



August 2025 Newsletter

**Please join us for the:
3rd Annual Trivia Game Party**

**Sunday, August 17, 2025
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Atlanta International School Auditorium
2890 N. Fulton Drive, NW 30305**

COCKTAILS

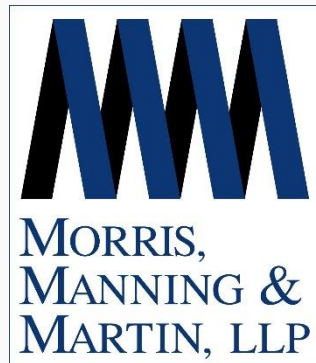
HORS D'OEUVRES

AWARDS

AND LOTS OF FUN!

Please thank our sponsors:

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Honoring the life of founding partner,
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Tickets are still available:

\$150ea/ BH member ([purchase here](#))

\$175ea/ non-member ([purchase here](#))

Kindly purchase tickets by August 8



Speaker Series: Kendrick Smith
Discussing Tate Mountain Estates - the Buckhead
Connection and his book, House on Burnt
Mountain

Thursday, August 28, 2025, 7 p.m.
Cathedral of Saint Philip Gould Room

In the late 1920s, Colonel Samuel Tate, the industrialist and founder of the Georgia Marble Company, developed Tate Mountain Estates, an ambitious 2,200-acre summer resort overlooking Jasper, Georgia, on Burnt Mountain. Anchored by the stunning Connahaynee Lodge, located 3,300 feet above sea level, he created a pristine 65-acre lake, Lake Sequoyah, surrounded by a top-notch 18-hole golf course, a horseback riding ranch, and a swimming and tennis center. He also laid out more than 100 home lots.

The development, however, went bankrupt, the Lodge burned down, and the golf course fell into disrepair. Nevertheless, during the 1930s, a few adventurous families, mainly from Buckhead, bought and constructed homes around the lake, forming a unique community of writers, artists, musicians, and outdoors enthusiasts. Among those pioneers was Alex W. Smith, a well-known Buckhead attorney. Four generations later, the community thrives, remaining essentially unchanged and preserved in time.

Kendrick Smith, a fifth-generation Buckhead native, recently published a fictional novel titled *House on Burnt Mountain*. The story focuses on his grandfather's iconic Tate home. Smith plans to explore the history and lore of the Tate community. He will also discuss his book and, upon request, make copies available and sign them.

Register



Peachtree Heights East Movers, Shakers, and Heartbreakers Walking Tour

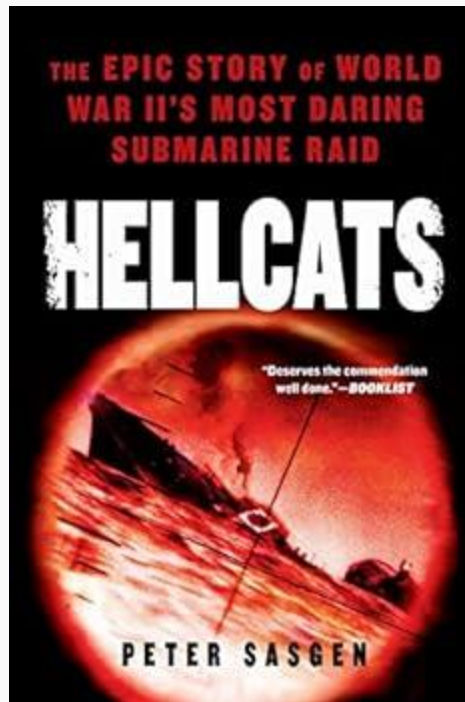
Saturday, September 13, 2025, 10 a.m.

**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.



Speaker Series: Larry Edge, a Buckhead Heritage Member, will interview *Peter Sasgen* about his book *Hellcats*

**Thursday, September 25, 7 p.m., Free
Cathedral of Saint Philip Child Hall**

“The brick apartment building at 18 Collier Road, Atlanta Georgia, still stands. Today it’s in demand for its proximity to Midtown and Buckhead, and across the street a major medical facility Piedmont Hospital. In July

1945 it was home to Sarah Simms Edge and her daughter Sarah age three...”

The above are the opening lines of the story described in the book *HELLCATS* which had a significant impact on a Buckhead family. The daughter described above is Sarah Edge Shuler. One of our presenters is part of that family, and the other is the author. Interwoven throughout the book are the story of this family during World War II and a heart-stopping true account of a submarine mission aimed at destroying Japan's merchant marine lifeline and ending the war. The USS Bonefish, whose captain was Cmdr. Lawrence L. Edge, was one of nine submarines on that mission. By 1945, the U.S. Navy's submarine force in the Pacific had sunk over a thousand enemy cargo ships and tankers supplying the food, weapons, and oil Japan needed to continue to fight. Yet this once mighty merchant fleet continued to thrive in the Sea of Japan, where, protected from American submarines by a seemingly impenetrable barrier of deadly minefields, they provided a tenuous lifeline for the Japanese. Senior American commanders believed that if these enemy ships were sunk, Japan would be forced to surrender. Here is the incredible story of the daring plot to penetrate those minefields and decimate the enemy fleet and the resulting impact of the Edge family. The mission would hinge on a new experimental sonar system that would, with luck, guide American submarines safely past the mines and into the Sea of Japan and return back to the open sea.

Register_

New Oral History: Mary Virginia Davis Shares a Life Well Lived in Buckhead

Buckhead Heritage is proud to share the latest addition to our Oral History Collection — an interview with longtime Buckhead resident Mary

Virginia Davis. Her memories, both personal and poignant, offer a vivid window into daily life in Buckhead across generations. Born at the old Piedmont Hospital in 1934, Mary Virginia grew up on Dellwood Road in Haynes Manor and attended E. Rivers and North Fulton before graduating from Northside High School. In her oral history, she recalls everything from Saturday outings to the Garden Hills Theater and the Varsity to learning to drive and running into cousins at the grocery store. Buckhead Heritage Oral History Project is one of our most important and enduring initiatives, preserving the voices and stories of those who helped shape our community. With more than 50 interviews conducted to date, the collection continues to grow.

To watch or read Mary Virginia's full interview, please [click here](#).

If you would like to recommend someone for an oral history interview, please first confirm their interest and then reach out to Executive Director Richard Waterhouse at rwaterhouse@buckheadheritage.com.



Executive Director's Report

I hope your summer is going well. I look forward to the fall when the

temperatures start cooling down. It seems to have been a hot summer.

We had 15 folks show up for our July Peachtree Heights East Walking Tour and several were neighbors. The great thing about this tour is that neighbors provide us with new information so the tour is always evolving. For example, the little tidbit about Flannery O'Connor living in the neighborhood, came from a neighbor.

We had a phenomenal turnout for Rebeka Helfgot's presentation on the female architect Leila Ross Wilburn. Our attendance was well over 90. If you attend our programs on a regular basis, we hope you will consider joining our organization. I know any organization that I volunteer for or attend their programs and events, I have become a member. I am also a member of Buckhead Heritage.

We hope to see you at the Summer Fun Raiser. Thanks to our volunteers, sponsors, and ticket holders, it is going to be another successful event. James Ottley, who was President when I became Executive Director, always does an entertaining and fantastic job.

We so appreciate your continued support of Buckhead Heritage and I hope to see you regularly at our programs and events.

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.

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.

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