



Curiosity Corner

Treasures from the FCS Archives

Welcome to **Treasures from the FCS Archives**, a repository of resources for teachers and history enthusiasts! Every month, we are sharing photos, artifacts, documents and other treasures for you to review, discuss and discover. We encourage you to click the links, scan the photos and dig deeper into these treasures, all of which can be found in the Fulton County Schools Archives. Enjoy!

AMERICAN HEROINES: WOMEN OF WORLD WAR II



When we look back at the contributions of **women during World War II**, we often think of that heroine of the home front—Rosie the Riveter, whose efforts and energy represent a watershed moment for women in our nation’s history. But as we tip our caps to Rosie, we should not forget to salute those women who wore a different uniform during the crisis—a military one.

More than 350,000 women would serve in various branches of the U.S military during the war, allowing more men to fight enemies overseas. The Navy Women’s Reserve Act, signed into law on 30 July 1942, opened the way for the 84,000 who would serve as Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service, or **WAVES**. Working as clerks, mechanics, radio operators and map makers (among many other tasks), WAVES were stationed at military bases all over the country—including the **Naval Air Station Atlanta**, where the recruits pictured above served as flight instructors for naval pilots. By featuring some of our own local heroes of the Fulton County School System, this edition of *Curiosity Corner* commemorates all women who exercise their right to defend our country—one hundred years after they first exercised the right to vote.

Photograph, Link Instrument Training School, Class of February 1943, Naval Air Station Atlanta, 1943

Fulton County Schools Archives, 1943.avpt.2.2.1

Donated to the Fulton County Schools Archives, this photo belonged to **Cordelia McLemore** (1921-2017), a long-time guidance counselor at Ridgeview High School in Sandy Springs (now Ridgeview Charter Middle School). McLemore is in the back row, 5th from the right.

Curiosity in the Classroom:

A Closer Look

Click on the image above for a higher resolution jpeg. Ask students to carefully and quietly study the image.

Ask students:

- What do you see?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- When was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Where was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Who are these individuals and what are they doing?
- Who might have taken this photo?
- Why was this photo taken?

After prompting student observations and curiosity, guide students through discovering answers to their questions through the text on this main page and provided links.

Lesson Ideas & Links: Connecting to Standards

[Elementary School Connections](#)

[Related Primary Sources](#)

[Middle School Connections](#)

[Ask the Teaching Museum](#)

[High School Connections](#)

[Additional Online Resources](#)

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This publication is sponsored in part by the Georgia Humanities Council and Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Eastern Region Program, coordinated by Waynesburg University.

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For more information and resources or to connect with staff at the FCS Archives, contact us at archives@fultonschools.org