

Newsletter

OF THE ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

March/April 2009

P.O. Box 7745 • Athens, Georgia 30604-7745

TALES OF A HAPPY WANDERER

by Fred Birchmore

Sunday, April 19, 2009

2:30 p.m. at the Seney-Stovall Chapel

*** note change of time and meeting place ***



Fred and Bucephalus
From the Digital Library of Georgia

Native Athenian Fred Birchmore will be 100 on November 29, 2011, just a bit over two years from now. And anyone who has recently seen this healthy and alert citizen has every reason to expect the gentleman and world traveler to be at his centennial birthday party – and many more beyond that one! According to Coach Dan Magill, “Birchmore gets up every morning and walks 3 miles or more to keep his legs in shape. Later in the day, he swims at the Athens YMCA. He’s well known for walking on his hands down the stairway of the Washington Monument in the nation’s capital. And, get this: he also can still walk on his hands.”¹

On April 19, Mr. Birchmore will walk us through his very eventful life (not on our hands, we hope), paying special attention to his early memories of the small college town in which he grew up. No doubt, we will hear reports from one adventure that took him away from his hometown. This little foray turned into a book, *Around the World on a Bicycle*. But few people can tell us first-hand and so insightfully what Athens was like around 1929 or 1941, along with the dramatic changes our part of Georgia went through in the 1950s and '60s. Mr. Fred Birchmore can do this. And we will hear about his hand-built “Great Wall of Athens.”

Note the change in meeting time and place above. The meeting is free and open to the public. Bring a friend (or two or three) to hear this most interesting program!

¹ See the full *Athens Banner-Herald* story online at www.onlineathens.com/stories/072107/gymnastics_20070721041.shtml

It's time to renew your AHS membership! If your mailing label has "2009" above your name, your dues are current. Thank you for supporting YOUR society!

Name _____

(Please give name(s) as you want it/them to appear in the yearbook)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Choose membership level: (Dues cover the calendar year)

_____ Individual - \$10.00	_____ Patron - \$50.00
_____ Family - \$15.00	_____ Business - \$100.00
_____ Supporting - \$35.00	_____ Please accept my tax-deductible contribution
	of \$_____ to help fund AHS special projects

***Mail this form with your check payable to the Athens Historical Society
to AHS, P.O. Box 7745, Athens GA 30604-7745. Thank you!***

Newsletter

OF THE ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 7745 • Athens, Georgia 30604-7745

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ATHENS, GA
PERMIT No. 208

***** note change of time
and meeting place *****

***It's time to renew your membership to AHS!
If your mailing label has 2009 above your name, your dues are current.***

Celebrating 50 years ~ 1959-2009

AHS Officers for 2009

A. Blair Dorminey – President
L. Milton Leathers – Vice President
Elaine Collier Neal – Secretary
George W. Smith, Jr. – Treasurer
Eve B. Mayes – Historian

AHS Board of Directors

<i>2008-2009 term</i>	<i>2009-2010 term</i>
Charles Carter	Mary Anne Hoit Abbe
Fritz Felchlin	Jane Wilfong Mann
James Reap	Marianne Gordon Rogers

Upcoming AHS Meeting Dates

May 17, 2009 – Life in Athens during WWII
October 18, 2009 – AHS's 50th Anniversary!
December 6, 2009 – Holiday Party
January 17, 2009 – TBA

AHS Website & Information

www.rootsweb/~gaahs
email: ebmayes@windstream.net

Connecting your present and your past is the theme for this year's Clarke-Oconee Genealogical Society's Genealogy and History Expo. The 2009 Expo will include lectures on facets of local, American, ethnic, and old-world genealogy. Representatives of genealogical book sellers, software reviews, lineage societies, and, of course, the local historical and genealogical societies will have lots of goodies to peruse. AHS will be well represented at this year's event, since many of our members are also involved in various other genealogical groups.

The lectures will start at 10:30, with Eve Mayes on *Using Newspapers for Family Research*. Laura Carter will cover *Beginning Genealogy: Using the Censuses* at 11:30. The afternoon session at 1:30 will feature Wally Eberhard speaking on *Union Soldiers: Using Military Records for Family Research* at 1:30 p.m.

Drop by the Connection Café at the Overlook on Baxter Street (across from the UGA dorms) on Saturday, April 18th, between 10 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The event is FREE and open to the public!

50th Anniversary 1959-2009 – This is our 50th anniversary and we need your ideas and participation to make it a memorable year! If you would like to help plan the celebration in October, please contact Mary Anne Abbe at (706) 354-8107, or by email at mhabbe@aol.com.