

BUCKHEAD HERITAGE HAPPENINGS



BUCKHEAD HERITAGE SOCIETY

February 1, 2018

BUCKHEAD HERITAGE NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Buckhead Heritage Society welcomes Buckhead resident Richard Waterhouse as its new Executive Director.

Waterhouse earned a Bachelor's degree in Art History from Centre College and authored "Sacred Symbols of Oakland: A Guide to the Many Sacred Symbols of Atlanta's Oldest Public Cemetery."

Prior to joining Buckhead

Heritage, Richard was the Manager of Leadership Giving at Georgia Public Broadcasting for a year and a half. From 2010 to 2016, he led the Cahoon Museum of American Art in Massachusetts as its Director/Curator, and prior to that he was the Executive Director of the Southeastern Museums Conference in Atlanta.

"I am excited about this position because I strongly support local communities and have a keen interest in local history," said Richard Waterhouse.

With more than 30 years of leadership experience in the non-profit sector, "Richard is well qualified to help us foster a conscientious respect for our community's rich and diverse history," said Tamara Bazzle, Buckhead Heritage Society's President. "He has

strong skills in membership development, educational programming and fundraising. With Richard's invaluable assistance, we will continue strengthening Buckhead Heritage's role as an influential resource and voice for residents and business owners on Buckhead's history and preservation."

"Richard's long association with Oakland Cemetery as a tour guide and an expert in Victorian iconography have been invaluable to us! His love of history and his natural ability to share it will be a great asset to the Buckhead Heritage Society," said David Moore, Executive Director of the Historic Oakland Foundation, where Richard has volunteered for many years.

2018 BUCKHEAD HERITAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Buckhead Heritage announces its 2018 Board of Trustees.

The Executive Committee includes Tamara A. Bazzle, President, E. Fay Pierce, Vice President, Tres Carpenter, Treasurer, John Beach, Secretary and James Ottley, Past President.

Others on the board include

Howard C. Benson, Sara Chapman, Will House, Tracy Gray Monk and Joe Thomas.

In 2018, Buckhead Heritage has a broad range of area history and preservation programs scheduled, including educational sessions on historic preservation issues affecting our neighborhoods, Native Americans in Buck-

head, the LimeLight Disco, and artist Athos Menaboni. Richard is initiating the Buckhead Heritage Book Club this April and the organization will continue its cemetery work, highly popular Spring History Scavenger Hunt and Holiday House events.

Special points of interest:

- WATERHOUSE HAS STRONG SKILLS IN MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING AND FUNDRAISING
- AIS CLEANS UP MOUNT OLIVE CEMETERY
- MENABONI PRESENTATION AT SPOTSWOOD
- IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER, PLEASE JOIN US

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BUCKHEAD HERITAGE HAPPENINGS

MOUNT OLIVE CEMETERY CLEAN UP DAY



Atlanta International School students helping to clean up Mount Olive Cemetery located at Frankie Allen Park on Pharr Road

On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (1/15/18), Buckhead Heritage Executive Director Richard Waterhouse helped over 60 **Atlanta International School** supporters clean up Mount Olive Cemetery. The group cleaned up the cemetery in less than an hour and filled over 80 leaf bags.

The cemetery was established next to the Mt. Olive African Methodist Episcopal Church. The church, which was located adjacent to Pharr Road, was formed by newly freed slaves and existed as early as 1870.

In 1921, developer John Owens laid out a formal subdivision called Macedonia Park for the African American residents who had gravitated to the area. Generally, the residents worked on nearby farms or performed domestic service for Buckhead's affluent white citizens. Macedonia Park eventually became a thriving community with over 400 residents, three churches, two grocery stores, barber shops, and restaurants.

However, between 1945 and 1953, Fulton County acquired all of the homes in Macedonia Park through negotiation or

eminent domain to make way for a public park, which was originally called Bagley Park, but is now named Frankie Allen Park.

Buckhead Heritage has steadfastly advocated for the preservation of Mt. Olive Cemetery. Due to the efforts of Wright Mitchell, founder of Buckhead Heritage, in 2010 a developer was successfully prevented from removing graves from the site. The organization has also led two efforts for the rehabilitation and repair of headstones in the cemetery.

HARMONY GROVE CEMETERY TOUR



As part of the Atlanta Preservation Center's Phoenix Flies, Buckhead Heritage will present an engaging cemetery tour of Harmony Grove, Saturday, March 24th, 2018 at 2 p.m.

Harmony Grove Cemetery is located at the corner of Chatham Road and West Paces Ferry Road in Buckhead.

Although the exact origins of the Cemetery are unclear, the

earliest documented burials are attributable to the family of James H. "Whispering" Smith who owned land near the cemetery. The first recorded burial in the cemetery belongs to Smith's infant son, James, who died on March 4, 1870.

Whispering Smith died two years later and joined his son at Harmony Grove. In his will, Smith designated a two acre piece of property on present day Arden Road to be used by

local African Americans for worship purposes.

The church built by local Africans Americans is New Hope A.M.E., and still holds worship services some 135 years after Smith's death.

The cemetery tour will be lead by Wright Mitchell, Board Member Emeritus and Tamara Bazzle, President. If you have any questions, please contact Buckhead Heritage at:

info@buckheadheritage.com
or 404-467-9447.

MENABONI PRESENTATION



The program on March 1, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at Spotswood is about Athos Menaboni, and is presented by collector and Menaboni historian/archivist Russ Clayton. The presentation will be at Spotswood Hall, located on Argonne Drive, and is designed by Philip Schutze and Neil Reid. The spectacular house has a

Menaboni mural in the rotunda.

Italian-born artist Athos Menaboni arrived in Georgia in the late 1920s and remained active until his death at the age of ninety-four. His early career focused primarily on corporate projects, including the creation of murals for clients in Atlanta, before he turned to paint-

ing birds from life, usually in pairs and in their natural habitats.

The fee is \$10.00 for Audubon & Buckhead Heritage members and \$20.00 for non-members. To register for the event, go to:

[Menaboni Program](#)

BUCKHEAD: THE EDGE OF TWO NATIONS LECTURE

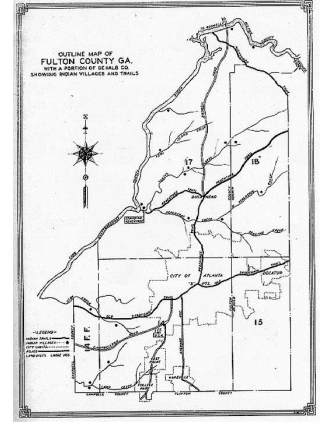
David Crass, Division Director & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer will speak about the Cherokee and Creek Indians on Thursday, March 22nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Lovett School's' Chenault Theater because they are co-sponsoring the lecture. Crass's presentation will focus on the land that is today's Buckhead, but was once the edge of two Indian Nations, the Creeks and the Cherokees.

The Chattahoochee River

was the dividing boundary with the Creeks to the south and the Cherokees to the north.

The Peachtree Trail was a Creek trading route that ran from Toccoa, Georgia to Standing Peachtree, on the south banks of the Chattahoochee, just above the confluence of Peachtree Creek in what is now Buckhead. This area served as a trading point between the Indians, as a trading post for settlers, and eventually a fort in

1812. The evening will primarily explore the cultures of both the Creeks and the Cherokees and will touch upon how these tribes interacted, the effects of settlers on their cultures, and ultimately their demise/removal through the land lottery system and the Indian Removal Act, with Standing Peachtree serving as the point of reference for these topics. To register, go to: [Crass Lecture](#).



19th Century map showing 5-6 Native American villages within today's Buckhead boundaries.

FIRST BUCKHEAD HERITAGE BOOK CLUB GATHERING

Buckhead Heritage Executive Director Richard Waterhouse will begin a bi-monthly book club with the first one taking place Thursday, April 12th at 6:30 p.m. The book being discussed at the April gathering will be "The Leo Frank Case", Revised Edition, by Leonard Dinnerstein. According to the New Georgia Encyclopedia: "The Leo Frank case is one

of the most notorious and highly publicized cases in the legal annals of Georgia. A Jewish man in Atlanta was placed on trial and convicted of raping and murdering a thirteen-year-old girl who worked for the National Pencil Company, which he managed. Before the lynching of Frank two years later, the case became known throughout

the nation. The degree of anti-Semitism involved in Frank's conviction and subsequent lynching is difficult to assess, but it was enough of a factor to have inspired Jews, and others, throughout the country to protest the conviction of an innocent man". To register, please go to:

[Buckhead Heritage Bookclub](#)



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization! Do you have time or a talent that you'd be willing to share? Please contact [Richard Waterhouse](#), [Tamara Bazzle](#) or [Fay Pearce](#) to learn more about opportunities that are available in the following areas:

• Historic preservation

research or documentation

- Writing or editing
- Website design or updating
- Graphic design
- Sponsorship identification or solicitation
- Event planning and execution

- Scavenger Hunt, Spring of 2018
- Photography of events and sites
- Archives

Let us know, too, if you have an idea that is not listed!



Founded in 2006, the mission is to enhance the quality of life in Buckhead by identifying, preserving and promoting its historic resources.

BUCKHEAD HERITAGE

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Welcome to my very first e-newsletter as Executive Director. We plan to let you know what exciting events, programs, projects and services we have planned monthly. We also need your help in naming this newsletter. If you have any suggestions of names, please let me know at rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com or 404-467-9447.

If you have any suggestions of items you want to see in this newsletter, please let me know that information as well.

Take care,



Richard Waterhouse, Executive Director

We're on the web:

buckheadheritage.com

BUCKHEAD HERITAGE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

If you are not a member, please join us.

Your membership benefits include: annual newsletter; invitations and early registration to education programs and other special events; reduced ticket prices to most events; recognition in our publications; and membership contributions are fully tax deductible.

Membership levels include: Historian (\$50); Preservation(\$100); Bronze (\$250); Silver (\$500);Gold (\$1,000); and Platinum (\$1,500). If you join at the Platinum level, you will be offered digital copies of an oral history videography of a person of your choice.

If you want us to send you a hard

copy of the membership form, please contact Richard Waterhouse at 404 467-9447 or rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com.

If you are a bit more computer savvy, you can join electronically. Simply go to: [Buckhead Heritage Membership](#)

Choose your preferred membership level, click add to cart, provide your contact information, and proceed with credit card payment.

Once your transaction is complete, you will receive a confirmation email. You will also receive an official letter thanking you for your contribution within a few days.

