



P.O. BOX 5128
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31906

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Remember Riverdale-Porterdale on Georgia Gives Day November 13

On the heels of great success in 2012, the GEORGIA CENTER FOR NONPROFITS (GCN) is kicking off its second annual Georgia Gives Day on Wednesday, November 13, 2013. This online fundraiser will benefit participating local nonprofits across the state, as Georgians come together for a 24-hour day of giving.

Georgia Gives Day brings the state together as one community to help build capacity for local charities throughout Georgia. In 2012, the inaugural Georgia Gives Day brought more than 1,300 participating nonprofits together with nearly 7,000 unique donors in one day of giving via the Georgia Gives Day website. To date, Georgia Gives has raised more than \$900,000 for these nonprofits.

“We are excited and grateful for the outpouring of support we’ve already received for this year’s event,” said Karen Beavor, president and CEO of GCN.

R-PCF President Margaret Zollo commented, “We participated in the first annual GA Gives Day last year and received more than \$1,500 from 15 donors. We felt this was a good fit for our group and hope that the program in 2013 will prove to be even more beneficial to us. Please consider donating on November 13 and supporting our efforts!”

All nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) designation are invited to participate free of charge. Visiting www.gagivesday.org makes donating easy by enabling online donations by credit card or e-check.



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

The Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is grateful for the generosity of these donors. The list covers those made from January, 2013-June, 2013.

In Memory of Jack M. Averett, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Bickerstaff
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Buck
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Childs
Dr. and Mrs. John H. Deaton
Mrs. Ruth H. Evert
Ms. Lamar Fletcher

Mr. and Mrs. Claude C. Fox
Dr. and Mrs. Cecil C. Hudson
Mrs. John W. Humes
Mrs. Melinda Hunter
Dr. A. J. Kravtin
Mrs. Joan Kravtin

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Page
Mr. Harry W. Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Staples
Mrs. T. Earl Taylor
Mrs. Joseph P. Zollo

In Honor of Margaret G. Zollo

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks M. Crenshaw

Personal Profile: Bragg Smith

In an amazing act of courage and selflessness, local citizen Bragg Smith died on September 30, 1903, trying to save the life of another. The scene was Eleventh Street, where ground was being excavated for sewer lines. City Engineer and Public Services Director Robert L. Johnson was overseeing the work, when the trench suddenly caved in, completely burying him. Bragg Smith, a 32 year old laborer, jumped in to save Johnson, but both men ultimately perished.

Smith was buried in Porterdale Cemetery. As a means of demonstrating the admiration of the general public for his act of bravery, the City of Columbus installed a marble shaft above the grave, bearing the inscription, "Honor and fame from no condition rise. Act well your part, there all the honor lies." At that time and for many years afterward, Columbus was said to be the only city in the United States where the local government erected a monument honoring a black man.

An Historic Marker describing this incident was originally placed on Tenth Avenue near the Porterdale entrance, but was moved in 2012 to Victory Drive across from Porterdale. Hopefully, the marker can make a final move to a location where more people can easily and safely read it and be educated and inspired by Bragg Smith's heroism.

The text of the historic marker reads:

HERO'S MEMORIAL

North of this marker in the Porterdale Cemetery is the grave of Bragg Smith over which the City of Columbus erected a marble memorial to commemorate an outstanding deed of heroism. The text reads: "Erected by the City of Columbus to mark the resting place of Bragg Smith, who died on September 30, 1903, in the heroic but fruitless effort to rescue the city engineer from a caving excavation on Eleventh Street. 'Honor and fame from no condition rise. Act well your part, there all the honor lies.'"

Volunteer Opportunities Available

Do you have a little free time?

Do you like local history...genealogy...research...?

Have we got a job for you!

Prefer sharing your time inside... or outside?? We're flexible!

The Foundation has a list of volunteer activities ranging from record-keeping to landscaping, from techno-genius to techno-novice! We're even open to your suggestion of how you might improve what we do and how we do it.

Call Deborah, 706-653-4579, to check out the possibilities!

Personal Profile Update

P.S. Our June, 2008 newsletter included a 'Personal Profile' on Dr. Roland Bird Daniel, who is buried in Riverdale. It described his distinguished career as Superintendent of the Columbus Public Schools as well as his national recognition in the field of secondary school vocational education.

His granddaughter, Ann Cox Strub, read the article and also read about the Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation's efforts to erect columns at the entrances and exits of all three cemeteries. She made a significant contribution in honor of Dr. Daniel to build a pair of columns at Riverdale. At the exit drive, bronze plaques now bear the following inscription:

*Given
 in loving memory of
 Dr. Roland Bird Daniel
 Superintendent of Columbus Public Schools
 from 1909 to 1937
 by
 his daughter
 the late Evelyn Cox Daniel
 and
 his granddaughter
 Ann Cox Strub
 2008*

An artist of some note, Mrs. Strub and her husband, Richard L. Strub, M.D., divide their time between New Orleans in winter and Cashiers, NC, in the summer. Her generosity did not stop with the columns. She has also given a handsome portrait of Dr. Daniel which hangs in the museum area of the Riverdale Building.

Now there's another link in this relationship chain: our former Board member Barbara Peebles was employed by the Columbus Public Schools to work in the office of Dr. Daniel immediately following her accelerated graduation from high school. Seeing his portrait displayed recently in the cemetery office brought memories of that first job, when Barbara put to good use her talents at shorthand and typing in the Superintendent's office, then located in the basement of the Columbus Public Library on upper Broadway near Mott's Green. Barbara worked there for two years, and found Dr. Daniel to be a wonderful boss and truly a gentleman.

How fortunate we are to have all these treasures!



Dales Society of the Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation

Organized in February, 2012, The Dales Society seeks to promote and further the mission of the Foundation, as stated on the membership application form:

to sustain and enhance the beauty and dignity of Riverdale, Porterdale, and East Porterdale Cemeteries; to emphasize the shared heritage of the region while embracing the cultural and ethnic diversity of the families represented here; and to promote educational efforts highlighting the historical significance of those buried here.

These are lofty ambitions and the Dales Society is making a difference in the Foundation's efforts to meet them. One way is by providing financial support through collection of annual membership dues. There are five membership categories:

Level 1 -- \$15.00

Level 2 -- \$30.00

Level 3 -- \$50.00

Level 4 -- \$100.00

Level 5 -- Other (Any amount the donor chooses)

Response to the announcement of the Dales Society in February of 2012 was very encouraging. Since then membership contributions have complemented the support of generous donors, businesses, and local foundations in proving the major source of income for the Foundation. These funds have provided for the gala Homecoming Celebration in April of last year, reprinting the brochure, and recent plantings on the garden side of the renovated Riverdale Building. We would like to see the Dales Society become engaged in educational activities, particularly genealogical research opportunities for families of those buried in the three cemeteries.

If you are not a member of the Dales Society, we urge you to join; if you are already a member, we urge you to invite someone else to join. Membership forms are available in the Riverdale Building, or you may request a form via the *Contact Us* page of the website, www.riverdaleporterdale.org, or by calling the cemeteries office at 706-653-4579 and it will be mailed to you.

RIVERDALE-PORTERDALE CEMETERY FOUNDATION, INC.

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