



# Oak Leaves

VOLUME XXXIII, Number 1

Winter 2010

## PRESERVATION AWARDS GIVEN AT MEETING

The 2010 Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner was held on January 19, 2010, at Glen Arven Country Club. As always, we had a wonderful group of members mixed with some new faces; many award recipients were not familiar with Landmarks prior to this year. The 2009 Preservation Honor Awards really took into account preservation on many levels.

Awards were given for renovation of houses by homeowners, for new construction by a non-profit and a school, and for preserving a long-standing structure in our downtown, the WPAX tower and sign. A church was honored for stewardship of its complex of buildings, and a group of developers for their investment in our downtown. All in all, this year's award recipients represent diverse contributions to our community's preservation ethic.

Two remarkable individuals were recognized for their contributions to the community. Mercer Watt was presented as Landmarks' newest Honorary Director, a lifetime appointment to the board. Mrs. Watt has served on numerous boards, as President twice, and on committees for over thirty years. Robert Jinright, Sr., was honored with the Marguerite Neel Williams award for his dedication to historic preservation. He was a founder of Landmarks and a principle advocate and volunteer in the early historic resource surveys which led to many National Register of Historic Places nominations.

The Historic Preservation Honor Awards recognize members in the community who further the preservation of historical and cultural sites, buildings, structures and objects in the Thomasville and Thomas County area. Awards recipients, through hard work and dedication, are encouraging the perpetuation of the cultural, historical and picturesque charm of the Thomasville and Thomas County area.

To nominate a project for an award, please go to [www.thomasvillelandmarks.org](http://www.thomasvillelandmarks.org). For more information on the award recipients, turn to page 6.



**2009 Awards Committee**  
 Peggie Wood, Chairperson  
 Harriet Hawkins  
 Dort Cobb  
 Eugene Witherspoon  
 Dr. Richard Smith  
 Joy Slaughter  
 John Hand

*Clockwise from top center: 1973 T-E photo of Robert Jinright (on right) with consultants on the historic resource survey; Mercer Watt, Ben Grace and Sissy Williams at the Annual Meeting; Marguerite Neel Williams Award Winner Robert Jinright with wife, Betty, Tom Harrison and Brent Runyon; Honorary Director Mercer Watt.*

## MISSION

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

### Board Of Directors

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Mercer Watt

### Staff

Brent Runyon, *Executive Director*  
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Phone: (229) 226-6016  
Facsimile: (229) 226-6672  
Email: tli@rose.net

You can view *Oak Leaves* in color and join or learn more about Thomasville Landmarks at [www.ThomasvilleLandmarks.org](http://www.ThomasvilleLandmarks.org)

### LOCAL PARTNER

**NATIONAL TRUST FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Thanks to everyone who participated in our 2010 Membership Survey. We wanted to give you feedback on *your* feedback. The majority of the comments were positive, and it turns out we have many similar goals and thoughts in mind.

**Things you'd like us to do related to Historic Preservation:** *"Expand historic districts, reach beyond the city limits."*

**What we're doing:** Through the new Partners in the Field grant, we are working with communities in Thomas County to bolster their sense of community through preservation activities. See story on Page 3.

**How you can help:** Make connections with community leaders. Identify historic resources and document histories.

**Things we could do better:** *"More pictures, more communication, more awareness."*

**What we're doing:** Sending out weekly emails to the membership with action updates, happenings and links to pictures, and including more pictures and stories in the newsletter. Our new web site will be frequently updated and easier to use.

**How you can help:** Make sure we have your current email address on file and set your spam filters to show tli@rose.net as a "friendly" sender. Get involved and be "in the know" by joining a Committee.

**Events:** *"Love the Membership Picnic and Home Tours, more events, more workshops."*

**What we're doing:** We love these too! Along with our usual events, we are trying to plan one additional new event or activity each quarter to satisfy your demand. Ideas in the pipeline are a **Landscaping Workshop** in April, **Kid's Summer Camp** in July, **Down-town Loft Tour** in August, and a **Christmas Open House** in December.

**How you can help:** Submit event ideas and volunteer to make them happen.

## LANDMARKS MEMORIAL FORM

I would like to make a donation

In Honor Of / In Memory Of (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### In Memoriam

Mr. Weyman Cleveland  
Mrs. Shirley Altman (*founder*)

Donations have been made  
In Memory Of

Rives Pollard Houser  
by  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank & Connie Helms  
and  
Kathleen Reid Scott

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.



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.

## UPDATE: PLACES IN PERIL

### Metcalfe

Twenty-five volunteers turned out for Hands on Thomas County's MLK Day of Service, January 18, 2010, to work on the Rushin House in Metcalfe. One of the most architecturally-significant homes in the community, the house is located prominently on the Metcalfe-Beachtown Road. For four hours, volunteers used shovels, rakes, chainsaws, lawnmowers and a tractor to landscape the yard.

The next event in Metcalfe will be a delicious BBQ lunch and a meeting with jB+a Community Advantage, consultants who will make recommendations to help "Promote and Preserve our Metcalfe Community." All proceeds from the lunch will support future programming of the Metcalfe Community Association (MCA).



*Rushin House before & after clean-up*



### BBQ Fundraiser

Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 1 p.m.  
Metcalfe Methodist Church

\$5.00 per plate

Volunteers are needed to make potato salad, baked beans, pound cake and tea and to provide ice, bread, plates, utensils, cups and napkins. Anyone who can help cook, set up, serve and clean up is welcome, as well. To get involved, call Wentie Kindred (228-6724), Burnadeen Kindred (228-0577), Carolyn Butler (226-8762), Tim Bertsch (226-2448), or Gerald Pannell (236-0101).

Tickets are available from any MCA Board member or at the Landmarks office between 9am-5pm.

### Liberty Baptist Church

A major component of our field services program is helping individuals and groups with their preservation priorities. On January 29, 2010, I met with members of the non-profit Liberty Baptist Church of Grooverville to begin work on their National Register Nomination. They were presented with basic information on how to do a nomination and the resources that will be helpful to them. They will be nominating the antebellum Liberty Baptist Church, which was originally in Thomas County and is now just east of the Brooks County line near Boston.

If you are interested in how you can support this program, please contact Brent Runyon.

### Lapham-Patterson House

Since February 2009, when we learned that the state would close the LP House, Landmarks and the Thomas County Historical Society (TCHS) have worked towards a solution that would allow tours and special events to be held in this remarkable house. Just last week, the TCHS submitted a bid for a "concession agreement for operations of the Lapham-Patterson House" to the state Department of Natural Resources. Not surprisingly, they were the only bidder; they are now in negotiations with DNR over the specifics of the contract. Once

the contract is finalized, they hope to open the house for tours by appointment and for special events. The TCHS is the ideal organization to run the LP House since they have the curatorial knowledge and currently manage several historic buildings on their property. Landmarks is playing a supporting role and will oversee repairs and maintenance of the building and property. It is a big undertaking for two small organizations, but we believe in the power of partnerships.

If you are interested in supporting the LP House operations or repairs, please contact Brent Runyon.

# IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP-TO-DATE?

Please check your newsletter label to see your renewal date and your current membership level. **If your renewal date is 12/31/2009 or earlier, please renew now using the enclosed renewal application envelope** to ensure you continue to receive your membership benefits like the *Oak Leaves* newsletter, invitations to events and email updates.

When you renew, please consider raising your monetary donation – even an additional \$10 beyond your usual donation can go a long way. Or, if you are able, please consider upgrading to the next membership level. **As a member-supported organization, we rely on your support!**

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: NOVEMBER - JANUARY

*\* New Member*

### Personal

#### 1825 Society

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph V. Shields, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Martin Wood, III  
Mrs. Robert P. Crozer  
Mrs. Diane Williams Parker

#### Landmark

Mr. & Mrs. Howell L. Ferguson

#### Heritage

Mr. & Mrs. Warren Bicknell, III  
Mrs. Jasper C. Davis  
Randy & Marilyn Rhea  
Mrs. Ellery Sedgwick  
Dr. & Mrs. Philip C. Watt

#### Restoration

Ms. Wendy Hanna Bicknell  
Dr. & Mrs. James M. Carico  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell P. Chubb  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Philip Leabo, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Wood

#### Preservation

Mr. & Mrs. Ken Beverly  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe E. Beverly  
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Campbell  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles M. Chapin, III  
Kathy Vignos Folsom  
Bette J. Graham & Geoffrey Espy  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph B. Gunter  
Dr. & Mrs. Edward L. Hall  
Tom & Holly Harrison  
Mr. John E. Houser  
Mr. Raymond Hughes  
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Jefferson  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Lawson  
Elizabeth Scott Lybrook  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry May  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael D. McCrickard  
\*Dr. & Mrs. Douglas C. McPherson  
Ms. Camille Payne  
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Rich  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack E. Rosch  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Shea  
Rick & Carol Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Gary Tucker  
Mr. & Mrs. Heath Varnedoe, III  
Jake & Trudy Wheeler  
Mrs. C. Martin Wood, Jr.  
Craig & Alicia Yokley

#### Conservation

Mike & Pat Beaty  
Neal & Barbara-Mary Bonn  
Dr. & Mrs. John Carico  
John & Shirley Carr  
Scott & Katie Chastain  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas C. Chubb III  
Dr. Annie Laurie McElroy &  
Dr. Gary Edward Cooper  
Miss P. Anne Cundle  
Mr. & Mrs. William M. Dickey  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward E. Elam  
Rudolph A. Elzy, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. M. Tom Faircloth  
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Garrard  
Mayor Danny Groover  
Charles & Martha Hancock  
Edna M. Hardy-Hill  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Henderson  
Merrill & Deborah Hicks  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Jackson  
Mr. Robert Jinright, Jr.  
Dr. & Mrs. Edward K. Katz  
Dr. & Mrs. William B. King  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Milberg  
Dr. & Mrs. Tom Lear  
Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy  
Mr. & Mrs. Kensley O. Linthacum  
Connie Middleton  
Perry & Mary Mustian  
Mrs. Betty C. Neill  
Mr. & Mrs. Len Powell  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth J. Rebman  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sherman  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard A. Smith  
Ms. Sallie Sullivan  
Don & Kim Thriffley  
Mr. & Mrs. A. P. Walter, Jr.  
Mrs. Vance Watt  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert D. Webb  
Mr. and Mrs. Carlton White

#### Sustainer

Dr. & Mrs. C. L. Bragg  
Rev. & Mrs. Frederick Buechner  
Emily Bush  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom J. Callaway, III  
Patricia Collins  
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar T. Cook, Jr.  
Judge & Mrs. Roy M. Lilly  
Linda G. Moore  
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John & Joanne Tuggle  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard S. Vann  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Ackerman  
Jule C. Anderson

Mr. James A. Anderson, Jr.  
Ron & Bunki Arline  
Margaret P. Arnold  
Mr. & Mrs. R. C. Balfour, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Garland Basford  
Charnie & Max Beverly  
Mr. & Mrs. Leon L. Blair  
Larry & Lucy Bowen  
Kathleen & Heywood Bower  
Mrs. Becky Bracey  
Carolyn Butler  
Mr. Frank Carlton  
Mr. Berrien Cheatham  
Mrs. Herschel Clay  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray & Rose Cooper  
Mrs. Robert L. Cox  
Claud & Pam Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Day  
Ms. Barbara D. Dixon  
Bill & Elizabeth Drake  
Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Dunnam  
Terry & David Dupriest  
Gwynn & Peggy Barhite Earp  
Rick & Denise Fenlon  
Mr. Patrick Fenlon  
Mrs. L. D. Ferguson  
Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Fletcher  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Fryar  
Tracey Ann-Sanford Giemza  
Emily Glaccum  
Martha Cole Glenn  
Mrs. Paul Goggins  
\*Beth Grant  
Alston & Charlton Griffin  
Ms. Susan Haberkorn  
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Hadley  
Mr. & Mrs. John Hand  
Caroline Hearin  
Gail W. Heston  
Miss Julia Hickson  
Dr. & Mrs. A. P. Higginbotham  
Dr. & Mrs. C.H. Hodges, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. F. T. Holt, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Powell Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry T. Jones, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Jones  
Dr. William A. Lardin  
Mrs. Bryan Leedy  
Mr. & Mrs. Liles  
Rosa Lovejoy  
Marjorie Massey  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. McKinnon, Jr.  
Mrs. Ellise B. Melvin  
Ron & Gini Miller  
Mrs. Richard Miller  
Dr. & Mrs. Fred R. Nusbickel

# TALK DERBY TO ME!

Spring is just around the corner, and we're gearing up for Preservation Month in May and..... Landmarks' Annual Kentucky Derby Party! Dust off your hats and start reading up on the horses, this is going to be the best year yet! We've got some new events planned for this year, so even if you can't make the party, you can still get a little "down and Derby" with us, and contribute to our mission.

We'll be doing a hat show and sale with a variety of hats from the sublime to the extreme – some are artist crafted and some are even up-cycled (green). Make plans to come play dress up, and find just the right hat and accessories for your Derby ensemble.



We're also adding a wine class and tasting for sponsors only – and you don't want to miss it! We're bringing in the wine experts behind the Vini Code to lead the class. They're always fun, imaginative and informative – no wine snobbery here! ([www.vinicode.com](http://www.vinicode.com), [www.abigslice.com](http://www.abigslice.com))

We have plenty of volunteer opportunities so don't hesitate to contact the office if you'd like to take part. You can volunteer for as much or as little as you like, whether it be providing hors d'oeuvres for the hat show or decorating for the main event. We'd love to have you! *Contact Bunny, [bunnybyrne@gmail.com](mailto:bunnybyrne@gmail.com).*

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: NOVEMBER - JANUARY

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Parker  
Susan Perry  
Mr. & Mrs. Percy & Deb Phillips  
Mr. & Mrs. Gene A. Price  
Drs. Nicholas & Alice Quinif  
Dr. G. Thomas Reynolds  
Ms. Betts Roberts  
Len Robinson  
Mr. Chris Rodd  
Mrs. J. B. Roddenbery, Jr.  
\*Mr. & Mrs. Tim & Joan Rounds  
Steve Ruis  
Brent Runyon  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Salter  
Gene Sampson  
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Sanders  
Mrs. J. E. Sanders  
Mr. & Mrs. Albert M. Shoemaker, III  
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin A. Simmons  
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Smith  
Mrs. Franklin I. Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Stribling  
Mr. & Mrs. James K. Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. James A. Thomas  
Kha McDonald  
Ed Titus, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry M. Tomlinson  
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Turner  
Dr. & Mrs. Michael W. Wager  
Ms. Anne Walton  
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Ward, Sr.  
Wylie & Denise Watt  
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Wight, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy O. Wilham  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. Zack Williams  
Wesley & Celeste Wilson  
Ted & Debbie Wright

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Ameris Bank  
Archbold Hospital  
Firman Fund  
The Gift Shop

#### Patron

Farmers and Merchants Bank  
Taco Bell

#### Guardian

Olson Design  
PDG Associates  
The Big Oak Tree Rug Gallery  
The Louise Ireland Humphrey Rev. Trust

#### Partner

Air Conditioning Technology & Services  
Alexander & Vann  
Allen & Allen Funeral Services, Inc.  
Bethany Congregational United Church of Christ  
Brookwood School, Inc.  
Caldwell & Langford Insurance  
Cives Steel Company, Southern Div.  
F&S Advisors/Frank & Sharlene Cannon  
Fletcher & Associates  
Flowers Baking Company  
Frontier Drive  
Lanigan & Associates  
Main Street  
Office Of Dr. Robin Wise  
Redemption Ministries  
Shields & Company  
Silvis, Ambrose & Lindquist, P.C.  
Thomas Drug Stores  
Thomas University

Altman & Lane LLC  
Pebble Hill Foundation  
Rose City Realty/Lorraine Jackson  
Thomas County Historical Society  
Thomasville Genealogical Library

#### Foundation Gifts

Cherokee Foundation, Inc.  
Jasper & Marthalene Davis Foundation  
William Howard Flowers, Jr. Foundation  
Lewis Hall & Mildred Sasser Singletary Fdtn.

### Membership Anniversaries for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010

#### Celebrating 10 years

Elaine Mays, Scott Medders

#### 15 years – Crystal Anniversary

Dr. & Mrs. Edward K. Katz

#### 25 years – Silver Anniversary

Dot & Roy Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. F.T. Holt III

#### 40 years – Ruby Anniversary

Margaret P. Arnold, Charlotte Kanning, Mrs. J.E. Sanders

Did you know that by renewing on-line, you get the National Trust's *Preservation* magazine as an additional benefit? Visit [www.ThomasvilleLandmarks.org](http://www.ThomasvilleLandmarks.org) and click the Membership link.

# 2009 PRESERVATION HONOR AWARD WINNERS

2



**1.** Achievement Award for a  
Contributing Addition to the Community  
**Brookwood Day School**  
**Robert P. Crozer classroom building**

**2.** Achievement Award for a  
Contributing Addition to the Community  
**Habitat for Humanity**  
**110 Magnolia Street**

5



**3.** Award of Merit  
**Scott Medders**  
**426 Crawford Street**  
Architect - Stanley F. Smith, Architect  
Contractor - Bart Herndon

**4.** Award of Merit  
**Samuel & Aimee Scheib**  
**129 East Clay Street**

**5.** Award of Merit  
**Mark and Sheryl Copeland**  
**512 East Clay Street**

**6.** Award of Merit  
**John Turrentine, Jr., John Davis Turrentine, III,**  
**and MaryKaye Turrentine**  
**212 Metcalf Avenue**  
Contractor – Michael Fromkin

**7.** Award of Stewardship  
**Len Robinson**  
**1938 WPAX Tower and Sign**

**8.** Award of Stewardship  
**First Presbyterian Church**

**9.** Award of Outstanding Achievement  
**Community Development Partners, Inc.**  
**Mitchell House Condominiums and Lofts**

7



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## ENDING THE \$75 DISASTER

Over the coming weeks a group of concerned citizens will be asking for signatures on a petition to the City Council asking for a DEMOLITION ORDINANCE. It will be available at Grassroots Coffee, Hicks Clothing, and other downtown locations and we will be going door to door to ask for your support. Also, you can sign **on-line at [www.ipetitions.com/petition/demolitiondelay](http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/demolitiondelay)**.

*Samuel L. Scheib, a member of Thomasville Landmarks and a 2009 Preservation Honor Award winner wrote an editorial about the need for such a petition, a portion of which has been submitted to the Thomasville Times-Enterprise for publication. Excerpts are included below. Read the full article on our website: [www.thomasvillelandmarks.org](http://www.thomasvillelandmarks.org).*

“A month ago there was a fine house on Broad Street covered in shakes, one of only a few historic examples of this type in Thomasville. This house could not be reproduced today; the style of construction does not meet modern code and the sap-hardened heart pine that was the primary material has all but vanished. The house was just a few hundred feet from the lovely First United Methodist Church, a few hundred feet from my own home, and regrettably, a few hundred feet from the Dawson Street Historic District whose protections stop at its borders. The home was unique, irreplaceable, in excellent condition, and bulldozed a few weeks ago for a \$75 demolition permit.”

....

“Thomasville’s historic structures were built to last, enduring hurricanes, tornadoes, countless rainstorms, the collapse of the resort economy, the Depression, bad owners, and lousy real estate markets. Most importantly, those homes survived the sixties when old buildings were chopped up into apartments or torn down to make cinderblock buildings or parking lots. Let us remember that even the famous Lapham-Patterson House whose pink square on the Rand McNally Atlas of Georgia literally puts Thomasville on the map was scheduled for demolition before a citizens group—Thomasville Landmarks—intervened to save it.”

...

“The owner of the house on Broad wanted more room for a private school and it was less expensive to start anew. The destruction of the house was a benefit for her but a loss for our city; we are all poorer for it but this scenario does not need to be repeated. I would like to propose a 90-day moratorium on the demolition or significant alteration of any structure older than 45 years in Thomasville (the age of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places). Given a little time houses can be moved, property swaps arranged, funds raised. My neighbor the Dekle House (ca. 1855) used to live in Fletcherville but the owner had different ideas for using his land; with a little time one of the oldest single-story homes in Thomasville got a new life a mile away, disaster averted.”

*View full article [www.thomasvillelandmarks.org](http://www.thomasvillelandmarks.org)*

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### Benefactor Level

**Firman Fund**

**The Gift Shop**



Logos for our Benefactor and above Corporate members are shown when provided.

### Patron Level

Astro Pest Control

Farmers & Merchants Bank

Taco Bell

Tall Timbers Land Conservancy

Taylor Land & Development Company

Thomasville National Bank

Thomas County Federal

Corporate members at the Patron Level and above are listed here.