

# Newsletter

OF THE ATHENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May 2009

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



*Marion Stegeman became a WASP in 1943 and flew with the 5th Ferrying Group.*

## World War II in Athens: On the Home Front *A panel discussion with Show & Tell*

**Sunday, May 17, 2009**

**3:00 p.m. at the Athens-Clarke Co. Library Auditorium**

On Sunday, the society will present a panel of Athenians who can tell us what it was like to be at home just before, during and just following World War II. Throughout Ken Burns's splendid 2007 public television series, *The War*, we learned a great deal about that era from residents of the four featured 1940s "typical" American towns (Waterbury, Conn., Mobile, Ala., Luverne, Minn. and Sacramento, Cal.).

Athens has its stories, too. We hope to present as the stars of our show (in alphabetical order) Upshaw Bentley, Susan Smith Cavanagh, Nelle Price Epps, Milton Hill, Thelma Hurley, Marie Hodgson Koenig, George Marshall, Sarah Carlton Proctor, Bucky Redwine, Bill Simpson, Mary Claire Bondurant Warren, and others.

Please bring any World War II show-&-tell items to share. And we expect our always knowledgeable audience to chime in and tell us what they remember. So bring your memories and your memorabilia, too, and join us for what promises to be a very enlightening program about what it really was like to live in Athens - on the home front - during the upheaval that was World War II.

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

Marion Stegeman Hodgson's full story can be found at <http://ugadog.com/heritage/greatest-generation/marion-stegeman-hodgson-41/>. See more stories about UGA's "Greatest Generation" at the UGA Alumni Association's website <http://ugadog.com/heritage/> or contribute your own UGA memories by emailing Claude McBride at [cmcbride@uga.edu](mailto:cmcbride@uga.edu).

***Last chance to renew your AHS membership for the 2009 directory!***

***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

\_\_\_\_\_ Family - \$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Supporting - \$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Patron - \$50.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Business - \$100.00

\_\_\_\_\_ 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!***

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*We're back at the ACC  
Library Auditorium  
THIS Sunday, May 17th!*

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*If your mailing label has 2009 above your name, your dues are current.*

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**50th Anniversary 1959-2009** – This is our 50<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mhabbe@aol.com).

*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*

October 18, 2009 – AHS's 50th Anniversary!  
December 6, 2009 – Holiday Party  
January 17, 2010 – TBA

### **AHS Website & Information**

[www.rootsweb/~gaahs](http://www.rootsweb/~gaahs)  
email: [ebmayes@windstream.net](mailto:ebmayes@windstream.net)

***Out of the Midst of Time*** – Photographs of Dr. W. Robert Nix are on display at the Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, on third floor of the UGA Main Library, until May 30th. See [www.libs.uga.edu/hargrett](http://www.libs.uga.edu/hargrett) for hours.

Dr. Nix's narrative about the exhibition reads "The rural South with its open fields, fenced pastures, wooded hills, and simple farm structures, along with the coastal plains, marshes, dunes and beaches are a vital part of my heritage and life and are a source of rich visual stimulation. For the past 57 years, I have been making photographs which involve an intimate relationship with details of the "Southern Landscape." The objective of my investigation has been to discover and respond photographically to those uniquely relevant elements of the subjects that are definitive, universal and timeless.

"While my subject matter is very traditional, the treatment of the subject and the use of a variety of photographic techniques is contemporary, experimental, and highly personal.

"Over the years I have begun to feel a sense of urgency as crucial aspects of this environment are being eroded away through neglect, exploitation, ignorance, and sprawl. Soon there may be no "living links" who have deep personal experiences with this type of environment and way of life that once seemed as though it would go on as it "always had." In recent years, I have also become increasingly aware of the potential for harm to the natural beauty of the remaining undeveloped areas of the islands along the Georgia coasts, and the broad range of new man-made intrusions into the landscape in general which are drastically changing its uniquely Southern character.

"While I am now retired, I still feel it is a matter of personal, if no longer professional responsibility to attempt to make images that will preserve and give lasting meaning to these subjects for future generations."