

GEORGIA OLD-TIME FIDDLERS CONVENTIONS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL AND CITY AUDITORIUM



Interior of the Auditorium, 1945

Welcome to Veterans Memorial Hall formerly known as Taft Hall (1909 -), named in honor of President William Howard Taft who was the honored guest at the dedication of what was then known as the Atlanta Auditorium-Armory of which the hall named in his honor was a part. Taft Hall was the scene of square dances following the last night's event of the annual Georgia Old-Time Fiddlers Conventions.



Exterior of the Auditorium, 1949

Atlanta Auditorium-Armory (later known as Atlanta City Auditorium) was built in downtown Atlanta, Georgia in 1909. It was renovated in 1938, and then partially destroyed during a fire in 1940. It reopened in 1943, and was later sold to Georgia State University in 1979.



Demolition of the Auditorium, 1981


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GEORGIA
HUMANITIES
COUNCIL



GEORGIA
MUSIC
FOUNDATION

DATES

Source: Contemporary Issues of
The Atlanta Constitution, The Atlanta Georgian, and The Atlanta Journal

1913	Tuesday – Thursday, April 1 – 3	1924	Friday, Saturday, November 7, 8	1931	Friday, Saturday, September 25, 26
1914	Wednesday – Saturday, February 18 – 21	1925	Friday, Saturday, October 30, 31	1932	Friday, Saturday, March 18, 19 (Interstate Fiddlers' Convention)
1915	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, February 2, 3, 5, 6	1926	Friday, Saturday, September 17, 18 (First All Southern Fiddling Championship)	1932	Friday, Saturday, September 2, 3 (Interstate Fiddlers' Convention)
1916	Wednesday – Saturday, January 26 – 29	1927	Thursday – Saturday, September 1 – 3 (All-states Fiddlers' Convention)	1933	No newspaper coverage found.
1917	Tuesday – Thursday, April 10 – 12	1927	Friday, Saturday, November 18, 19 (Contest for Championship of the South)	1934	Friday, Saturday, March 23, 24 (Southeastern Old-Time Fiddlers' Convention)
1918	Thursday – Saturday, February 28 – March 2	1928	Friday, Saturday, September 28, 29	1934	Friday, Saturday, August 24, 25
1919	Thursday – Saturday, November 20 – 22	1929	Friday, Saturday, May 3, 4 (Interstate Association)	1934	Friday, Saturday, September 28, 29 (Interstate Convention)
1920	Friday, Saturday, November 19, 20	1929	Friday, Saturday, September 27, 28	1935	Friday, Saturday, September 20, 21
1921	Friday, Saturday, September 30, October 1	1930	Friday, Saturday, April 4, 5 (All-South fiddler competition)		
1922	Friday, Saturday, June 23, 24	1930	Friday, Saturday, September 26, 27		
1922	Friday, Saturday, September 29, 30 (Georgia State Championship Convention)	1931	Friday, Saturday, August 28, 29 (Interstate Fiddlers' Convention)		
1923	Tuesday – Friday, July 10 – 13				
1923	Friday, Saturday, October 26, 27				

SONGS / TUNES

Alabama Jubilee
Alabama Traveler
All Bound Round With a
Woolen String
Annie Laurie
Arkansas Traveler
Bacon and Collards
Balmoral
Bear Went Over the
Mountain, The
Bile Them Cabbage Down
Billy in the Low Ground
Black Eyed Susan
Bonaparte's Retreat
Bone Dry Blues
Braddock's Defeat
Bridges Boys, The
Bucking Mule
Buffalo Gals
Bully of the Town
Cackling Hen
Careless Love
Carry Me Back To Old
Virginny
Casey Jones
Chicken Before Day
Chicken in the Bread Tray
Cindy
Coming Home with Jenny
After Dark
Cotton Eyed Joe
Cotton Field Blues
Cripple Creek
Devil Among the Yearlings
Devil Before Day
Devil in the Pea Patch
Devil in the Wheat Patch
Devil's Dream

Dixie
Dixie Cowboy
Eleven Dollar Song
Essence of Old Virginia
Everybody Works But
Father
Fisher's Hornpipe
Forked Deer
Forty Cats in the Wallet
Gal I Left Behind Me, The
Getting Upstairs
Give the Fiddler a Dram
Goin' Down to Doney's
House
Going Down to Town
Gray Hoss in the
Wilderness
Grey Eagle
Grey Hoss in the New
Ground
Hell Broke Loose in
Georgia
Hoedown Joe
Hog in the Canebrake
Hop Light Ladies
I'm Satisfied
In the Gloaming
Irish Washerwoman
It's a Long Way to
Tipperary
Jackson's March
Johnny in the Low Ground
Johnson's Steamboat
Juanita
June Apple
Just a Song at Twilight
Katy Bar the Door
Katy Hill
Kicking Mule

Kilcranie
Ladies' Fancy
Laughing Song, The
Leather Britches
Let's Go Fishing
Listen to the Mockingbird
Little More Sugar in the
Hills, A
Little Brown Jug
Little Old Log Cabin in the
Lane
Miller Boy
Mississippi Sawyer
Molly Call the Cattle Home
Moonshine Blues
Mullinax
My Last Old Dollar's Done
Gone
My Old Kentucky Home
Nancy Rollin
Old Band Box, The
Old Dan Tucker
Old Gray Eagle
Old Gray Horse Out in the
Wilderness
Old Gray Hoss
Old Gray Mare, The
Old Hen Cackled
Old Hen Cackled and the
Rooster's Going to Crow
Old Joe Clark
Old Miss Meacham
Over the Waves
Polly Put the Kettle On
Polly, Call the Cows Home
Polly, Go Milk the Cows
Pop Goes the Weasel
Possum Up the Gum
Stump

Pretty Betty Martin
Prosperity and Love Are
With Me Now
Rackin' Pony
Rocker Mountain Bout
Roll On Sweet Chariot
Rollin' Pin Lize
Run Along Honey
Rye Straw
Sally Ann
Sally in the Wildwood
Shanghi Chicken
Shortening Bread
Silver Threads Among the
Gold
Snapfinger
Soap Suds Over the Fence
Soldier's Joy
Star Spangled Banner
Sugar in the Gourd
Swanee River
Sweet Bunch of Dadies
Sweet Bye and Bye
Tampy, Strawberries
Thompson's Old Gray
Mule
Tom and Jerry
Turkey in the Straw
Virginia Reel
Walk Along, John
We Will Follow Jesus
When You and I Were
Young, Maggie
Whoa, Mule, Whoa
Wild Hog in the
Canebrake
Windy Morning, The

WINNERS

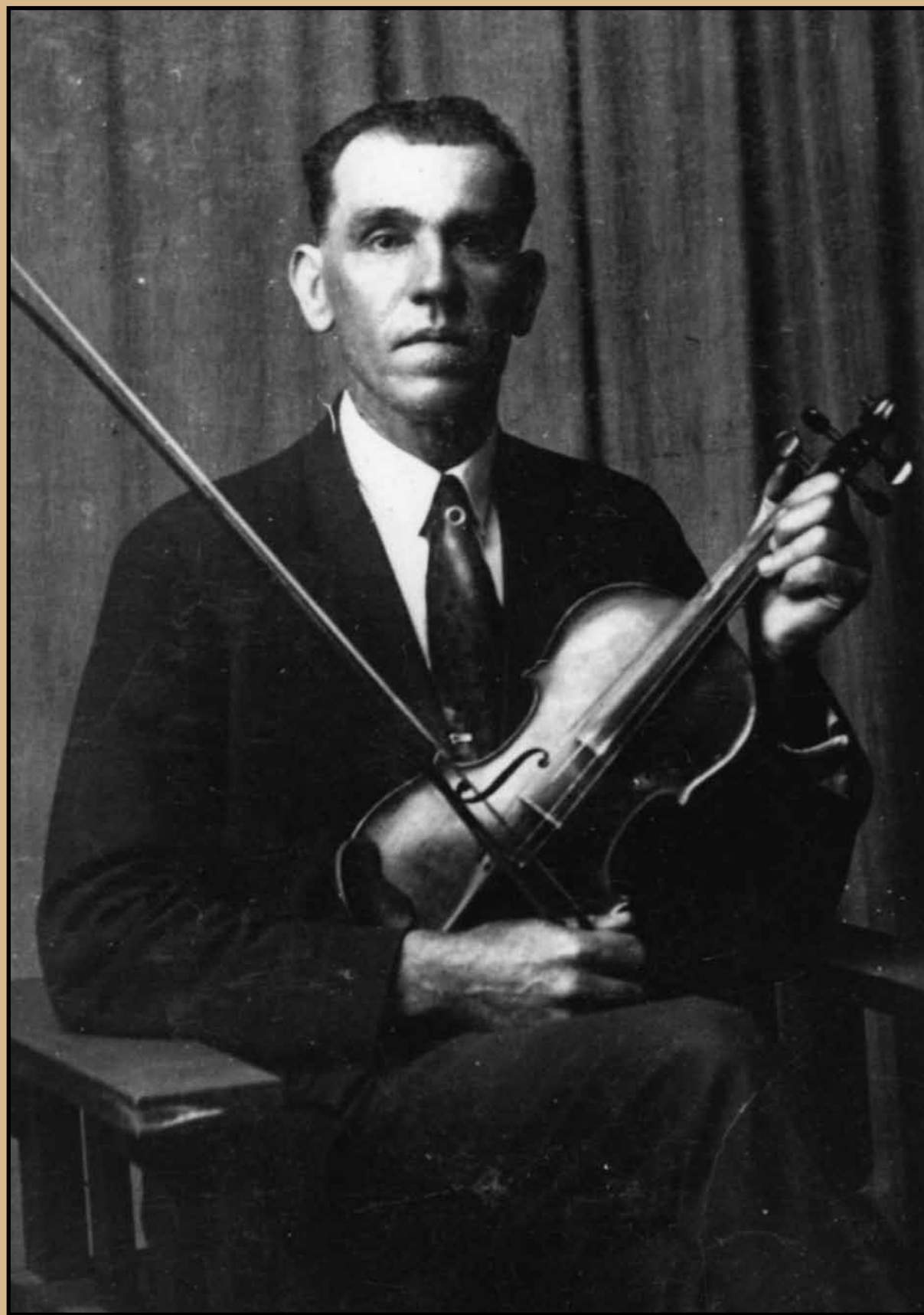
Source: Contemporary Issues of *The Atlanta Constitution, The Atlanta Georgian, and The Atlanta Journal*

1913	J. B. Singley, Loganville John Bloch, Lawrenceville P. A. Ludwig, Marietta Fiddlin' John Carson J. M. Matthews, East Point R. H. Young, Jersey C. C. Moon, Loganville Mack Singley, Loganville Wiley B. "Shorty" Harper, Monroe John M. Carlton, Cartersville	First, \$20.00 Second, \$17.00 Third, \$15.00 Fourth, \$12.00 Fifth, \$10.00 Sixth, \$8.00 Seventh, \$7.00 Eighth, \$5.00 Ninth, \$3.00 Tenth, \$2.00	1921	A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa	First
1914	Fiddlin' John Carson Wiley B. "Shorty" Harper, Monroe J. O. Hudson, Fulton	First, \$50.00 Second, \$35.00 Third, \$25.00	1922	A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa Clayton McMichen, Fulton County Fiddlin' John Carson Bob Stevens, Lindale Bob White, Atlanta	First, \$25.00 and Fiddle Second, \$30.00 Third, \$25.00 First (Banjo), \$15.00 Second (Banjo), \$10.00
1915	Deacon P. A. Ludwig, Cobb County Florence Hall, Comer (Age 14) Fiddlin' John Carson Gid Tanner W. W. Threlkeld (The Fiddling Shriner) J. H. Matthews, East Point J. O. Hudson Clayton McMichen, Fulton County (Age 14) Joe Brown, Dallas Jim Shelton, Dallas	First, \$50.00 Second, \$25.00 Third, \$20.00 Fourth, \$15.00 \$10.00 \$10.00 \$5.00 \$5.00 \$5.00 \$5.00	1923	Fiddlin' John Carson	First
1916	Wiley B. "Shorty" Harper, Monroe Louise Hall, Gilmer County (Age 14) W. F. Melton, Woodbury Ross Bagley, Cumming	First, \$50.00 Second, \$30.00 Third, \$20.00 Fourth, \$17.50	1924	Lowe Stokes, Cartersville	First
1917	John Silvey, Floyd County Bob Bullard, Fulton H. J. McKee, Newnan	First Second Third	1925	Lowe Stokes, Cartersville	First
1918	A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa	First	1926	Earl Johnson	First
1919	F. B. Coupland, Rome Madison Painter, Blue Ridge A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa Wiley "Shorty" Harper, Madison J. T. Tribble, Walton County B. H. Stevens, Rome John Bishop, Gwinnett County Land Norris, Ellijay	First Second Third Fourth First (Banjo) Second (Banjo) Third (Banjo) Fourth (Banjo)	1927	Fiddlin' John Carson	First
1920	R. M. Stanley Anita Sorrells A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa Miss Minnie Ray	First Second Third First (Dance)	1928	Gid Tanner	First
			1929	A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa	First and Gold Medal
			1930	Joe Collins, Stockbridge Anita Sorrells Wheeler, Powder Springs A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa	First, \$50.00 and Gold Medal Second, \$25.00 Third, \$15.00
			1931	Anita Sorrells Wheeler, Atlanta Bill Willard, Henry County	First First (Banjo)
			1932	Unavailable	1933 Unavailable
			1934	A. A. Gray (Southeastern Convention) Curly Johnson (Southeastern Convention) Anita Sorrells Wheeler, Atlanta A. A. Gray, Tallapoosa Ozark Mountaineers Uncle Bud and His Boll Weevils Riley Puckett Joe Scott (Southeastern Convention) Red Taylor	First (Fiddle) Second (Fiddle) First (Fiddle) Second (Fiddle) First (Band) First (Band) First (Banjo) First (Dance) First (Dance)
			1935	Unavailable	

IMAGES FROM OLD-TIME FIDDLING



Fiddlin' John Carson



A.A. Gray



Anita Sorrells Wheeler



"Shortening Bread"



A.A. Gray's 1929 First Place Medal



"A Fiddlers' Convention in Georgia"



Left to Right: [W.G.] Keith, Gid Tanner, A.A. Gray, and Henry West at Lookout Mountain



Left to Right: Lowe Stokes, Riley Puckett, and Gid Tanner