



FRIENDS OF OCONEE HILL CEMETERY

Fall 2017

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*Cover Image: Preservation of
Lumpkin-Cobb Fence Photos by Joe
Tillman and Mark Costantino.*

From the President

With just a few days between now and Thanksgiving, I am counting the many things we Friends have to be grateful for in 2017, an exceptional year in the long life of Oconee Hill Cemetery. In this issue, you will find in-depth stories about the many good things—and the one uncommonly bad thing—we managed this year, illustrating again how much can be accomplished by the concerted effort of the members of our dedicated board and Friends like you.

One of the most visible “good things” that happened this year was the near-completion of ongoing work to preserve and stabilize the decorative iron fence around the Lumpkin-Cobb family lot. The fence, a remarkably beautiful antebellum product of the prestigious Wood & Perot foundry in Philadelphia, once derelict and missing entire sections, has been nearly returned to its 1858 appearance, thanks to welcome financial donations from Lumpkin and Cobb family descendants, a major grant from the Watson-Brown Foundation and the artistry of local craftsmen.

The controlled removal of more than a dozen dead or dying trees, some nearly a century old, in historic sections of Oconee Hill was, uncharacteristically, another good thing. The trees were taken down by professional arborists in the late spring and early summer as a preventative measure to avoid damage to old monuments, markers and walls. At the same time, another dozen or more large trees across the property were “crown topped” to remove weakened limbs in trees arborists considered otherwise healthy. This work, we thought, was a great beginning to our renewed dedication to the care of our treasured urban forest. But when Hurricane Irma blew through here on September 11, more than a dozen additional trees simply could not withstand the hurricane’s extraordinarily high winds and hours of soaking rain.

The trees’ root systems, unseen but perhaps weakened by years of drought, could not hold and down they fell over several days—over roads and across family lots—damaging century-old markers and monuments, primarily on East Hill and in The Valley. Although we are thankful no one was injured, the vision of these beautiful living things lying prostrate across our grounds was sobering. We had to close our gates to the public for several days so that tree-removal experts and ground crews armed with chainsaws, shovels and rakes could clear the roads in safety.

As you can imagine, the immediate, short-term and long-term goal of the Friends is the “reforestation” of our treasured hills and valleys. Although it will be impossible to replace our lost trees with trees of the same height and girth and stature, our board moved quickly to meet this unexpected need. At our meeting on October 26, the board voted to commit approximately \$16,000 to fund the purchase, transport and planting of 20 trees in areas most affected by Hurricane Irma’s destruction. Mike Glenn of Select Trees in Crawford, Georgia, has agreed to provide these trees, mostly sturdy oak varieties, at nearly his own cost. As fall and winter are optimum planting times, we hope the new trees will be in the ground by early 2018.

Because our members are invaluable partners in all our projects, we hope you will consider sending a donation to the Friends, earmarked “trees,” as you make your year-end review of contributions to nonprofit organizations like the Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery. You will be making a contribution not only to the immediate improvement of the cemetery’s landscape but also to enhance our park-like setting for generations to come.

With my thanks,
NANCY BUNKER BOWEN
President

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*The Friends of Oconee Hill
Cemetery is a nonprofit
organization in Athens,
Georgia, that is dedicated
to building a partnership
between the cemetery and
the community by focusing
attention on the cemetery’s
beauty, historic legacy,
facilities and needs,
particularly for the
restoration and support
of the cemetery through
membership dues and
other funding.*



Preservation of Lumpkin-Cobb Fence

by Richard Lane



Since the inception of Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery in 1999, board members have been eager to help repair, stabilize and preserve the handsome, historic cast-iron fence surrounding the largest and perhaps most outstanding single lot in our cemetery. For a number of reasons, the large family plot generally referred to as the Lumpkin-Cobb or Cobb-Lumpkin lot was apparently always meant for shared use by the families of Joseph Henry Lumpkin and his son-in-law, T.R.R. Cobb.

The sheer size of the multiple-grave lot, together with its conspicuous location at the point of East Hill adjacent to the bridge that spans the Oconee River and connects the two main portions of the cemetery, makes it a prominent feature of Oconee Hill Cemetery. It is also historically significant because of several people buried there. Lumpkin was the first chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, and Cobb, a leading political figure of his day, was a Confederate general who died at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Other prominent figures who descended from these men are buried in the lot and contribute to it being an especially important spot within the cemetery. The fence that surrounds it is an architectural feature of great beauty and historic value—remarkable not only because of its massive size but also for the elegance of its design.

Created by Wood & Perot of Philadelphia, the “gold standard” of American iron design

around the time of the Civil War, the fence originally consisted of some 42 sections plus two gates, forming a perimeter of approximately 345 feet. The connection between the fence, T.R.R. Cobb and the Civil War is almost uncanny. Cobb and his father-in-law, Lumpkin, both founding trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery, purchased their shared lot when the cemetery opened in 1856, although no one was buried there until Cobb fell in battle in 1862. A few days after Cobb's burial, in December 1862, Lumpkin wrote to his daughter, Callender Lumpkin King, “The three children [who had originally been buried at home] were disinterred and buried in the same grave with him [Cobb] in the New Cemetery.”

It was Cobb himself who selected and purchased both the fence and the tall column that was to become his monument. In October of 1858, Cobb wrote to his mother, “I have a letter from N.Y. saying the monuments have been started & will be here soon. The railing is now being put up.” When this note, long overlooked, was discovered among Cobb's papers a few years ago, everyone who saw it was surprised to learn that Cobb had made such significant purchases from northern companies—the column was from C. T. Inslee of New York—only a couple of years before Georgia seceded from the Union; but he obviously wanted to buy the best, even if it meant shopping north of the Mason-Dixon line.

Even before the Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery came into being, this once majestic fence had fallen into disrepair and was in need of extensive refurbishment so as to make it presentable for the present and to preserve it for the future. Some portions of the fence had been broken, and several sections had collapsed completely. Although many pieces of the fallen sections were stored within the cemetery, some had disappeared over the years, and others were damaged beyond repair.

Initially looking at the idea of a total restoration of the fence, members of the Friends Projects Committee obtained an estimate from Robinson Iron in Alexander City, Alabama, the only company we could find that was both capable of and willing to handle the restoration. Although the estimate, a whopping \$305,200, momentarily took the wind out of our sails, we boldly submitted a grant proposal for this amount to a foundation supportive of historic preservation in 2006. Given the amount we requested, we were not surprised that our request was not funded, but we were encouraged to continue our efforts to save the fence by (1) finding a way to reduce substantially the cost of the work and (2) seeking family approval and financial support for whatever we planned to do.

We then abandoned the idea of a full restoration in favor of preservation and

(continued on p. 4)

stabilization. That is to say, we would not attempt to make the entire fence look as good as new, which would have required the costly recasting of all missing parts. Instead, we would concentrate on protecting and making the best possible use of all the ironwork that remained. The original foundation for the fence having given way in several spots (with some sections having settled deep into the ground), we knew that new foundations would have to be established for many of the posts. Portions of the fence would have to be disassembled and repositioned, but much of it could be repaired on-site, after which the entire fence could be thoroughly cleaned of rust, primed and painted. Landscaping improvements would make the fence's foundation more stable and attractive. Finally, a new "fill-in" fence could be installed to replace lost sections.

With this revised plan in mind, beginning in 2013, Lucy Erwin Allen, current president of the Trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery and a descendant of T.R.R. Cobb's brother Howell, began a letter-writing campaign urging the descendants of Joseph Henry Lumpkin and T.R.R. Cobb to make contributions to the Friends toward preservation of the fence. Encouraged by generous kick-off donations from Dr. and Mrs. Robert Cannon of Athens and Leslie B. Morris of Macon, other descendants contributed over the next few years. Especially generous gifts were a \$10,000 contribution from Frank G. Lumpkin III of Columbus and \$5,000 from the Joseph L. Hull Jr. Foundation of Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 2016, armed with approximately \$38,000 received from family members and other Friends, we submitted a grant request to the Watson-Brown Foundation and subsequently received an additional \$47,000 toward the



The complete list of donors includes: Lucy and Buddy Allen, Bonneau Ansley Jr, Shepard Bryan Ansley, Estate of William N. Benedict, Kent Hart Butler, Robert M. and Joy W. Cannon, T.R.R. Cobb Camp #97, T.R.R. Cobb House (Watson-Brown Foundation), Henry Crisp, Col. and Mrs. Robert A. Guy, Ellen Ansley Hardison, Paul Def Hicks Jr., Gerry G. Hull, Joseph L. Hull Jr. Foundation, Frank G. Lumpkin III, Leslie B. Morris and the Watson-Brown Foundation.

important task of stabilizing and preserving the fence on the Lumpkin-Cobb lot. After years of wishing, waiting and gathering both information and funds, Friends would finally be able to save this important, impressive feature of our cemetery.

We chose the artisans of St. Udio, a custom design, fabrication and installation company based in Athens, to do the ironwork for all extant sections as well as to establish (or, perhaps more precisely, re-establish) the compromised foundations for over a dozen posts. This summer they labored long and hard under the blazing sun in the cemetery or inside their only slightly cooler workshop—shifting sections to make the most effective use of all remaining parts, welding and/or reinforcing broken or weak units, pouring new foundations and resetting posts that had fallen or sunk into the dirt. By mid-September, they had expertly

and beautifully repaired all of the antique fence. Painters Mike and Angie Jakubowicz then cleaned, primed and painted it. Only landscaping work and installation of a new complementary fill-in fence across the back of the lot remain to be done. Although it is not intended to look precisely as it did in 1858, the fence on the Lumpkin-Cobb lot will by early 2018 finally be standing proud—for the first time in decades and, we hope, for centuries to come.

P.S. To family members and other interested Friends: We foresee this project running slightly over budget, and we would like to build a reserve fund to cover future repairs and repainting to insure that one of the finest and most prominent features of our cemetery is properly maintained. We welcome your tax-deductible gifts to the Friends toward "preservation of Lumpkin-Cobb fence."

UGA Experiential Learning and OHC by Helen Costantino

As co-chairs searching for connections between UGA's requirement for experiential learning and the needs of Oconee Hill Cemetery, Anna Dyer and Helen Costantino met with Dr. Garrison Bickerstaff, Division of Academic Enhancement, UGA, and two classes from UGA's Freshman College (a program for rising freshmen) in July 2017. The classes met at OHC and were charged with the task of creating a book of ideas that would encourage students and faculty to utilize OHC as a lab to fulfill their requirement. The students loved the cemetery, grasped the need for saving it and came up with a Sears Roebuck-sized book of inventive presentations. This book is kept at the Sexton's House and is available online.

The caliber and ingenuity of the freshmen was most impressive. A few of the creative ideas include documentaries, fitness and wellness programs, a biology learning lab, tree studies, bird watching, scavenger hunts/geocaching and education, a music festival, an architecture and ecology learning lab for cemetery preservation, history projects, sculpture and symbolism studies, risk-management analysis, use of QR codes and a celebration of Dia de muertos (Day of the Dead). The future of the University of Georgia is boundless with students like these. This program will be repeated next summer.

Any project undertaken would, of course, need approval by the Trustees of Oconee Hill. Appropriate and respectful activities that bring the public into the cemetery and add to the appreciation of this historic and beautiful site are always welcome.

Annual Meeting

On a beautiful fall afternoon (October 22, 2017), the Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery met in the Sexton's House for the annual meeting. Friends president Nancy Bowen convened the meeting with 50 members and guests in attendance. The minutes of the 2016 annual meeting and the annual audited financial report were reviewed and approved by the board.

Nancy shared many accomplishments of the past year, including the attractive permanent signs that have been installed throughout the cemetery to identify each section. She discussed the contributions of UGA students enrolled in Freshman College that Helen Costantino writes about in this issue of the newsletter. On April 16, Oconee Hill held a second annual Easter Sunrise Service at the Wingfield Chapel attended by many throughout the community.

FOH has a newly designed website thanks to Dan Roth of Athens Creative Design, and uses Constant Contact to send out important reminders and notices about news and events. In January, the Trustees hired Don Smith to be the

general manager of Oconee Hill. He oversaw the digital scanning of cemetery records, which are now more efficient and easy to access. The Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation presented Don and the Trustees and Friends with a preservation award in publications and programs last May.

Last winter and early spring, with help from a grant from the Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Fund, FOH financed the removal of 13 dead or diseased trees and crown topping of 15 other trees across the cemetery. Hurricane Irma brought down more than a dozen additional trees in September, causing the cemetery to be closed to the public for several days due to safety concerns. A goal for the current year is to plant numerous trees to replace those lost to disease or to the hurricane. Mary Anne Bittner Kenner, founding president of the Friends, died in March. FOH will place a bench in memory of her near the Wingfield Chapel. President Bowen then adjourned the meeting and invited members and guests to enjoy refreshments provided by Friends board members.

Oconee Hill Suffers Tree Loss from Hurricane Irma



Mother Nature made a call on Oconee Hill Cemetery on September 10 and 11 in the form of Hurricane Irma. Sadly, nearly a dozen ancient hardwood trees were felled by the storm. This exceptional weather event can cause irreparable harm to a tree-canopied burial space like Oconee Hill Cemetery. Due to safety concerns, the cemetery was closed for a few days after Hurricane Irma.



Photos by Mark Costantino.

Tree Sites Wanted

Healthy, handsome trees being essential to the character of a natural landscape cemetery like Oconee Hill, members of the Friends board hope to plant 20 trees to replace the dead or dying trees removed earlier this year or lost during the recent windstorms. As it is not wise to plant a new tree where an old one has just been removed, we have scoped out several planting spots where no tree has been standing. We are on the lookout for additional appropriate locations for new trees—especially within East Hill and Section H, areas that are looking a little bare. Do you own a lot with two empty side-by-side spaces where no burial has occurred or is planned and where you would be willing to have a tree planted? If so, please contact Richard Lane (706-543-1074 or rlane@uga.edu) to offer that spot for a young tree that can grow to become part of Oconee Hill Cemetery's wonderful "urban forest."

Donations Through November 10, 2017

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH W. BROADHURST
Fran and Richard Lane

IN MEMORY OF HARRIS BURNS
Carol and Rob Winthrop

IN MEMORY OF EVE MARIE CARSON
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IN MEMORY OF ELISE DUNKEL COSTANTINO
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IN MEMORY OF MEG GUNN DURE
Betsey and Ricky Chastain

*IN MEMORY OF DOC AND JANE ELDRIDGE,
BETH'S PARENTS*
Beth and Richard Cathey

IN MEMORY OF JACK J. HILL
Linda Rhodes

*IN MEMORY OF BESS AND BILL HOPKINS
(FOR GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION
SYSTEM)*
Alice and Noah N. Langdale Jr.
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IN MEMORY OF MAXIE HUBBARD
Helen and Mark Costantino

*IN MEMORY OF MARY ANNE BITTNER
KENNER*
Sue Boatright
Helen and Mark Costantino
Fran and Richard Lane
Carol and Rob Winthrop

IN MEMORY OF ROSEMARY MAGILL
Janet and Bob Bishop
Lynn Carithers
Fran and Richard Lane

*IN MEMORY OF THE MARBUT FAMILY
BURIED AT OCONEE HILL*
The Marbut Family

IN MEMORY OF SUE MARION
Susan U. Buck

IN MEMORY OF MAY WINGFIELD MELTON
Mr. and Mrs. W. Terry Wingfield

IN MEMORY OF KATE MIDDENDORF
Claire James

IN MEMORY OF HENRY RAMSEY
Helen and Mark Costantino

IN MEMORY OF MERLIN LYNN STANFIELD
Sally S. Allen

IN MEMORY OF ALWYN STILES
Cissy and Pete Hutchinson

IN MEMORY OF ELINOR TILLMAN TERRELL
Susan and Peter Hodgson
Dr. and Mrs. Hubert McAlexander

IN MEMORY OF JULIA HUNNICUTT TERRY
Janet and Bob Bishop
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Clifton
Cissy and Pete Hutchinson
Lana Mitchell
Ann Moseley
Sharyn Sams
W. Thomas Wilfong

*IN MEMORY OF DR. BILLUPS PHINIZY
TILLMAN*
Lynn and Bowdre P. Mays

*IN MEMORY OF LOUISE P. TILLMAN,
THOMAS M. TILLMAN SR., THOMAS M.
TILLMAN JR. AND JOHN H. TERRELL*
Thomas McKey Tillman Foundation

*IN MEMORY OF COL. ROBERT FORREST
TOWNS*
Apalachee Chapter National Society
Daughters of the American Revolution

IN MEMORY OF JUANITA MEALOR UPCHURCH
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Y. Bradley
Mr. and Mrs. Wilton C. Futch
Mr. and Mrs. Madden Hatcher Jr.

IN MEMORY OF CAROLYN WILFONG
Sally and Winston Wilfong

*IN HONOR OF LUCY ALLEN (FOR OHC
ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN)*
Dan T. and Sally Wyche Coenen Fund at
the Athens Area Community Foundation

*IN HONOR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE FRIENDS OF OCONEE HILL
CEMETERY (FOR TREE REFORESTATION
PROJECT)*
Dr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Bowen Jr.

*IN HONOR OF HELEN AND MARK
COSTANTINO*
Dr. and Mrs. Lothar Tresp

IN HONOR OF ANNA DYER
Lee and John Albright
Dr. and Mrs. Lothar Tresp

IN HONOR OF PETER HODGSON
Mr. and Mrs. Joe M. Hodgson

*IN HONOR OF CLAIRE JAMES AND
NAN LEATHERS*
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IN HONOR OF SHIRLEY BURTON STANFIELD
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TERRELL FAMILIES*
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*IN HONOR OF JOY AND TERRY
WINGFIELD FOR WINGFIELD CHAPEL*
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Donations

Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation
T.R.R. Cobb House/Watson Brown
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Sue Wolf David
Brigadier General T.R.R. Cobb Camp #97
of the Sons of Confederate Veterans
Marianne Rogers
Milton Sams

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Joseph L. Hull Jr. Foundation
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Piccadilly Farm LLC

Fidelity Charitable Grant from the Downs
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Charlotte and Ted Crowe
Donation from the Hutchinson Family
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REPAIRS AND UPKEEP OF THE CEMETERY
Terrell Family Foundation

DONATION FOR VIDEO OF THOMAS DYER
Anna Dyer

*DONATION FOR VIDEO OF SPEER FAMILY
BURIED ON WEST HILL*
Peggy Heard Galis

*DONATION FOR PRODUCING
HODGSON FAMILY VIDEO*
Tom Hodgson

DONATION TO SEXTON'S HOUSE
JoAn Salloum

Mrs. Bisson Made Generous Donation to Oconee Hill

Fantona Bisson, a generous Friend of Oconee Hill Cemetery, died April 1, 2017, one month before her 95th birthday. Although neither she nor her husband is buried in Oconee Hill Cemetery, a few years ago Mrs. Bisson made a \$25,000 donation to



the Friends in memory of her husband, stipulating that the money be used to purchase perpetual care for the graves of veterans whose plots had not previously been enrolled in the program. She asked at that time that the details of her gift not be released until after her death.

Mrs. Bisson, a University of Georgia graduate and librarian with the federal government, was the widow of Lt. William Charlie Bisson, a B-17 pilot with the U.S. Army Air Forces who was shot down over Germany on October 14, 1943, less than a year after he and the former Floy Fantona Fowler were wed. Lt. Bisson had grown up in our cemetery. His father, Bert G. Bisson Sr., served as sexton from 1927 to 1960. Prior to that, William's uncle, James H. Bisson, had been sexton from 1897 to 1927; and his brother, Bert G.

Bisson Jr., would serve as sexton from 1960 to 1983.

Lt. Bisson is not buried in Oconee Hill, but a cenotaph (a monument erected in honor of a person whose remains are elsewhere) explains that he is buried in Lorraine American Cemetery in St. Avold, France, where he rests among his fallen comrades. Having heard that many veterans' graves in Oconee Hill Cemetery, especially those predating establishment of the cemetery's perpetual care trust fund in 1915, were not enrolled in the perpetual care program, Mrs. Bisson gave her donation in

2013, the 70th anniversary of her husband's death, to purchase perpetual care for the graves of veterans and their spouses. In accepting her gift, the Board of Trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery offered special pricing of \$250 per grave space so that 100 graves could be enrolled and stipulated that this special pricing would be extended for all other veterans' graves not yet a part of the perpetual care program.

Based on research conducted by Nancy K. O'Hare and others with the Center for Geospatial Research, Department of Geography, University of Georgia, ongoing at the time of Mrs. Bisson's donation, we now know that some 90 veterans' graves in 79 lots are yet to be enrolled in perpetual care. We challenge other Friends—especially those who are members of veterans' associations—to help us raise another \$22,500 to care for all of the veterans' graves throughout our cemetery. We also gratefully acknowledge the sacrifice of Lt. William C. Bisson and the generosity of his widow and our Friend, the late Fantona Fowler Bisson.



Left: Lt. William C. Bisson with his wife Fantona Fowler Bisson. Above: Cenotaph of Lt. Bisson, who is not buried at Oconee Hill but this marker was erected in memory of him whose remains are buried in St. Avold, France.

OCONEE HILL CEMETERY RAISES \$1.5 MILLION TO LAUNCH \$2 MILLION CAMPAIGN

With widespread community support, Oconee Hill Cemetery has

launched a campaign to restore Athens-Clarke County's public cemetery. The cemetery has raised more than \$1.5 million of its \$2 million campaign goal for repairs and restoration under the

leadership of honorary chair Terry Wingfield Sr. and co-chairs Buddy and Lucy Allen and Tom Wilfong. The cemetery marked its 160th anniversary last year. A comprehensive assessment by the Chicora Foundation concluded that many structures in its historic sections are in need of repair, including monuments, steps and retaining walls. Roads throughout the cemetery need resurfacing. There is almost no water service in the cemetery. In response, the Campaign for Oconee Hill Cemetery is raising funds to restore what is deteriorating at Oconee Hill.

"Oconee Hill Cemetery has touched almost everybody in this community. It's been taken care of for generations, but it needs our help now," said campaign co-chair and Board of Trustees chair Lucy Allen. "If we don't take care of it, I don't know who will. It's up to us."

Long-term, the cemetery needs a total of \$3 million in repairs and support and has established the 1856 Society to encourage bequests and other planned gifts. The campaign co-chairs are joined by steering committee members Sue Boatright, Devereux Burch, Janie Bush, Bob Carson, Mark and Helen Costantino, Greta Covington, Mack Guest, Mary Hardman, Kathy Hoard, Tom Hodgson, Cissy Hutchinson, Richard and Fran Lane, Charlotte Marshall, Helen Mills, Corky Sams, Joe Tillman and campaign consultant Jeff Jowdy. The steering committee emphasizes that the success of the campaign will depend on support from the entire Athens-Clarke County community. Oconee Hill belongs to all of us. For more information, contact campaign coordinator Marsha Allen at mallen@uga.edu or (706) 543-6262, or visit oconeehillcemetery.com



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VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE 2017



On a beautiful day, Kathy Hoard, vice president of FOH, welcomed everyone to the annual Veterans Day observance on Friday, November 10, at 11 a.m. As Veterans Day fell on a Saturday, OH Cemetery marked the observance on Friday. Tom Hodgson, also a board member of FOH, recognized veterans in attendance—in particular two men who fought in World War II: Charles McMullen and Hugh Baker. Dr. Bob Winstead, executive pastor of First United Methodist Church of Athens, gave an invocation. The University of Georgia's Army ROTC posted the colors. The Oconee County High School chorus, under the direction of Katie Williams, sang the National Anthem.

Gib Johnston, also a member of the FOH board, introduced speaker Major Antonio M. Pittman. Major Pittman currently serves as assistant professor of military science for the University of Georgia Army ROTC "Bulldog" Battalion. Major Pittman is a native of Latta, South Carolina. He graduated from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, with a bachelor of science degree and holds a master of arts degree in management and leadership from Webster University. Major Pittman is a graduate of the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course and Captain's Career Course and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College Officer course. His assignments have included duty at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and deployment to Mosul, Iraq, and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he served as Land Forces' Division Operations Officer and Military Training Advisor. Major Pittman's comments were inspirational. Following his address, Jeff Wood played "Il Silenzio" on his trumpet. The Oconee County chorus closed the program with the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and asked the audience to join them with "America the Beautiful."



*Top: Major Pittman addresses the Veterans Day crowd.
Bottom: UGA Army ROTC posts the colors. Photos by
Joshua L. Jones, Athens Banner-Herald*