

About Me – George Bentley

Who is he? George Bentley... Property Manager/Real Estate Developer... MRC Director

Q & A with George Bentley

Why did you choose to serve on the Marietta Redevelopment Corporation?

I saw the impact of the recession and saw the need for reorganization due to the MRC's acquisition prices for property. I want to see Marietta become an up and coming environment reborn. I wanted to see blight cleaned up.

Why did you choose to serve on the Real Estate Committee?

My background is perfect to serve on the Real Estate Committee.

Do you serve on any other committees or do any other volunteer work?

Not currently. Before working in property management and development I worked in residential and commercial construction. At that time, I served on the Cobb County Construction Board of Adjustments & Appeals, Cobb County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Cobb County Home Builders Association as Chairman. I am also a former United Methodist Church Council Member and a member of the Marietta Rotary Club Community Services Committee.

Can you tell us a little about your family here in Marietta?

I am a sixth generation Cobb County resident and grew up on the family farm in Marietta. I still live in Marietta with my wife of 33 years. I have a grown son and daughter and three grandchildren who live in Cobb County.

If you could only choose one, would you live, work or play in Marietta and Why?

Live because of excellent public services, reasonable taxes and cost of living and the people around the city. Living in Marietta allows me to work and play here too.

Describe Marietta in one to two sentences.

Marietta is a large urban environment with a small town feel.

What is Marietta's best kept secret?

Marietta's best kept secret is the urban area and neighborhoods surrounding the Square. The area is walk-able and prime for living, dining and entertainment.

How would you measure Marietta's success over the next decade?

The balance of renter to owner occupancy is a positive improvement and way to measure success over the next 10 years.

What would you like Marietta to be like in 10 years?

In 10 years development will be slower paced, which will allow for better planning. There will no longer be a rush to buy property and developments will be what works or sells and fits. Areas intended for live, work and play will be that; revitalized with walking trails and bike paths; connected to schools and parks. It will be a nice place to live.

What would people be surprised to learn about you?

I am a rancher and a farmer and have a lot of different types of animals. I conduct animal behavioral studies and my favorite animals are llamas and horses. I am a llama foster parent.

What's your ideal way to spend a Friday night in Marietta?

Taking a walk to the Square for a concert, to socialize with friends and dine.

What's your ideal way to spend a Saturday afternoon in Marietta?

Bike riding with my wife around the areas near the Square.