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### DeKalb History Center

Old Courthouse on the Square  
101 East Court Square  
Decatur GA 30030

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www.dekalbhistory.org

*Keeping DeKalb's History  
First, since 1947*



## Candler: Synonymous with DeKalb County



*Recently donated Candler family items*

The Candler name is synonymous with DeKalb County, and rightfully so. Over the past century, the Candler family has made tremendous contributions as key and influential leaders of their communities and for the state of Georgia.

In 1908, Asa G. Candler, most famously noted for the founding of the Coca-Cola Company, began the development of the Druid Hills subdivision. His brother John S. Candler built the first home in Druid Hills and later became a Georgia Supreme Court Justice.

Asa Candler gave land to his brother, Method-

ist Bishop Warren A. Candler. This land would become the groundwork for the campus of Emory University, founded in 1915. In support of Warren's ideals, Asa later donated one million dollars to ease the transformation of Candler College to Candler University, currently located in Atlanta.

Realizing the family's impact on the county, the DeKalb History Center did not hesitate when a researcher mentioned she had a few items from Bishop Warren Candler that she would donate to the museum and archives.

A highlight of this collection is a book entitled "Curtright-Candler, Wedding List, 1877-1927." The guests signed it on the occasion of the golden anniversary of Bishop and Mrs. Warren A. Candler and the Bishop's boutonniere was found in an envelope placed inside the "Wedding List."

Another special item is an invitation mailed to the "Rt. Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Candler" sent by President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt requesting their company for dinner at the White House on December 11, 1935. Other artifacts include: a Bible given by Warren Candler to his son John C. Candler in 1907,

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### History at Home in Druid Hills

Please join us for a tour of "Boxwood," a historic home in the Druid Hills neighborhood. This event is presented by Intown Partners Realty Group. Make yourself at home to explore the property and its original architecture, walk the beautiful grounds, and enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres.

You will learn about the history of Druid Hills through exhibits featuring images from our collections, including maps of the area. A limited number of reproduction maps will be available for purchase. Local author, Richard H. Sams will also be selling and signing

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**Times of DeKalb**

# Candler Collection

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four Emory University Diplomas for Warren Akin Candler (dated 1875 and 1878), and two monogrammed porcelain dishes.

Bishop Warren A. Candler (1857–1941) is remembered most for his intellect, energy, and unwavering faith and was considered to be “one of the foremost leaders of American Methodism.” In 1914 the Emory School of Theology was established; by February of 1915 it was accurately named the Candler School of Theology. Bishop Candler served as president and later as the first chancellor.



The Candler Chronicle still continues as a weekly newsletter for the Candler School of Theology.

In a memorial Board of Trustees of 1942, Bishop W. N. accomplishments presented to the Emory University on May 29, Ainsworth detailed Candler’s and roles: “Pastor, presiding elder, religious editor, prolific writer, college president, University Chancellor, Bishop forty-three years and administrator in every realm of his church’s extensive field, he had more than fulfilled the brilliant promise of his youth.”

Ainsworth continued, “In the full sense of the word, he was the founder of Emory University. If there had been no Candler, there would have been no university. He was its first Chancellor. Other able sons of the same noble sire came to their brother’s side and yet others of that honored lineage are helping still to make his dreams come true.”

“The name of Warren A. Candler will ever stand out as an educational genius...to him education was the realization of all capacity with the vision and mind and will to use it in the sphere of divine intent.”

These items add to the growing collection of documents, files, photographs and objects that the DeKalb History Center holds in trust. ✦

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Contributors to this issue include: Leslie Borger, Melissa Forgey and Karen Kopanezos.

# DeKalb History Center’s 140th “I Remember Hour”

In 1984, Congressman James Mackay had a vision. He realized that an integral part of the history of DeKalb County could not be found through maps or books, but through the personal accounts of its citizens. His idea was to interview residents of DeKalb County from various backgrounds, fields and experiences. The first taping occurred in 1982 and remains a continuous project for the DeKalb History Center.

For the 140<sup>th</sup> edition of the “I Remember Hour,” the DeKalb History Center invited three veterans of the newspaper industry to discuss the active workings of local newspapers.

The panelists were: Vivian Price, former editor of the DeKalb News Sun; Britt Fayssoux, former editor of DeKalb News Era; and Jerry Crane of the Decatur News Publishing Company.

These oral histories take a detailed look at the dynamics of local newspapers and the challenges of reporting. Price noted that writing for local newspapers is often quite difficult. There are different requirements, fewer staff, fewer resources and the need to “work your re-

sources more” in order to get the community’s news.

Fayssoux pointed out that local news can be a challenge for young journalists who are competing with larger organizations, striving to understand “who’s-who” in the community, and grappling with the imperative role of local politics. But he also considered small news to be “vital.”

Crane remarked, “The greatest newspaper in the world is one that covers three streets and tells all the dirty laundry, and the good stuff, on those streets.”

The panelists admitted that while national and daily newspapers are unquestionably fundamental, local news publications provide the facts and content that the community is genuinely interested in reading.

The DHCs “I Remember Hour” collection contains interviews with life-long DeKalb residents, government officials, and community leaders. To view our collection inventory please visit [www.dekalbhistory.org](http://www.dekalbhistory.org). For information on future topics or possible interviews please contact Karen Kopanezos at [archives@dekalbhistory.org](mailto:archives@dekalbhistory.org). ✦

## 2008 Membership Drive

**Please call the office if you have questions about your 2008 Membership**

All funds received through memberships directly support the preservation of DeKalb County history and are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Your generous contribution to the DeKalb History Center will provide you with a year-long membership that includes our quarterly newsletter to keep you informed on all our activities. We hope that you will join our team by either renewing your membership or joining as a first-time supporter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
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- |  |                                    |                                 |
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| ___ Benefactor/Corporation—\$500—\$999 | ___ Patron—\$75—\$124              | ___ Student/Teacher/Senior—\$25 |

Please mail this form with your contribution to: DeKalb History Center, 101 East Court Square, Decatur GA 30030

# Waffle House Museum Opens!

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on September 3, 2008, for a museum at the original Waffle House. Located at 2719 East College Avenue in Avondale Estates, the very first Waffle House opened Labor Day weekend in 1955.

The restaurant was opened by Joe Rogers, Sr. and Tom Forkner, who were on-hand for the *new* grand opening. As the years progressed and their business grew, Joe and Tom sold this original building. It was recently purchased by Waffle House, Inc., in order to save it.

Part of the interior has been restored to display the original counter and kitchen configurations. With the grill set up for cooking their famous food, signs around the dining room advertise Coca-Cola for 10¢, a char burger for 40¢ and cream waffles for 40¢. The counter is furnished with copies of the original menus and artificial food. Dishes, condiments and an old cash register complete the experience. The building's original blueprint is also on display.

The pantry includes a gas stove, potato grinder (for hash browns) and mixer, bottles of Coca-Cola and bags of White Lily Flour and Dixie Crystals Sugar. The building also showcase 50 years worth of marketing pieces and buttons. The museum will only be open on special occasions and corporate events.

The second store, "Unit 2," was opened in 1957. During the 1960s Waffle House, Inc., opened 44 more restaurants, bringing the total to 48. Growth continued in the 1970s, as the number rose to 401. In the 1995, Waffle House celebrated success by opening their 1,000 restaurant right back in Avondale Estates. There are now almost 1,600 Waffle House restaurants in the United States. Since 1955, Waffle House has served at least 500 million waffles, 950 million cups of coffee, and 1 billion hashbrown orders.

Congratulations to this historic DeKalb County business for over 50 years of success and their foresight to save the first building as a museum. The Waffle House Museum, with its displays and artifacts, will be enjoyed for generations. ✦



# 2008 Heritage Festival

The 2008 DeKalb Heritage Festival on September 26 was a great success with nearly 400 second and fifth grade students from Glennwood Academy, Oakhurst Elementary and Clairemont Elementary in attendance.

The students experienced a fun day chock-full of history as they met local characters Benjamin Swanton and Mary Gay and were treated to baked goods from the open hearth of Nancy Heart. They were transported back to 1853 as they entered the classroom of African American teacher Charlotte Forten and later to the Roswell Mill where they witnessed the story of Hannalee Reed, a fictional character from the novel *Turn Homeward, Hannallee*, whose family was torn apart by the Civil War. The students also enjoyed painting wooden tops with the staff of the Decatur Recreation Department and learned a few old-fashioned games to play with their new tops.

The DeKalb History Center extends a sincere thank you to those who participated, including our volunteers and supporters! ✦



### Sponsors:

**A.S. Turner & Sons & Decatur Downtown Development Authority**

**Benefactor: Georgia Power Company**

### Partners:

Chick-fil-A, City Schools of Decatur, Decatur Recreation Department, DeKalb County Schools, the Junior League of DeKalb County, Little Shop of Stories and Harry Stillwell

## Volunteers

Many thanks to our recent volunteers:

Lydia Atubeh

Bob Espy

Justine Fletcher

Steve Hanson

Beth Jansa

Lauren Keys

Barbara Luton

Margaret Maxwell

Don Morrison

Pat Miller

Wendy Nelson

Jen Petrie

Jack Regan

Jill Sweetapple

Janie Yorker

### DeKalb Ambassadors:

Jane Frisbie

Arletha Kynes

Maeretha Smith

Thanks to **SunTrust Bank** for providing parking.

## Interns

We currently have three interns assisting with the Archives or Executive Director.

Liz Ott

Jill Sweetapple

Ben Zdenecanovic

## A Closer Look: Tucker Time Capsule

On May 10, 2008, the city of Tucker made final preparations for its annual Tucker Day festivities, a longstanding community tradition that began in 1955. The event is known for live entertainment, food, arts and crafts, and a parade. This year's celebration had a little extra carousal; the opening of the Tucker Time Capsule.

In 1958, residents of Tucker carefully placed a copper capsule behind a brass plaque in a wall of the newly built county health center. Fifty years later the capsule was opened and is now part of the DeKalb History Center collection. The contents of the capsule include miscellaneous 1956 and 1957 newspapers: *The DeKalb New Era*, *North DeKalb Record*, *The Decatur News* and *The Tucker Tattler*. The capsule also contained a handwritten guest-

book of citizens' names from August 1957, in addition to several photographs of past Tucker Day celebrations.

The ceremony began at noon and the items removed were displayed for observation. Special guests included: Commissioner Elaine Boyer, Les Richmond from the DeKalb County Board of Health and State Senator Steve Henson. Harry Powell of the Tucker Historical Society, Honey Van De Krete of the Main Street Tucker Alliance and Deborah Allgood also watched as the contents were revealed. Deborah is the daughter of Conrad Allgood, Tucker Elementary School's principal, who originally created this project.

Due to the high volume of eager viewers, many were unable to fully examine the contents. So the Tucker Historical Society invited the DHC to present the capsule at its August meeting where the contents of the capsule were once again displayed.

The meeting was a tremendous success, as members read old newspapers, recollected past events, and participated in a lively discussion on the changes Tucker has seen over the past fifty years. Many that attended are life-long residents and enjoyed an evening of reminiscence.

If you are interested in researching your city, community, or neighborhood please contact the DeKalb History Center Archives. ✦



### Photographs from the Tucker Time Capsule.

Top Left: "1957, Howard Grant & Foster Thomas"

Middle: "Shorty," Julian Harris, Claude Blount, Sr., Britt, Bill Thronton, Jack Melton, Mayor Joe Reeves, Judge H. O. Hubert, Nicholson, & ?"

Bottom Right: "Mary Carol Snead, Miss Tucker of 1957 Tucker Centennial, Judy Robinson & Shirley Ashworth, First Runner Up."

## Druid Hills Open House (cont.)

Continued from page 1

copies of his book, *Atlanta is Ours, The Plot to Capture Sherman*, throughout the evening.

Built circa 1914, "Boxwood" is a two-story brick Colonial Revival home. Because of the owners' interest in gardens, the house was designed to be integrated with the landscaping while retaining an air of formality. The front yard is terraced, which further blends the house with its gardens. The front is accentuated with a decorative entry porch supported by six fluted Doric columns.

The original estate, built by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Veazey Rainwater, comprised over three acres of intricate gar-

dens with boxwoods of all sizes and varieties surrounding the main house, carriage house, boys' club house, stables, bridle path, grand stand and paddock. Original landscaping included a wild garden, cutting garden, and a walled, green garden used as an outdoor living/dining room.

The land was divided in the early 1940s, but the main house, carriage house and walled garden remain and maintain their integrity to this day. Mr. Rainwater was an officer of The Coca-Cola Company and Mrs. "Hattie" C. Rainwater was a member of the Peachtree Garden Club and an avid gardener. ✦





Intown Partners Realty Group Presents  
**History at Home in Druid Hills**  
A Benefit for the DeKalb History Center

Please join us to tour the "Boxwood," a home of historical significance in Atlanta's Druid Hills neighborhood. You will learn about the history of Druid Hills through engaging exhibits and local historians, in partnership with the DeKalb History Center. Make yourself at home to explore the property and its original architecture, walk the beautiful grounds, and enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres. Local author, Dr. Richard H. Sams, will also be selling and signing copies of his novel, *Atlanta is Ours: The Plot to Capture Sherman*, which incorporates the early history of Druid Hills. We look forward to seeing you there!

Location: 794 Springdale Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30306  
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2008  
Time: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Admission: \$5.00 donation to the DeKalb History Center  
RSVP: saralee@yourownsanctuary.com





**"Boxwood" Open House: 794 Springdale Road, NE, Atlanta GA 30306  
Thursday, October 30 from 5:30—8:30 p.m.**