



## *The CCHS Newsletter*

Carroll County Historical Society

P. O. Box 1308

Carrollton, GA 30112

September 2018

### *- Blynne Olivieri will be our featured Speaker at the February 19th Meeting - Carrollton Bradley Street Depot at 6:30*



Blynne Olivieri is an Associate Professor and Head of Special Collections at the University of West Georgia.

From 2009-2012 Blynne served as Pacific Northwest Curator at the University of Washington Libraries

She is active professionally in several library and archival organizations and was a Senior Fellow at UCLA's Graduate School of Education & Information Studies in 2016.

She and her family have called Carrollton home since December 2012.

The excerpts below were taken from an article published on :  
<https://www.uwgperspective.com/faces/olivieri.html>

Blynne Olivieri feels privileged to head Special Collections in Ingram Library. "I came to UWG for the collections and for the opportunity to connect people with the collections through digital initiatives but I am staying here because the students, faculty, and staff are the most committed, hard-working, and courteous people I've ever met."

Special Collections includes the university's archives, local and regional collections, the Georgia Political Heritage Program collection, topical collections relating to the fields of humanistic psychology and parapsychology, and rare printed materials.

Because of the national caliber of the collections--the papers of politicians Bob Barr and Newt Gingrich and psychologist William Roll as examples--people come from all over the world to use Special Collections materials in production of newspaper articles, books, and documentaries. Whoever you are and for whatever reason, whether it is genealogical research or you are a fan of Tom Murphy and want to read his letters, you can come to UWG to use Special Collections. "We collect, preserve, and make these materials accessible to everyone," says Blynne. "It doesn't matter who you are, what you do, or what academic degrees you may or may not have. Special Collections is for use by the people."

The most important part of her job, Blynne emphasizes, is "getting these primary sources into the hands of UWG students. I want them to feel confident in physically handling rare materials and to be able, intellectually, to place a Civil War letter written by a Carroll County resident into the larger historical context."

***The Public is cordially invited. Light Refreshments Will Be Served.***

DR. MELVIN T. STEELY

MAY 9, 1939 - JANUARY 13, 2019

REMEMBERING DR. STEELY

There was a wonderful tribute written by **Sheryl Marlar** and published on the U of West Georgia website.

by Sheryl Marlar

“Dr. Steely was a beloved friend to the campus and to our community,” said Dr. Kyle Marrero, president of the University of West Georgia, in response to the recent passing of Dr. Melvin Thomas Steely, retired professor of **history** at UWG.

“Through his long and successful endeavors as an educator, political consultant and historian, his life’s work left an enduring impact and legacy at UWG,” Marrero continued. “He will be dearly missed.”

Steely began his employment in 1964 at then-West Georgia College, teaching Modern European and German History.

During his tenure at West Georgia, Steely served as the local and state president of the **American Association of University Professors** (AAUP). He was appointed to multiple terms on national committee for AAUP, and served as one of its lobbyists for 20 years. Additionally, he was the recipient of AAUP’s National Sumberg Award and the State Akin Award.

In 1970, Steely served on the search committee that hired Newt Gingrich as a professor of history. Later, in 1978, Gingrich would win election to the U.S. House of Representatives, with Steely working alongside him in his campaign. He worked as a congressional aide from 1978 til 1992, and served as head of the advisory committee on matters of campaign and policy in the beginning of Gingrich’s congressional career, communicating the goals and ideas of Gingrich to the local Carrollton office.

“The very first day I came to West Georgia College, I walked into the history department, and there was Mel,” Gingrich said. “From that day forward, he was my guide. He introduced me to campus politics and to department politics, and all the things that one has to know to survive as a college professor.”

Involved actively throughout his life in politics, Steely first became interested in politics in 1946 when his father campaigned for Eugene Talmadge’s gubernatorial run. After that, it became something of an avocation to him.

“Mel’s dad drove for one of Georgia’s most famous democratic governors,” Gingrich continued. “He could bridge both parties because he was authentically in both parties—he loved the process most. Not just a specific issue, but people trying to get together to improve their country.

In 1983 Steely began collecting political documents after he saw members of an outgoing politician’s staff destroying files when he left office. This action led to the start of the **Georgia Political Heritage Program** (GPHP) in 1985, making UWG’s Ingram Library a depository for large collections of political papers, videos and tapes on political figures, as well as several Georgia governors and a number of state and national politicians. The GPHP holds valuable historical resources of these political leaders so they are not lost to time.





“In my last year as president, Steely won two big honors: The [Governor’s Award in the Arts and Humanities](#) and the [Southeastern Library Association’s Charles Beard Award](#),” said Dr. Beheruz N. Sethna, UWG president emeritus and professor of business. “The awards were for his decades of service and documenting and preserving the papers and recorded memoirs of Georgia political figures.”

Beyond his political efforts, Steely was involved in numerous civic organizations, including the Moose and Elk Clubs, Sons of Confederate Veterans and a board member of the Churchill Society. He was also a senior member of the [Carrollton Kiwanis Club](#), receiving its Legion of Merit Award for service.

In addition, he was a member of Gov. George Busbee’s Committee on Post-Secondary Education, Gov. Zell Miller’s Committee on Quality Core Curriculum Revision and the Georgia Civil War Commission under Gov. Sonny Perdue.

As one of West Georgia’s longest-serving members of the faculty, Steely retired in 2004 after 40 years in the classroom.

“Dr. Mel Steely demonstrated respect and regard for preserving the history of a succession of democratic and republican leaders,” said Sethna, in his letter of recommendation for Steely’s Southeastern Library Association’s Charles Beard Award. “I want to be sure we respect and revere the commitment of this individual who stands tall in his discipline and his regard for the preservation of our history.

“He was a great man, but more importantly, he was a good man,” added Sethna as a personal reflection. “He was my friend.”

“He was the kind of person on whom a free society depends,” Gingrich concluded. “He made West Georgia a much better institution for being there, and he made me a better leader by being my friend. He invested his life in helping others.”

*Photography by Steven Broome*

*Posted on Feb. 1, 2019*



Original Article : <https://www.westga.edu/news/academics-coah/remembering-mel-steely.php>

Dr Mel Steeley received The Carroll County Historical Society award for  
Outstanding Service in Preservation in 2006.

Pres. Emeritus Dr. Mel Steely



## Volunteers Welcome

CCHS is involved in many projects now that can use your help. Whatever your talent may be, your effort can contribute to the successful preservation of the Carroll County historical sites, stories, and memories of the people who have made the west Georgia area such a special place to live. We need your help!

Thanks!

## Mark Your Calendars

The following schedule is being announced so that you can make your plans to include the Carroll County Historical Society meetings on your calendar.

We will be going to 4 quarterly meetings going forward.

Our next meeting will be **April 16th** at the Bradley Street Depot.

### January Birthdays

Ruth Holder

1-23

Donna Spivey

1-2

### February Birthdays

Harold Ivester

2-3

Wilma Upchurch

2-13

Gwyn Chesnut

2-25

Ross Miller

2-13

Carole Riddle

2-18

Meredith Barr

2-15

### March Birthdays

Nellie Duke

3-8

### February Anniversaries

Juanita & John Wayne Pollard

2-3

Jo & Robert Buren Brock

2-14

### March Anniversaries

Janice & Harold Ivester

3-20

## Recipe of the Month

### Veggie Bites

1/3 cup butter or margarine melted

1 egg

2 tsp water

1/2 cup a/p flour

1/2 tsp salt

2 cups fresh vegetables such as red or green peppers

1/2 in slices, broccoli flowerets, carrots 1/4 inch thick

grated Parmesan cheese if desired.

1 Heat the oven to 475 <sup>^</sup>. On bottom of 15 X 10 X 1 inch pan or a 13 X 9 dish brush about 2 Tbl spoons of melted butter.

2 In shallow dish, beat egg and water with fork . In another shallow dish mix flour and salt. Dip about 1/4 of the veggies into the egg mixture.

Remove 1 piece at a time with slotted spoon, fork or hands: roll into flour mixture to coat. Place in pan. Repeat with remaining vegetables.

Pour remaining butter carefully over each vegetable piece and into pan.



**Carroll County Historical Society**  
**Membership Application 2018**

**Individual Membership**  
**Family Membership**

**\$30 per year**  
**\$50 per year**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\* E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\* E-mail addresses are important for receiving bulletins and announcements sent out concerning the Society activities between newsletters.**

**Membership \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **\*\* Donation \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Donation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Paid \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Donations to the Society will be used to fund preservation projects in Carroll County. All donations are Tax Deductible.**

**Members receive our CCHS Newsletter.**

**Mail to:**  
**Carroll County Historical Society**  
**119 Canterbury Drive**  
**Carrollton, GA 30117**

## Message from President Scott Eldred

We are starting off 2019 with a bang. One day it is 22 degrees and the next is 70. We have had some strange weather so far this year.

We have two opportunities in our future.

First: We have the opportunity to do some good work with U W G with the special collections department. We can share knowledge that we both have and we can do a better job and make the process of preserving our past and our heritage. Carroll county has a rich history that we need to capture.

Second: The Genealogy Society & CCHS will have some opportunities to do some things together that can be beneficial to both of us.

Together we can have a broader base to work from than we do now.

I am not talking about a merger, we all have some long range plans that we need to look at in order to move forward.

*Scott*

## Planning Your Future?

**If you are thinking about the legacy you want to leave, please consider the Carroll County Historical Society or one of its ongoing projects as an option. Including the CCHS in your estate planning is an easy way to make a lasting impact for the preservation of local history and traditions you value. Visit Carroll County Historical Society's on-line gift planning to learn how to make CCHS a beneficiary of your will, trust, life insurance policy, or retirement plan. Any amount will be greatly appreciated and will enable the Society to preserve our heritage for future generations. Learn more details by calling **706-402-1195** or by visiting [www.carrollcountyhistory.org](http://www.carrollcountyhistory.org).**

## CCHS 2018 Officers

President	Scott Eldred
Vice President	
Secretary	Anita Gay
Treasurer	John T. Lewis
Membership	Helen Fay Lewis
Publicity	Donna Eldred
Newsletter	Pam D. Hilling
Archives	Carter Clay
Pres. Emeritus	Dr. Jack Crews
Pres. Emeritus	Gwyn Chesnut
Pres. Emeritus	Dr. Mel Steely

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

