

The Athens Historical Society, Inc.

The Power to Destroy: Federal Taxes and the Origins of the Civil War

Dr. Carl Vipperman

Sunday, March 19, 2000, 3:00 p.m.

at Arnocroft, the Arnold/Friend home, 925 South Milledge Avenue

Dr. Carl Vipperman, retired professor of history at UGA, gives a different slant to the events leading up to the Civil War. In the modern era of history-writing, slavery is given as the principal cause of the conflict, but many other factors were at play - most of them economic. Even as late as 1861, the year the shots were fired on Fort Sumter, the majority of people living in the South owned no slaves at all!

Join us for an interesting afternoon touring Arnocroft and studying our history. Parking is available in the back of the house and in the Blue Cross/Blue Shield lot across the street

Meet Your Officers for 2000

President: **Wilson Elder** served as vice-president of AHS last year and lined up some very interesting programs for 1999. He has been the manager of the local Varsity Drive-In for 17 years. Wilson enjoys genealogy and early American history. He and wife Tracy have two teenage boys. He's just read *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood* by Janisse Ray, which he says is wonderful. The Athenian he most admires is Dr. Sam Talmadge. Wilson says he asked Dr. Sam one day whether he had read *Cold Mountain*. He said three times.

Vice-president: **Tom Wilfong** is a long-time member of the Athens Historical Society, having served as treasurer for a number of years and on the board of directors. He is also an officer in the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation; a member of the Friends of Oconee Hill; a member of an historic church (First Presbyterian); lives in the soon-to-be historic neighborhood of Milledge Circle, and (in his spare time) is Director of Development for the Georgia Museum of Art. Tom majored in history and says that he "continues to read and think about our past, where we have been and where we are going."

Secretary: **Jodie Traylor Guy** grew up in Athens. A year after graduating from UGA, she married Bob Guy and they have two children: Bobby (Nashville attorney, married, one child) and Kathryn (graduate student at the University of Texas, Austin). During Bob's 27 years in the Army, they lived all over the country and spent three years in Germany. Jodie tells us, "Prior to returning to Athens, my most enjoyable work, other than being a homemaker, was serving for three years as a docent at the National Gallery of Art in Washington. I am currently a technical writer at UGA."

Treasurer: **George W. Smith, Jr.**, has had a life-long interest in history, particularly in the War Between the States. He is 1st Commander of the T.R.R. Cobb Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and edits their newsletter, *The Cobb Courier*. His roots go deep into this area: his ancestors have been in Jackson and Oglethorpe Counties since the late 1700s. George graduated from Athens High School, received a B.F.A. in Graphic Design from the University of Pennsylvania, and worked with the American Association for Vocational Instructional Materials from 1964 until 1999, when he resigned as a director. He now is a production coordinator for the UGA Printing Department. He and wife Nancy Inglett (also a native Athenian) live in Oglethorpe County. Ask George about his antique cars!

Historian: **Mary Bondurant Warren** is a 4th generation Athenian and a charter member of AHS. She served as president for three terms, in addition to running her own genealogical publishing business, Heritage Papers, and raising five children. Mary is nationally known for her weekly magazine *Family Puzzlers*, which she published from 1964 until 1997. She is also co-chair with Nancy Bowen of the *Athens Treasures* exhibit.

New dates & name for the Exhibit!

Athens Treasures: the AHS-Georgia Museum of Art Exhibit opens 27 Jan. 2001

Help us celebrate Clarke County's bicentennial with the exhibition of works of art and crafts from our area. Have you items or objects worthy of display in one of the following categories? If you do, please call one of the following: Nancy Bowen (546-5726), Mary Bondurant Warren (549-1264), or Tom Wilfong (543-4161) as soon as possible so that we can get started on preparing the guidebook. The exhibit will be on display through March 24, 2001.

- ✓ University of Georgia memorabilia
- ✓ Domestic arts - quilts, coverlets, clothing, linens, needlework, etc.
- ✓ Toys, games, dolls, doll houses and furniture
- ✓ Silver, pottery, china
- ✓ Paintings, photos, post cards of early Athens and Athenians
- ✓ Works of deceased Athens artists
- ✓ Miscellany

With your help, we can make this one of the most important shows of the new Millenium, so share your treasures!

Upcoming programs

Program coordinator Tom Wilfong says that AHS has some very interesting programs on the docket for future meetings, including an interactive quiz with slides about the Hajos photogravure of Athens houses that was originally published in 1901 and just reprinted by Ron Evans. Another program that will cause all UGA sports fans to prick up their ears is long-time coach Dan Magill talking about the history of sports at the University of Georgia. The dates have not been finalized - watch your newsletter for more details.

The regular January meeting will be held on Sunday, January 27, 2001 - the opening reception for the AHS-Georgia Museum of Art exhibit, *Athens Treasures*. Join us at the Georgia Museum of Art at 3:00 p.m. for a guided tour of the exhibit and refreshments.

In Memoriam

Margretta Eagon

_____ - 2000

Birdie Bondurant Clower

1909 - 2000

J. Comer Whitehead

1915 - 2000

L. Milton "Red" Leathers, Jr.

1908 - 2000

Lucyle Cook Folger

1904 - 2000

Clarke County Probate Court Historical Records Project

A core group of volunteers received training in handling and preserving records from staff at the Georgia Archive on January 18. This group is already hard at work and will help to train new volunteers as needed. If you are interested in working on sorting the probate packets so that they can be microfilmed, contact the project Coordinator Kathy Hart at (706) 769-8149 or email her at clrkprobateproj@up2me.com for the latest work schedule.

Why not give an AHS membership to your favorite history buff!

ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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2000 Meetings

- ✓ January 16
- ✓ March 19
- May 21
- October 15