landmark nominations are due in the HCC's Eufaula, Alabama office by 4:00 PM CDT on Friday, August 8, 2003. Program guidelines and nomination forms are available from the HCC offices in Eufaula or LaGrange, Georgia. Nominations should be accompanied by three color 35-mm slides. An announcement of the designated properties will be made at the HCC's annual meeting in Dothan, Alabama on October 2, 2003. Once the buildings or sites have been identified, the Commission will work with the property owners to provide whatever assistance is available to preserve the landmarks for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations. A \$500 matching grant will be offered to the owners of properties identified as the region's most endangered sites in 2003.

NEWSLETTER

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission (HCC), an agency of the states of Alabama and Georgia, is involved in the promotion of tourism and historic preservation throughout the lower Chattahoochee Valley.

Chattahoochee Tracings is published quarterly and is free to interested citizens. Requests for the newsletters and changes of address should be directed to HCC, P.O. Box 33, Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033. (334) 687-9755 or P.O. Box 942, LaGrange, Georgia 30241, (706) 845-8440, e-mail hcc@alalinc.net, Web Page www.hcc-al-ga.org, 1-877-POOCHIE.

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TOURISM AND PRESERVATION NEWS

On March 31, Georgia Governor Sonny Purdue and other dignitaries, friends and supporters joined together for the grand opening celebration for the Southwest Georgia Visitor Information Center, located at 101 Airport Road in Bainbridge, Georgia. The director of the Visitor Information Center is Mary Jo Dudley, who was formerly the regional representative for the Plantation Trace Region of Georgia. For further information about the facility call 229-246-4774.

On the 58th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's death at his beloved Little White House, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, his granddaughter, spoke during the commemorative service and groundbreaking for the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Museum in Warm Springs, Georgia. The \$6 million project will feature 18,000 square-feet of updated exhibits and other facilities on one level and will represent a sharp contrast to the simple six-room white clapboard house he had built nearby on the north slope of Pine Mountain, at a cost of \$8,738.14. The state has committed \$2.5 million to the museum project and \$2.5 million has been raised from the private sector through gifts from foundations and corporations. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources hopes to raise the final \$1 million from gifts by those who value FDR's contributions to the nation and Georgia's role in helping shape his viewpoints on national affairs.

After 38 years, the Eufaula Pilgrimage is alive and well, as visitors packed the town April 4 - April 6, to tour historic homes and to enjoy related events. They also boosted the Pilgrimage's gross receipts to approximately \$82,000, breaking a record set in 2000. Earlier concerns that worry over the war in Iraq or the dismal performance of the stock market might cut into this year's Pilgrimage attendance evaporated into the spring sunshine, as record numbers toured historic buildings in Eufaula. Robert McCullar, president of the Eufaula Heritage Association, said this year's receipts are about \$4,000 above those from the previous record year. Receipts for this year are well above the five-year average through 2002 of \$63,600.

The Auburn Heritage Association has moved into the electronic age, according to Greg Sellers, president of the Association, with a new website and email address. Their new website address is www.auburnheritage.org, and

their email address is auburnheritageassoc@yahoo.com. For further information call the Association at (334) 826-8844.

The Henry County Historical Group has launched a new 20-page newsletter entitled **The Patrick Henry Orator**. The **Orator** is published quarterly to inform members of projects and activities of the organization and to promote interest in the preservation of Henry County's history. Articles and photographs are welcomed, and may be sent to Ron Thomas at 5679 CR 53, Abbeville, Alabama, 36310 or emailed to rlthomas@graceba.net. For further interest in the Henry County Historical Group write 9127 County Road 99, Headland, Alabama 36345.

Dillingham Place received a Rehabilitation Award from the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation at their Annual Meeting in Milledgeville on March 29, 2003. Awards in this category recognize exemplary rehabilitation of historic buildings, including compatible new additions. A rehabilitation project preserves significant portions and features of a building, including historic changes, while making possible and efficient contemporary use. In 1993, the Chattahoochee Valley Historical Society published in hardback, **Confederate Soldiers from Chambers County, Alabama and Thereabouts**. The book included over 200 photographs of Confederate soldiers or veterans, as well as brief regimental histories and muster lists of units that were predominantly from this area. It has been out of print for a number of years and now the Society is planning to publish a new edition with more information and more photographs. If you have a photograph of a Confederate soldier or veteran that you would like to have included, please mail a copy along with biographical information of up to 150 words to Carl Summers, 1127 East Glenn Avenue, Auburn, Alabama 36830. There is no charge for including the photograph and information in the book.

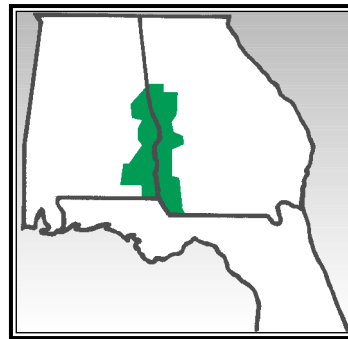
More than 80 million Americans participate in wildlife related recreation, according to a recent report. In addition, more than \$110 billion was spent on fishing, hunting and wildlife watching in 2001, about 1.1 percent of the Gross Domestic Product, according to a study released by the International Association

of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The Georgia Quality Growth Partnership (GQGP), of which the Trust is a partner, has developed an online toolkit to provide easily accessible, practical advice to local governments on "quality growth" tools that may be used to enhance quality of life or to address growth issues. Each tool discussion includes step-by-step guides for implementation, considerations about costs and administrative requirements, and example ordinances or similar materials that may be used for putting the approaches into practice. The GQGP hopes this toolkit will help local officials to make rational, informed decisions on which quality growth tools are best suited for their communities. Check it out at www.georgiaqualitygrowth.com.

Pelican Publishing Company at Post Office Box 3110, Gretna, LA 70054, has released a new book by Captain Rick Rhodes entitled **Cruising Guide to Florida's Big Bend**. Covering more than 300 nautical miles in the Gulf of Mexico, this book guides cruisers along Florida's gulf coastline from Apalachicola to Anclote Key. Captain Rick Rhodes also explores the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, Flint, and Suwannee Rivers. By including numerous historic anecdotes, **Cruising Guide to Florida's Big Bend** gives insight into the region's past, along with current marina, restaurant, and entertainment recommendations. Like all of Pelican's Cruising Guide Series, this book contains up to date and thoroughly researched information of the area including: 26 NOAA chart extracts; 500 miles of inland river research; 13 river, lake and canal sketches; 11 town street maps; 66 GPS way points; 60 fueling locations; 90 boating facilities; 160 boat-launch ramps; and hundreds of phone numbers. The 360 page soft cover book is available for \$32.95 plus \$4 for shipping and handling from the Historic Chattahoochee Commission at Post Office Box 33, Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033 or toll free from Pelican at 1-800-843-1724.

More than 100 years of Barbour County history as recorded through estate records, circuit court files, marriage records, and probate dockets have been preserved on microfilm. Seventy-nine rolls of microfilm have been donated by the Alabama Department of Archives and History to the Eufaula Carnegie Library. Richard and Roberta Jones, from the Genealogical Society of Utah, who finished the work last year,

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CHATTAHOOCHEE TRACE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Information for inclusion in the Calendar of Events must be received by the first of the month preceding the event. Events will be listed as space permits.

JULY 2003

- June 30 thru July 5** **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR:** Clay County Library, Fort Gaines, Georgia. Books for readers of all ages. 9AM -5PM (EDT). For more information call (229) 768-2248.
- July 1 -31** **PLUMLEAF AZALEA:** Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia. Cason & Virginia Callaway, founders of Callaway, saved the plumleaf azalea from extinction. People come from far and wide to see this beautiful native, reddish-orange flower in bloom throughout the month of July. For more information call 1-800-CALLAWAY.
- July 2** **"LIFE IN A FISH BOWL":** Clay County Library, Fort Gaines, Georgia. A Clay County Extension Children's Program. 1 PM (EDT). For more information call (229) 768-2248.
- July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30** **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY:** The Columbus Museum, Columbus, Georgia. Each Wednesday will feature a different program with performances at 10:00 AM and 11:15 AM (EDT). Children ages five and up and their adult friends are invited to The Columbus Museum's Patrick Theatre to participate in these exciting, free programs each week. All programs are live performances and encourage audience participation. Each week features a different artist including musicians, dancers and storytellers. For more information call The Columbus Museum at (706) 649-0713.
- July 4** **INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY:** Westville, Lumpkin, Georgia. 11:00 AM (EDT). Visitors can participate in mid-19th century games including three-legged and sack races, grease-pole climb and watermelon-eating contest. After working up an appetite, guests can enjoy finger-lickin good barbecue and toe-tapping great music. The magic overhead will be the blacksmith's buried anvil blown sky high with dynamite powder every hour on the hour. For more information call 1-888-733-1850.
- July 4** **20TH ANNUAL SWEET LAND OF LIBERTY PARADE:** Downtown LaGrange, Georgia. Parade will begin at 10AM (EDT). For more information call (706) 883-1670.
- July 4** **SURF & SAND SPECTACULAR:** Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia. There's no better place to spend your 4th of July than at Callaway Gardens' Robin Lake Beach! The day is packed with fun--beach games, swimming, circus performances by FSU's "Flying High" Circus, miniature train rides, paddleboats, miniature golf, live music and great food. The day ends with a fireworks display over Robin Lake. For more information, call 1-800-CALLAWAY.
- July 4 thru July 6** **FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION:** Florence Marina State Park, Omaha, Georgia. This weekend celebration includes mini golf tournament, craft making of all kinds, reptile presentations, guided tours of the Rood Creek Indian Mounds, boat rides along the river and more. \$2 parking. For more information call (229) 838-4706.
- July 5** **BIRDS OF PREY:** Providence Canyon State Park, Lumpkin, Georgia. 1:00 PM -2:10 PM (EDT). Learn about hawks, owls and other birds of prey at this unique park in southwest Georgia. \$2 parking. For more information call (229) 838-6202.
- July 5** **WALKING TOUR:** Downtown, Dothan, Alabama. 10 AM (CDT). Free guided Saturday morning walks will take place from Memorial Day weekend through the Fourth of July weekend. Tours will begin at the *Salute to the Peanut Industry Mural*. Call 1-888-449-0212 for more information.
- July 6** **VINTAGE BASEBALL:** Westville, Lumpkin, Georgia. First Sunday in each month at 1:30 PM (EDT). Come and play baseball the way it was played in 1860. For more information, call 1-888-733-1850.
- July 6, 13, 20 & 27** **HERITAGE FORUMS:** Landmark Park, Dothan, Alabama. The park's third annual series of "Heritage Forums" will feature four different guest speakers who will each present a program about some aspect of state and local history. All the programs are free with park admission and begin at 2:30 PM (CDT), in the Interpretive Center Auditorium at Landmark Park. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (334) 794-3452.
- July 7-11** **STARRY, STARRY NIGHT:** Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 701 Front Avenue, Columbus, Georgia. Students will create their own tools, such as star clocks, star maps and telescopes to navigate through the night sky. Instructor: Mr. Neal Garner; Grade Level: Rising 5th - 7th graders; Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM (EDT); Cost: \$175.00. For more information call (706) 649-1470.
- July 7-11** **THUNDER, LIGHTNING AND HURRICANES:** Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 701 Front Avenue, Columbus, Georgia. During this week, campers will learn how to prepare for extreme weather. Campers will also visit WTVM and work with TV meteorologist Brian McClure. Instructor: Ms. Christine Iverson; Grade Level: Rising 3rd - 4th graders; Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM (EDT); Cost: \$175.00. For more information call (706) 649-1470.
- July 7-13** **FUTURE MASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT:** Dothan Country Club, 200 S. Cherokee Ave, Dothan, Alabama. The Future Masters and the Dothan Country Club share a rich history and long tradition of golfing excellence. This 54th playing of the tournament will add another great chapter. For more information call (334) 793-7144.
- July 8-11** **OPEN AIR STUDIO AND ART CAMP:** The Columbus Museum Uptown, Columbus, Georgia. This is a great camp for students who are serious about developing their drawing skills. They will focus on several different drawing methods, including charcoal, graphite, pastels and colored pencils. Practice drawing from life outdoors and inside the studio. \$60 Museum members; \$70 Non-members. This four day camp is for teens ages 13-18. Call (706) 221-7580 to reserve your space.

- July 8-11** **ART MAGIC:** The Columbus Museum Uptown, Columbus, Georgia. This four day camp is for kids ages 7-15. Kids will learn about a variety of art, including 2-D, 3-D, drawing and painting. Sign up a week at a time and enjoy a diverse arrangement of art lessons all month long! Call (706) 221-7580 to reserve your space.
- July 15-18**
- July 22-25**
- July 29-Aug.1**
- July 9** **LADORIS BIAS-DAVIS, STORYTELLER:** Clay County Library, Fort Gaines, Georgia. 1 PM (EDT). For more information call (229) 768-2248.
- July 10** **MUSIC BY MOONLIGHT:** Landmark Park, Dothan, Alabama. 7:30 PM (CDT). The Ed Stephenson Group will perform. Pack a picnic supper, bring the family and friends and enjoy an evening of great music under the stars in a relaxed, informal setting. Admission is free. For more information call (334) 794-3452.
- July 10-12** **"WHEN YOU COMIN' BACK, RED RYDER?"** Opus Nostrum Dinner Theatre, 115 West Church Street, Headland, Alabama. Doors open at 6:30 PM (CDT); Dinner at 7:00 PM (CDT) and the play following. Dinner and play are \$22.50 (gratuities included). Catered by Yatta Abba of Abbeville. *This play contains strong (not profane) language and is for mature audiences. For reservations or more information, please call (334) 693-0846 or (334) 774-8713.
- July 17-19**
- July 24-26**
- July 12, 19, 26 & Aug. 2** **CREATIVE CLAY WORKSHOP:** Columbus Museum Uptown, 4:00 PM - 6 PM (EDT). Create unique objects made of clay using different hand-building techniques, then have your pieces glazed and fired to create a permanent work of art. \$70 Members; \$80 Non-members. Supplies will be provided. This class is geared towards teens and adults. Call The Columbus Museum Uptown at (706) 221-7580 to reserve your space.
- July 13** **INSECTIVAL:** Oxbow Meadows, 3535 South Lumpkin Road, Columbus, Georgia. \$2 per person, kids under 4 free. Insect mania is back! Entomologists will bring tarantulas, scorpions & more. The Insect Chef will create delicious, new insect meals for visitors to taste. For sweet lovers, lick an insect sucker or munch chocolate-coated crickets! Beekeepers will sell fresh, local honey. Join in the kids activities, catch a dragonfly, dip for aquatic insects, try new games, get an insect tattoo & enjoy refreshments under the big tents. For more information call (706) 687-4090.
- July 14-18** **JUNIOR RANGER DAY CAMP AT FLORENCE MARINA, OMAHA, GEORGIA:** Florence Marina State Park & Providence Canyon State Park sponsors this event. Children ages 11 to 13 can learn about the great outdoors and Georgia history. Register in advance. \$10 plus, \$2 parking. For more information call (229) 838-4706.

- July 14-18** **SO, WHAT'S MATH GOT TO DO WITH IT?** Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 701 Front Avenue, Columbus, Georgia. This camp is designed to inspire girls to learn and to explore space science and astronomy. Instructor: Ms. Jackie Scott; Grade Level: Girls, rising 6th - 8th grade; Time: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM (EDT); Cost: \$175.00. For more information call (706) 649-1470.
- July 16** **FIRE SAFETY HOUSE:** Clay County Library, Fort Gaines, Georgia. Teaches children what to do in case of fire or tornado. 1 PM (EDT). For more information call (229) 768-2248.
- July 19** **COOL HISTORY:** Port Columbus Civil War Naval Center, 1002 Victory Drive, Columbus, Georgia. Come and enjoy the museum's most unique living history programs of the year. Held indoors in the museum's air conditioned Civil War ship environments, these presentations will continue the tradition begun last year of presenting "performance art" style of interpretation. Activities will conclude with the firing of the big gun over the river. For more information call (706) 327-9798.
- July 21- 25** **EXPLORE THE RED PLANET:** Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 701 Front Avenue, Columbus, Georgia. Campers will fly a simulated mission to the Martian surface, design a Martian habitat and visit Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Instructor: Mr. Philip Schley; Grade: Rising 6th - 8th graders; Time: 8:30 AM- 4:30 PM (EDT); Cost: \$200.00. For more information call (706) 649-1470.
- July 24** **MUSIC BY MOONLIGHT:** Landmark Park, Dothan, Alabama. 7:30 PM (CDT). The Troy State University Band will perform. Pack a picnic supper, bring the family and friends and enjoy an evening of great music under the stars in a relaxed, informal setting. Admission is free. For more information call (334) 794-3452.
- July 26- Mar.7** **LARRY GODWIN'S LAWYER POTS:** Wiregrass Museum of Art, Dothan, Alabama. Anthropomorphic large scale ceramics with social commentary. Dove Gallery, West. For more information call (334) 794-3871.
- July 28 -Aug 1** **SPACELAND:** Coca-Cola Space Science Center, 701 Front Avenue, Columbus, Georgia. Spaceland campers will find that not every planet's surface is similar to the Earth's. The surfaces of our known planets and their moons will be modeled and explored in this exciting new camp. Instructor: Ms. Tina Moore; Grade: Rising 3rd - 4th graders; Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM (EDT); Cost: \$185.00. For more information call (706) 649-1470.

AREA GRANTS OF INTEREST

The Frances and Beverly DuBose Foundation has issued a new proposal to Westville to increase the funds which endow the museum's interpretive program. Board member France DuBose, in January, offered a two-for-one challenge to supplement the current interpretive challenge. The new challenge could add over \$1 million dollars to the DuBose Interpretive Fund, which currently has cash and pledges in the amount of \$525,000. If the new challenge is accepted and funded fully, then the interpretive fund would be worth \$1,575,000. Annual revenue from the fund would be about \$75,000. Mrs. DuBose's primary interest is to pay the salary, benefits, and expense of the Interpretive Director. The Westville Executive Committee has secured some matching pledges already and has other promising prospects. The new challenge is separate from Westville's "History Alive Drive," which proposes to raise \$8.5 million for endowment and projects. That drive has secured \$3.6 million so far.

A walking/biking trail that will connect the downtown Eufaula area with Old Creek Town Park came closer to reality with the announcement that the city has received a grant to help fund the

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The Chattahoochee Poochie needs your help with the 2003-2004 Annual Membership Drive. Will you consider becoming a member of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission? Individual Membership: \$15; Family Membership: \$25; All Other Memberships \$50-\$150. Please fill out the following application and return it to the HCC office.

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____
 Membership Investment \$ _____

Mail to: Historic Chattahoochee Commission
 Post Office Box 33 • Eufaula, Alabama 36072-0033

The PASAQUAN Preservation Society

By Fred Fussell, *Folklorist*

"I built this place to have something' to identify with, cause there's nothin' that I see in this society that I identify with or desire to emulate. Here I can be in my own world with my temples and designs and the spirit of God. I don't have nothin' against other people and their beliefs. I'm not askin' anybody to do my way or be my way. Although, when I'm dead and gone, they'll follow like night follows day."

St. EOM to his biographer, Tom Patterson, in 1985

Eddie Owens Martin was born "at the stroke of midnight" on July 4, 1908, the son of a Southwest Georgia dirt farmer whose only apparent interest in his children was as laborers to produce the annual cotton crop. But young Eddie was "different" from the other five children in the family. Secretly assisted by his mother, he learned to read. He soon contemplated an existence far beyond that of the backbreaking day labor in the sandy fields of Marion County. In 1922, at age fourteen, he left home, drifted north, found New York City, and stayed there until the late 1950s.

In New York, Eddie Martin's creative individualism developed beyond anything that he could have imagined as a young farm boy in south Georgia. He quickly became a savvy street character, connecting with the city's provocative underground culture and its struggling artists. For nearly forty years he survived in New York, employing whatever means were necessary to get by. All the while, the New York art scene fed his expanding flamboyant personality and fired his artistic spirit.

At a time in the late 1930s, during an extended illness, Martin experienced the first of a series of phenomenal visions that would drive his artistic efforts for the rest of his life. In the initial vision, he was confronted by a trio of extraordinary spirits who identified themselves as people of the future -- special envoys from a land called Pasaquan, a place where "the past, the present, the future, and everything else all come together." He was chosen, they said, as a messenger who would delineate an understanding of the peace and beauty that the future would hold for mankind. On that day, Eddie Owens Martin of Marion County, Georgia, became St. EOM -- the first and only Pasaquoyan of the Twentieth Century. In 1958, he moved back to his home in southwest Georgia to fulfill his vision.

The Marion County Historical Society was formed in the early 1970s as a typical local history organization, one whose principal concern was the genealogical records of the county and a few local historic preservation projects. In 1972, the "Beautiful View" Garden Club and the local historical society jointly hosted a tour of homes in Buena Vista, the county seat of

Marion County. The tour, like comparable events anywhere, included a dozen or so antebellum and Victorian homes. This particular tour, however, was also different from any other, it included Pasaquan, the extraordinary homeplace of artist Eddie Owens Martin, the local eccentric who called himself St. EOM.



That tour forever altered the preservation endeavors of the Marion County Historical Society. The artist, St. EOM, was so impressed that he was included as an integral part of the affairs of local society that he bequeathed his environmental art masterpiece, Pasaquan, and his properties of all kinds, to the Marion County Historical Society. It was only after St. EOM's death in 1986 that most members of the Society learned of this. They were surprised.

Upon learning of the Martin bequest, the first reaction of the Society was to seek the assistance of another, more substantial, organization -- the museum in Columbus, Georgia. In 1987, the Historical Society offered to give Pasaquan to The Columbus Museum. The Columbus Museum, however, was then engaged in a major funding-raising effort and expansion, so The Columbus Museum's board of directors declined the offer of gift.

Afterward, the members of the Marion County Historical Society decided to face the challenge of preserving Pasaquan themselves. In 1992, they had applied for and received 501(c)(3) status as a tax exempt organization. They have maintained Pasaquan, as best they could, ever since.

Several weeks ago, seventeen years after St. EOM's death, the Marion County Historical Society passed ownership of Pasaquan to the newly formed Pasaquan Preservation Society, Inc., created expressly to stabilize Pasaquan, to secure it as an ongoing museum of American visionary art, and to make sure that Pasaquan and its collections are finally made available for all to contemplate, celebrate, and enjoy the life and artistic work of the "wizard of Buena Vista," St. EOM.

Currently, Pasaquan is open to visitors by appointment only. For more information, or to join the effort to preserve Pasaquan, contact The Pasaquan Preservation Society, P O Box 553, Buena Vista, GA 31803.

AREA GRANTS OF INTEREST

(Continued From Page Five)

project. Mayor Jay Jaxon said that the Alabama Department of Transportation had notified him the City of Eufaula is the recipient of a TEA-21 grant. The grant will provide for a 12-foot wide asphalt trail with bike racks and drinking fountains along the way. He said he appreciated the assistance of the local legislative delegation, Representative Billy Beasley and Senator Myron Penn, as well as former Senator George Clay in facilitating the grant. The property the city plans to acquire runs along the northeastern side of downtown Eufaula. It is no longer used by the railroad that owns it, Norfolk Southern. The property is leased to Georgia Southwestern Railroad. Development of the railroad property was one of the recommendations of the city's planning consultant, LDR, in its master plan for Eufaula. Residents who helped shape the plan said connecting the downtown with a trail would boost downtown and improve Eufaula's quality of life.

The LaGrange Memorial Library and Troup County Archives have been awarded a federal grant to complete oral interviews for a local history database that will be available over the Internet. This will be one of the first projects of its kind in Georgia. "We are very excited to be the groundbreaker in this area," said Kaye Minchew, Director of the Troup County Archives. "We plan to make a video of the actual interview as well as a written transcript available as a part of the database." The grant will ensure that the memories and history of Troup County are preserved for future generations. "Much of our local history is passed down through oral tradition," said Minchew. This project continues the partnership of the library and archives begun last year when they received a grant to digitize Troup County's Marriage and Deed Records back to 1828, also a first in Georgia.

The Ida Cason Callaway Foundation, Inc. will receive \$4 million in Federal funds to establish a permanent conservation easement on part of the timberlands at Callaway, in the Pine Mountain area. President George W. Bush signed into law the Omnibus Appropriations Bill on February 20. It includes the funds for the Pine Mountain project, said Rick Hatten, state coordinator for the Forest Legacy Program and staff forester in the Georgia Forestry Commission Forest Management Department. The money will go into the endowment for the foundation, which must generate at least 25 percent in matching funds from private and/or local sources or the state. It is not known when the funds will be available. The conservation easement designation means the land can never be developed. The foundation will still own the land. The Pine Mountain Foundation is only the second approved in Georgia under the Forest Legacy Program.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Ralph Callaway, director of business development for the Ida Cason Callaway Foundation, Inc. of Pine Mountain, Georgia, has been sworn in by Governor Sonny Purdue as the newest member of the Georgia's Board of Natural Resources, representing the state's 11th Congressional District. Callaway served from 1997-2000, as director of systems at the foundation, the non-profit organization that owns Callaway Gardens. The youngest son of Howard "Bo" Callaway, Callaway is a 1982 graduate of Vanderbilt University, with a degree in electrical engineering. He lives with his wife and three children in Columbus.

The Eufaula Heritage Association has selected Patsy Pouncey, of Clio, Alabama, as the new executive director. Ms. Pouncey has served as tourism promotional representative with the Alabama Bureau of Tourism of Travel and as Director of Tourism for the Columbus, Georgia Convention & Visitors Bureau. More recently she served as executive director of the Dothan Convention & Visitors Bureau. She attended George C. Wallace Jr. College in Dothan before transferring to Troy State University in Troy with studies in journalism.

The Alabama Historical Commission elected new officers at its annual meeting in Montgomery recently. Janice Hawkins of Troy is chair of the 20-member commission which includes architects, historians, archaeologist, and representatives of Alabama's universities. Hawkins, who represents Troy State University, joined the commission in 1998. She recently served as chair of the Grants Committee. Bill Drinkard of Cullman, representing the Business Council of Alabama, serves as vice chair. Kippy Tate of Montgomery, who represents the State Building Commission, was re-elected as secretary. Bobby M. Junkins, Probate Judge of Etowah County, serves as treasurer and is a representative of the state-at-large.

Two Columbus historians are among 11 recipients of the 2003 Governor's Awards in the Humanities presented annually by the Georgia Humanities Council. Charles Donald Beall and Kenneth Thomas received their awards from Governor Sonny

Perdue on May 12, at a luncheon at the Old Georgia Railroad Freight Depot in Atlanta. Beall, a former teacher in Detroit, was raised in the area and retired to Columbus where he developed a passion for African-American History in Southwest Georgia, especially Stewart and Quitman Counties. At Westville, Beall has developed interpretive programs and has helped document the history of Green Grove Baptist Church for inclusion on the National Register. Thomas, a Columbus native, is being honored for a long career of research and writing on historic preservation, genealogy and local history. As the principle historian in the state's Historic Preservation Division, Thomas has been involved in documenting more than 1,500 National Register nominations. He has also written a weekly genealogy column in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution since 1977. The author of several books, Thomas has also been a leader in many of the state's academic history, preservation, and genealogical organizations. He currently lives in Decatur, Georgia.



John Wild

John Wild, of Auburn, Alabama, has been selected by the Board of Directors of the Auburn/Opelika Convention and Visitors Bureau to be the new president. Pat Dakin has announced her retirement for October 2004. Wild will begin his duties as president immediately and Dakin will remain as executive director until her retirement. Dakin will assist Wild with the transitions and program changes recommended by the recent Randall Travel Marketing destination study. These transitional changes may include a new building and/or location, additional staff, new collateral materials and revision of marketing plans. Dakin informed her Board of Directors of her retirement so that her replacement could have input into these changes. Wild is the former general manager of the Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center. After graduating from Michigan State University, John began his career in the lodging

industry, working for the Marriott Corporation in Missouri. He then joined Richfield Hospitality Management and worked at properties in Tennessee, Colorado, Montana, Florida and Michigan, prior to moving to Alabama. He was with the Auburn University Hotel for 12 years.

After seven years as the founding executive director of the Alabama Rivers Alliance, Brad McLane has made the decision to resign his position to commence law studies this fall. The Alliance Board of Directors has recently announced that Adam Snyder will become the second executive director of the Alabama Rivers Alliance on June 1, 2003. Snyder has been on the staff of the Alliance as its Watershed Leadership Director for more than two years. He is a Birmingham native who received his Bachelors Degree in journalism from the University of South Carolina.

After almost ten years of leading Early County's Chamber of Commerce, Wanda Hudson has resigned her position effective May 30, 2003, to pursue other interests. "It has been a great ten years," said Hudson, "I have had the opportunity to see growth and positive change in our community. When I came to this position 10 years ago, our Chamber membership was at 98. Now, it exceeds 200, and this is not a good year because of the effects of a weak economy." Hudson's future plans include consulting and grant writing for municipalities, county governments, and other chambers of commerce.

The Historic Chattahoochee Commission has recently selected a new board member from Russell County, Alabama. Mr. Tommy Boswell, of Phenix City, was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mr. John T. Smith who resigned from the board upon his move to Lee County, Alabama. Mr. Boswell received his B.S. degree in Education in 1971 and M.Ed. in History in 1974 from Auburn University. He taught history and social studies in the



Tommy Boswell

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TOURISM AND PRESERVATION NEWS

(Continued From Page Three)

filmed the county's records. Besides free copies that will be housed at the Eufaula Carnegie Library, ADAH will retain a copy of the microfilm for researchers in its reference room. The film masters will be preserved at the Genealogical Society of Utah's underground vault near Salt Lake City. Barbour County's project is part of a cooperative, statewide microfilming program involving ADAH, the GSU, county government officials, and hundreds of volunteers from local historical and genealogical societies. So far, 22 Alabama counties have finished such projects, producing nearly four million microfilm images of historical record information. For more information on this program contact Frank Brown, Lyn Frazier, or Tom Turley at the ADAH Government Records Division at (334) 242-4452 or records@archives.state.al.us.

Folk Artist Doug Odom donated his talents depicting a story about cotton farming on the surface of a giant peanut entitled "History Nut". The nut was purchased for Landmark Park by the Dothan Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. This "History Nut" is just one of the peanuts that you can see around Dothan as part of the Down Town Group's "Peanuts on Parade" project.



Saving Graves at- www.savinggraves.org - offers resources for cemetery preservation, including listings of endangered cemeteries, relevant laws, an online library and bookstore, and links to government agencies and

preservation groups. The site is seeking volunteers to help develop an international network of resources and contacts.

A rare collection of Confederate Civil War naval flags has come home to the South almost 138 years after the Civil War ended. The seven flags were officially turned over to Port Columbus National Civil War Naval Museum officials as a gift from the Massachusetts Historical Society during a recent ceremony in Boston. Bruce Smith, executive director of Port Columbus, said that the flag collection rates in importance just behind the museum's acquisition of two ships brought up out of the Chattahoochee River in the 1960s. "We have them insured for \$600,000," he said. Smith was surprised to learn of the collection two years ago while talking to the director of the Naval Historical Center in Washington, D.C. He found out in March the collection might be made available to the Columbus museum, and maintained contact with the MHS group. MHS officials said the collection was assembled by the Augustus Fox, assistant secretary of the Navy during the Civil War, and brought to Massachusetts. The flags were donated to the MHS in 1869 and have been in storage since then. The collection includes flags from two of the most famous Confederate Navy ironclad ships the CSS Atlanta, which was captured after a brief battle off Savannah, and the CSS Tennessee, captured by Admiral David G. Farragut's fleet following his famous, "Damn the Torpedoes, full speed ahead!" exclamation at Alabama's Mobile Bay. Also captured on the Tennessee was the Confederate Navy's first admiral, Franklin Buchanan, and his personal flag, which is in the collection. Other flags were captured from various forts from the East coast and the Mississippi River.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

(Continued From Page Seven)

Phenix City Schools System for 4 years and taught junior level history at Troy State University in Phenix City. He currently serves as sheriff of Russell County. He is past board president and vice president of the Russell County Historical Commission. Mr. Boswell serves as president of the Chattahoochee Indian Heritage Association and is a lay historian who frequently speaks to various organizations about Native American history and local history. He has also participated in archeological digs at Fort Mitchell and Apalachicola Fort.

The Eufaula/Barbour County Tourism Council's Trailblazer Award for tourism was presented to Doug Purcell, Executive Director of the Historic Chattahoochee Commission. The tourism council's recognition of Purcell's contributions to the local tourism industry came at the Fifth Annual Trailblazer Award Luncheon at Lakepoint Resort Lodge. In making the presentation, Eufaula/Barbour County Tourism Council director Paige Green, noted that Purcell was "A pioneer and a nationally-known authority in the field of tourism and historic preservation." He developed the Chattahoochee Trace concept to give the area an identity for promotional purposes and has worked with numerous state, regional and national tourism and historic preservation organizations, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



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