

MEAG POWER

**Current**

**COMMUNITIES**

## Ellaville, Georgia

David Theiss – Mayor

Bob Anderson – City Manager

229-937-2207



# ELLAVILLE

## NAMED AMONG THE BEST RURAL PLACES TO LIVE IN THE SOUTHEAST

Ellaville and Schley County are proud of their 2007 honor and believe it was justly awarded. The area's beautiful countryside and the city's historic character make it a wonderful hometown.

The recognition was bestowed on Ellaville and the County by *Progressive Farmer Magazine*. The publication's editors garnered an extensive list of criteria to determine a community's desirability, including household income, household spending, home and land prices, crime rates, air quality, education and access to healthcare.

Tucked in South Georgia, Ellaville was established in 1857 and is the county seat. Its downtown area still reflects the charm of its early days, and the town's residents still enjoy a community-centered lifestyle.

*Town judged on  
multiple  
award criteria*



# Fast FACTS ELLAVILLE

**POPULATION:** 1,796

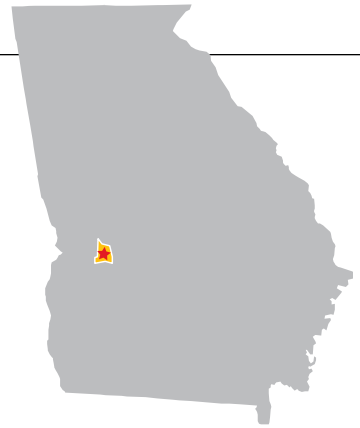
**COUNTY:** Schley - Population 4,198

**UTILITIES:** Electric, water and sewer, solid waste

**TRANSPORTATION:** Ellaville is located on U.S. Highway 19 and State Highway 26 and 30 minutes from I-75

**CORPORATE CITIZENS:**

- Cooper Lighting – manufacturer of fluorescent lighting
- Greenfield Metal Products Company, Inc. – manufacturer of ventilated wire shelving
- King's Custom Builders – mobile buildings for commercial use
- TCI Powder Coatings – finishing products
- T & R Customs, Inc. – modular industrial and storage units
- Southeast Modular Manufacturing, Inc. – manufactured homes
- ICx Tactical Platforms – mobile platforms for surveillance



*“The Ellaville-Schley County Chamber of Commerce places high value on locally established, homegrown businesses.”*

Mickey Holloway  
Chamber Executive

• **TCI Powder Coatings** is one of Ellaville’s homegrown successes. For over a decade TCI has prospered in Ellaville. The plant has expanded numerous times, and powder paint coatings have become an industry standard in finishing methods that reduce environmental impact. TCI coatings eliminate Volatile Organic Components (VOCs), improving the safety of both the work and natural environments.

• **ICx Tactical Platforms** has made Ellaville home for five years. ICx builds unmanned and manned surveillance and deterrence towers and operates a 37,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Ellaville. To remain state-of-the-art, ICx has invested over \$100 million in technology and product development. Several of its products are “on duty” with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol on the U.S./Mexico border.



# HISTORY Told Through ART

*“...a huge windmill was chosen in the middle of the town square. Nearby, on a tall post, was placed a farm bell to sound the alarm of fire. Whoever reached the bell first, sounded the alarm. The water had to be carried in buckets from the reservoir beneath the windmill to the scene of the conflagration.”*

This account of **Schley County's** first means of fire protection is just one of 14 vignettes that grace a block-long wall in downtown Ellaville. The images and words chronicle the beginnings of this rural Georgia community. It is a tribute to those leaders and institutions of early Schley County, a story that began in 1857.

**Celebrating the Sesquicentennial Year.** In the spring of 2007, City Manager Bob Anderson and local artist Linda Adams walked the streets of downtown Ellaville planning a visual tribute to Ellaville's past to be prepared in time for the October celebration of Schley County's 150th anniversary. The year 2007 marked the sesquicentennial for this community; it marked a time in history when these 162 square miles were purchased from the Indians by a Virginian named Reuben Rainey and were home to farmers and their families.

A lone remaining wall that had once been part of the Stevens cotton warehouse was the most likely canvas. Adams conceived a design that included painting individual historic buildings on the wall, along with an American flag. Local residents engaged in the effort with commissions to fund the project. The wall was unveiled October 13, 2007, the centerpiece for the community's sesquicentennial celebration.

**Making History Another Way.** Two other Ellaville artists participated in history in another

way on this very same day in October. Unbeknownst to each other, Logan Pilcher, local fifth grader, and Lois Theiss, pencil and paintbrush artist, had been selected as local artisans to deliver their visual interpretations of an historic site on official ornaments provided by Laura Bush for the White House Christmas tree. They both traveled to Washington at the invitation of the First Lady for a special reception in November.

“My grandmother taught me to paint with oils,” explains 11-year-old Logan. “I made several sketches before I began the work. It had to look good from every angle since I didn't know where it would be placed on the tree.”

Collected from across the United States, 340 ornaments decorated the famous White House tree. Two came from the small town of Ellaville. It seems Ellaville is rich in lore as well as artists who make history come alive for all of us.



Lois Theiss created a pencil drawing of one of Ellaville's most famous landmarks, the Schley County Courthouse.



The Peacock Hotel was built in 1890 by Captain Caleb Peacock, a veteran of the War Between the States. Frequented by travelers and salesmen who traveled by rail, the Peacock was known for the delicious meals it served.

## More About **HOMETOWN** **ELLAVILLE**

Three of the historical buildings central to Ellaville history remain in use today. These are Gill Drug Company, Schley County Courthouse and the Burton House.

Schley County, pronounced Sly, was named for William Schley (1786-1858), Governor of Georgia from 1835-1837, legislator and jurist of distinction.

The town was named for Ella, the oldest daughter of a leading citizen of this section, Robert Burton, who sold 150 acres for the establishment of the county seat. This was the site of the settlement "Pond Town."

### **ENTREPRENEUR-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY**

Ellaville and Schley County have been officially designated by the State of Georgia as an Entrepreneur-Friendly Community.

**Location Georgia**, a service of MEAG Power, assists business and industry in relocation and expansion efforts. For more information about Ellaville, call **1-800-WIN-IN-GA.**

