November 2026 Newsletter



2026 Holiday Gathering!

Sunday, December 13, 2026
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Buckhead Heritage invites our members and supporters to celebrate another successful year at one of Buckhead's most storied homes.

The Calhoun-Thornwell Estate, known as the “Pink Castle” or Tryggveson, was once hailed as “one of the showplaces of Georgia.” Completed in 1923, this 12,000-square-foot Italianate mansion was designed by Philip T. Shutze of the renowned Atlanta firm Hentz, Reid & Adler. Fresh from a study trip in Italy, Shutze drew on three Italian villas: Villa Cuzzano near Verona, Villa Gori in Siena, and Villa Spada in Rome. The home originally fronted West Paces Ferry Road on a 100-acre estate with formal gardens, an orchard, a lake, and tennis courts. Though the land was subdivided in the 1960s, the house endures, now entered from Pinestream Road.
Few Atlantans have seen the interiors of this architectural treasure, which makes the evening a rare chance to experience a masterwork of Shutze’s early career. We’ll also toast our generous hosts, Melanie Turner and Stan Benecki. We hope you’ll join us.

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 2026 Major Donor event
- Listing on email invite, Buckhead Heritage web-site, and event signage

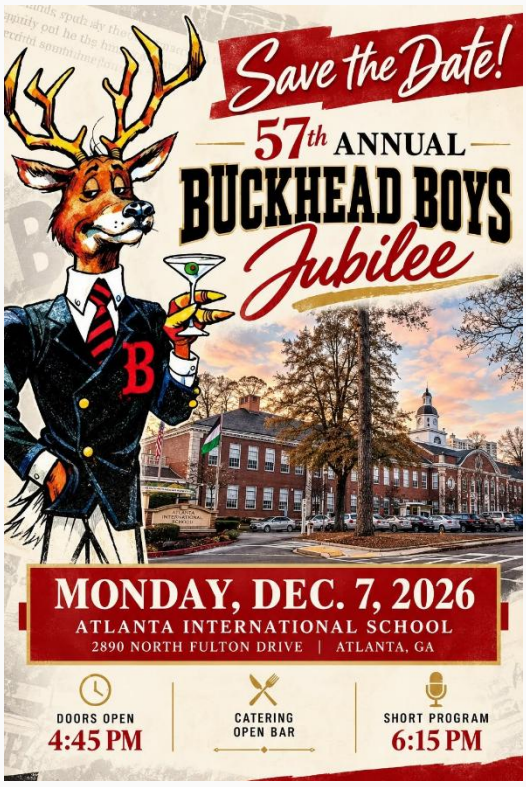
Patron $750.00

- 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 7, 2025.

Single Tickets are:

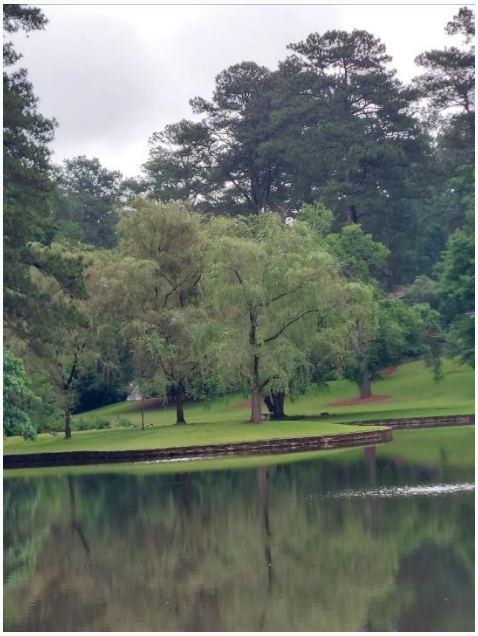
Member ($175.00) (Purchase tickets)
Non-member ($200.00) (Purchase tickets)



Buckhead Heritage has been named the honoree of this year's Buckhead Boys Annual Holiday Jubilee. This event has been a tradition for decades. It previously benefited Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and last year it supported the Jack O'Kelly Foundation. This year, in recognition of our work to preserve the E. Rivers Lodge, the Buckhead Boys have chosen to honor Buckhead Heritage. It is a significant gift and a meaningful vote of confidence in our mission.

The Buckhead Boy of the Year honorees are men who grew up in Buckhead and went on to achieve distinction in business, athletics, civic leadership, philanthropy, or other fields of endeavor. These individuals exemplify the values of hard work, achievement, leadership, and service, while reflecting the strong community roots and lasting bonds that make the Buckhead Boys special. We feel like Jimmy fits this description to a T.

We have been meeting every year for the last 57 years. Here is just a partial list of previous winners, including James Dickey, Jack Davis, Rankin Smith, Bob Holder, Charlie Loudermilk, Harry Norman, Dr. Jud Hawk, Ham Stockton, Marcus Cook, Dr. Thorne Winter, Wade Mitchell, Sam Wyche, Neal Williams, Dudley Moore, Jr., Eddie Garland, Dr. Carter Smith, Jimmy Fluker, and many more.



Peachtree Heights East Movers, Shakers, and Heartbreakers Tour

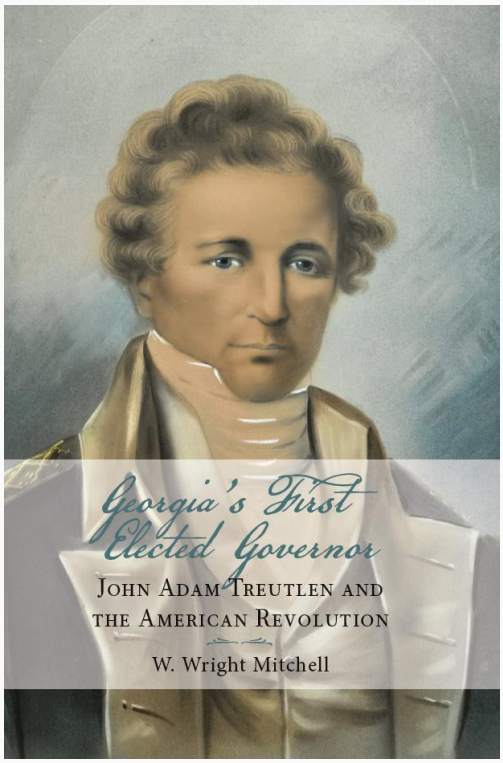
Saturday, November 7, 2026, 10 a.m.

Buckhead Heritage presents this tour in

partnership with
Atlanta Preservation Center

Executive Director Richard Waterhouse offers a fascinating tour of this hidden neighborhood near Peachtree Road and Lindbergh Avenue. With approximately 330 homes, Peachtree East includes early 20th century American two-story four-square, Craftsmen 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 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 Richard Waterhouse at rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com or (404) 467-9447.



Speaker Series: Wright Mitchell will discuss his book *Georgia's First Elected Governor: John Adam Treutlen and the American Revolution*

Thursday, November 12, 2026, 7 p.m., Free

Cathedral of Saint Philip Gould Room

Few figures better illustrate the promise and peril of Revolutionary Georgia than its first elected governor, John Adam Treutlen. A German immigrant who arrived in colonial Georgia as an indentured servant, Treutlen rose against overwhelming odds to become the state's chief executive at the most precarious moment of the American Revolution. The book tells the story of Georgia's uncertain path from trusteeship to Royal Colony and, ultimately, to independent statehood. It is the recipient of the 2026 Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council's Excellence in Scholarship Award: Illuminating Archival Sources and has been nominated for the national George Washington Prize.

W. Wright Mitchell, President and CEO of The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, is an Atlanta native and prominent advocate for safeguarding Georgia's historic places. Over the years, Wright has contributed numerous articles on Atlanta history to newspapers, magazines, and scholarly journals. His research now centers on colonial Georgia, the Revolutionary War, and the state's early political development.

Register





AN INVITATION

Harmony Grove Historic Marker Dedication

Saturday, November 14, 2 p.m.

You are cordially invited to the dedication of the new Historic Marker at Harmony Grove Cemetery on Saturday, November 14, at 2:00 p.m. Wright Mitchell, President and CEO of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, will speak briefly about its history and how Buckhead Heritage became its caretaker. We will also honor the major donors: DAR, Atlanta Chapter, The George M. Brown Trust Fund of Atlanta, and others. The Cemetery is located at the intersection of Chatham and W. Paces Ferry Roads. Please park along Chatham Road. The rain date is Sunday, November 15, at 2:00 p.m.



UPDATE & PETITION - 350 WEST WESLEY DEVELOPMENT

As you may know, a new subdivision was proposed to be developed at 350 West Wesley Road between Dellwood Drive and Habersham Road. Multiple attempts to engage the developer and repeated requests to the City for information failed to result in meaningful dialogue or address serious concerns of impacted neighbors. Therefore, neighbors have banned together and hired legal counsel to represent them before the Tree Commission, the Board of Zoning Adjustment, and the City. The first scheduled hearing is this evening, October 28th wherein the City Arborist is defending its decision to allow the first set of mature trees to be removed – many more trees are slated for removal in subsequent permitting.

The potential impact to adjacent neighbors, our tree canopy, wildlife, storm water runoff, and our watershed is significant. The precedent this development would set for future developments is also a serious concern. For current and future information on this project please go to https://stop350westwesley.org There you can also scroll to the bottom and sign the petition if you so choose.

Peachtree Battle Alliance and NPU-C, together with NPU-A and NPU-B oppose this development.



Executive Director's Report

As you all know, we have had a successful year. The programs have been stellar and I have my own window in my new office..

The Holiday Gathering house is just spectacular and I hope to see you all there. We visited the house in 2015.

We now have a new Programs and Events Committee in place and I know we will have some wonderful programs in 2027. Serving on that committee are Beckie Amos, Lori Kennedy, Thornton Kennedy, Elon Osby, Bob Shuler, Judith Vanderver, and Mary Anne Walser.

Thank you for your continued support of Buckhead Heritage. If you are not a current member, I hope you will consider joining us.

Take care,

Richard Waterhouse

To Join or Renew Buckhead Heritage Membership

Go Here or contact Richard Waterhouse at (404) 467-9447, or email rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com.

To Make A Donation to Buckhead Heritage

Buckhead Heritage is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization founded by residents who recognized the need for an advocacy organization dedicated to protecting Buckhead's significant historic resources.

To make a tax-deductible contribution, click here.

Buckhead Heritage Mission Statement

Buckhead Heritage strives to enhance the quality of life in Buckhead by identifying, preserving, and promoting its historic resources.

We endeavor to foster a conscious respect within the community for its rich and diverse history, ensuring that Buckhead's historic resources are accommodated in future growth and secured for the benefit of the community.

2026 Board & Staff

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Judith Vanderver - Vice President
Frank W. Virgin - Secretary
Michael Armstrong - Treasurer

Ivan Allen, IV - Past President

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Lisa L. deGolian
Carol C. Grady
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Elizabeth Morgan Spiegel
Mary Anne Walser

Emeritus Board
Tamara A. Bazzle
John Beach
E. Fay Pearce, Jr.
Wright Mitchell, Founder

Executive Director
Richard Waterhouse

Our contact information:

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