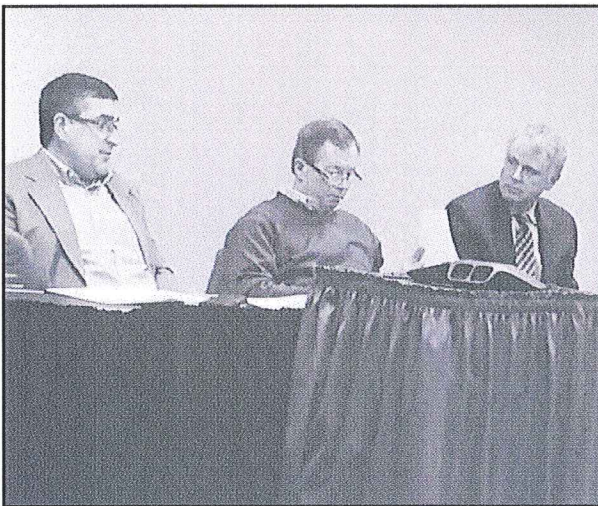


DDAA MEETS IN ATHENS

Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) President Jim Dove hosted the Winter Board Meeting of that group in Athens on January 24th – 26th. The meeting was held at the UGA Georgia Center for Continuing Education. The DDAA represents the 73 regional planning districts in the 13-state Appalachian Region which extends from New York to Mississippi. The Board includes a representative from each of the 13 states; those states having an officer on the Board have an additional member. In addition to various reports from officers, the group also heard from a representative of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). Appalachian Regional Commission Federal Co-Chair **Earl Gohl** and Executive Director **Scott Hamilton** presented detailed information on the federal POWER+ initiative. The Board also reviewed, discussed, and approved the recently drafted DDAA Strategic Plan. Further discussion focused on the upcoming Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., and the ARC staff report was given by **Dan Neff**, Local Development District Director.



Jim Dove flanked by Dan Neff and Scott Hamilton



DDAA Board Members

REMINDER

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council will meet on **Thursday, March 17th at Noon at the Athens Holiday Inn.** Information on the meeting will be forthcoming.

RETREATS FACILITATED FOR THREE GOVERNMENTS

Executive Director **Jim Dove** and Executive Assistant **Mott Beck** facilitated the Annual Retreats recently for Madison, Jefferson, and Elbert County. The Madison retreat was held on January 28th at NEGRC headquarters and focused on matters relative to police and fire vehicles, service delivery, and roles associated with a Council – Manager form of government. The Jefferson session was held on February 10th at the Jefferson Station Complex and included discussion on the status of capital projects, projects associated with grant submittals, short term projects, long term goals, and other items of interest. The Elbert County retreat was held at Bobby Brown Park on February 19th. Matters discussed included the senior center (an update on transit and general activities), reports on the budget, road projects, SPLOST, emergency services, and matters

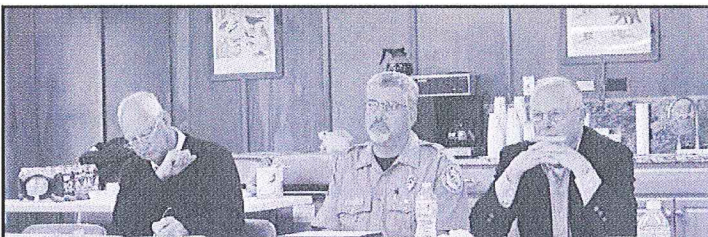
brought forth by various departments. The meeting ended with a question and answer session with representatives of the U.S. Corps of Engineers and a tour of the Richard B. Russell Dam.



City of Madison



City of Jefferson



Elbert County

TAYLOR-GRADY HOUSE: A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PROPERTY

In continuation of the NEGRC's yearlong recognition of the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, this month we are featuring the Taylor-Grady House. Located on Prince Avenue in Athens, the Taylor-Grady House is our region's only recognized National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service (only 49 exist in Georgia - visit www.nps.gov/nhl). Designated in 1976, the impressive Greek Revival home was built in the mid-1840s by General **Robert Taylor**, an Irish immigrant, plantation owner, and leader of the state militia. In 1863, **William S. Grady**, father of newspaper icon and "New South" promoter **Henry Grady**, purchased the house. The home was then purchased by the City of Athens in 1968 and has been under the stewardship of the Junior League of Athens ever since.

In 2004, the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government began a year-long rehabilitation effort. The \$1.7 million construction project was funded by SPLOST and included design assistance by a preservation architect. The house was returned to its period of significance, with furnishings from around 1870. Careful color studies were conducted on the interior walls, restoring the original appearance and character. The landscaping and gardens were transformed to their mid-19th century forms that allowed better, contemporary uses. The Taylor-Grady House was rehabilitated for special event use that required historically appropriate modifications to bathrooms, storage spaces, and the addition of a new kitchen. The rehabilitation also included a fire sprinkler safety system, a climate control system, and new electrical wiring. The Taylor-Grady House is now an impressive house museum, available to reserve for private and public events.

For additional information about historic preservation in Northeast Georgia or a local preservation project, contact **Jordan Shoemaker**, NEGRC Project Specialist, jshoemaker@negrc.org or (706) 369-5650.



Taylor-Grady House

CITY OF WINDER HOUSING AUTHORITY RECEIVES 2016 FEDERAL LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES AWARD

The City of Winder Housing Authority has been selected as a recipient of the Local Foods, Local Places award for 2016. Through this initiative, Winder is one of 27 communities nation-wide that will receive technical support to identify successful strategies for integrating local food into their community development efforts.

and to create economic opportunities for local farmers and food entrepreneurs, revitalize main streets, and increase access to healthy food.

Chosen from more than 300 applicants nationwide, the Local Food, Local Places grant application for the Winder Housing Authority was developed by the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission's (NEGRC) Planning and Government Services (PGS) Division. As a recipient of the award, the Winder Housing Authority will gain technical and funding assistance to create a community kitchen and garden at the Wimberly Center for Community Development. The goal for this center is that it will become a catalyst for Winder's downtown-revitalization efforts.

According to Project Leader **Michelle Yawn**, "Winder Housing Authority's Local Foods, Local Places program will develop expanded community gardens, a community kitchen where youth and seniors alike will learn the art of canning, healthy cooking habits, and much more." The program will focus on partnerships between the Boys & Girls Club, Barrow County Schools' youth, and ACTION Inc. senior citizens, working to break down the generational barriers through education and collaboration. Yawn also noted, "We are honored to have been selected to participate in such a game changing program. Through the technical assistance that will be provided from the Local Foods, Local Places partners and community stakeholders, we know the impact will be significant."

Local Foods, Local Places is a partnership between the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Delta Regional Authority, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Launched in 2014, Local Foods, Local Places is also part of the White House Rural Council's Rural Impact work to improve quality of life and upward mobility for children and families in rural and tribal communities.

For further information about local food initiatives and grant opportunities, contact **Theresa Owen**, NEGRC Planner, at towen@negrc.org.

DEALING WITH DEMENTIA

Providing care for families with dementia can be extremely challenging. Often, the person with dementia will say things that are upsetting or even do things that are potentially harmful. It is not unusual for both the family caregiver in the home and the caregiver sent by an agency to be at a loss for how to respond to those situations. Serving that family may become frustrating and stressful.

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging is partnering with the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving to offer a new tool: **The Dealing with Dementia Behaviors (DDB) Guide**. This guide offers information about dementia caregiving and strategies for responding effectively to specific problem behaviors of dementia patients. Funded by the Administration on Community

Living, the DDB guides will be distributed across the state of Georgia at no cost to participating agencies.

On **Wednesday, March 30th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**, the Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging will hold a Train-the-Trainer course for home care agencies, case management organizations, and other community groups in the Northeast Georgia region. We invite these groups to send their staff members to become trainers in the use of the DDB. These trainers will then go back to their agency, organization or community group and train their direct care workers, case management staff, or group members to become expert consultants. The expert consultants will use the DDB Guide in managing dementia behaviors and be able to model effective responses to the family caregivers in the home.

The training will be held at the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission located at 305 Research Drive in Athens. Lunch will be provided. The deadline to register for the training is **March 16th**. To RSVP for the training, contact **Michele Kelley** at **(706) 369-5650** or mkelley@negrc.org.

GEORGIA PIEDMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE HOLDS INAUGURAL C.N.A GRADUATION

Congratulations to the six Georgia Piedmont Technical College (GPTC) Graduates who successfully completed the Certified Nurse Assistant (C.N.A.) training program earlier this month. These graduates began their journey in November 2015, when they met with **Sid Jessup**, who assisted them with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) application process. During their nine week training program, these young ladies have learned the fundamentals of caring for patients, acquired a CPR license, developed excellent time management skills, and earned a certification that can be used to jumpstart a career in the health field.

This was the inaugural offering of CNA training at GPTC. Persons interested in applying for the next class can contact **Katrina Young** at GPTC at **(404) 297-9522, ext. 5010** or the NEGRC Workforce Development Division at **(706) 369-5703**.





305 Research Drive
Athens, GA 30605

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT. STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ATHENS, GA
PERMIT NO. 502

Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS
MARCH

9	1:00 p.m.	Solid Waste Management Authority	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
16	1:30 p.m.	Joint Development Authority of NEGA	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
17	Noon	NEGRC Council	Athens Holiday Inn
17	3:30 p.m.	Firefly Trails Advocacy Group	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
22	1:30 p.m.	NEGA EMS Council	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
23	9:30 a.m.	Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room

~

Sincerely & Respectfully,