



LIGHT notes

October • 2012

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Updates from "The Light in the Mountains"

Dedication Ceremony Honors TFS Benefactors

Tallulah Falls School's upper school expansion project has reached yet another important milestone as the completely renovated and refurbished first and second floors have been occupied by students and faculty. The first through third floors are now complete and are in full use by the students.

The entire upper school expansion project is being funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, but the project received a significant boost due to the generosity of two General Federation of Women's Clubs - Georgia members, and one former club.

Over one hundred guests, faculty, staff and TFS Student Ambassadors recently gathered for the dedication of the first, second and third floors of the upper school academic complex. The festivities took place on Wednesday, September 19 following the traditional September meeting of the TFS Board of Trustees and immediately preceding the annual Trustees Tea.

After a moving prayer of dedication by alumnus Rev. James Turpin, President and Head of School Larry A. Peevy began a brief dedication ceremony by announcing that each of the three floors of the newly completed upper school complex would, from this point on, be known as Oakes Hall, Willard Hall, and Tucker Hall, respectively.

The First Floor - Oakes Hall

A gift from the estate of Ella Rae Oakes toward the upper school academic expansion project was made possible through the efforts of Mary Ruth Kimsey, the East Point Woman's Club, Tomie Pendergrass, and Tom Dunn, executor of the Ella Rae Oakes estate.



Ella Rae Oakes
1913-2007

Mrs. Oakes was a member of the Dahlonega Woman's Club for over 50 years. She held offices at both the district and state levels and served as president of her local club. Mrs. Oakes was also an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was the first recipient of the Magnificent Seven Gold Award.

Mrs. Oakes and her husband, Izaac Newton Oakes, came to Dahlonega to teach at North Georgia College. In addition to her involvement in the General Federation of Women's Clubs - Georgia, Mrs. Oakes was a supporter of her local library, the Red Cross, her church and all of the student activities at North Georgia College and State University. She also loved garden parties and personally hosted many teas at her beautiful Dahlonega home.

Oakes Hall is home to the foreign language classrooms, the graphic arts and journalism classroom, and the faculty lounge.

The Second Floor - Willard Hall

"Miss Lucy" as she is affectionately known, has donated in excess of one million dollars to Tallulah Falls School, most of which has been given over the last few years. In 2011 the new middle school was named *The Lucy A. Willard Middle School Academic Complex* in honor of her tremendous generosity. Mrs. Willard has also funded one hundred TFS perpetual scholarships at \$2,000 each. Her latest gift to Tallulah Falls School helped to fund the upper school academic expansion project.

Mrs. Willard has been a loyal friend of Tallulah Falls School and one of its most generous benefactors for many years. She recently began her 30th year as an active



Mrs. Lucy Willard

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member of the Atlanta Woman's Club and has held several offices, including past president. She also served as the 5th District GFWC-Georgia president. Mrs. Willard was a distinguished member of the Tallulah Falls School Board of Trustees for 18 years, and is currently an honorary trustee.

Willard Hall is home to the upper school science classrooms and labs, mathematics classrooms, leadership and culinary arts classroom, and the culinary arts lab.

The Third Floor - Tucker Hall

The third floor is dedicated in honor of the Tucker Woman's Club (1948-2010). For over four decades the Tucker Woman's Club was a loyal and faithful supporter of Tallulah Falls School. Primarily through the efforts of Mrs. Evelyn Morrison, longtime treasurer for the club, and Mrs. Shari Carter, past president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs - Georgia, the Tucker Woman's Club continues to support the mission of TFS through this major gift to the upper school academic building expansion.

Tucker Hall is the new home to the upper school English classrooms, social studies and history classrooms, the art studio and gallery, and the upper school counselor's office.



▲ Attendees representing Tucker Woman's Club

Left to right: Linda Mote, Becky Schaaf, Elizabeth Wells, Laura Colden, Kim Sekulow, GeorgeAnn Hoffman.

▲ Attendees with the Dahlonega Woman's Club

Standing, left to right: GFWC-Georgia President Shirene Daniell, Eris Floyd, Sue Neil, Lana Hootselle, Karoline deJarnette, Leah Ratzel, Nancy Goodyear, TFS student Nicole Clymer.
Seated, left to right: Trish Hawkins and Joan Sackett.



▲ Attendees with the East Point Woman's Club

Standing, left to right: Barbara Talley, Frankie Burkes, Martha McElhannon, Carolyn Barrett, Mary Ruth Kimsey, Kathy Vaughn.
Seated: East Point Woman's Club President Florene Fowler, Tomie Pendergrass, Lennie Sigmon, Mary Smith.

