

Stone Mountain Historic Society Newsletter, October 2015



1, Boswell; 2, Rogers; 3, Dobson, Coach; 4, McWilliams; 5, Stallings; 6, Houser; 7, Clarke; 8, Palmer; 9, Snelling, Capt.; 10, Twitty; 11, McLendon; 12, Wheatley; 13, Simmons; 14, Tomlinson.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL FOR BOYS, STONE MOUNTAIN, GA.

Greetings

It's football season but we are not talking Georgia, Tech, Clemson or Auburn here. We are talking Stone Mountain and its University School for Boys Team. Historical newspaper research shows that the 1909 team with Coach Frank Dobson (above) was just one of many teams of "Mountain Boys" that made sports headlines. The prep school, its coaches, and its players would play significant roles in Georgia's early football history, read on below!

Our 2015 BBQ, which was held on the new lot with live music and some moonshine, was a great social and financial success, enabling us to put a dent in our fundraising target. We owe Wayne and Beth Snead huge thanks for graciously donating all that delicious barbecue meat. It is what drew the crowd on such a hot evening. Pat Miller prepared her signature baked beans and Ann Hamby set off the event with her perfectly pitched coleslaw and incomparable banana pudding. The Master Gardeners created a much needed mulched walkway for the event. Others donated drinks, time, and effort to make it a success. We thank each of you for supporting the society at this special annual event. Next year we are getting a fan to keep us cool and I promise to make pickles a top priority!

The Wells graciously opened their restaurant, Wells Cargo, on Monday September the 21st and hosted our second spaghetti supper fundraiser which was another success,

2015 Officers and Board



Mary Beth Reed, President
Kathryn Wright, Membership
Theresa Hamby, Secretary
JoAnn Florence, Treasurer
Rusty Hamby, House Manager
Susan Devine, Keeper of the Gardens

At Large Board Members:

Chakira Johnson
Sally Kellogg
Jim McCurdy
Pat Miller
Naomi Thompson

Wells-Brown House Committee:

Rusty Hamby, Chairman
Ann Hamby, House
Jim Bill McCurdy, House
Kathryn Wright, House
Theresa Hamby, Collections
Pat Miller, Library

garnering over \$1,900 for the lot's acquisition. We can't thank Hilda and Lynne enough and we also wish to thank everyone of you for coming out and making this a great community event.

Our fundraising progress has been slow but steady. With this month's payment we will be more than one-third of the way there. New South Associates is willing to match donations up to ten thousand dollars through December 29th, so this a great time to make a charitable donation. With that boost, we may be able to pay off the lot by year end!

Our beautiful 2016 calendar with historical photographs of the village is hot off the press. Read more on that below.

"Mountain Boys" Win Big

While most of us know that the University School for Boys helped the village earn a statewide reputation as an educational mecca for young men, it also brought big time football to the mountain community. The school had a robust athletics department and historic newspaper articles in The Atlanta Constitution show that it had a starring role in the early organization of a regional prep school football league in Georgia about 1903. Coaches were credited with the organizational work and with reducing some of the risks involved.

Football has always been a rather rough sport from the standpoint of those who indulge in golf and ping pong and other sports of like nature. It develops different muscles, it brings into play other qualities...it needs to be taught to boys by careful and experienced coaches. -AJC, 1903

Coaches at this point were frequently underpaid and jobs scarce leading to short stints at different schools for the new profession. While we don't know the pay scale at the University School, we do know it had at least four football coaches between 1902 and 1913. The team would face 19 opponents over that 11-year stretch.

Coach Sandy Beaver led the village's "Mountain Boys" in 1902 and 1903. They were at the top of their game handily winning a championship game 31-0 over their principal rival, Georgia Military Academy, both years. The Atlanta Constitution exclaimed in 1903:

Such was the score at the end of the game played yesterday afternoon at Piedmont park and last night Stone Mountain was bright as day with the fires made in honor of her victory.

Evidently sports victories were celebrated with fires on the mountain circa 1903.

The prep league was organized in 1904 with six teams and the University School picked up a new coach while Beaver went to



Photo of "Kid Woodruff"

Kid Woodruff Captain and Quarterback of the Fast Stone Mountain Team striking a pose.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL FOR BOYS
STONE MOUNTAIN, GA.

A SOLID FOUNDATION IS HALF THE COLLEGE COURSE

Individual instruction given each student. Teacher for every ten boys. Twenty per cent of students brothers of former students. Equipment modern. Climate delightful. Not a death or serious illness in 13 years. Trolley line (16 miles) to Atlanta. Athletics encouraged. Faculty coaches, compulsory exercise. Patronage limited. For catalog, address

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL FOR BOYS
BOX 32, (2) STONE MOUNTAIN, GA.



Decatur. Here are the coaching staff postings and the schools where the coaches had played during their college years:

Georgia Military Academy: Jack Bower, UGA and T.J. Simmons , Vanderbilt

University School, Stone Mountain: Hope Sadler, Clemson and Frank Anderson, UGA

Gordon Institute, Barnesville: Professor Blackwell, Yale and [no first name] Worsham, UGA

Boys High School, Atlanta: Professor Parks, Auburn

Donald Fraser, Decatur: Sandy Beaver, UGA

Peacock's School, Atlanta: A.S. Bolling, Virginia

Coach Sadler, an end and “virtual” quarterback, chosen “by Coach Heisman to lead the 1903 all Southern Team,” was the Mountain Boys coach for the 1904 season. Their winning streak continued, however, Sadler’s team would be disqualified that year as two players were not truly students, a fact noted by their fellow teams who were crying foul. One young man did odd jobs at the school and the other was really a UGA student who was taking a course or two. Stone Mountain was quick to point out that there were no rules at that time that would disqualify them but the new league didn’t buy it. 1904 was a wash.

Leaving Donald Fraser in Decatur, teacher and football coach Sandy Beaver assumed command of the team at the University School where he, with the help of other coaches, strengthened its record and reputation. Important figures in collegiate coaching were associated with the University School. In 1909, Frank Dobson, an assistant coach at Georgia Tech, came on board as the school’s athletic director and football coach for a brief period. The University School unfortunately lost the prep school championship game in Georgia to Riverside Academy that year. Despite this, Dobson headed to the University of Georgia where he served as an assistant coach and would become Clemson’s first paid football coach a year later. In addition to notable coaches, University School players like George Cecil “Kid” Woodruff, would go onto to make a name for himself as the coach of the University of Georgia’s team from 1923-1927.

When Sandy Beaver, described as “the Mountain Boys crack coach,” left in 1913 to own and operate Riverside Academy in Gainesville, he took some of the University School’s rising high school stars with him ending an era in Stone Mountain’s early football history.



BBQ Revelers

Left to right

Chakira Johnson, Mechel McKinley and Marla Baxley Lovell



Fun at the Food Table

Katheryn Wright and Sally Kellogg share a laugh.



Beth Snead

Our BBQ host helping with refreshments!

Dr. James Riley Wells and the Georgia State University Exhibit- December 2015

Georgia State Museum Studies students are busy creating an exhibit on Dr. Wells and the life and practice of a small town doctor. Dr. Adina Langer is leading the class. Dr. Langer began working at the National 9/11 Memorial Museum foundation as a curatorial assistant and continued working there while she attended the Archives and Public History Program at New York University. Adina worked on her first digital history projects at the 9/11 Memorial. Her first project, the 9/11 Memorial Museum Artists' Registry offered an opportunity for artists to contribute artworks to a comprehensive, tagged database of post-9/11 artwork. Her second project, a content-contribution platform for friends and family-members of those killed on 9/11 and 2/26/93 was an initially less-public form of public history, but it provided individuals with an opportunity to submit materials to be included in a very public memorial exhibition now on display at the 9/11 Memorial Museum. She is very interested in developing digital technology.



GSU Students at work

First class held at the Wells Brown House.



Students on break at first class on Wells Brown porch.

Help us develop the exhibit. We were delighted to learn that Dr. Wells helped bring Dot Guess into the world in our last newsletter and long time resident Sam Nuckolls wrote in a personal memoir of Stone Mountain that Dr. Wells was the town's "quiet doctor". If you have any photographs, artifacts, or memories of him as friend or doctor, please contact Mary Beth Reed at mbreed@newsouthassoc.com or by phone 770-498-4155 ext. 128. Like our new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Stone-Mountain-Historic-Society-891292417607805/timeline/>



Beautiful Owl Quilt

SMHS raffled off a beautiful owl quilt made by Stone Mountain's Little Star from the Trail of Tears. Susan Devine was the lucky winner. Hoot!



Warm and Delicious Beef Daube Provencal

2 teaspoons olive oil
12 garlic cloves, crushed
1 (2-pound) boneless chuck roast, trimmed and cut into 2-inch cubes
1 1/4 teaspoons salt, divided
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, divided

Stone Mountain Depot Renovation

The City's Downtown Development Authority is working on a plan for the reuse of the Stone Mountain Depot, an important historic landmark. The city was able to fund exterior renovations which were completed this year and the DDA is working to garner funding for further improvements needed to make the depot into a welcome center, village museum, activity center for seniors/event space and finally a trailhead for a Heritage Trail linking the center of our town to the Park. The project is multi phased over five years with the first year dedicated to getting the community's support and identifying possible funding sources for this project.

As Historical Society members, I know you will want to be informed and involved as planning takes shape for this very important historic building in the heart of our village. If you have any old photographs of the depot or memorabilia please consider contacting the city's DDA manager. If you wish to learn more or volunteer, contact the DDA at 770-498-8984 ext. 137.

Introducing our First Stone Mountain Calendar 2016



Using the historic digital photograph collection, we have selected 12 historic views, one for each month along with some vintage Stone Mountain advertisements for a professionally designed 2016 calendar. We hope to do this each year, so please enjoy our first edition. Each calendar is \$12, benefitting the Society and its projects. Consider these for Christmas gifts, for your office, or your home. The calendars will be available for sale at our Quarterly meeting on Thursday October the 22nd and at Nan's Old Post Office Emporium

1 cup red wine
2 cups chopped carrot
1 1/2 cups chopped onion
1/2 cup lower-sodium beef broth
1 tablespoon tomato paste
1 teaspoon chopped fresh rosemary
1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
Dash of ground cloves
1 (14.5-ounce) can diced tomatoes
1 bay leaf
3 cups cooked medium egg noodles
(about 4 cups uncooked noodles)

1. Preheat oven to 300°.

2. Heat a small Dutch oven over low heat. Add oil to pan; swirl to coat. Add garlic; cook 5 minutes or until garlic is fragrant, stirring occasionally. Remove garlic with a slotted spoon; set aside. Increase heat to medium-high. Add beef to pan; sprinkle with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Cook 5 minutes, browning on all sides. Remove beef from pan. Add wine to pan; bring to a boil, scraping pan to loosen browned bits. Add reserved garlic, beef, remaining 3/4 teaspoon salt, remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper, carrot, and next 8 ingredients (through bay leaf), and bring to a boil.

3. Cover and bake at 300° for 2 1/2 hours or until beef is tender. Discard bay leaf. Serve over noodles.

Note: To make in a slow cooker, prepare through Step 2. Place beef mixture in an electric slow cooker. Cover and cook on high for 5 hours or until beef is tender.

Source: Cooking Light, <http://www.myrecipes.com/recipe/beef-daube-provenal-0#>

on East Mountain. For those of you that reserved copies at the BBQ, we will contact you for pick up. You can also reserve them via email to the Society's address (see below).

Upcoming Events

One Place Study October 15th, 7:00pm Wells Brown House

Bring your laptop!

Quarterly Meeting, October 22nd, 7:00 pm. Sammy Wade, Speaker

We are honored to have long-time resident Sammy Wade speak with us about growing up in Stone Mountain. Expect insights and stories from someone who truly knows our town. Come early and get a good seat! Refreshments served.

Stone Mountain Woman's Club Home Tour, December 12th, 10-4.

Lunch included at the Stone Mountain United Methodist Church. Tickets are \$25 available from members and the Old Post Office Emporium.

Save the Date - Society Christmas Party, Saturday, December 12th