



The CHS

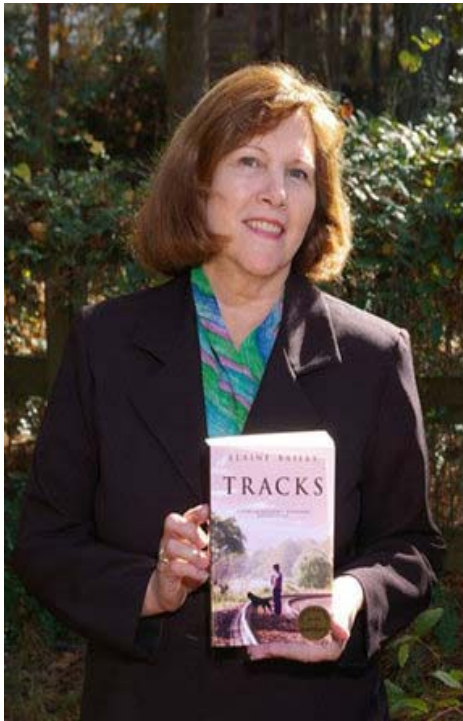
Newsletter

Carroll County Historical Society

P. O. Box 1308

Carrollton, GA 30112

FEBRUARY 2011



GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD
6:30 P.M.

NEVA LOMASON LIBRARY

"EXPLOSION IN VILLA RICA"

Elaine Bailey is excited about coming to review her book, **"Explosion in Villa Rica"**. She will share personal recollections, and how and why she wrote the book. She is still collecting stories. Do you remember that day in the fifties when this terrible explosion occurred? Come and share your story with the group.

Elaine is pictured here holding her book, **"Tracks"**.

This is a great time to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP in Carroll County Historical Society. Simply fill out the enclosed form and return it in the provided envelope.

FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT - DR. MEL STEELY

Well, we are in another new year. Hopefully the weather so far is not an harbinger of things to come in 2011. At least the CCHS is off to a good start. The Board met Jan. 23rd and discussed a series of changes to make meetings more "user friendly" and proposed a series of programs that should be interesting and worthwhile. We plan to have a balance of programs centering on important Carroll County historical personages as well as past county historical events such as our first program for 2011, on Feb. 3rd at the Neva Lomason Library at 6:30 pm on the deadly explosion in Villa Rica during the 1950's presented by Elaine Bailey. Our Carroll County historian, Doug Mabry is our program chairman and expects to deliver a series of exciting programs.

The Society is also interested in creating a list of places and people which will provide information on the county's history such as the local genealogical society, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the courthouse archives and the UWG Special Collections department. If you have ideas or suggestions please send them to me or to our archives committee chairman, Gwyn Chesnut. Please send me or Doug Mabry suggestions for interesting historical programs.

It is dues time. If you have not sent in your 2011 dues (\$20.00 individual, \$30.00 family) please do so. We are expanding our membership list and want to be sure you are included. Send in the form on this newsletter along with your check so you will not be left out of what promises to be an exciting year.

WELCOME!

TO OUR NEW VICE-PRESIDENT

Carolyn Langley

Carolyn Langley retired from teaching after 30 years as an elementary teacher in Volusia County, FL before moving to this area in 2005. She then taught as an adjunct instructor at UWG in the College of Education and as a part-time teacher at Carrollton Elementary School. Currently she enjoys spending her full-time retirement with her husband, Jay as well as their two adult children and three grandchildren who all live in the Atlanta area. Family genealogy, gardening and exploring the vast Georgia outdoors are a few areas of her interests.

Although Carolyn Langley was born and raised in Volusia County, Florida, she has ancestral roots in Carrollton. When Carroll County was organized on December 22, 1829, her 4th great grandfather, William Bryce was named as one of the five original Commissioners for Carrollton, as a member of the Grand Jury for the First Court in Carrollton, and as a Justice of the Peace. William and Mary Bryce, originally from Scotland, were among the founding pioneer families of Carrollton and lived in Carroll County until their deaths in the early 1840s. Their grandson, George William Bryce, served four years in the Civil War as a Confederate soldier in Cobb's Legion of Atlanta before purchasing property in Nassau County, FL. The town of Bryceville, FL was named after him, which is where Carolyn's mother was born. Carolyn has now returned to Carroll County where she is looking forward to serving on the board of the Carroll County Historical Society in 2011.

We welcome Carolyn as our new Vice-President!

DEPOT UPDATE

Excellent progress is being made on the Depot renovation and preservation. Most of the work outside and much of the inside replacement and repairs are complete. The work has been done in great part by prison labor, available to the City at a minimum cost. Mr. John Stallings, under contract, has carefully and exactly crafted each piece of damaged or missing woodwork, using original drawings from the Central of Georgia Historical Society files in Savannah. Replacement of the roof with quality slate materials, and certain inside mechanical equipment was also done by private contractors. The result: the work done thus far, using SPLOST monies, has been done at considerable savings and is well within the budget for the first phase of renovation.

City Manager Casey Coleman, who is responsible in great part for direction of the project, advised FOCD Chairman Blair Trehwitt that the estimated date of completion for the first phase is sometime this Spring. As soon as a second ribbon cutting is held, celebrating the completion of the renovation of the first phase, a public fund raising campaign will begin... to raise monies to supplement any available SPLOST income. It is assumed that joint meetings will be held by the Mayor's Depot Committee, the Friends of the Carrollton Depot, and the Historical Society, to further discuss the design and funding of the renovation of the large "cotton warehouse" portion of the Depot. City Commission member Mindy Maierhofer has contributed time and effort in the choice of interior materials and paint colors. Mr. John Pope, of the State Department of Corrections, who is in charge of the prison labor, is also responsible for much of the high quality of workmanship, as well as necessary construction decisions.

A reminder to Historical Society Members: Much of the effort to awaken the City to the need to obtain and preserve the Depot has come from the CCHS. The Friends of the Carrollton Depot is an outgrowth of the CCHS. The FOCD now has in excess of 225 dues-paying members. The League of Women Voters, the Georgia Commission on Women, the Sunnyside Cafe, and other Carroll County organizations are most helpful in promoting the depot through the contribution of their e-mail lists and fund-raising efforts.

Blair Trehwitt, Chairman, Friends of the Carrollton Depot

150th Anniversary of the Civil War

This year is the start of the 150th Anniversary of the American Civil War. Over the next 5 years, all the states involved in that great conflict are celebrating their part in the war. Most of the states have set up a 150th committee and a web site to let people know what events are taking place and to educate the public on the true facts of the Civil War. In 2008, our current historical society president Dr. Mel Steely was appointed by the governor to serve on the Georgia Civil War Commission. The commission has done a great job with limited state funds in identifying as many previously unknown as well as known civil war sites in the state. Many historic sites and places had become lost in time. The commission compiled a book titled "Crossroads in Conflict: a Guide to Civil War Sites in Georgia" that covers 350 sites in Georgia, and there are countless others that are lesser known. There is an article in the book about Horace King, the builder of Moore's Bridge, the covered bridge that was located on the Chattahoochee River near Whitesburg. The web site for ordering your copy of the book is located <http://www.gacivilwar.org/Book>. There are several events and programs being planned here in Carroll County and around the state of Georgia and across the South to celebrate and remember this event.

Quilt Exhibit at Library

The reception for the annual West Georgia Quilt Guild Exhibit at the library will be held on Sunday afternoon, January 30. The public is invited. Historical Society members may want to come early to our meeting on Feb. 3 to view the beautiful quilts in the Bess Williamson Cultural Arts Room.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

February 3, 2011 Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
The Neva Lomason Library

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

The Historical Society has a few books available. If you would like to add to your library of local history, Gwen Chesnut (770-834-3081) would love to hear from you.

SHERMAN'S HORSEMEN by David Evans

Union Cavalry Operations in the Atlanta Campaign

BRIDGING DEEP SOUTH RIVERS by John S. Lupold and Thomas L. French, Jr.

The Life and Legend of Horace King

THE HERITAGE OF CARROLL COUNTY, GA 1826-2001

**CCHS BOARD MEMBERS
FOR 2011**

President	Mel Steely
Vice President	Carolyn Langley
Secretary	Rebecca Fordyce
Treasurer	Meredith Barr
Membership	Susan Vandiver
Newsletter	Janice Ivester
Programs	Doug Mabry
Archives	Gwyn Chesnut
Nominating	Judy Schulenburg

Carroll County Historical Society
P. O. Box 1308
Carrollton, GA 30112

