



Oak Leaves

VOLUME XXIV, Number 2

Spring 2011

EVERYONE A WINNER AT DERBY PARTY!

More than 325 people attended this year's Derby Party & Fundraiser at the **Uno Hill Barn at Pebble Hill**...our most successful event in recent memory. Members and friends, dressed in their Derby finest, dined on a delicious dinner from **Caper's Inc. Catering** (including a special appearance by **Chef Albert!**); sipped mint juleps while nibbling cheese from **Sweet Grass Dairy**; wagered (and won) on the big race; posed for pictures in the Goof Booth thanks to photographer Jason Kantner; and danced, danced, danced until evening turned into morning to the sounds of **Wiser Than Fools**. **Not only did everyone have an amazing time, but we raised nearly \$24,000 for Landmarks' preservation programs.** Thank you to everyone who participated – we can't wait until next year!

Hat Contest Winners

For **"Most Beautiful Hat"**, Evan Carraway won a year long Landmarks' membership.

For **"Most Unusual Hat"**, Vicki Reagan won a Therapeutic Massage from Archbold Integrative Medicine valued at \$150.

For **"Best Overall Hat"**, Devy Moore won an hour-long massage from Metta Day Spa.



Clockwise from left: Radford Thomas, Margret Brinson & Evan Carraway; Lauren Atkinson & MaryGrace Murphy; Shelba Sellers & Mark Mitchell; Devy & Randall Moore; Vicki Reagan, Amanda Hurst Moore and Terri Dupriest



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Thanks to our Triple Crown & Winner's Circle Sponsors!
See more photos, sponsors and info on page 5

Dr. and Mrs. Philip C. Watt



MISSION

To Preserve, Protect and Promote the Architecture, History and Heritage of Thomasville and the Thomas County area.

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Oak Leaves is published three times a year by Thomasville Landmarks, Inc., P.O. Box 1285, Thomasville, Georgia 31799-1285. Offices are located at 312 North Broad Street. For more information concerning Thomasville Landmarks, Thomasville's and Thomas County's historic resources, or historic preservation activities, contact Thomasville Landmarks, Inc.

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You can view *Oak Leaves* in color and join or learn more about Thomasville Landmarks at www.ThomasvilleLandmarks.org

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

The recent hullabaloo concerning oak trees comes as no surprise to us. Based on our supporters' concern and love for the beautiful tree canopies around town, we have been laying the groundwork for a rebirth of the Live Oak Society. We have worked with a landscape architect to identify the best locations around town for new trees that will have an immediate impact on the character of Thomasville. We have also identified many trees in the Dawson Street, Remington Avenue and Clay Street corridors that are diseased, damaged and dying.

All of this preparation is part of the mission of the Live Oak Society, a committee of Landmarks that was extremely active from around 1987 to 1994. In a few short years, nearly 400 live oak trees were planted throughout the city. Donations were given as memoriams and honorariums, helping to replenish the fund established by a strong supporter in the program. At the time, we partnered with the City of Thomasville, which both sited and installed the trees. The installation of trees has significantly softened the views near the Gateway Shopping Center. Lovely allées were created at the Thomasville Center for the Arts and Thomas University. Many more trees have enhanced the shade canopy that helps keep Thomasville just a bit cooler in the summer. New trees were planted more recently at the Thomas County Judicial Center and on Thomas University's front lawn.

It is admirable that Thomasville has a city-sponsored tree committee, to which it turns for both advice and advocacy. We hope those people who serve on the committee have the expertise necessary to formulate a cohesive master plan for trees in the city and that their recommendations are heard. It would also be fruitful if they were able to weigh in on decisions when Public Works or Engineering seek to cut hardwoods, pines or other trees that have been a part of Thomasville for many years.

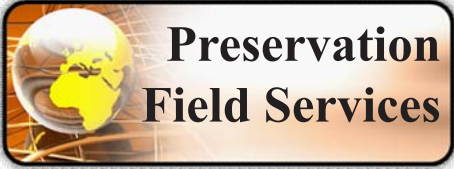
Although the trees have been around longer, I dare say most people would prefer to have electricity over beautiful canopies, if they had to choose. It's what we have become used to as a society. The utility department is abiding by the industry's "best practices" for pruning, but I believe that Thomasville has always been and should continue to be a leader in the way we do things. Let's work together to help our community be the place we all want to live.

If you are interested in being involved as a voice for the perpetuation and care of live oaks and other trees in Thomasville, please attend an organizational meeting at noon on June 14 at the Hardy Bryan House (312 North Broad Street). Contact our office to RSVP for the meeting as space is limited. There are many ways to be involved.

WELCOME KYLE CAMPBELL!

Landmarks will be hosting a summer intern from the University of Georgia through the middle of July. Kyle Campbell is between his first and second years in the two year Historic Preservation program at UGA. A native of Marietta, Georgia, Kyle is the President of the Student Historic Preservation Organization in Athens and also a member of the College of Environment and Design steering committee. He holds an undergraduate Degree in Special Education and formerly worked as a public school teacher. While here in Thomasville, he will be undertaking a number of tasks to further the goals of our organization and we look forward to working with him.





Preservation Field Services are funded by a matching grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation with a goal of providing vastly improved preservation services to Thomasville and the Thomas County area.

WORK ALMOST COMPLETE AT SPRINGHILL CHURCH

Years worth of planning and fundraising have paid off, as Springhill's Trustees and family are nearing the completion of the restoration of the church. The outside has been prepped for painting, which is among the last things to be done.



Thomas University's Field Techniques in Archaeology class, under direction of Professor Misty Penton has mapped out the cemetery using a cadaver dog and visual clues. Their presentation can be found on our website [search *Springhill*].

PRESERVATION HERO EMERGES IN MEIGS - CARTER HOUSE SECURED!

As previously reported, the 1904 J. N. Carter House in Meigs is seriously endangered due to a faulty roof system and a structural failure in the porte cochere. The house is one of the largest and finest in detail in the northern part of Thomas County. For over a year, we have worked with Mayor Andrew Wurst to identify preservation priorities in Meigs. The Carter House was at the top of the list because of its local importance and endangered status.

Due to his vision and the hard work of Economic Development Coordinator Ernest Barfield, a purchaser has been identified. Landmarks will continue to support their local efforts to identify the highest and best use for the property. The Georgia Trust has agreed to help with a rehabilitation plan.



The overarching preservation plan for Meigs is evolving into a Dixie Highway Heritage Corridor Project, which will include a state-designated Scenic By-way among other things.

Technical services for this project are enabled by the Partners in the Field Grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Thanks to all donors who helped us secure this grant.

Original Dixie Highway Marker at the County Line

METCALFE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION JUNE 25 SUMMER BBQ & BASEBALL

The Metcalfe Methodist Church, in collaboration with the Metcalfe Community Association, has achieved remarkable results in building a community park. According to organizer Wentie Kindred, the bathroom is nearly complete. They have picnic tables and pavillions, newly planted trees, a baseball field and water fountain. They are planning to install playground equipment and assistance is needed.

If you can contribute to the MCA's park fund for playground equipment or more landscaping, contact us to make a tax-deductible contribution. Call 225-9013 or 228-0577 for more information or to volunteer.

Special thanks to Randy Benton of Benton Construction, Marge Clarke and Joan Holmes for their exceptional contributions to the park!

Enjoy the new park on June 25 from 10am-3pm. The MCA will have a BBQ fundraiser, watermelon cutting, games for kids and a pick-up baseball game. It will be fun for all!



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: FEBRUARY 15 - MAY 15

* New Member

+Upgrade

Personal

1825 Society

Mrs. Frank E. Williams

Heritage Level

Mr. and Dr. Neil Fennell

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin W. McCollum

Restoration Level

Jule C. Anderson

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Preservation Level

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*Ms. June B. White

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Mr. and Mrs. Carlton White

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Miss Lauren L. Atkinson

Mr. and Mrs. Garland W. Basford

Dr. and Mrs. S. Mark Brewer

Mrs. Allan D. Bridwell

Mr. & Mrs. Cooper

Mrs. Robert L. Cox

*Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Fortner

Ms. Beth W. Grant

Mr. and Mrs. Charlton Griffin

Mr. Danny Groover

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence B. Grubbs, III

Mr. D. E. Herring

Mr. and Mrs. R. Fred Hester

Mr. Frank T. Holt, III

Mr. and Mrs. William Michael Hooks

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Ivey

*Reverend J. A. Jones

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Ms. Charlotte Kanning

Dr. and Mrs. Richard A. Kerensky

*Miss Mary Catherine Lanigan

Mr. and Mrs. William J. McCollum

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Metzner

Mrs. Talbot Nunnally

Mr. Jamie W. Oglesby

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Ms. Susan Perry

Mr. and Mrs. Len Powell

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Rodd

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Sampson

*Ms. Sandra W. Shaw

*Dr. & Mrs. Robert Slane

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*Mr. and Mrs. Karl Willers

Mrs. T. L. Williams, III

Mr. and Mrs. Zack T. Williams

Mr. and Mrs. Edwyn E. Wolff

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*Dr. & Mrs. Lumis Brown

*Mr. William F. Crozer

*Mr. & Mrs. Matt Delarber

*Mr. Thomas M. Falcey

*Mr. and Mrs. Langdon Flowers, III

*Reverend and Mrs. Tegler Greer

*Mr. and Mrs. Larry Higdon

*Mr. Elmer T. Horne, III

*Mr. and Mrs. William Inman

Mr. and Mrs. W. Gates Kirkham

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Lanigan, Jr.

*Mr. & Mrs. Bob LeGette

*Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Little

*Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Merschman

*Mr. and Mrs. Randall L. Moore

Mr. Roy Pace

Dr. and Mrs. Louis Potyondy

*Mr. & Mrs. Vyto Razminas

*Ms. Sally Horne Salerno

*Mr. and Mrs. David C. Scott

*Mr. and Mrs. Matthew T. Shiner

*Ms. Cynthia Strait

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*Moon Spin

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*The Shaw Center For Women's Health

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Donation Amount: _____

Please mail to TLI Memorial,
PO Box 1285, Thomasville, GA 31799.

If you would like to make a donation in honor or memory of a friend, family member or loved one, please fill out the Landmarks Memorial Form.

In Memoriam

Allan Bridwell

Matthew Talbot Nunnally

Del Watkins Reading

Edith King Mason

Louis Rehberg

Colonel Gus Watt

Donations have been made In Memory Of

Edith King Mason by

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Olson ~ Mr. & Mrs. Joe Brown ~ Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Davis

A donation has been made to the Metcalfe Community Association

by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Brown
in memory of **Clyde Kindred**

A BIG DERBY THANKS TO EVERYONE!

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Derby Committee

Margret Brinson, Lauren Davis, Radford Thomas, Holly Harrison, Haile McCollum, Carey Sewell and Melody Gunter.



Derby Volunteers

John Brinson, Clay Campbell, Evan Carraway, York and Julie Carter, Walker Davis, Bill and Liz Drake, Robyn Enright, Tommie Indence, Jason and Angie Kantner, Clark and Janet Liles, Ben McCollum, MaryGrace Murphy, Stephanie Nicholson, Charles Olson, Jerry and Vicki Reagan, Tim and Margret Sanders, Candyce Schmidt, Matt Shiner, Alissa Shore, Brent and Hope Taylor, Alan Tucker, Jamie West, Whitney White, Charlie and Carol Whitney, John and Connie Wood, Renee Gordon... and everyone who spontaneously pitched in to help before, during and after the big night (you know who you are!).



Clockwise from above: Rebecca Hopkins, Marjorie Pomeroy, Evan Carraway, Sarah Frances Liles and Bailey Harvard; Robin & Gina Wise; Betsy Childs & Cindy Higdon; Page Crozer and Carrie Duncan; Charlie Whitney, Dorothy Cobb, Lauren Davis, Frances Raybon and Katie Chastain; Leslie Ballenger and Lathrop Lybrook.

OPERATION C.A.R.E. CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF COMMUNITY PRESERVATION

In 2011, we are celebrating 15 years of Landmarks major community outreach program: Operation C.A.R.E. The program name embodies the goals of the program, which is **Community Assisting Restoration Efforts**. In this year of celebration, we will help three homeowners with major maintenance, safety, weatherization and beautification work. By the end of the year, we will have restored more than 40 historic homes in Thomasville.

The program began inauspiciously, with a seed grant and a goal of renovating one house. With the initiative of Russ Jinright and Stanley Smith, Landmarks began the **Community Preservation Program (CPP)** in 1997. It is a volunteer based activity devoted to the repair and rehabilitation of historic homes. It is designed to help homeowners on a fixed or limited income with maintenance. For the most part, we continue to use their guidelines for eligibility.

- Owner-occupied, and the owner must show a keen interest in the program
- Structurally sound with a good roof
- 50 or more years old
- Contributes to the historic district
- Materials should cost no more than \$3,000 per house



122 E Webster St
(Before and After)



Over the past fourteen years, 38 structures have been repaired and painted by more than 1500 volunteers. More than \$120,000 committed in grants, donations and services has resulted in over \$500,000 worth of historic preservation. Not a bad return on an investment made in our community!

That first year, **71 volunteers** painted and renovated a house at 211 W. Calhoun Street. It was a great experience for the volunteers, who ranged in age from 12 to 84 years old! The Marguerite Neel Williams Charitable Lead Annuity Trust provided a seed grant to help purchase supplies and get the program off the ground. **The community's participation leveraged the \$2,000 budget for supplies and services into a \$10,000 restoration project.** Some of the accomplishments included: scraping, sanding, priming and painting the entire house, re-glazing the windows, replacing rotten siding, restoring two Craftsman style porch light fixtures, patching chimneys and valleys on the roof and re-landscaping the yard. Volunteers felt that it was a compassionate and practical way to practice preservation in their community.



512 N Stevens Street (After)

Throughout the next thirteen years, hundreds of volunteers scraped, painted, landscaped, roofed and constructed. Most houses were homeowner occupied, but some houses have special stories. A 1998 project house was 512 N. Stevens Street. Landmarks purchased this antebellum, central hall cottage at a tax sale. Leonard Branham, a school bus driver raising four children, approached us about buying the house. He proposed doing much of the work



Board of Realtors at 205 Alexander Street

(Cont'd next page)

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE IN OPERATION C.A.R.E.

himself. Landmarks would replace the roof, rebuild the front porch and prime and paint the house using volunteer help. Mr. Branham and his family moved in and continue to live there today. **The community's efforts leveraged \$3,400 worth of supplies and services into a \$25,000 renovation project.**

The third year began a partnership with the Lewis Hall and Mildred Sasser Singletary Foundation. Their family foundation is committed to programs that relieve suffering and contribute to healthy communities and we are proud to report that Operation C.A.R.E. receives their support to this day.

In our fourth year, the Board of Directors decided to bend the CPP rules a little that year in light of the ambitious project Landmarks had undertaken in the Warren Avenue neighborhood. Two Warren Avenue houses were painted and re-roofed. Two owner occupied houses were also painted and repairs were made. **That year 160 volunteers turned \$12,000 in supplies and services into a \$40,000 renovation project.**



804 Wright Street
(Before and After)



In 2004, we began a fruitful partnership with the Southwest Georgia Community Action Council's Weatherization Program. It has provided thousands of dollars worth of labor and materials to insulate homes and provide air quality improvements.

One of the most fruitful products of the program has been the impact on children, teens and college students. Throughout the years, high school construction classes, Scout Troops, school and church clubs, fraternities, sports teams and others have built porches, installed roofing, painted and had a good time helping others and earning volunteer hours.

The past few years, we have partnered with the Granada Garden Club on landscaping, which has added the icing on the cake. The results of their labors can be seen at 1004 Lester Street, our 2010 project house.



Thomas University's Women's Soccer Team at 1004 Lester Street

The Thomasville Area Board of Realtors volunteered on March 12, 2011, at 1004 Lester Street and again on May 21, 2011 at 205 Alexander Street. Thanks for your help!

- Emily Eckels-Pozo
- Pam Davis
- Mary Golden
- Pam Wright
- Mike Corbitt
- Gene Dunlap
- Deb Phillips
- Sonja Clark
- Peggy Corbitt
- Melvin Darby
- Parrish David
- Scottie Thompson
- Sarah Ruddell-Thompson
- Paige Vaughan (and her two sons)



Realtor Sonia Vick
Finishing Up 1004
Lester Street



1004 Lester Street
(Before and After)

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Upcoming Events

June 9, 2011 5p - 7p (tentative)

Renovator's Happy Hour
Hopkins House/229 Remington Ave

June 14, 2011 Noon-1p

Live Oak Society Organizational Meeting
Hardy Bryan House

June 20-24, 2011

Teachers Heritage Education Workshop
Downtown Thomasville

June 25, 2011, 10a-3p

Metcalfe BBQ & Baseball
Metcalfe Methodist Church

July 12-14, 2011

Kids ArchiCamp
Thomasville Community Resource Center

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