

RAILROAD TIES

The Official Newsletter of the Evans County Historical Society

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Evans County Day

Dear Reader,

One hundred and two years ago our ancestors came together to form a new county in this, our Great State of Georgia. Named for Clement Anselm Evans, a State senator, Confederate general, author and minister, Evans County has grown into a place rich in history and heritage. We can name able entrepreneurs, committed State and Federal politicians, famed doctors, and prolific authors among our citizenry. Events of great historical importance, such as Mrs. Josie Mae Rogers' election as Evans County's (and Georgia's) first female sheriff, fill our history.

This Thursday, August 11 from 11:30-1:30pm, we will meet on the courthouse lawn to celebrate Evans County Day. On that day Evans Countians will gather to enjoy good food and great fellowship as we honor our county and her people. It will, as always, be a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy our common history. I cannot wait to see you all there.

Sincerely,

Donald Allen Jones
Editor

President's Thoughts

In 2014 a year long Centennial Celebration was held to celebrate the creation of Evans County. This year's celebration of Evans County's 102nd anniversary is the Evans County Historical Society's way of continuing the celebration of Evans County's history. The ECHS feels that the celebration and study of Evans County's past will help the citizens of the county be better able to understand how the present came to be.

Sincerely,

Curt Hames,
President

The Evans County Courthouse



The Evans County Courthouse, situated on Courthouse Square in Claxton, was built in 1923 by acclaimed architect J.J. Baldwin and West Point Ironworks. Prior to the building of the courthouse, local government responsibilities were handled in the White Building, built by Mr. R. King White and later owned by Mrs. Ben Daniel.

The courthouse is two stories tall, and is an example of the Neoclassical design, with large Tuscan columns on the front and a cupola with columns, clock and dome located on the roof. In 2003, the bell tower was restored.

Our courthouse has been the site of both infamy and honor since its erection. In 1940, an attempt to burn down the courthouse was thwarted after a tip had reached the mayor at the time. In 1994, the American Legion installed a monument to our local veterans, and as of 2008, our annual Evans County Day celebrations have been held on the courthouse lawn.