



&

The Mary Church Terrell Building Served Valdosta's Black Women and The Phyllis Wheatley Club Convened There A story by James Edward Alexander

LISTEN BUT SHUT UP

When the old ladies assembled I was the only child allowed to sit and listen to their discussions. I did not know why, until many decades later. They had detected my gift of good memory and took a chance that I would someday use it constructively to share memories of their time. (Valdosta, GA. Circa 1939-1949)

Grandmama Mariah was a member of an inner circle of colored ladies whose wisdom, temperament, and engagement stabilized colored communities. They did what women are noted for; they are the keepers and carriers of the culture.

As the wife of an African Methodist Episcopal minister, her membership in some organizations was expected. If an invitation was extended to Sister Mariah Alexander, it was understood that her companion would probably be little James Edward. Between the ages of four and ten, I accompanied my grandmother to meetings of her church Missionary Board, Stewardess Board, quilting bees, gatherings to harvest and preserve fruits and vegetables, and more than enough assemblies for what they called "just for social fellowship." I was not consulted about whether I wanted to attend, I was simply told when to wash my face and feet, which pair of overalls to put on, and if necessary, which pair of pajamas to pack.

Many of their meetings were held in member homes, because "The Women's Building" was built by whites for white women only. So Mama, her niece, and other colored matrons of the community decided to build their own meeting place. They named it the Mary Church Terrell Building, honoring one of the most active contemporary fighters for equal rights for women and Negroes. It was in that special place that colored women convened for the Phyllis Wheatley Club, to honor the slave girl who became a poet, and whose works were praised by President George Washington and King George III.

One day Mama told me I would attend another meeting of the Phyllis Wheatley Club to meet a special guest. When a very dark lady with smiling eyes entered the building, one could see a special presence. Such was the aura of Mrs. Mary Jane McLeod Bethune, the notable educator, author and civil rights activist. It was during the period of World War II, but Mrs. Bethune reminded the colored ladies that they were on the front line of another battle we could not afford to lose: the battle for the survival and advancement of colored people. She prefaced her sentences with the pronoun "we," to emphasize that every woman there was her equal in the struggle. Furthermore, she promised to remind President Franklin Roosevelt that

Editor's Note: An historic structure on West Hill Avenue was lost in December 2020. Fortunately its story had been recorded and remnants of building were salvaged and donated to the museum.

The story beginning at left is included in James Edward Alexander's third book **I Wish You Had Been There**, cover *below*. He did just what the ladies hoped, he told their story.

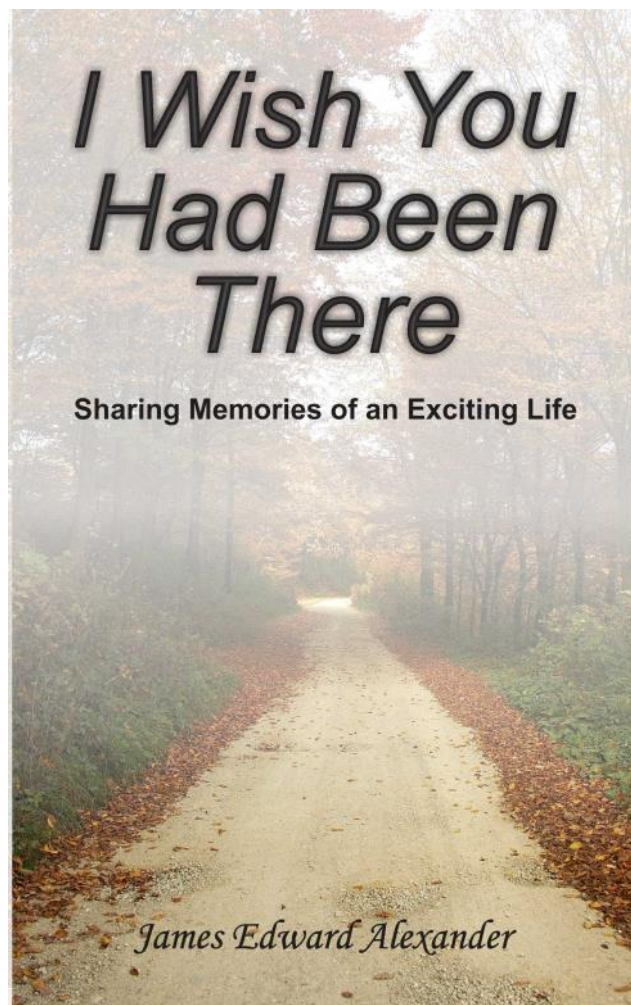
When particular interest arose about the Valdosta visit from Mary McLeod Bethune, Alexander re-released the article in 2017 in his "Story of the Month" series he sends by email.

Of note in Valdosta, the two main thoroughfares in the Lincoln Park subdivision are Bunche Drive and Bethune Drive.

I Wish You Had Been There

Sharing Memories of an Exciting Life

James Edward Alexander



the unity and resolve of colored women was unshakeable. He was awaiting her visit at Warm Springs, Georgia, where he found some comfort from the crippling illness of polio. She was among a group of colored advisors who were called his “Black Cabinet.” But it was through her special relationship with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt that Mrs. Bethune was able to constantly reinforce colored aspirations, leading many colored ladies to call Mrs. Bethune, “Our First Colored Lady.”

Most of the gatherings we attended that were related to religion followed reasonably predictable formats. Before any conversation or business was conducted, they prayed and thanked God for bringing us together. Those ladies identified me as the boy-child recipient of their special pampering, hoping that I would glean from their conversations and mannerism some values they wanted preserved. Another purpose for my presence was to recite the 23d Psalm. I critiqued my performance by the number of times I heard, “Yes, Lord.” Then I settled into my position on the floor in the most distant corner, where I read a book, realizing that if I uttered one word of what was discussed, their next gathering would be at my funeral.

When those old ladies assembled otherwise, their agenda was whatever was on their minds. Some things were always on their minds: men, how young people were going to hell-in-a-hurry, and loose women. They knew for certain that they were the appointed keepers of God’s word, and it was their divinely inspired duty to prevent this world from becoming a den of sin and iniquity. Those who most threatened the community were the women whose morals and behavior justified them to be low rated to the status of hussies, or worse, strumpets. My ears still remember their words: “She’s a strumpet, a purveyor of perdition and damnation, and she ought to be washed with lye soap, and then rinsed in the blood of the Lord.” That always evoked the chorus of “amen’s.” On more than a few occasions I almost shouted something to urge them to tell me more about those women. Furthermore, those married ladies issued fewer social invitations to those clearly identified as “widow women,” a not too subtle reference that translated into, “Since she ain’t got a husband; she ain’t gonna get mine.”

They also used many euphemisms. No woman was ever pregnant – she was “in the family way.” Menopause and hot flashes translated into “the change of life.” When their husbands had urinary problems, they announced that he was “having trouble making water.” [The men described their problem otherwise.] No wonder the ladies called them heathens.

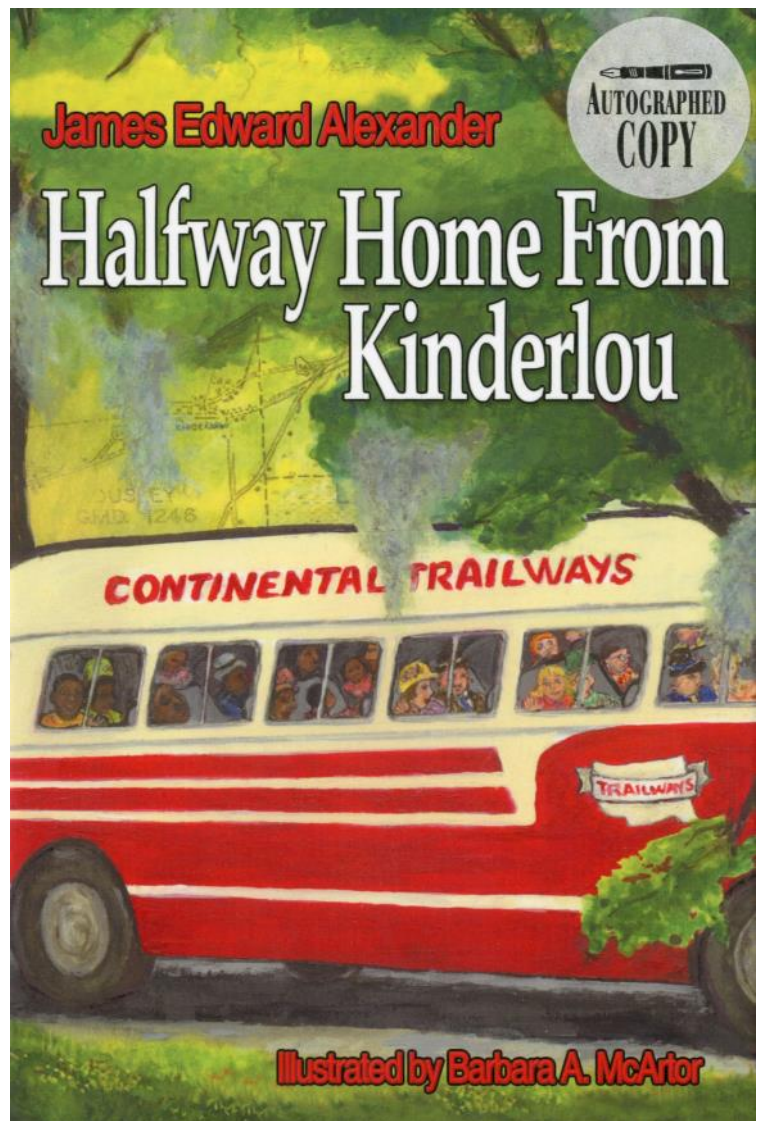
Having exhausted or tired of the subjects of sin, trifling men, and general social decay, these prim pillars of the community turned to other gossip. When one sister hesitated, cleared her throat, and said, “God knows I shouldn’t mention this, but...,” I became alert, because I was about to hear the details of somebody’s business. I dared not change my position on the floor, for any movement might have suggested shifting to hear or for clearer understanding. I was trained to hear and understand without display or utter-



Left; Mary McLeod Bethune. The photo is from the Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida. website. Mrs. Bethune would have been older when she visited the Valdosta club house, probably age 65-70. James Edward Alexander told she was on her way to Warm Springs, Georgia to see the Roosevelts. *Below* is the book cover of Alexander’s first publication **Halfway Home From Kinderlou**. A very well attended program and book signing was held at the museum.

It is a worthy historical record of growing up in

Valdosta. His title reflects his childhood on West Hill Avenue and having grandparents living in Ousley. At Kinderlou he was either halfway home to his parents or halfway home to his grandparents.



ance. Those ladies who didn't initiate the gossip listened intently and rolled their eyes, and fanned a little faster with the cardboard fans that the funeral homes donated to the church. When the gossip was really scandalous, they shouted, "Oh my God," and grunted as though being pierced by the spear of the crucifixion. I never heard one word of contrition for stealing the fans from the church.

If the gathering lasted too long, I often fell asleep where I sat. Almost routinely I awoke on the lap of a lady in a rocking chair, deliberately chosen to rock my lower torso, while my head bobbed between her full bosoms. It was a most unusual sensation. She would then give me a kiss on both cheeks and say, "Here you are, sugar baby," then reach into her apron pocket and present me a tea cake or a piece of candy.

Just as they started, they also ended their sessions with a tribute to God. And only God knew what else they would discuss before we meet again. End

Georgia DOT research on historic structures affected by the US 84 Railroad overpass provided much information and the gift of permanent exhibit materials for the museum on this area of West Hill Avenue.



Above: The West Hill Avenue clubhouse that was recently lost. It was surrounded by the homes of club founders' Ella Mae Alexander on the left and Marietta Gaines on the right. These two latter structures are in the photo at right in the exhibit panel. The Gaines home still stands currently used by a church.

Right: A portion of one of the six mobile exhibit panels prepared by the Georgia DOT. They also prepared stationary display items.

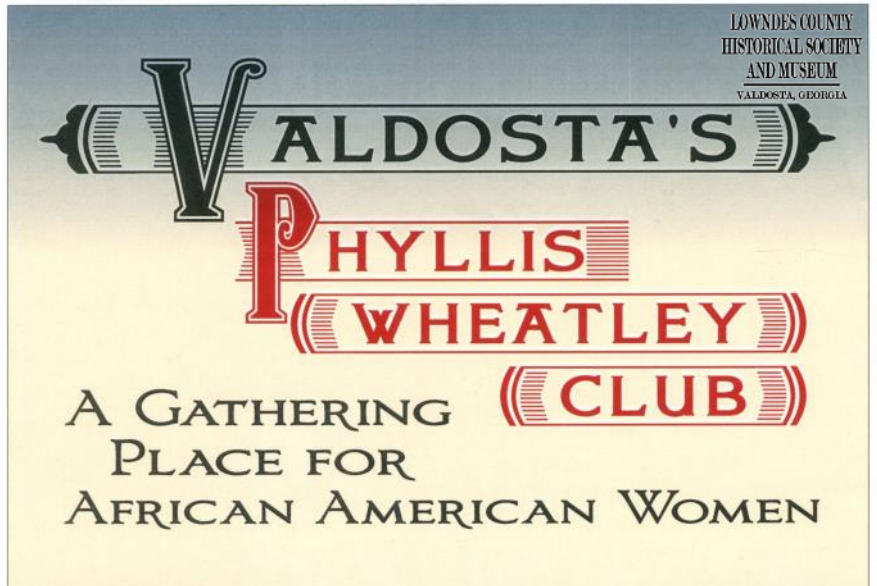
In October 2013 a Program/Reception, as listed below, was held at the museum.

**Georgia DOT Historical Exhibits
In Observance of
Community Planning Month**

sponsored by
**Lowndes County Historical Society
City of Valdosta and
Valdosta Heritage Foundation.**

**Topics of the event included;
Thomas Family House and Estate,
Including the Evolution of
West Valdosta.**

**Valdosta's Phyllis Wheatley
Club House
Historic Structures at the new U.S. 84
RR Overpass**



A small frame building located on a busy road in Valdosta, Georgia, the Phyllis Wheatley Club has a history that belies its modest appearance. Passersby might be surprised to learn of its role in African American women's empowerment during the mid-twentieth century in this small South Georgia city. This building is significant as one of the few African American women's clubs in Georgia with a dedicated clubhouse. This exhibit shares its story as well as the fascinating history of black women's clubs in American history.

2021 New & Renewal Memberships

(Received by April 30, 2021)

Place of residence listed for those
Outside of Lowndes County

**The Historical Society Trustees
and Museum Staff greatly appreciate
your memberships as they affirm our
place as an important cultural entity
in Lowndes County and help us to
fulfill our mission—**

**To collect, preserve and present
the history of Lowndes County**

*** designates Life Member

** designates Patron Member

* designates Contributing Member

A

Robert Adair
Ft. Worth, TX

Thomas Buzz Akins, Jr. *
Phil H. and Cathy Alday **
James Edward Alexander ***
Bluffton, SC

Marcia Alexander
Charles S. and Letty Allen
Don and Mary Allen
Allen County Public Library
Ft. Wayne, IN

Bill and Jennifer Altman
John and Sandra Anderson
Altman and Barrett Architects

B

Ann Bagley
Charles and Rena D. Barclay
Charles and Sally Barnes *
Quitman, GA

JoAnn Daniel Bassford
Brook Bearden Family
Mike Beck
Wake Forest, NC
Emerson and PJ Bell **
Arlington, TX

John Reid Bennett ***
Norman and Robin M. Bennett
David and Becky Bentley
Sen. Ellis and Aletha Black
Dr. and Mrs. Michael M. Black
Wesley and Sandra Blanchard

Mary Blanton
Ronnie N. Blanton *
Vallye J. Blanton
Beth Stanaland Boggs
Jasper, GA

Robert H. Bohler
Ft. Worth, TX
Ron and Tammy Borders
Buzz and Mary T. Bowers *
Cumming, GA

Becky Giddens Bracey
Thomasville, GA
Larry Brandon *

Bill and Rosemary Brannen
Joseph Clem Brannen, DDS *

Atlanta, GA
Mike Brantley
Brunswick, GA
Michael Bright
Dean N. Brooks ***
Paul and Amy Brown
Roxanne Williams Brown
Charles E. Bryan
Atlanta, GA
Robert Bryan
Pooler, GA
Joe Burch
Macclenny, FL
Brad and Ann Burnette
James Byrd
Jerry Nichols Byrd

C

Pablo Campa *
Roy and Donna Cannon
Atlanta, GA
Caroline Dame Carpenter
Beaufort, SC
Jim and Ingrid Carroll
Fred and Brenda R. Carter
Jimmy and Peggy Cox Carter
Allen and Ginny Catoe
Ray and Peggy S. Chitty *
Carolyn B. Christian
Bob Christian

Michael and Sally Sue Christopher
Citizens Community Bank *
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Clark
Tommy A. Clark
Belmont, MS
Jim and Sue Clary
Joe and Ellen Clary

Anthony and Vivian Miller-Cody
Jeannette Cole
Conifer, CO

Mr. and Mrs. H. Lamar Cole
Buddy and Sharon Coleman
Dan and Carolyn E. Coleman
Wade and Geri Coleman
Atlanta, GA

Sandra Bennett Connell **
Stockton, GA

Tommy and Sharon Connell
George Converse
Cincinnati, OH
Ben Copeland
Lakeland, GA

Martha Copping
Orrie and Francine Copping *
Gloria Boyette Corker *
Dr. Craig O'Quinn Cowart ***
Palm Harbor, FL

Charles and Carolyn Cox *
Sue and Stanley Cox
Covington's Dinning & Catering
Paul and Sharon Cribbs *
Jane C. Crick *

Edward and Sara L. Crow
James and Dorothy Cruse
Gainesville, FL
Mary Culbreth

D

Rebecca Southwell Daffin *
Panama City, FL

Jan Shelton Danis *
Bethesda, MD
Audrey T. Dasher *
Bobby and Ann Dasher
Laura B. Dasher
Daugharty Service Station
Robert Daugharty, Jr.
Jason and Emily Davenport ***
Alan and Laurie Davis *
Bill and Camille Davis *
Tallahassee, FL
Donald O. Davis
Rev. Tom Davis
Athens, GA

Allan and Joan Dear **
Shelly and Esther Decker
Pinetta, FL

Ginger Holcombe Dees
Guyton, GA
Kelly Dees

Fred DeLoach, III
Atlanta, GA

John Deming ***
Gulfport, MS

John P. Dennis
William T. (Billy) Dennis
Marietta, GA

Jimmy and Marianne T. DeVane *
Mandeville, LA

Ellen Mackey Dewar **
Marvin and Lyn L. Dickey ***

David and Elaine Dillard
Duane and Anne B. Dodson
Panama City Beach, FL

Danny and Linda Evans Douglas
Dunellon, FL

Mike and Martha Dover
Mike and Mary Ann Drumheller *
John K. and Susan Dukes *

E-F

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen W. Edmondson
Clayton, GA

Beverly Googe Edwards
John Kent, Sr. and Vikki Edwards

Mike Esterman *
Monrovia, IN
June Everitte

Philip and Vickie L. Everitte *
Thomas Everitte
Tuscon, AZ

William O. and Beverly Fletcher
Mrs. Everett Force

Charlotte Cunningham Ford
Curtis Fowler
Jeff Fulp *

Barry D. Fuller
Zella O. Fuller

G

Jordan and Jessica Ganas
Ted and Mickey C. Gaskins

Roberta George
Martha Norwood Gibson
Oxford, FL

Linda Giles
Lisa Giles Gilchrist

David Girardin
East Palatka, FL
Mr. and Mrs. L. Emil Girardin

Atlanta, GA
 Ransom and Celine Gladwin
 Claude Godwin/Ashley Intriago
 Titusville, FL
 Alan and Dale Golden *
 Braselton, GA
 Ladson and Gayle Golden
 Tim and Ellen Golden **
 Winn K. Goodwin
 Augusta, GA
 Brian Greene & Jane Gore *
 Nancy B. Graham
 Ashburn, VA
 O'Neal and Faye Grant
 Mary D. Gray
 J. Norman Greene
 Dr. Lucy R. Greene **
 Lee V. Greer
 Fair Oaks Ranch, TX
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Glenn Gregory ***
 Archie and Lee Griffin
 Barbara T, Griffin*
 H
 James W. Hall, Jr.
 Joe Hall
 Lana Hall
 Thomas and Dixie Haller
 Jim and Wanda O. Halter
 Dr. Harry and Delia Hamm *
 Ed Hanahan
 Palm Springs, CA
 Tim and Susanna D. Harris
 Lilla Kate Hart
 Edward Hart
 Dallas, TX
 Dr. George Hart
 Macon, GA
 Van and Dot Hastings
 Lee and Linda Beggs Hatcher
 Paul B. Hatcher, Jr.
 Robert Hatton
 Elizabeth Heller
 Lake Placid, FL
 Cheryl V. Helms *
 Beulah Exum Henny
 Ed and Rita Hightower **
 Billy and Carolyn Hill
 Michael and Jean Hill
 Sharon Hilton
 David Hobbs
 Brunswick, GA
 Dr. Charles and Nancy Hobby*
 Daniel Hoffman & Susan Hellstern **
 John and Ximena Holcombe
 Donald I. Holliday
 Alexandria, IN
 ID Properties/ Rhett Holmes *
 Bruce Darby Hornbuckle
 Kennesaw, GA
 Riley and Jenny Beck Howard **
 Gig Harbor, WA
 Julie Ewing Hunt **
 Tifton, GA
 I-J
 Ginny Bridges Ireland
 Norris, TN
 Ronald and Carol Irwin ***
 Jim E. Jarvis

Brantley and Barbara Jenkins
 Jerry and Kay Jennett ***
 Frank and Jean Johnson
 Gail Connell Johnson
 Lonetree, CO
 Greg Johnston
 Houston, TX
 K
 William (Bill) Kelly
 Blackshear, GA
 Marilyn H. Kemper *
 Karen King
 Jim Knight
 Penney Farms, FL
 Philip Knighton
 Madison, FL
 Mary Shepherd Kuntz ***
 Quitman, GA
 Sally Shingler Kurrie
 L
 John Langdale, Jr.
 Margaret Langdale
 East Palatka, FL
 Noah Michael Langdale ***
 Atlanta, GA
 Virginia M. Langdale
 Lamb P. Lastinger
 Loudelle Laws
 Judy Lawson
 Vic and Connie Ledbetter *
 Hank and Claire S. Lee
 Michael Lee
 Ray City, GA
 R. Al Lee
 Athens, GA
 Laura Leonard
 Susan Leonard
 Bobbie Lester
 David and Esther Paine Lifsey *
 Atlanta, GA
 Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm H. Liles
 Nashville, TN
 Richard B. Liles
 Santa Rosa Beach, FL
 Pat Griffin Lindenmeyer
 Summerville, SC
 Ida Little *
 Hawthorne, FL
 Verna Guess Lord
 Ivey, GA
 Michael and Floye Luke
 John and Ann Lukens
 M
 Mac Mackey
 Julie A. Magruder
 Jimmy and Mary Young Manning
 Drs. Dennis and Patricia Marks
 Brian and Margaret McDaniel *
 Moultrie, GA
 Dr. and Mrs. John L. McGowan
 Earle S. McKey III
 Arthur and Jane McLane
 Tyson and Mary Sue McLane *
 Carol McLeod
 Elaine Parrish McMillan
 James E. McKinney
 Mary W. McRee ***
 Lanier County, GA

John and Lee L. Mikuta ***
 St. Simons Island, GA
 Jonathan Miller *
 Pat Puckett Miller
 Lakeland, GA
 Sandra Turner Mills
 Charlotte, NC
 Renate K. Milner
 Cecil, GA
 Tom and Lora Milner
 Cecil, GA
 Skipper and Betsy Mixson
 Lakemont, GA
 Floyd B. Moon
 Jesse F. Moore **
 Gainesville, VA
 Leland S. Moore, Jr.
 Tommy Moore
 Mr. and Mrs. Clay Moseley
 Gretchen Smith Mui
 Silver Spring, MD
 Jay and Connie Mullis
 Pelham, AL
 Mark Mullis
 Steve Mullis
 Charlotte, NC
 N-O
 Debbie and Allan Nagy
 Cliff Nichols
 Bubba and Debbie Nolan
 William Nunn
 Rebecca Anne Odom
 Tom William Odom
 Lake Worth, FL
 Jack and Cheryl Oliver
 Mr. and Mrs. William H. Oliver, III
 Roswell, GA
 Dr. and Mrs. William Oliver
 Macon, GA
 P
 John P. Page
 Steve and Cathy Pannell
 Orange, TX
 Park Terrace Properties
 The Goodings
 Dr. David and Leslie Parker *
 James W. Parrish
 Tallahassee, FL
 Sue Ellen Patterson
 Athens, GA
 Ashley and Ginger Paulk
 Dr. Alvin Payton, Jr.
 Laura C. Pearlman ***
 Catherine Pendleton
 Helen F. Pendleton
 Leona R. Pendleton
 Bernard and Sheena Perry
 Charles and Cathy L. Perry
 J. Perryman
 Jeremy Petrella
 Quitman, GA
 Lynn Pippenger **
 Largo, FL
 Larry and Shirley Price
 Albany, GA
 Kay Powell
 Smyrna, GA
 Mary Wolinski Powell

Q-R

Sally Turner Querin
 Bonnie M. Rainey
 Anita Reams ***
 Catherine L. Redles
 Gwen Summers Redwine
 Douglasville, GA
 Emily Freeman Reilly
 Dr. Anita Boyle Renfroe &
 Col. Vance Renfroe
 Fernandina Beach, FL
 Eve Hanahan Renfroe *
 Allan and Nell Z. Ricketts
 Dr. Jay and Pamela Rickman
 Nell Patten Rocquemore
 Lakeland, GA
 Joe and Dianne Rodgers
 Ralph and Lark Russell
 Riley and Rhonda Rutland
 S
 Dr. Richard T. Sager *
 Shirley P. Sainz ***
 Charles and Jan Samuels
 Lakeland, FL
 Kay Schnitker
 Madison, FL
 Charlene Bowen Scholey
 Menifee, CA
 Billy and Betty Schroer *
 Marietta, GA
 Jaden and Elke Schultz
 Janet B. Scott
 SCV, James Rouse Carter
 Jean Wells Sheffield
 Kennesaw, GA
 Davy and Susan Shelton
 Lynn Shelton
 Richard W. and Sara Jane Shelton **
 Charles Brother and Penny Shenton
 Stuart Lynn Simpson
 Jack Sineath
 Atlanta, GA
 John Sineath
 Ken Sloat
 Dayton, OH
 Clint and Barbara Slocumb
 Ben and Carol Smith
 Carl and Laura Smith
 Joe Glenn and Marie C. Smith
 King Smith
 Randall L. Smith
 Russell Martin Smith
 Richard A. Stalvey *
 Donald and DeeDee D. Stanley
 James and Teresa S. Steinberg
 Jodie and Vickie Stevens
 Allen and Judy Stewart
 Sue Deming Stewart ***
 Fairhope, AL
 Barbara S. Stratton
 Julie Scott Street
 Kathryn Wisenbaker Strickland
 Brunswick, GA
 Matilda W. Stubbs
 Harry and Linda Stump
 Pensacola, FL

Janice Sumner
 Pete and Sondra D. Supp
 John and Kate C. Swiderski *
 T
 Helen Preston Tapp
 Atlanta, GA
 David and Sylvia Tart
 Burton L. Tillman *
 Atlanta, GA
 Gene and Janet Toffolo *
 Lucy Tomberlin
 John F. Tomlinson
 Dr. Floyd D. Toth
 Mrs. Ingrid Turner ***
 Susan Parramore Turner *
 Powder Springs, GA
 Wm. Al Turner, Jr.
 U-V
 Dr. Willa Valencia
 Robert Rouse Vallotton, II
 W
 Nell Walden
 Byron, GA
 Buddy and Analase Walker
 Dorothy Noell Walker
 Columbia, SC
 David S. Waller, Jr. Family
 Sharon D. Waller **
 Steve L. Wansley
 Dr. and Mrs. Fred A. Ware
 Quitman, GA
 C. Wilbur Warner
 Atlanta, GA

Dr. Mary Helen Watson
 Lyndal Webb
 Ron and Cathy Wells
 Bill and Kathy Adams Wenck *
 Hugh H. and Jerry West
 Reaves and Amy West
 Gwynedd Valley, PA
 Jim and Susan Eye Wheeler
 Bob Wiggins
 Cartersville, GA
 Butch and Claire Wiggins **
 Victoria Wilcox *
 Peachtree City, GA
 Chip Wildes
 Frank C. Williams ***
 Wetumpka, AL
 Kathryn Veatch Williams
 Alfred C. Willis, PhD
 J. Edward Willis ***
 Emery and Maxine Wilson
 Madera, CA
 Russell Wilson
 Leawood, KS
 Gary Wisenbaker *
 Jim and Judy Wisenbaker
 Huntington Beach, CA
 Mark and Carol Wisenbaker ***
 Gary and Marie Wood *
 Y-Z
 Dr. Owen and Joanne Youles
 Gretchen McCoy Young
 Powder Springs, GA
 Dr. Ron and Nancy Zaccari



The photo **above**, from the museum archives, shows Moody AFB Commander Harris, C.W. 'Slim' Warner and Mayor Maxwell Oliver in 1961 at the presentation ceremony of the Moody F-86 jet to the City of Valdosta at the former Coca-Cola Bottling plant on N. Ashley Street. The plane would later be transferred to public property at Mathis Auditorium, Major Lyn McIntosh Park, and in 2012 to Moody for the George W. Bush Air Park.

MEMORIALS

Jane McHugh Bonner

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Charles C. 'Charlie' Clark

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Geraldine McLeod Clifton

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Robert Ryan Davis

Tallahassee, FL
by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Capt. Warren C. Graham, Jr.,

USN Retired
Ashburn, VA
by
Donald O. Davis

**Sara Frances
'Sadie' Smith Harbin**

by
J. Edward Willis

Rachel Salter Hastings

by
Donald O. Davis
John K. and Vikki Edwards

Ronald P. Hogan

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Joseph William Lineberger

Demorest, GA
by
Donald O. Davis

Mary Sandifer 'Polly' Meadors

by
Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles

**Annette Bryant O'Neal &
John Robert O'Neal**

by
Donald O. Davis

William Patrick 'Bill' Reeves

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Marsha Harris Rudolph

by
Barbara Talley Griffin

**Brinkley Laws McNeal &
Walter Paul McNeal**

by
Donald O. Davis

Delores McLeod Parrish

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Brannen Paulette Sineath

by
Charles C. and Letty T. Allen

Dr. Loyce Warren Turner, Sr.

by
Donald O. Davis
Fred DeLoach III
Atlanta, GA
Alfred Willis, PhD
J. Edward Willis
Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles

Joseph N. 'Joe' Williams, Sr.

by
Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles

FAMILY GIFT MEMORIAL

Claire Wiggins Wilson
1934-2020

by
John Russell Wilson
Leawood, KS



MEMORIAL

In Tribute To

**Warrington
Maxwell Oliver, Jr.**
1905-1990

Valdosta Mayor
1960-1964

by
James Edward Alexander
Bluffton, SC

Above center: James Edward Alexander at the Lowndes County Historical Museum in 2008 for his book signing and program on **Halfway Home from Kinderlou**. Maxwell Oliver was a mentor and friend to young James Edward Alexander. In recognition of this, Maxwell Oliver gifted Alexander one of his golf trophies, which Alexander displayed at the event. The trophy is thus engraved: "Glen Arvin Country Club, Thomasville, Ga., Seventh Annual Invitational Tournament, July 1925, Doctor's Cup." Alexander and the Oliver nephews have continued the association.

2021 Membership Application, Lowndes County Historical Society, P.O. Box 56, Valdosta, GA 31603

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Membership Category
Individual \$25. ____
Family 30. ____
Business 25/50. ____
Contributing 100. ____
Patron 250. ____

MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Officers and Executive Committee

Interim President and 1st Vice President, Sally S. Kurrie; 2nd Vice President, Mary Young Manning; Secretary; Treasurer, Edward Hightower; John Bennett, Ron Irwin; Past President, In Memory, Patsy Giles.

January thru April.....Annual Membership Campaign

The museum staff continues to work daily. Researchers are served and Acquisitions continue to be accepted and processed.

The County is beginning repair work on the Carnegie Building.

Newsletters beginning in 2011 are also online with many having color images

Lowndes County Historical Society & Museum

305 West Central Avenue
P.O. Box 56 Valdosta, GA 31603
(229) 247-4780

Fax: (229) 247-2840

E-mail: research.lchs@gmail.com & ddavis.lchs@gmail.com

Web page:

<http://www.valdostamuseum.com>

YESTERDAY & TODAY

Newsletter of

Lowndes County Historical Society

Newsletter Editor

Donald O. Davis

Museum Staff

Donald O. Davis

Executive Director.

Amy Brown

Textiles Curator and Research.

Harry S. Evans

Special Collections and Research

Adam Doughty

Drew Johnson

Social Media

YESTERDAY & TODAY

is a trademark of the
Lowndes County Historical Society.

Return Service Requested

Lowndes County Historical Society
P. O. Box 56
Valdosta, Georgia 31603-0056

Non-Profit
U S POSTAGE
PAID
Valdosta GA
PERMIT 13