



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julia Jackson  
Historic Augusta, Inc.  
706-724-0436  
[julia@historicaugusta.org](mailto:julia@historicaugusta.org)

### **The Cotton Ball to be held on Milledge Road Thursday, May 20, 2010**

Historic Augusta's Cotton Ball, a tradition in Augusta since 1988, will be held this year on Thursday, May 20 from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. The casual affair will be held in the gardens surrounding the home of Dr. and Mrs. Randolph R. Smith, located at 814 Milledge Road. Join us for dinner, provided by Outback Steakhouse, a cash bar, mint juleps, music performed by The Unmentionables, and an opportunity to mingle in a historic setting. A raffle will be held for a three-night stay in August 2010 at a three bedroom, two-bath mountain home with extraordinary views in Highlands, North Carolina.

Admission to the Cotton Ball is by current, new or renewing membership in Historic Augusta, Inc., which is open to all who are interested in preserving our city's historic places. Memberships start at just \$50 for individuals and \$75 for couples. Advanced reservations are encouraged.

The Smith Home was built circa 1873 in the Second Empire style for Mrs. Sarah MacMurphey Adams (1806-1901), the widow of John Marsh Adams originally from Connecticut, who was a successful Augusta merchant before his death in 1853. It was constructed after a fire destroyed her previous home on the same site. In 1937 it became the home of Miss Mary Lou Phinizy, who lived there for many years. Today it is the home of Dr. and Mrs. Randolph R. Smith who have restored and cared for it since the 1980s. The formality of the Second Empire style was unusual for a home in Summerville prior to the tourist era that began in 1890. Found on the grounds are the original kitchen, an antebellum brick octagonal

building with slight modifications, and what is believed to have been a servants' quarters in the rear of the yard.

The Cotton Ball is sponsored in part by The Augusta Chronicle, First Bank of Georgia, NBC Augusta, Outback Steakhouse, Phoenix Printing and WBBQ.

Proceeds benefit the projects and programs of Historic Augusta, Inc. For more information, call Historic Augusta at (706) 724-0436 or visit [www.historicaugusta.org](http://www.historicaugusta.org).