



The CCHS Newsletter

Carroll County Historical Society

P.O. Box 1308

Carrollton, GA. 30112

November 2022



BAHS Reopens Museum

The Bowdon Area Historical Society has reopened their Museum at the Meeting Place in Bowdon. Each Tuesday the Museum will be opened from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for visitors to walk through the museum. BAHS volunteers will be on hand to lead tours.

The Museum includes exhibits and artifacts showcasing life in Bowdon during the early years. There are books from the Bowdon College and a rolltop desk, believed to be from the college.

Another section highlights the apparel industry's place in Bowdon's history.

Many of the residents from Bowdon and neighboring communities were employed at the Sewing plants.

A picture hanging on the wall of then President Jimmy Carter wearing an overcoat made in Bowdon that was worn in his Inaugural parade. During the war, army uniforms were made in Bowdon.

We learned that Mr. Sewell, to highlight the plants impact on the local markets one-time paid employees in silver dollars.

One area pays tribute to the Military service of local residents. Original uniforms and war time memorabilia are on display . A replica P-38 fighter aircraft is encased showing the career of Capt. Lynn Elwood Witt Jr. L. E. Witt, as he was known, was Bowdon's own War Hero. Captain Witt is credited in flying 326 combat missions, the most of any pilot during the entire war.

The uniform of Capt. C. Copeland Ozier, a US Army Corps WW II Veteran is also on Display.

Other exhibits include a vintage surgical table. Photographs of each of the founding doctors hang on the wall along with a “doctors” bag for each one in a display case. The case also includes instruments from the early era. Documents, hymn books and other memorabilia from local churches have been added to the collection.

Outside, patrons stroll along the Heritage Walk to the Nathaniel Shelnut House. According to most records, the oldest house in Bowdon. A “dog-trot” structure with a open central breezeway with a large room on each side. Period artifacts are on display inside the rooms.



The Museum is located at 105 College View Street, beside the Bowdon High School. It is definitely worth a visit to the Friendly City.

Bowdon Area Historical Society Thriving Since 1985

From it’s inception in 1985, the Bowdon Area Historical Society has been busy collecting and preserve the history of the Bowdon area.

A group of fifty interested people gathered at the homeplace of Dr. J.L. Lovvorn to organize a historical society to gather and preserve the documents and artifacts of Western Carroll County.

It was fitting that Mr. Wayne Copeland a local businessman and Grandson of one of the founders of the town, was elected as the first President. In the first five years the society undertook many successful projects including:

- > The publication of a cookbook of local recipes.
- > The sale of 2,000 dogwood trees.
- > The publication of a tour booklet of historic homes in Bowdon.
- > Assisted members, Mrs. Mary Rowell and Mrs. Judy C. Rowell gather information and pictures related to Bowdon’s history. The information was published as “Bowdon: The First Hundred Years”.

> In 1996, the group purchased the former Methodist-Protestant Church building for their headquarters. Mrs. Jean Barr suggested the building be called “The Meeting Place” .

> In 1987 the City of Bowdon donated the Shelnut-Wessinger house to BAHS. The house was originally located on Spring St in Bowdon. It was relocated to an area behind the Bowdon Library. Though, with the expansion of the library, the house would be relocated to the lot behind the Bowdon Inn. In 2000, the house would move again to the campus of the Meeting Place. It is now used as a period museum for the Society.

The success of the museum is credited to Archivist, Jim and Judy Rowell. Both are responsible for acquiring many of the artifacts on display.

Mrs. Rowell passed away in June 2022. Her contribution is memorialized with a plaque honoring her vision, diligence and tireless dedication to the people and history of Bowdon.

Local Historical Societies to visit. The Georgia Historical Society has some online resources to use.



Georgia Historical Society
501 Whitaker Street
Savannah, GA. 31401
Tel. 912-651-2125

<https://georgiahistory.com/>



Rome Area History Center
305 Broad St.
Rome GA. 30161
Tel 706-235-8051

<https://www.romeareahistorycenter.org>



Polk County Historical Society
117 West Ave.
Cedartown, GA. 30125
Tel. 770-749-0073

<https://polkhist.com/>



Historic Haralson County Courthouse
126 Van Wert St
Buchanan, GA. 30113
Tel. 770-646-3369

<https://www.haralsoncountyhistory.com/>

Volunteer Opportunities

1. Carroll County Historic Timeline

In preparation of the 200 year Celebration, CCHS is developing a mobile Timeline Display to travel to each city in Carroll County in 2026. *Volunteers will serve on a Committee to research the events in Carroll County from 1826 to 2026. This Committee will also design the display panels and marketing ideas.*

2. Walk Through History

CCHS is developing a “Walk Through History” as a fundraiser. Planned for Spring 2023. Participants will receive a specially designed t-shirt and will walk along a path with historical markers highlighting the history of Carroll County. *We need volunteers to research the events of Carroll County, design a t-shirt and design the markers.*

3. City Cemetery Tour

Redesign the City of Carrollton Cemetery Tour to add newly discovered information. *Volunteers will design a new brochure.*

4. Research Requests

Occasionally CCHS will receive Research Requests on our website. *Volunteers will be part of a Research Committee to assist in finding the information per the requests.*

5. Historic Adamson Square

CCHS is developing a comprehensive study on Adamson Square. This will be a listing of the businesses that at one time operated on the Square. The study will include the Square proper and the businesses along the first block below the Square. Essentially, the buildings attached to the Square and the business located there. *Volunteers will list each business attached to the Square. Also, look for pictures of the Square from 2022 backwards.*

6. Scanning Photographs

CCHS has a large collection (1,000 plus) of photographs from Smith’s Studio. The photographs include weddings, Military groups, family reunions and family groups and school groups. *Volunteers will scan each photograph, catalog and store the photograph for easy retrieval.*

7. Church Profiles

CCHS is developing a historic profile of the churches in Carroll County. Volunteers will develop a questionnaire to request information about how the churches started and events through the years. A list of Pastors and an offer to scan church minutes.

November 22nd CCHS Meeting Neva Lomason Library 6:00 pm

What was There?

We invite you to join us as we hop in a **“Time Machine”** to see what was there back in time and what it has become now.



- 8th Election Day
- 8th Bowdon Historical Society
- 11th Veterans Day
- 17th Villa Rica Historical Society
- 22th Carroll County Historical Society
- 24th Thanksgiving

Nominating Report Slate of Officers for 2023

President	Robert Blakemore
Vice-President	Richard Hilling
Secretary	Anita Gay
Treasurer	Robert Blakemore, Acting
Archivist	Jason Kennedy

You are invited to serve your Society. If you are interested in a position, please email: Robert@rablakemore.com

Time To Renew

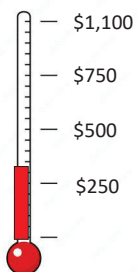
Membership Renewals for 2023 are now open. We encourage you to Renew your CCHS Membership soon.

Fundraising Opportunity

CCHS is raising funds to purchase an overhead scanner and a fast photo scanner.

This equipment will provide a quick quality scan of documents, newspapers and photographs in our collection.

We will also be able to offer scanning days for the community.



**Carroll County Historical Society
Membership Application 2022**

Individual Membership
Family Membership

\$30 per year
\$50 per year

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

*** E-mail Address:** _____

*** E-mail addresses are important for receiving bulletins and announcements sent out concerning the Society activities between newsletters.**

Membership \$ _____ **** Donation \$** _____

Reason for Donation _____

Total Paid \$ _____

**** Donations to the Society will be used to fund preservation projects in Carroll County. All donations are Tax Deductible.**

Members receive our CCHS Newsletter.

Renew your membership on line at:
<https://www.carrollcountyhistory.org/cchsmf.html>

Or

Mail this form to:
Carroll County Historical Society
P. O. Box 1308
Carrollton, GA 30112

