



November 2023 Newsletter



2023 Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Home of Mary and Tom Watson

We are excited to announce that our 2023 Holiday Party, December 6 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., will carry on our tradition of cocktails, buffet, and music in the home of Mary and Tom Watson. Their home on Chatham Road is believed to have been built in 1940 by Frank G. Lake, the owner of Frank Lake Lumber. Previous owners were Marjorie and Hampton Daughtry, Gail and Ed Ettinger, and Karen and Byron Tsinikas. There have been numerous additions and renovations through the years including one by Norman Askins. Mary and Tom bought the house in 2004, did a major renovation designed by Keith Summerour and constructed by Ladisic Fine Homes in 2008. Landscaping was done by Alex Smith Garden Design, Ltd.

Buckhead Heritage has Host Committee Member or Patron Sponsorships' opportunities available:

Host Committee Member \$500.00

- Two tickets
- Additional tickets at member rate
- Invitation to 2024 Major Donor event
- Listing on email invite, Buckhead Heritage web-site, and event signage

Patron \$750.00

- Patron receives four tickets and all of the above

To become a Host Committee Member, [click here](#). To become a Patron, [click here](#). Deadline for being listed as a sponsor on the email invitation is November 14, 2023.

Single Tickets are:

Member (\$150.00) ([Purchase tickets](#))

Non-member (\$175.00) ([Purchase tickets](#))

If you cannot attend the event, but would like to make a fully tax-deductible donation in support of the event, please [click here](#).

Corporate Sponsorships are also available. For further information, please contact Richard Waterhouse at (404) 467-9447 or rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com.



Speaker Series: Jeff Clemmons
Rich's: A Southern Institution

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 7:00 p.m., Free
The Cathedral of Saint Philip Gould Room

Jeff Clemmons will share stories from his book *Rich's: A Southern Institution*. In 1867, less than three years after the Civil War left the city in ruins, Hungarian Jewish immigrant Morris Rich opened a small dry goods store on what is now Peachtree Street in downtown Atlanta.

Over time, his brothers Emanuel and Daniel joined the business; within a century, it became a retailing dynasty. Join historian Jeff Clemmons as he traces Rich's 137-year history. For the first time, learn the true stories behind Penelope Penn, Fashionata, The Great Tree, the Pink Pig, Rich's famous coconut cake and much more, including how events at the downtown store helped John F. Kennedy become America's thirty-fifth president. With an eye for accuracy and exacting detail, Clemmons recounts the complete history of this treasured southern institution.

Jeff Clemmons has a degree in business administration from Reinhardt University and a degree in creative writing and theater from Georgia State University. He created and conducts walking tours for the Atlanta Preservation Center, serves on the board of the East Point Historical Society, and is a co-founder of Marthasville, an Atlanta-based writing salon. In addition to writing two books – *Rich's: A Southern Institution* and *Atlanta's Historic Westview Cemetery* – and a screenplay, Jeff, along with three others, was nominated for an Emmy Award for producing Georgia Public Television's "Rich's Remembered." He is currently at work on his third book, a biography of forgotten Atlanta avant-garde novelist Frances Newman, who gained national attention alongside Hemingway and others in the 1920s.

[Register](#)



Buckhead Heritage is seeking nominations for our third Annual Awards presented at the Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 6. The award is:

Belle Turner Lynch Preservation Award

This award is bestowed on distinguished individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and corporations whose skill and determination have given new meaning to their communities through preservation of their architectural and cultural heritage. These efforts include citizen attempts to save and maintain important landmarks; companies and craftsmen whose work restores the richness of the past; the vision of public officials who support preservation projects and legislation in their communities; and educators and journalists who help Americans understand the value of preservation.

Please submit award nominations to Richard Waterhouse at rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com by November 14, 2023.

Top photo (L to R): Matt and English Norman, 2022 winners of the Belle Turner Lynch Preservation Award and Walt Haber, who played the character of James C. Wise, Architect of the Meredith House. It was spotlighted at the 2022 Holiday Party.



Buckhead Heritage Oral History Training

Last week, a group of 17 dedicated volunteers came together for a three-hour training session led by Sue Verhoef, the Director of Oral History and Genealogy at the Atlanta History Center. The focus was to delve into the 'how to' of oral history interviewing, a crucial element in Buckhead Heritage's mission to preserve and promote our community's historic resources for the benefit of future generations.

The training session provided a comprehensive understanding of the do's and don'ts of conducting interviews. The highlight was the informative videos that Verhoef shared, which illustrated the nuances of the craft. The content not only made the learning experience enjoyable but also deepened our appreciation for the importance of an interview done well.

Through a series of mock interviews, we used the skills we had discussed. One invaluable lesson that stood out was the significance of not interrupting the narrator. As we learned, silence is golden in the world of oral history interviewing, allowing the storyteller to freely recount their memories and experiences.

Sue also gave us a tour of the Atlanta History Center's studio space, which is available to Buckhead Heritage for our Oral History program.

As we move forward, we invite all our supporters to join us in this enriching journey, whether through volunteering, contributing stories, or simply engaging with the history that makes Buckhead so unique.

Article written by Thornton Kennedy



Very Successful 2023 Patron Party

The Programs and Events Committee, under the tutelage of Chair Fay Pearce, presented another exquisite event for our patron members (\$250.00+) on Sunday, October 8, 2023.

Buckhead Board Member Mike Armstrong, Chairman of Children's Rehabilitation Center (CRC) gave the participants a tour of The Cator Woolford house and garden located in North Druid Hills. In the late 1940's, two Buckhead women, Ann Lane and Becky Frazer, saw the need for an organization that would help children with cerebral palsy. In 1952, the CRC purchased the Cator Woolford estate. The house became a school for children with cerebral palsy that would eventually become The Frazer Center whose current mission is a preschool for all children as well as those with disabilities. It also has a program for adults with

disabilities.

Thank you to those who provided food for the event: Beckie and John Amos, John Beach, Caleb Brown, Carol Grady, Charlotte and Bob Margolin, Ann and Fay Pearce, and Elizabeth Morgan Spiegel.

Top photo (L to R): Eleanor Baughman, Caleb Brown, Lori Kennedy, and Sandra Massell. Bottom photo (L to R): Ann and Fay Pearce & Penny and George Hart. Photos courtesy of Thornton Kennedy.





Peachtree Heights East Movers, Shakers, and Heartbreakers Walking Tour

Saturday, November 18, 2023, 10 a.m.

**Buckhead Heritage presents this tour in
partnership with Atlanta Preservation Center**

Caleb Brown and Richard Waterhouse offer a fascinating tour of this hidden neighborhood near Peachtree Road and Lindbergh. With approximately 330 homes, Peachtree Heights East includes early 20th century American two-story four-square, Craftsman Bungalow, Cape Cod, Tudor Revival, and Ranch to 21st century home styles. We will see examples of several of these on the tour. The mile-and-a-half route is hilly and will last about an hour-and-a-half. We will meet at the Duckpond's historical marker and stay on the road during the tour.

To register, please contact Executive Director Richard Waterhouse at rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com or (404) 467-9447. The tour is free to Buckhead Heritage Members.



Executive Director's Report

I hope many of you had a chance to attend our 2023 Patron Event. It was a fun filled afternoon. I remember seeing the Cator Woolford Gardens in the 1980s and I am amazed how the gardens have been improved since that time.

Do not miss the chance to hear Jeff Clemmons lecture on Rich's Department Store on November 16, 2023. There is a special treat for those attending. Please register ahead of time. If you register on-line and you do not receive a confirmation, please contact me so I can ensure you are on the list. If you have lived in the city for a long time, you definitely have a story or two to tell about Rich's.

The Programs and Events Committee is working on the Speaker Series' Programs for 2024. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

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 [Here](#) or contact Richard Waterhouse at the office, 404-467-9447 or email rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com.

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