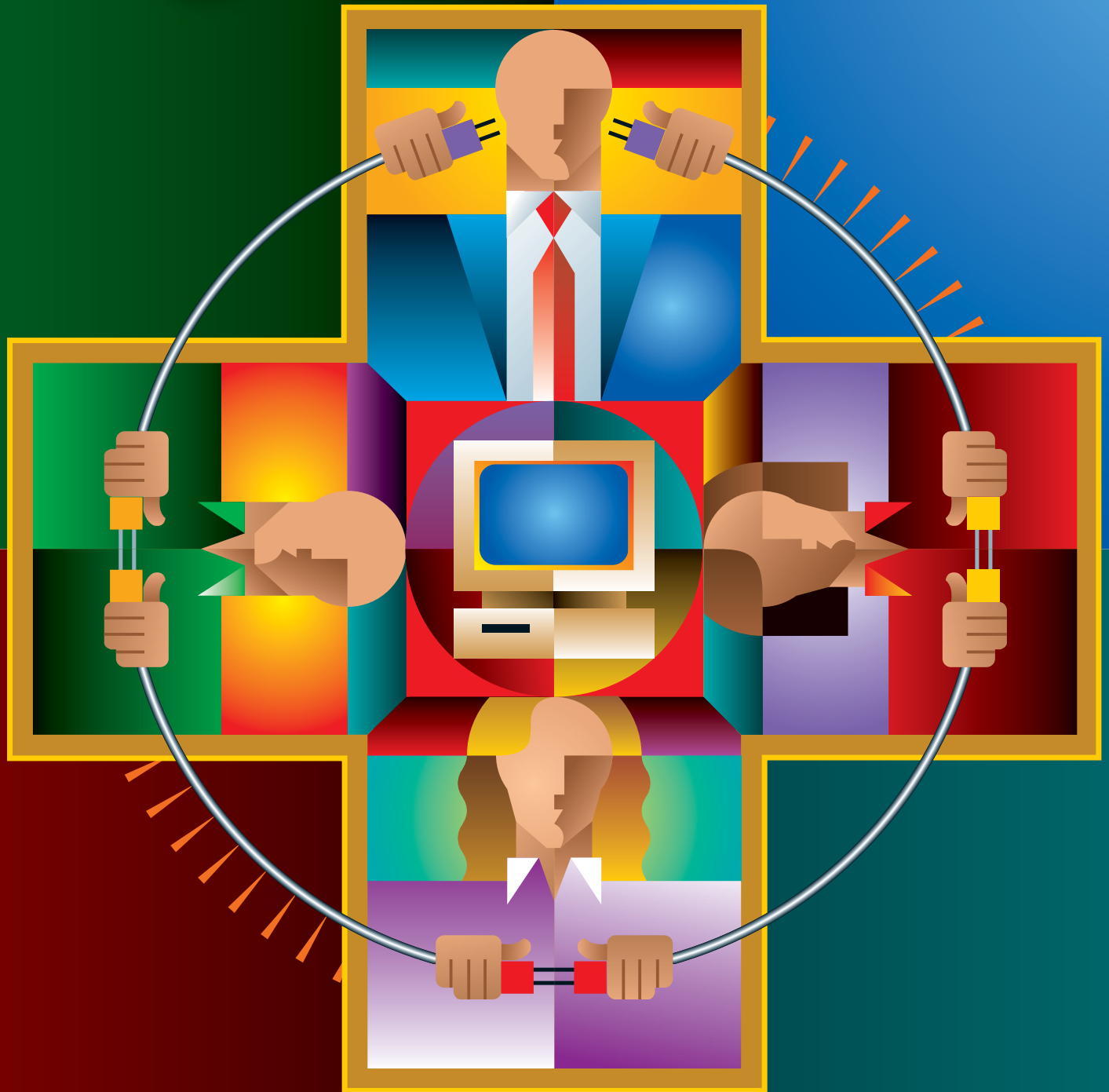


Georgia Bar Journal

February 2008 • Volume 13 • Number 5



Metadata: The Ghosts
Haunting e-Documents

The “Less Than High Museum” Rises to the Occasion

by Bonne D. Cella

Artisans, authors and keepers of the Earth have a friend and advocate with a generous spirit who lives in Southwest Georgia.

His name is Spencer Lee. Born in Macon, William Spencer Lee IV arrived in Albany as a small child when his FBI agent father was transferred to the “Good Life City.” Luckily for those in Dougherty County, Spencer loved the area and made it his home.

This “Double Dog” graduate of the University of Georgia began his law practice in 1971 and serves as county attorney—a position he’s held since 1979. He’s an environmental activist who served on the National Board of Scenic America to ensure that billboard advertising did not destroy the trees and beauty along our nation’s highways. He championed the cause in Washington, D.C., bringing national media attention to

the problem and received the national award from Scenic America for his efforts. At home in Dougherty County, he started and chaired the Keep America Beautiful Campaign that garnered him the first National Chair Person Award of Excellence.

His love and passion for the arts and environment is equally shared with his affable wife, Lacy Lee, the director of Volunteer Services for Phoebe Putney Hospital in Albany. When Spencer converted their carport into a sleek exhibit area to showcase local artists’ paintings, pottery, woodturning objects, woven baskets and the like, Lacy did not complain. In fact, she actively supports Spencer’s efforts to encourage artists. She is a most gracious hostess—even when Spencer gives her very short notice for an art event.

Their converted carport space, christened the “Less Than High Museum,” is also where authors experience book-signing events that rival those given in any large metropolitan area. Greg Haynes, an inactive member of the State Bar, and author of *The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music*,¹ relates his experience: “During the course of the last year, we had quite a few book signings that took my wife Nora and me from Myrtle Beach, S.C., to Manchester, England, but none felt more like being at home than the



Spencer and Lacy Lee outside their “Less Than High Museum.”




Nora and Greg Haynes winning the independent publisher’s award in New York City.



Derek Taylor, an artist originally from Albany.

one in Albany hosted by Spencer and Lacy Lee. I sort of felt like I was back at my fraternity house in Athens as so many of my brothers from the good old days—the *heeey baby days* were there. Nora and I drove from Atlanta to Albany with a car and trunk full of books and came back empty. I think Spencer rounded up most everyone in Southwest Georgia that knew how to shag or bop and had them in attendance!”

According to Spencer’s good friend Ed Lightsey, “Spencer Lee is generally acknowledged as the greatest shag dancer in the history of the world.” His smooth moves on the dance floor inspired Nora Haynes on her musical stage adaptation of *The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music*, now in production.

Artist Derek Taylor,² originally from Albany, also experienced a successful premiere at the “Less Than High Museum” when he sold a number of his paintings and was commissioned for more! Derek offers these words: “Spencer Lee is one of the bright lights working to illuminate the arts in Southwest Georgia. He tirelessly works to promote all facets of creativity that are within his reach. His personal involvement with the artist is second to none. I know a scant few that will do what he does for the arts on this pro bono basis. All of this considered, Spencer Lee is a patron of the arts in the truest sense of the word.” Thank you Spencer for all that you do—you are an inspiration for all of us! 



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Endnotes

1. “The Heeey Baby Days Of Beach Music” received the Independent Publisher’s Bronze Medal Award at a ceremony in New York City.
2. Derek Taylor’s gallery, *The Quirky Crow* is located in Chattanooga, Tenn.

“He who is his own lawyer has a fool for his client.”

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