

Georgia Association of Historians Newsletter



VOLUME XXXII

Fall 2011

2012 Annual Meeting Set for Macon

Macon is the site for the next Georgia Association of Historians annual meeting, February 24 - 25, 2012. Most events will be in the Macon City Center Marriot.

Macon, located on the fall line of the Ocmulgee River, began as a frontier outpost called Ft. Hawkins, and became an important inland port. Many early settlers came from North Carolina, so they named their town after Nathaniel Macon, a prominent citizen of their home state. They laid it out as a garden city with spacious streets. Because of its advantageous location, it grew to become the largest city in central Georgia.

Matt Jennings, a member of the local arrangements committee says, "Our city is full of things for historically-inclined people to see, from Ocmulgee National Monument--where you can trace 13,000 years of human history--to the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame--where you can learn about the athletic accomplishments of more recent Georgians. Macon also boasts a number of antebellum homes, and a new series of Civil War markers. Macon is probably best known for its music: Little Richard, Otis Redding, and the Allman Brothers Band all called Macon home, and the Douglass Theatre and the Big House Museum reflect Macon's musical past. Following the successful lead of previous meetings, we'll have a couple of planned tours as part of the conference, but visitors are also encouraged to explore the city's history on their own. We'll provide suggestions as part of the conference packet."

Register now!

Included as an attachment to this *Newsletter* is a dual purpose registration form for the meeting in Macon and for your annual membership dues. Membership at the door is possible, but advance registration is very helpful to the arrangements committee and there is an early-bird reduction in the fee for you—everybody wins! If you can't get to Macon this time, use the form to submit your dues, so that you will be on the list to receive the 2012 Journal.

Saturday's luncheon at the Marriott

Those who attend Saturday's annual business meeting and luncheon will hear **Lee Formwalt** of the OAH deliver a "Lives in History" address. These talks, featuring distinguished historians reflections on their lives in the profession, have become a regular feature of our meetings.

In addition, the Hugh McCall Award which is "given in recognition of scholarly attainment, excellence in teaching, and/or encouragement of the study of history" will be awarded to a recipient whose identity will be revealed at the meeting.

From our members . . .

Ken Fenster, Georgia Perimeter College, published "It's Not Fiction: The Race to Host the 1954 Southern Association All-Star Game," in the Fall 2010 issue of the *Baseball Research Journal*.



In June Mercer University Press published *Breaking the Heartland: The Civil War in Georgia*, a collection of eleven essays edited by **David Parker** of Kennesaw State University and **John Fowler** of Dalton State College.

John Incoe has two books out this year. *Writing the South through the South: Explorations in Southern Autobiography* is based on a course on the subject that he has long taught at UGA; and *The Civil War in Georgia*, is a compilation of all articles related to the war and its legacy drawn from the *New Georgia Encyclopedia*. Both are published by UGA Press and both sponsored by the Georgia Humanities Council.

Make your room reservation . . .



Macon City Center Marriott
240 Coliseum Drive
Macon, Ga. 31217
(478) 621-5300 Fax (478) 621-5330

The Marriott is holding a bloc of rooms for GAH members, but these must be reserved by **Friday, February 3, 2012**. Contact Marriott reservations at 800-228-9290, or in Macon at 478-621-5300.

The GAH *Journal* would like to hear from members who are interested in evaluating manuscripts that have been submitted for publication. If you are willing to give some time to this worthwhile effort, contact the editors, **Fred van Hartesveldt** or **Lee Ann Caldwell** a tell them about your fields of interest. Email Hartesvf@FVSU.EDU or lcaldwel@aug.edu.

More about the meeting . . .

Jim Grossman, Plenary speaker

Friday Evening, at the Tubman African American Museum, **James Grossman**, Executive Director of the American Historical Association will speak on the state of the historical profession.

According to the AHA website, Grossman has been interested in "enhancing the role of historians in public culture, collaborating with counterparts in other scholarly associations to explore new opportunities opened by innovations in digital communication, and maintaining the AHA's strong advocacy voice on open access and other issues of importance to historians."

Formerly the Vice President for Research and Education at Chicago's Newberry Library, Grossman is the author of *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* (1989) and *A Chance to Make Good: African Americans, 1900-1929* (1997). He was also project director and coeditor of *The Encyclopedia of Chicago* (2004), labeled by one prominent urban historian "one of the very finest and likely one of the most durable works of North American historical scholarship in our era."