

April 2023 Newsletter



Harmony Grove Cleanup Day Sunday, April 2, 2023, 2 p.m.

Grab your rakes and clippers and join us for a Spring cleanup day at Harmony Grove Cemetery on Sunday, April 2 at 2:00 p.m. Wright Mitchell and Boy Scout Troop 304 will be working alongside the Buckhead Heritage volunteers. The Cemetery is located at the corner of Chatham and W. Paces Ferry Roads, and there is plenty of parking on Chatham Road. If you have any questions, please contact Tamara Bazzle, <u>tabazzle@gmail.com</u>, 404-233-7847.



Speaker Series: Jim Morgens April 20, 7 p.m. Free, Cathedral of St Philip Gould Room

Come join us to hear about the "The Atlanta Beltline, Past and Future". Jim Morgens is a Life Member of the Georgia State Advisory Board of the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and has served as chair of the board (2008-10). He helped seed the funding of the 2004 TPL Beltline study, "The Beltline Emerald Necklace" by Alex Garvin, and served on the study's steering committee, and later served on the committee overseeing TPL's acquisition of \$44 million of property for the Beltline. Subsequently, he served on the board of the Atlanta Beltline Partnership (chair of the Finance Committee (2015-18)). Jim received an MBA degree from Harvard Business School in 1968 and a BA from Stanford University in 1965.

Register



Buckhead Heritage Announces Preservation Efforts for the Ten Most Threatened Headstones in New Hope Cemetery

Atlanta, GA - Buckhead Heritage is pleased to announce that it will be using the remaining \$3,500 raised last year to preserve ten of the most threatened headstones in New Hope Cemetery, a 150-year-old African-American cemetery in the heart of Buckhead. The preservation efforts will include removing the headstones from the cemetery, cleaning, and repairing them with mortar.

To carry out this important work, Buckhead Heritage has hired the Director of Preservation at Oakland Cemetery, Ashley Shares who has extensive experience working at New Hope Cemetery. The director will assess, remove, and restore the ten headstones over the summer, based on the level of deterioration. If intervention does not happen now, these historical headstones will be lost forever.

As a community-based organization dedicated to the preservation of Buckhead's historical resources, Buckhead Heritage remains committed to ensuring the legacy of this cemetery lives on for future generations. For more information, please contact Buckhead Heritage at <u>info@buckheadheritage.com</u> or visit their website at <u>www.buckheadheritage.com</u>.



Descendants' Efforts to Restore Piney Grove Cemetery in Buckhead Gains Momentum

For almost two decades, Audrey Collins, her sister Rhonda Jackson, and cousin Richard Thomas have worked tirelessly seeking to restore the Piney Grove Cemetery, where their siblings, grandparents, great-grandmother, and other family members are buried. Located in the Lenox Road area of Buckhead, the Cemetery was part of Piney Grove Baptist Church, an African American congregation that served Piney Grove, a black community that dates back to the early 1800's. The Cemetery, which today is overgrown with vegetation and tragically almost unrecognizable, is the last vestige of what was once a vibrant African American community. With over three hundred graves, the Cemetery has tombstones that date back to pre-Emancipation, including some for people who were enslaved.

In mid-March, the non-profit Friends of Piney Grove Cemetery, Inc. was launched for the purpose of saving the Cemetery and preserving its history for future generations. The Buckhead Rotary Club has announced a grant to support initial improvements to the Cemetery, including signage and the removal of trees and vegetation. The City of Atlanta, which has initiated the Atlanta Cemetery Network, has visited the site and is providing technical expertise. Buckhead Heritage has agreed to act as fiscal agent to Friends of Piney Grove Cemetery, Inc. to enable it to accept contributions on a tax-deductible basis, while it works to become qualified as a 501(c)(3) organization. Attorneys with Jones Day's Atlanta office assisted with the formation of Friends of Piney Grove cemetery, Inc. and are representing the new organization in several aspects of its mission.

For more information or to join the effort, please contact Audrey Collins, <u>audreycollins@comcast.net</u>, 404-906-9665 or Tamara Bazzle, <u>tabazzle@gmail.com</u>. If you would like to make a contribution toward restoring and preserving the Cemetery, please<u>click here</u>. If you prefer, you may send a check to Buckhead Heritage, 3180 Mathieson Drive, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA. 30305. Please put "Piney Grove Cemetery" in the memo line.



Ladies of the Lake Garden Party

The Ladies of the Lake Garden Club of the Peachtree Heights East Neighborhood is excited to announce the 34th Garden Party, which will take place on Sunday, May 7th, from 4-7 p.m. This year's theme, The Great Gatsby, will celebrate the joys and innovations of those times and ours. Come sip champagne and enjoy dinner at this adults-only party on the beautiful green space surrounding the Duck Pond. Building on this spirit of innovation, the event will utilize an online bidding platform, which will make supporting our neighborhood easier than ever! The online market will feature vacations, dining experiences, and private parties hosted in our neighbors' homes.

Net proceeds from the biennial Garden Party will help fund special projects and maintenance of the Duck Pond Park. The Park is open to the public and maintained by our neighborhood association of Peachtree Heights East. It is one of the most serene and natural environments in all of Atlanta. Set on nearly 7.5 acres of green space and rolling terrain, the Park was created in 1909 and deeded in trust for the use of the neighbors in the 1930s. Maintenance of the Park depends solely upon support from neighbors and donations, such as yours, as there is no funding received from the City of Atlanta. To attend the Garden Party and become a supporter of this space and event, please <u>click here</u>.



Executive Director's Report

We so appreciate your support as a member and as a participant of our programs and services.

The first time that I heard about Buckhead Heritage was in an article about Piney Grove Cemetery shortly after I moved back to Atlanta in 2016 from Cape Cod. Little did I know that I would become Executive Director and Buckhead Heritage would be helping serve as fiscal agent for this project. I hope that you had the opportunity to attend several of the programs for Atlanta Preservation Center's Phoenix Flies. We were honored that the Peachtree Heights East Tour was sold out and the group was very engaged and asked many questions. The next walking tour will be May 6th at 10:00 a.m.

We hope that you will volunteer on May 2 at 2 p.m. to help Buckhead Heritage cleanup Harmony Grove Cemetery. It should be a fun afternoon.

Once again, thank you for your support of Buckhead Heritage. We are very lucky to have you involved.

Take care, Richard Waterhouse

To Join or Renew Buckhead Heritage Membership

Go <u>Here</u> or contact Richard Waterhouse at the office, 404-467-9447 or email <u>rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com</u>.

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