

RAILROAD TIES

The Official Newsletter of the Evans County Historical Society

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue 5 - Summer 2017

Editorial

*The Historical
Society Gets Social
(Media)*
Page 1

Show and Tell

*A Sampling of
Evans County
Artifacts*
Page 2

Forwarding History

*Nancy Kicklighter
Hendricks*
Page 3

<http://www.evanscountvhistoricalsocietv.weebly.com>

The Historical Society Gets Social (Media)

Dear Reader,

Summer is upon us and it's time for another meeting of the Evans County Historical Society. This quarter's meeting is entitled "Show and Tell - A Sampling of Evans County Artifacts". For more information on the event, please see the writeup on page 2 of this issue.

What I really want to tell you about today is the exciting leap our historical society has recently made in the world of the internet and social media. This past April 17th our new website and Facebook page went online. A couple of weeks later, we created a Twitter page to help drive traffic to those media platforms. While our website and Twitter pages are slowly growing, Facebook has soared. We've had scores of page views and likes, and over 2,000 people reached and post engagements in total. Please join us online. We can be reached at our website: <http://www.evanscountyhistoricalsociety.weebly.com>; on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EvansCountyHistoricalSociety/>; on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/EvansCoHistory>; and at our email address evanscountyhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Donald Allen Jones
Editor

Show and Tell

The Evans County Historical Society's (ECHS) next meeting will be Thursday, June 15, 6:30 pm at the Evans County Veterans Center. The program will be "Show and Tell – A Sampling of Evans County Artifacts." Attendees are asked to bring historical items to

display and tell about. These items could be photographs, books, artwork, maps, decorative art, collectables, antiques, furniture or miscellaneous items relating to family or county history.

According to ECHS president, Dr. Curtis Hames, Jr., "This should be one of our most interesting programs, and I'm sure some great

items will turn up at our own Antiques Roadshow!" ECHS board member Darin McCoy will serve as emcee for the event.

Nancy Kicklighter Hendricks:

The Mother of Claxton



Nancy Kicklighter Hendricks, was born on February 27, 1839 to Andrew and Nancy Thomas Kicklighter. On March 24, 1859, she married Glenn Francis Hendricks and they had one son, William Remer Hendricks, on January 29, 1860. A year later on September 9, 1861, Glenn joined Co. D. of the 61st Volunteer Infantry and served during the War Between the States.

After the War, many changes came to our area. Possibly the most important change, from an economic standpoint, was the rush to build railroads in Georgia. With the boom coming in the 1890s, William Remer offered to dig a well and pump for free so trains could use it for water. This first step in building a town which would initially be called Hendricks, before being changed to Claxton, was supported by Nancy Hendricks. The town was incorporated in April 1894.

The Hendricks family's contributions to Claxton and our county cannot be overstated. Nancy

Hendricks' support for the creation of Claxton, her drive to see the town created and her efforts afterward, gave her the nickname "The Mother Of Claxton". She died on October 1, 1930, and is buried in Hagan, Georgia in Brewton Cemetery. Her obituary described her thus:

Mrs. Hendricks is known as the mother of Claxton, for it was this good lady, who forty years ago, conceived the idea of building a city on her farm acres, and for a number of years she diligently promoted the building of the city, and she lived to see the fruits of her work one of the modern and most progressive little cities in this section of Georgia...

...Mrs. Hendricks was over 91 years old, having been born February 27, 1839. She was Miss Nancy Kicklighter before her marriage seventy-one years ago to the late Glenn F. Hendricks of Tattnall County, Georgia. After their marriage they resided in Tattnall county, where Mrs. Hendricks had been one of the

foremost business women. Mrs. Hendricks joined the Primitive Baptist Church in her young womanhood. Her strong Christian character (sic) has been an inspiration to all who knew her and she numbered her friends by the score.

- A History of Evans County Georgia by Dorothy Durrence Simmons, pg. 315