



# Thomas Center

ASSOCIATES INC.

www.ThomasCenterAssociates.org • P.O. Box 12752, Gainesville, Florida 32601-9997

OCTOBER 2024

## 2024 LIGHTING PROJECT COMPLETE

Our big project this year was to begin improving the lighting inside the Thomas Center. We have some incredible museum rooms but the lighting has meant they're not easily seen. We started with the main Hallway and replaced four plain fixtures, that looked like closet lights, with gorgeous glass pendants. In the Parlor we removed those same porcelain fixtures and replaced them with brass chandeliers and glass shades. In the lobby we also removed the 1970's track lighting and replaced it with recessed directional can lights to shine on the informational wall displays. We have more areas to tackle and, thanks to your donations, can continue the effort.



## 2024 JINGLE BELL BALL

Mark your calendars for this year's Jingle Bell Ball.

**Friday, December 6** will be our annual holiday Dinner Dance from 6:30-10:30pm with a meal catered by Tosh and live entertainment by *Moon Dog*. An email invitation will go out around November 1st to those who've attended in the past several years. We have a 150-person limit so don't delay in purchasing your tickets through Eventbrite.

## GARDEN NEWS

After many years of saying the Associates need to hire our own Gardener for the Thomas Center Gardens, we finally did it. **Bruce Cavey**, of Gardener Extraordinaire, began in May of this year. The Associates are so far asking Bruce to spend approximately 10 hours per month, which hasn't gone very far due to the level of work needed. This may soon change as John Weber, Parks Operations Manager for the city



of Gainesville, has made a major change. Instead of hiring outside landscape companies to care for the Thomas Center Gardens, John decided to have a city crew take over the job. This will no doubt make a big difference as these are more knowledgeable people and under the direct supervision of the Parks Department. Thank you, John Weber!

## INVENTORY AND CLEANING

Board member Ben Smith has achieved for the Associates something never done before. He photographed and organized all 450 TCA-own items into a Photographic Inventory. Board member Alora Haynes got us started deep cleaning rooms where our treasures are displayed. A crew of six board members started with the Parlor and Lobby and will continue the effort in the fall.

Thank you for your continued and generous support!

With kind regards,

*Brenda Rainsberger*  
President 2024

### TCA Officers

Brenda Rainsberger, *President*  
Ellyn Radson, *President Elect*  
Pamela Morse, *Secretary*  
Nancy Webb, *Treasurer*

### TCA Board Members

Sharon Connell  
Anne Gilroy  
Alora Haynes  
Clay Kallman

Bonnie Lykes  
Gardiner Myers  
Darla Raines  
Judy Sayre  
Ben Smith

Libby Smith  
Caeli Tolar

**TCA Emeritus Members**  
Tallulah Brown

Rie Burton  
Sandy Kramer  
Claire Lamar  
Cyndee Park  
Brenda Robinson

# 2023 Membership

THOMAS CENTER ASSOCIATES INC.

*Oops! We're still getting our systems down to recognize online donations. The following members were omitted from our February 2024 Newsletter. Our apologies!*

**\$500 MAJOR DONOR**

Mai Dean

George Rafferty

Marcia Weisel Leary

Suzzane Newman

Stacy Beal

**\$250 BENEFACTOR**

Mary Ann Williams

Judith Sayer

**\$50 SUPPORTER**

Bonnie Lykes

Jeff Carney

Beth Mills

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Diane Ferris

Judith Russell

**\$25 CONTRIBUTOR**

Morgan Chapman

Bethany O'Neill

Phyllis Delaney

Cheryl Scott

**\$100 PATRON**

Jennifer Bridge

Linda Kallman

*Original printed list below.*

**\$1,000 LIFE**

Susan Mastin & Richard Allen

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Mr. Frank Cellon

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Sandy Kramer

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Russ & Brenda Robinson

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Beverly Parrish

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Davis & Judy Rembert

Larry & Bonnye Roose

Dr. & Mrs. W. Robert Rout

Gilbert & Brenda Schaffnit

Sandra W. Sharron

Jean Michelson & Ron Shorr

Libby & Ben Smith

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Ann Stacy

Pat Thomas

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George & Renee Wilson

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**\$50 SUPPORTER**

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**\$500 MAJOR DONOR**

Elizabeth Alsobrook

Bill Appleton

Anthony Maurelli

Suzanne Newman

Mrs. Judith Russell

**\$250 BENEFACTOR**

E.J. & Janet Bolduc

Tallulah Brown

Bruce & Paula DeLaney

Ryan Mackey & Shannon Dunn

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Michael & Michelle Jaffee