

Appendix 129 to
THE HISTORY OF SCOUTING IN SOUTH GEORGIA

(Appendix Updated on: October 21, 2018)

DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN BANQUETS

Since 1993, South Georgia Council (and its predecessor council Alapaha Area Council) has held a bi-annual black tie dinner honoring a local distinguished citizen. The past honorees are:

Honoree	Year	Presenter
W. Ed Crane	1993	Senator Sam Nunn
Loyce W. Turner	1996	Governor Zell Miller
Dr. Hugh Bailey	1998	Dr. Stephen R. Portch
W. Parker Greene	2000	General Michael Ryan
Judge Arthur McLane	2002	Senator Saxby Chambliss
Joe Cordova	2004	Governor Sonny Perdue
William G. Eager, III	2006	Senator Johnny Isakson
Dr. Ronald M. Zaccari	2008	Representative Jack Kingston
Jerry Jennett	2010	Columnist Dick Yarbrough
James McGahee	2012	Dr. Kevin Barrett
Clarence S. Parker	2014	Senator Saxby Chambliss
Nell Patten Roquemore	2016	Gov. Sonny Perdue
Tyson McLane	2018	

Details of each are below.

2018 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN TYSON MCLANE

Tyson McLane was born January 19, 1942, to Carson and Philena Tyson McLane.

As a youth, he also spent time as a Boy Scout. He graduated Valdosta High School in 1960. He attended Valdosta State College and graduated from the University of Georgia in 1964. He graduated from San Francisco College of Mortuary Science then returned home to work at the family business. He bought Riverview Memorial Gardens in 1979.



Tyson McLane

He married Mary Sue Zipperer Oct. 7, 1967. They had three children: J. Britt McLane, who is married to Kristin; W. Kyle McLane, who is married to Maya; Flynn Pinkston, who is married to Brian. Tyson and Mary Sue McLane have 11 grandchildren.

By the mid-1950s, Tyson felt ready to help with the family business. "In his over 60 years in funeral service, he has served generations of families in a caring, compassionate and professional manner," according to a statement from the BSA South Georgia Council. "Tyson has been a trusted companion for so many individuals and families as they walked through the worst days of their lives, and at the same time celebrated lives that have affected our community in big and small ways."

McLane Funeral & Cremation Services hasn't just served generations. Its operation represents generations of the McLane family. As Tyson McLane took over for his father, Tyson's son, Britt, also joined McLane Funeral Services. Tyson, at 76, is still the chief executive officer and a senior funeral director, but Britt is the company president and a senior funeral director. "Britt stepping in ensured it remained a family business," Tyson said. Like his father, Britt started as a youth helping around the business. The tradition continues with Tyson McLane's namesake. Grandson Ty McLane is in high school, but plans to join the family business.

***2016 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
NELL PATTEN ROQUEMORE***

Nell Patten Roquemore was the Lanier County postmaster from 1955-1968, president of the Lanier County Garden Club in 1967, initiated and organized Let's Improve Lanier's Appearance in 1969, was mayor pro tem of Lakeland from 1973-1974, published a family book, "Roots, Rocks and Recollections" in 1989, published a book about Lanier County "Lanier County – The Land and Its People" in 2000 and gave land for a public park in Lakeland in 1993, which is now known as Roquemore Memorial Park.

She also attracted the muralist, Ralph H. Waldrop of Columbia, S.C., to immortalize several of the city's residents on buildings throughout the town. The 42 murals represent the era of 1925 when the town changed its name from Milltown to Lakeland. The murals have all been done with private donations — no tax money has been used, although we did get one \$10,000 grant. In 2005, then-Gov. Perdue visited Lakeland to designate it as "Georgia's Historic Mural City."

Her family has also been involved in scouting: "All of the Roquemore boys were members of the local troop and her daughter, Lee, was a member of the local Girl Scouts," her biography said.

2014 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN COL. CLARENCE S. PARKER

Col. Clarence Parker has dedicated his life to education, military service and his community and has been a scout since age 13. After serving numerous command and staff assignments in the U.S., Europe, North Africa and Southeast Asia, two assignments in Washington, D.C., one year in Vietnam, one year on the Berlin Airlift and three years as wing commander of Moody Air Force Base, Parker retired as a colonel from the Air Force. He went to work as a businessman and worked as vice president at First National Bank of Valdosta and First Union National Bank of Georgia and has served as the chairman of the Valdosta Lowndes County Airport Authority.



Col. Parker and Senator Chambliss

As for community involvement, Parker's activities include being a member of the Valdosta Country Club, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chamber of Commerce Military Officers Association of America, the Kiwanis International and the South Georgia Council executive board.



***2012 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
JAMES MCGAHEE***



James McGahee's life served as an example of distinguished citizenship. He is a U.S. Army Veteran and served as a CPA, a high school teacher and a member on a variety of community boards. As CEO of Georgia Medical Center, McGahee worked to establish a better stroke treatment center.

*2010 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
JERRY JENNETT*



***2008 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
DR. RONALD M. ZACCARI***



***2006 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
WILLIAM G. EAGER, III***



Bill Eager served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force from 1965-1969 and joined Robinson Humphrey Co. — now Smith Barney — in 1969. Eager was honored as the Portfolio Manager of the Year at Smith Barney and the award has been named in his honor. Eager was a leader and a devout member of the Christ Episcopal Church and was the founder and a former president of the Valdosta North Rotary Club. Eager also served the Valdosta community as a trustee of the South Georgia Medical Center Foundation, a board chairman at Valwood School and a co-chairman for the Valwood capital campaign. Eager was also a member of the Community Foundation of South Georgia Inc., a board member for the United Way and a board member with the American Red Cross.

*1998 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
DR. HUGH BAILEY*

