

# Washington County Historical Society

129 Jones Street, Sandersville, Georgia 31082

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 9 - Number 3

July 1997

Chartered 1976

## State Society executive director to speak Monday

Have you ever wondered why and how tombstones and cemetery monuments evolved?

The answer to that question may be found at the July 28 meeting of the Historical Society when W. Todd Groce, executive director of the Georgia Historical Society, speaks of his travels to various cemeteries in the south including Savannah, New Orleans and Mobile.

He will be coming early in the afternoon so he will have time to visit the Warthen cemeteries and the Old City Cemetery in Sandersville and to meet with the executive

board of the Society to share the ways the state society may help the local group.

The meeting is Monday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Washington EMC civic room. Everyone is invited. Members are especially urged to bring guests so we'll have a really great crowd.

Refreshments will be served afterwards at the home of Ben and Nancy Tarbutton, who serve as chairpersons for the Georgia Historical Society.

### *From my corner...*

I am excited with the busy news of our members. At this week's board meeting, each committee reported significant action.

The Brown House continues in its renovation - plumbers, electricians and plasterers each taking their turn.

The Genealogy Committee has been helping visitors from many other states and some towns in Georgia previously unknown to us - making new friends for the county and the Society!!

The Museum was visited by Northland Cable TV reporter Australia Dudley for one short story and she admitted we were worth a series! Look for some new stars on your screen.

The Living History project has delivered the Thiele 50 Year video and is ready to start interviewing individuals who "remember when..."

A Georgia 2000 Preservation Grant has been submitted to renovate Warthen's Old Jail. Our hopes are high.

And the final questions have been answered on the historic register nomination of the Tennille Women's Clubhouse, so that it should be recognized within a year.

Our program on July 28 will introduce us to opportunities from our membership in the Georgia Historical Society - ways we can get special help on projects and problems - as well as enlighten us on cemetery art and symbolism.

Isn't it encouraging to you as well? If you're not certain, get busy with us!

Jo Cummings, president

## Warthen Cemetery Ramble October 5

During the Kaolin Festival the Society will sponsor the Ramble on Sunday, October 5 beginning at the Warthen Family Cemetery. After touring the cemetery, participants will receive a brochure telling a little of the history of the Warthen community, about the old city buildings and significant homes and the Bethlehem Baptist cemetery.

The brochure is in the works and the Warthen committee headed by Jewell Turner is working on cleaning up the area and planning refreshments.

The Museum will be open Tuesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons and the Choate Room will be open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday afternoon.

## Stokes family history published

Congratulations to Lydia Bray Pool, author of "Stokes Family History - 33 Generations," published in June, 1997.

It is an impressive work, well written and well documented. She traveled in several states and England for information and photographs.

A retired educator, Lydia Pool has lectured, presented research, published reading procedures, and was published in several professional journals. During her last fourteen years in education, she was Language Arts Supervisor for the Washington County Public Schools.

She has presented a copy of her book to the Genealogy Room in the Museum.

## Mark Your Calendar

- July 28 - WaCo Society- at EMC - 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 5 - Warthen Cemetery Ramble -
- Oct. 11 - Civil War "Bow Tying" Reenactment, Tennille - 5 p.m.
- Oct. 13 - Executive Board Meeting - 5 p.m. at Museum
- Oct. 27 - WaCo Society - at EMC - 7:30 p.m.

# Washington County Historical Society

129 Jones Street, Post Office Box 6088  
Sandersville, Georgia 31082

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit Number 2  
Sandersville, GA 31082

July 1997

## Flea Market October 2, 3 & 4 to benefit Brown House

A Flea Market is planned at The Brown House on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 2, 3, and 4 and your help is needed. We need fleas: any useful items would be welcome.

This is a great opportunity for you to clear out items you do not need. Someone will be at The Brown House every Wednesday afternoon in September, 2-5 p.m. to accept your donations. If you wish a tax credit, please list what you bring with your value figure and we will send you the proper paperwork.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Brown House

The wiring is about one-half finished. We are so grateful to Robert Brantley, Mel Daniel and their helpers

from the 49th Regiment for doing this work.

We need for each one of you to be a part of this restoration project. If you have not given this year, won't you please send a check marked for The Brown House to the Historical Society, P.O. Box 6088, Sandersville, GA 31082.

A great deal more funding is needed to properly complete this restoration. Ray Hollingsworth has agreed to be finance chairman for The Brown House.

\* \* \* \* \*

Due to several reasons beyond their control, the Sons of Confederate Veterans will not have a Living History Encampment this November. They will have a local encampment on the Museum grounds on October 11, the day of the Kaolin Parade.

Mary Alice Jordan

## Genealogy

During the last three months this committee hosted visitors from 17 states (AL., AR., CA., CO., FL., KS., LA., MA., MS., N.J., N.Y., N.C., PA., S.C., TX., VA.) British Columbia and Romania, plus some from eight cities in Georgia.

The committee has been reworking the shelving system to make it easier to use and reshelve.

## Museum notes...

Several people have inquired lately about the Time Capsule. It was buried with much fanfair on the Museum grounds on Sunday, November 8, 1981 at 4 p.m. It is to be opened 25 years from that date, in the fall of 2006. There were 509 envelopes enclosed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Plans are to have a Museum exhibit in the fall on the Civil War period. If you have any relics that we could borrow or keep, or any letters or papers that we could use or copy, please call Mary Alice Jordan, chairman, at 552-2963.

## Postmarks from Civil War period needed for research, information

Spud Bridges reports the Georgia Postal Society is researching post marks and post offices during the Civil War period. If you have anything which could be copied, contact him at 552-3389.

### 1997 Officers - Committee Chairs

President - Jo Cummings -  
Vice-President - Carolyn Fordham -  
Secretary - Patricia Mathis  
Treasurer - Katye McCoy  
Directors - Martha Armstrong, H.I. "Spud" Bridges, Gwen Hall,  
Allen Hodges, Gladys Spight  
Brown House Chair - Mary Alice Jordan  
Cemetery Chair - David Salisbury  
Genealogy Chair - Gene Brantley  
Historic Sites/Districts -  
Living History - Neale Traugh  
Museum Chair - Mary Alice Jordan  
Program - Ray Hollingsworth  
Publicity/Newsletter - Brenda Hollingsworth