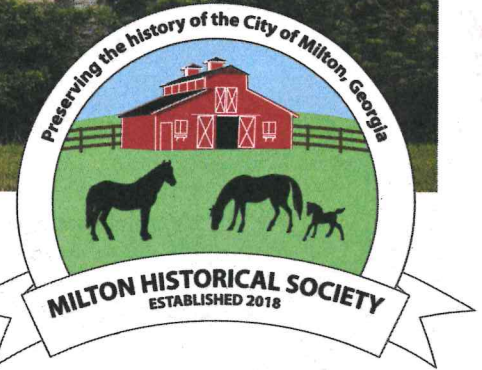


MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Establishes History Center in Heart of Crabapple



The newly created Milton Historical Society has established its headquarters at 12660 Crabapple Road, Suite 105 (in the rear) next to the space formerly occupied by Scoops Ice Cream Shop in the Crabapple Market Center. According to the society's mission statement, it was formed earlier this year to "collect, preserve, interpret, and promote the unique history of the city of Milton through accurate biographical, architectural, and historical information, markers, artifacts, photographs, and videos."

Former Milton City Councilman Bill Lusk, who serves as president of the non-profit organization, said the group was formed by community members due to the excitement created with the installation of 29 historical markers throughout Milton.

Lusk said, "The Marker Program acknowledges places and persons central to an understanding of Milton's past. They seek to identify aspects of our history that helped define who we are today and the character that we want to promote."

"As we researched these sites, we invariably came up with photographs of those who were associated with them," Lusk continued. "One thing led to another, and the information began to flow in."

In addition to the markers, other areas of interest have also been recognized that contribute to Milton's history. They involve personal interviews with long-time residents, a program initiated by the Alpharetta Historical Society, along with collecting and archiving photos, genealogies, and burial records.

The group also plans to hold presentations on the history of the city, such as its roots as home to the Cherokee Nation, Milton County during the Civil War, and cotton. "There's no limit to where we can go to tell the story of this area," Lusk said. "It's wide open."

As the group continues its research, it is asking for community involvement, which includes joining the group, participating in interviews, and providing historic documents and artifacts.

Vice President Bob Meyers, who wrote the 2012 best seller *Barns of Old Milton County*, has taken on the agricultural history of the area, which included pig and cotton farming, sausage making, brick making, and saw milling. Meyers has family roots in the area and will continue to make presentations on their contributions to local history.

"There are many of the local families around here that have historical information concerning the area," Meyers said. "We look forward to connecting with them to reveal the rich history that lies dormant in the attics of those residents."

The Society website is MiltonGAHistoricalSociety.com. On it, you will find a link to the interactive map of the historical markers, an online catalog of historical documents, and information about joining. You may also contact them at MiltonHistoricalSociety@gmail.com or 678-458-4208. Membership is open to everyone regardless of residency.

