



the **Vineville Gazette**

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Vineville Neighborhood Association

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Letter from the President

by Cindy Glance

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The Vineville Neighborhood has had a busy and productive spring! We had our first Easter egg hunt as well as our second movie night. Both events brought out large numbers of VNA members as well as residents of our neighboring communities. The Easter egg hunt and the movie night both took place at our own Oak Haven Park which has proven itself to a wonderful asset to our neighborhood. While the majority of the park is to remain an open green space, there are still numerous plans in the works including benches, picnic tables, a walkway, and space for playground games. I look forward to seeing the planned improvements become a reality we can all enjoy.

As to what else the VNA has been up to, I'm going to refer you to the articles within. Our social chair Dina Deason keeps us all inspired with her ideas and enthusiasm for the Vineville community; Lars Anderson reminds of the responsibility we have to keep our streets free from trash; Jim Stallings tells a great story straight from the Big House; and finally we have a guest article from Lauren Mauldin from the Historic Macon Foundation.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Gazette. I hope to see you out and about in spite of the summer heat!

2015 VNA Board

Officers

President—Cindy Glance
Vice President—Stephen Lawson
Treasurer—Jim Stallings
Secretary—Eleta Morrison
Historian—Barbara Stephens

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Property—Lewis Piassick
Membership—Maria Andrade
Social—Dina Deason
Monthly Clean-Up—Barbara Stephens & Lars Anderson
VineIngle Liaison—Lars Anderson

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Nora McFarland
Cindy Glance
Dina Deason
Lars Anderson
David Quackenbush

New Neighbor?

Has a new neighbor moved onto your street? If so, please let us know. Just email us the street address, and we'll and we'll hand deliver a new-member packet!

vinevilleneighborhood@gmail.com

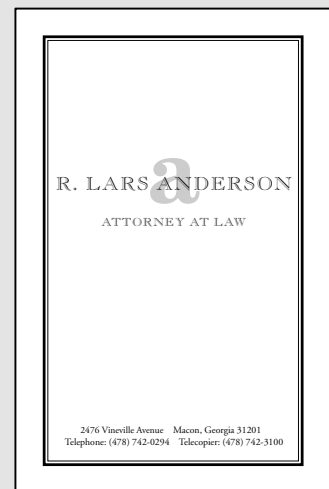
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Tour of Homes Fundraiser Essential to VNA Events

by Dina Deason

Although it might seem early to mention Christmas, the VNA Christmas tour of homes committee actually began the task of planning this biennial event several months ago. We have exciting things planned for this year's tour of homes and hope that you will attend or even volunteer during this event.



The Christmas Tour of Homes is VNA's only fundraiser. With the proceeds from the 2013 tour of homes, the Vineville Neighborhood Association has done incredible work. We hosted a Spring Stroll in Ingleside Village, organized wine tastings at Off the Vine, held family movie



nights at the park and organized an Easter Egg Hunt for the Vineville community. There have been many ladies night outs and a fantastic Christmas party at the Museum of Arts and Sciences where members could view the beautiful Christmas trees that had been decorated for The Festival of Trees.



In addition to funding VNA social functions, the proceeds from the tour allowed us to fight the neighborhood nuisance of Bateman and Wade and also organize monthly neighborhood clean-up events. The VNA donated and partnered with Historic Macon to create a façade loan program for our neighborhood. We also sponsored the 2015 Secret Garden tour hosted by Hay House. The VNA also donated to Strong Towers Fellowship, a neighborhood church that is fighting poverty and blight in a bordering neighborhood. Our website was also upgraded with funds from this event. I am sure I have left something, but I hope you can see how important the funds raised by the Christmas tours



of homes are to the VNA. We have been busy! I am not sure there is another neighborhood in Macon that can say that they have accomplished as much as we have from donations funds mostly given by our neighbors and friends. We are all lucky to live in a neighborhood that is actively working to build a great community right here in Historic Vineville.

If you have not done so yet, please visit the new website, like us on Facebook and share our neighborhood with your friends and families. Let's show Macon that Vineville, one of the most diverse neighborhood of Macon, can unite together to make a difference.

If you would like to join the Christmas Tour of Homes committee or put you home on this year's tour, please email me at dina.crownover@gmail.com.

Macon Found To Have Cleanest Car Interiors In Nation!

by Lars Anderson

The irrefutable conclusion of a scientific study conducted by a panel of one is that Macon has the cleanest car interiors in the nation. This “panel of one” reached this conclusion after a four-week analysis of the prodigious amount of litter in about the heavily traveled roads that cross Historic Vineville.



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Clearly, when faced with traveling more than one block in the company of disposable waste – be it a cigar or cigarette package or a styrofoam dinner plate (complete with uneaten food) – in the interior of his car, the Macon rider prefers to dump the offending item(s) at the next stop sign or traffic control device to maintain the appearance of his car interior. Additional evidence suggests that some riders cannot even wait to the next intersection to maintain a clean interior – opting instead to just drop the detritus mid-block. Such evidence includes \$7.00 in cash found in the gutter on Pierce Avenue and a bowling ball (yes, a bowling ball... new, sealed in plastic, and in the box) in the weeds along Vineville Avenue.

This study was conducted by Lars Anderson (i.e. the “panel of one”), who had much better things to do except that his stationary bike broke and he had to resort to walking for exercise for a month. During this four week period, Lars adopted the “Stephen Reichert Litter Reduction Plan” whereby one takes a Kroger sack and fills it with litter on his or her daily walk. In his study, Lars found that one sack is not near enough for a forty minute walk, but that for one’s personal sanity it is best to institute a three-bag maximum for each walk (especially if you find a bowling ball).

Vineville residents are encouraged to participate in the “Stephen Reichert Litter Reduction Plan” (from 1 to 3 bags) as it appears that Macon residents are bound and determined to hold on to the well-deserved award for cleanest car interiors in the nation.

Persian Literature, The Beatles and Vineville

by Jim Stallings

You may ask "What does this mean, what does it have to do with us and who really cares?" It's a good question but it's also a good story.

Back in 1970, English musician Eric Clapton was in love. It was a bit one sided but he was in love nevertheless. A friend of Eric's had given him a book of Persian Literature that included Nizami Ganjavil's "The Story of Layla and Majnu" and it got Eric's attention. It is a story of a young man who fell in love with a beautiful, unavailable, woman and went crazy because he couldn't marry her. To Eric Clapton, "Layla" happened to be Pattie Boyd, who happened to be the wife of his friend (and Beatle) George Harrison.

Pattie was a model (a rather hot one) who met George on the film set of "A Hard Day's Night" and whether it was the fame or the fortune or both, he was somehow able to convince her to marry him. Thank God for that because one of the greatest rock albums ever recorded was the result of this mess.

In 1970, Eric assembled a group of musicians and named the band Derek and the Dominos. They traveled to Miami and recorded an album which would become "Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs." One evening, while taking a break from recording, Eric went to see The Allman Brothers Band who were playing a concert nearby. Eric was a big fan of Duane and Duane was a big fan of Eric and because of the mutual admiration Duane headed back over to the studio and loaned some guitar work to Derek and the Dominos. Duane's involvement is well known in music circles but if you pick up a copy of that legendary album, listen carefully to the slide guitar. That was Duane Allman doing what Duane Allman did best! When you hear the song "Layla", the famous opening riff was Duane's also. That bit of Duane Allman's Gold Top Les Paul guitar work made "Layla" one of the most recognized songs in rock and roll history.

Pattie divorced George in 1977 and married Eric in 1979. In 1977 Eric wrote another love song for Pattie titled "Wonderful Tonight" but I guess love songs were not the key to a happy marriage. They finally divorced in 1988. The Gold Top Les Paul survived all of this drama and is on display at The Allman Brothers Big House Museum. Go by and take a look!



Macon is Preservation

by Lauren Mauldin, Historic Macon Foundation Loan Fund Manager

With over 6,000 historic resources and 14 National Register Historic Districts, Macon is teeming with preservation. The historic Vineville neighborhood directly contributes to maintaining this unique historic identity. Since 2012, VNA and Historic Macon Foundation have partnered to encourage preservation efforts through low interest façade loans to enhance the exterior appearance of homes within the Vineville neighborhood. Past home improvement projects supported by the loans include landscaping, window repairs, and roofing replacements.



One \$5,000 Vineville façade loan is still available to residents. Eligible uses of the loan include exterior painting, exterior repairs to masonry, stairs, porches, siding, roofing repairs, professional design service fees, and permanent landscaping. The interest rate for the loan is 3% and fully amortized and repayable over 5 years with a monthly payment of \$90.96. If you are interested in applying for the façade loan, please contact our office for an application; for more information contact me at 478-742-5084 or lmauldin@historicmacon.org.

Historic Macon’s mission is to “revitalize our community through preserving architecture and sharing history.” Our largest revitalization effort is in Beall’s Hill, where we rehabilitate historic properties or build new construction to encourage revitalization throughout the neighborhood. This work, made possible with generous support from The Knight Foundation, has even gained attention from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Macon is now the statewide leader for the number of historic tax credit projects—greatly surpassing both Savannah and Atlanta. To share our history, the Historic Macon Foundation hosts monthly Salon series ranging from walking tours to talks with local historians. Our upcoming “Macon History” summer series features topics such as the history of Bowden Golf Course and NuWay. Currently, Historic Macon is accepting nominations for endangered places or structures that are threatened by neglect or possible demolition to be placed on our new “Macon’s Fading Five” list. Our goal is to develop viable strategies that will support preservation efforts for these historic properties. If you know of a threatened property, please submit a nomination through our website.

Ultimately, preservation is more than saving historic buildings. It’s about preserving the intricate stories woven into the very fabric of buildings. We’re committed to preserving and sharing these stories, but we’re not alone in these endeavors. Not only do we have a strong core of members and volunteers passionate about preservation, but residents throughout the community contribute to preservation efforts on a daily basis. Macon is preservation. For more information about Historic Macon Foundation and how you can support our mission, please visit our website at www.historicmacon.org.



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