

GAMG 2010

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Newsletter

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President's Message

Brent Tharp

For many, the Memorial Day holiday means a three-day weekend or the traditional beginning of summer, rather than a time to reflect on the military men and women who have sacrificed their lives in the service of our country. The participation of the general public in Memorial Day commemorations has varied over time according to the current political mood and the country's circumstances. Our country's museums and local historical societies, though, should be commended for being stalwart in preserving and honoring the fallen. Georgia, in particular, has played an important role in the development of Memorial Day.

No specific person or place can be credited with originating the idea of Memorial Day. At the end of the Civil War, citizens of both the North and South turned their private acts of mourning and commemoration into public ceremonies focused on maintaining and decorating the graves of the Civil War dead. In Georgia, Columbus and Macon held some of the earliest Decoration Day ceremonies on April 26, 1866, the anniversary of General Johnston's surrender of the last major Confederate army. In the North, Waterloo, New York, established on May 5, 1866 an unbroken annual tradition of honoring the fallen at Decoration Day ceremonies; and Waterloo is home to the National Memorial Day Museum.

By 1890, all the northern states had officially recognized May 30th as Memorial Day or Decoration Day. The nation still struggled with the legacy of the war and Reconstruction, and Southern states recognized their own different Confederate Memorial Days. However, by the last decades of the 19th century, many were following the example of the ladies of Columbus, Mississippi, who had in April of 1866 made no distinction "between [their] own dead and about 40 Federal soldiers, who slept their last sleep by them. It proved the exalted, unselfish tone of the female character. Confederate and Federal, once enemies, now friends-receiving this tribute of respect."

It was the common experience of other wars—as young Americans lay down their lives in distant lands—that would eventually unite the nation in commemorating Memorial Day. The sacrifice of Southern and Northern

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Administrative Director's Report



Michele Rodgers

It's not too soon to put the 2011 GAMG Annual Meeting on your calendar! Next January we'll be meeting in Georgia's foothills, in Cartersville, January 19 – 21. The conference theme, "Inspiring Communities: The Role of Museums and Galleries," will provide for thought provoking sessions, while all of Bartow County will roll out the red carpet. Our local hosts have been meeting since last summer to plan exciting events for conference attendees, and I can assure you the annual MUSE auction should not be missed (just ask David Dundee what he has agreed to do to benefit MUSE).

Don't forget to let me know by email when your email address changes. Email has become the best form of communication with our members when time is of the essence, but it can only remain so if the addresses we have remain current. Also, if you aren't hearing from me by email and would like to be added to the GAMG email list, please let me know at gamg@gamg.org. Also, the GAMG listserv continues to be another important tool in getting information out to members, so if you aren't signed up, contact our fabulous webmaster, Tom Bowden, at tbowden@gsu.edu and let him know you'd like to join.

NEWS YOU CAN USE



Richard Waterhouse, former Executive Director of the Southeastern Museums Conference and former Visual Arts Manager of the Georgia Council for the Arts, was appointed Director of the Cahoon Museum of American Art in Cotuit, Massachusetts (Cape Cod).

The mission of the Cahoon Museum of American Art is to embrace the full vitality of American Art from the early 19th Century to the present. As a particular emphasis, it celebrates the creative spirit of Ralph and Martha Cahoon through the preservation of both their art and house in which they lived and had their studio.

For further information about the Cahoon Museum of American Art, please go to their website at: <http://www.cahoonmuseum.org>.

CALL FOR PAPERS

As summer is almost upon us, it's time once again to think about January's GAMG Annual Meeting! This year, Cartersville, Georgia will be our host and you're not going to want to miss this vibrant city located northwest of Atlanta. Established in 1850, the city offers an abundance of history, art and science that should provide an exciting venue for our conference.

One of the most important parts of the meeting, however, are the wonderful sessions provided by members and sponsors from across the state. If you would like to participate as a presenter or if you have participated in a professional development session that you feel would be particularly helpful to your colleagues, I'd like to hear from you. You can reach me at the Coastal Georgia Historical Society, PO Box 21136, St. Simons Island, GA 31522 (912) 638-4666 ext. 202 or by email at pat_saintsimonslighthouse.org by June 25, 2010.

So give us a hand and answer this **CALL FOR PAPERS!** This year's annual meeting's theme is **Inspiring Communities: The Role of Museums & Galleries**. So mark your calendars for January 19 - 21, 2011 and we'll see you in Cartersville.

THE MUSEUM SERVICES EXCHANGE (MUSE)

The Museum Services Exchange (MUSE) is a program of consulting services provided by and for members of the Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries. Experienced museum professionals provide information and feedback to museums, large and small. The goal of MUSE is to improve Georgia's museums.

Museums, both new and emerging, as well as established, can apply for a MUSE consultation in relation to an area of need. These needs can range from developing organizational structure to collection management, from exhibit design to labeling to educational outreach, from membership concerns to financial resources development.

Deadlines for MUSE grant applications are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Applicants for MUSE awards must be members of GAMG for at least a year before applying. The number of consultations depends upon funding provided by the MUSE auction held at each annual meeting of GAMG. Hosts must agree to provide travel expenses, food and lodging for consultants. GAMG will only provide honoraria for consultants to not-for-profit museums and galleries. For-profit organizations may ask MUSE to provide services for a fee.

Interested museums should obtain an application form and questionnaire from MUSE Committee Chair, Dr. Catherine Lewis, and submit the

completed forms back to her postmarked by the deadlines. Dr. Lewis can be reached at Museum of History and Holocaust Education, Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, Mail Stop #3308, Kennesaw, GA, 30144 or clewis1@kennesaw.edu.

After approving a request for a MUSE consultation, the MUSE committee will submit a list of appropriate consultants to grantee for selection. The consultant will arrange a site visit with the host museum within three months of the date of the assignment. The consultant will review MUSE application materials and may request more information prior to the site visit.

Within 30 days after the site visit, the consultant will submit a report summarizing findings and recommendations to the host museum and to the MUSE program. The consultant is provided an honorarium when the assignment is completed. One year later, the host museum will complete a questionnaire about the degree to which the consultant's recommendations have been implemented. Museums should also submit a short article for possible inclusion in the GAMG newsletter, reporting to the membership about the project.

Individuals interested in becoming a MUSE consultant should complete a Consultant Application (see reverse of this page), and must be a GAMG member.

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soldiers side by side in the Spanish-American War gave President William McKinley an opportunity to move reconciliation forward. In 1898 he addressed the Georgia legislature in Atlanta and proposed that the U.S. government assume responsibility for the care of the graves of Confederate dead. "Every soldier's grave made during our unfortunate civil war is a tribute to American valor," McKinley declared.

After the First World War, the tradition grew to honor

all American soldiers who had died in American wars. Inspired by the poem, "In Flanders Fields," and from the tradition of decorating with flowers, a Georgian, Ms. Moina Michael added the tradition of wearing red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of the fallen. In 1922 she turned to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to help spread the tradition. In the 88 years since, the VFW has raised millions of dollars in support of veterans' welfare and the well being of their dependents.

GAMG CONSULTANT APPLICATION

Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries Museum Services Exchange Program (MUSE) Consultant Application

MUSE is a program of consulting services provided by and for members of the Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries. Experienced museum professionals provide information and feedback to museums, large and small. The goal of MUSE is to improve Georgia's museums.

If you would like to become a MUSE consultant, please complete the application below and submit it along with your resume to the address below:

Name: _____

Institutional Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check your areas of expertise:

- Exhibition planning
- Operations, governance, management
- Graphic design
- Exhibit design
- Collections management
- Finance
- Development
- Accessibility issues
- Interpretive planning
- Education and public programs
- Conservation
- Facilities
- Lighting and gallery preparation
- Museum store and merchandising
- Using new technologies
- Board cultivation

Attach a resume with three references to this application and submit it to: Dr. Catherine Lewis, Chair, MUSE Committee, Museum of History and Holocaust Education, Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, Mail Stop #3308, Kennesaw, GA 30144 or clewis1@kennesaw.edu.

2011 CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE THIS FALL

2010 Marks the 20th Anniversary of CAP!



Heritage Preservation is currently celebrating the Conservation Assessment Program's (CAP) 20th year of helping museums obtain general collections assessments. To mark the occasion, we have created a special feature on our website (www.heritagepreservation.org/CAP) called "Twenty Years of Conservation Improvements through CAP." It showcases one museum from each year in the program's twenty-year history, and demonstrates how each museum used their CAP recommendations to improve collections care.

From the Quincy Art Center in Illinois, to Iolani Palace in Hawaii, to the Beartooth Nature Center in Red Lodge, Montana, we have brought together stories of preservation improvements that involve everything from careful restoration of historic buildings, to extensive fund-raising for collections storage furniture, to innovative methods of volunteer recruitment for collections projects, to the construction of new habitats for living animal collections. Gain inspiration and valuable ideas for collections care improvements from the examples of these dedicated museum professionals.

CAP funds a professional collections assessment for small to mid-sized museums of all types, at a minimal cost. In addition, CAP funds historic buildings assessments for institutions with buildings that are 50 years or older. The assessment process helps museum professionals better understand and improve their institutions' policies and procedures, learn conservation and historic preservation best practices, and forge relationships with conservators and historic structures assessors. The resulting CAP report can help

your institution to develop strategies for improved collections care, long-range planning, staff and board education, and fund-raising.

In 2010, 107 museums in 40 states were selected to participate in CAP, including the Coastal Georgia Historical Society on St. Simons Island. To view the entire list of current CAP participants, visit www.heritagepreservation.org/CAP/10recipients.html

The 2011 CAP applications will be mailed on Friday, September 3, 2010, to museums on the CAP mailing list and will also be available on Heritage Preservation's Web site at www.heritagepreservation.org. The postmark deadline for applications is midnight on December 1, 2010. Participants are identified on a rolling basis, and site visits for participants can begin as early as January 1, 2011. Final reports must be submitted to Heritage Preservation by November 1, 2011. CAP is administered by Heritage Preservation and supported through a cooperative agreement with the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

To be added to the CAP application mailing list, or for more information, please contact CAP staff at cap@heritagepreservation.org or 202-233-0800.

GHS WORKSHOPS

The Georgia Historical Society will be presenting four free workshops for its Affiliate Chapters and interested institutions focusing on heritage tourism. The workshops, conducted by GHS staff, will train workers, volunteers and students in the use of local historical resources (including historical markers and online tools) for promoting heritage tourism in their communities. These one-day workshops will encourage participants to identify local cultural resources and develop ideas and strategies for incorporating these assets into local tours and history program. Contact Will Hanley at 912-651-2125 ext. 22 or Brian Williams at bwilliams@georgiahistory.com for details about June workshops.



Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries
c/o Michele Rodgers, Administrative Director
P.O. Box 2133
Marietta, GA 30061

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NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS SINCE FEBRUARY 2010

Institutional

6th Cavalry Museum
Altamaha Heritage Center
Andersonville National Historic Site
Atlanta History Center/AHS
Barrington Hall
Bulloch Hall
Bowdon Historical Society
Butts County Historical Society
Center for Puppetry Arts
Coastal Georgia Historical Society
Crawford W. Long Museum
Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville
Elachee Nature Center
Erskine Caldwell Birthplace and Museum
Fernbank Science Center
Flint RiverQuarium
Fort Frederica
Foxfire Museum and Heritage Center

Hills and Dales Estate
Historic Augusta, Boyhood Home of Pres.
Woodrow Wilson
Historic Columbus
Historic Oakland Foundation
Isaiah Davenport House Museum
Jimmy Carter Library
Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
Laurens County Historical Society
Lucy Craft Laney Museum
Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art
Marietta Museum of History
Morris Museum of Art
Museum of Arts and Sciences
Museum of Colquitt County History
Okenfenokee Chamber of Commerce
Old Courthouse, Inc.
Port Columbus Civil War Naval Center
Satee Nacoochee Community Association

SCAD Museum of Art
Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum
The Lodges at Banning Mills
The Southern Museum of Civil War &
Locomotive History
Tunnel Hill Heritage Center
Uncle Remus Museum

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