

ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Editors Note: This article appeared in the January 20, 1949 edition of The Weekly Tribune News under the title of "Historic Bartow County Federal Generals Used Price Home As Headquarters In May, 1864" and was written by Col. Thomas Spencer. Unfortunately, this historic home no longer exists as it succumbed to a chimney fire on December 11, 1956.

COLONEL HAWKINS PRICE HOME

Another of Bartow's historic homes is the Colonel Hawkins Price Home. John Law, a fine citizen of Bartow County now owns this fine old historic home. A copy of a will in his possession proves this to be the Price home so often mentioned in the official records. Many dispatches and orders were issued from this place. Here it was on the 18th and 19th of May of 1864 that General Daniel Butterfield of the Federal army and General Joe Hooker of the same army had from the Jonathan McDow home their headquarters. Hooker moved to this place on the 19th of May.

In 1864 a road ran from the McDow home by one

Price home to the Hawkins Price home. Here the road met the road from Kingston and both roads joined the road to Cassville-that came in back of the Female school. Most of Butterfield's troops were in and around the Price plantation-with Hooker's within striking distance of Cassville. Some little skirmishing took place on the 18th. Butterfield was host to Hooker at a "dinner" on this night of the 19th. It has been truthfully said that "some strong whiskey was consumed that night." Hooker had a weakness for whiskey.

It is of interest to take a bit of time to study the characters who made up the army to which belonged both

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TOUR OF HOMES, A BIG SUCCESS

Nostalgia reigned supreme on West Avenue recently. After four days of continual rain, Saturday, November 4, and Sunday, November 5, dawned bright and crisp for the Etowah Valley Historical Society's "Come - Harvest Our History" home tour. Right at 1,000 participants toured six turn-of-the-century homes and were treated to their histories as well as their beauty. Moreover, some of the participants filled in historical gaps from their own experiences and knowledge of years past. One related that she never again in her lifetime expected to see pedestrians strolling and visiting and motor traffic proceeding at such a slow pace on West Avenue. The clock seemed to be turned back many decades.

Almost one third of the tourists were from outside the county and included those from Paris, France; Birmingham, Alabama; Charlotte, North Carolina; Orlando,

Florida and those from all across the state of Georgia. Many thanks to the approximately 200 volunteers who made this tour possible.



Credit these ladies with organizing an outstanding tour. (L-R) Callie Pogue, Trisha Simmons, Lynn Henderson (Chairman), Evelyn Martin, Terri Whittenburg, Angie Wilson, and Susan Wade.

More photos inside

"Colonel Hawkins Price Home" Continued

Hooker and Butterfield. Hooker commanded the 20th Army Corps of the Army of the Cumberland. Butterfield commanded the 3rd Division of this corps. Commanding the 4th Army Corps of this same Army of the Cumberland was O. O. Howard. Probably the most



Photo courtesy of J.B. Tate

interesting of these characters is Joe Hooker. Hooker, Howard and Butterfield had all served with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia, and had tasted defeat at the hands of Robert E. Lee. All three had left Virginia for "political" reasons.

Old Joe came by his name-not in battle-but by accident during the Mexican War. A newspaper man, trying to interpret a telegraphic message that read "fighting-Joe Hooker," and who dropped the dash and gave to Joe Hooker the world-known sobriquet "Fighting Joe" Hooker. Hooker did not like the name and said so. Old Joe won for himself a reputation for fighting in Virginia, yet when Chancellorsville came and found him in command he was soundly thrashed by Lee, Jackson and Stuart. Some have said that a shell struck a piece of timber causing it to hit old Joe on the head which might have had something to do with the loss at Chancellorsville.

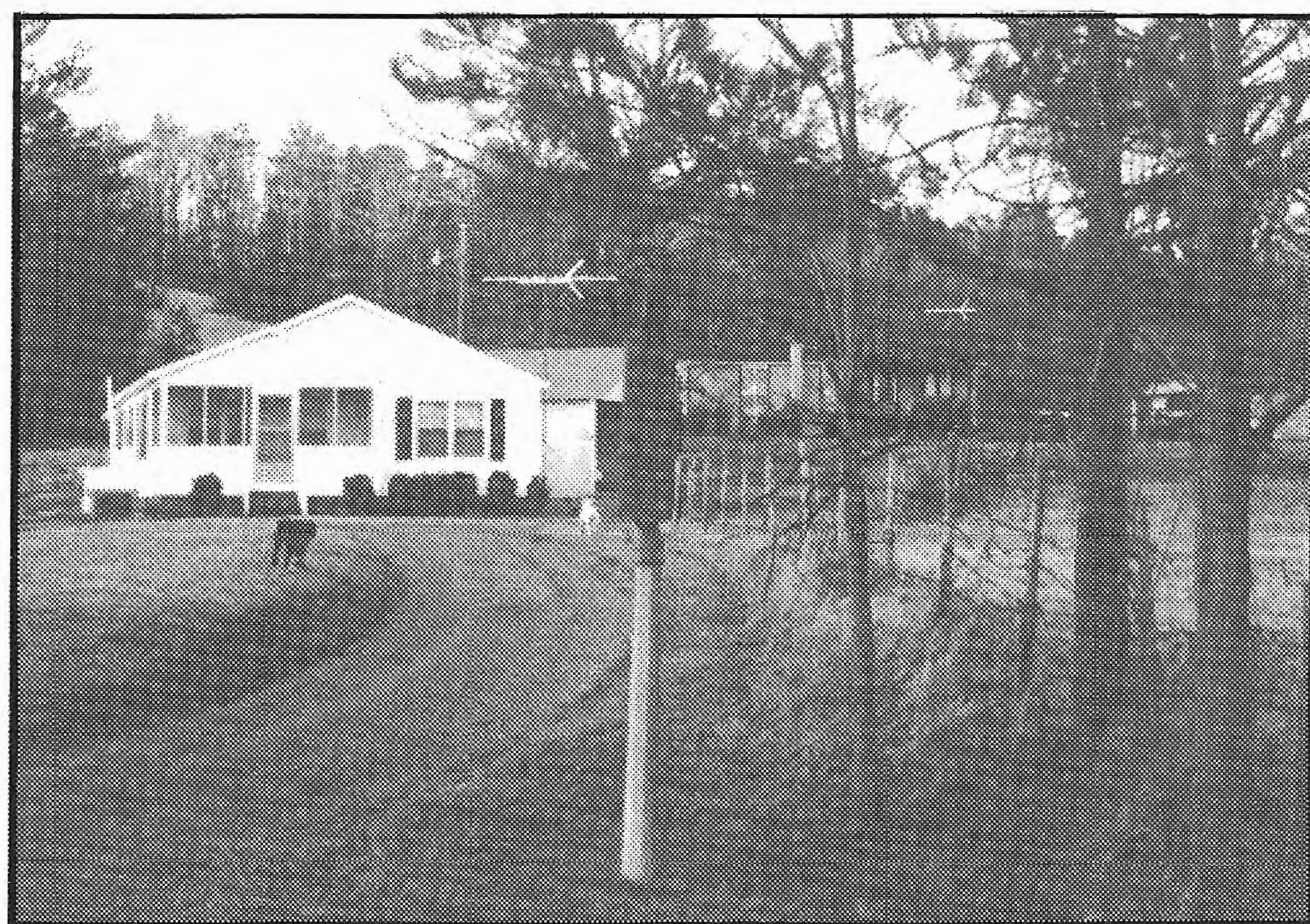
Joe was a braggart, never admitting any to be his superior, yet he told a friend at Chancellorsville, "I was not hurt by a shell and I was not drunk. For once I lost confidence in Hooker, and that is all there is to it". "Fighting Joe" was a striking figure and as one man said, "He was tall, thoroughly martial in carriage with blond hair, finely cut features, an expressive mouth and large blue eyes full of fire and of sympathy." General Walker said of him, "he is handsome and picturesque in the extreme, though with a fatally weak chin." The portraits of Hooker bear out this "weak chin" thought.

As for Sherman, Hooker hated "Old Fire" and

Sherman hated Hooker. Hooker felt that Hooker was the best leader but Sherman thought otherwise. At the Kalb Farm prior to The Kennesaw Mountain battle, "Old Joe" had sent a message to Sherman stating that "there are three full corps in my front." This wasn't true. Sherman later put O. O. Howard in command of an army and "Fighting Joe" resigned and was sent west to some obscure post. This was the man who ate and slept at the Hawkins Price Home.

Down through the ages, the War Between the States has been studied more than any war of any time. Histories and books are still being written of that war. More and more "fascinating" facts come to light. More and more people realize that the present generation is interested in the past, and of those gallant men of the Federal and Confederate armies. The Hawkins Price home stands out as one of the most interesting of Bartow homes, in the matter of war history, and in the matter of early settlers of your fine county.

Picture the gray-clad men of the Confederacy falling back by the Price home of the skirmish in front of the home and of blue masses of Federals taking over. Of Butterfield and of "Fighting Joe" Hooker and of sweating and swearing cavalymen, staff officers, couriers and the rank and file, in and around this home. One on that 19th of May of 1864 could hear the cannonading at



A Georgia State Historical Marker stands near the site where the Price Home once stood. Located on the left side of Law Road 1.2 miles Northeast of Hwy. 293.

Cassville and see the flash of guns as they sent missiles of death between the Confederates and Federals. Yes, a glorious thought of yesterday and of the historic Colonel Hawkins Price home. Here is history and here history was made.

TOUR OF HOMES

"Come - Harvest Our History"

And the compliments were many.....

"All of us enjoyed being "at home" more than I can express. Even though there have been some changes, everything was familiar the way I remembered.

It was a thrill to see the magnificent dining rooms! I had forgotten how marvelous it was to have the spaciousness. So many houses today give "short shrift" to the most important room in the house: the dining room. We even had our prayer services in ours, and the good memories crowded my heart.

All of you did such a lovely thing to arrange the pleasures for so many."

Mrs. Arthur "Deaver" Cook



A group of proud homeowners preparing for a special event. (Seated L-R) Daneise Archer, Gay Dellinger. (Standing L-R) Margaret Ann Sager, Terry Shaw, Martha Choate, and Brenda Lowry.



Beautifully played harp music in a beautiful setting in the dining room of the Monfort-Lowry Home.



Volunteers at the Jackson-Shaw Home gather prior to Saturday's tour for a photo. (L-R) Winifred Hughes, Judy Smith, Patty Green, Callie Pogue, Becky Gaylord, Sharon McCain, and Lynn Henderson (Tour Chairman).



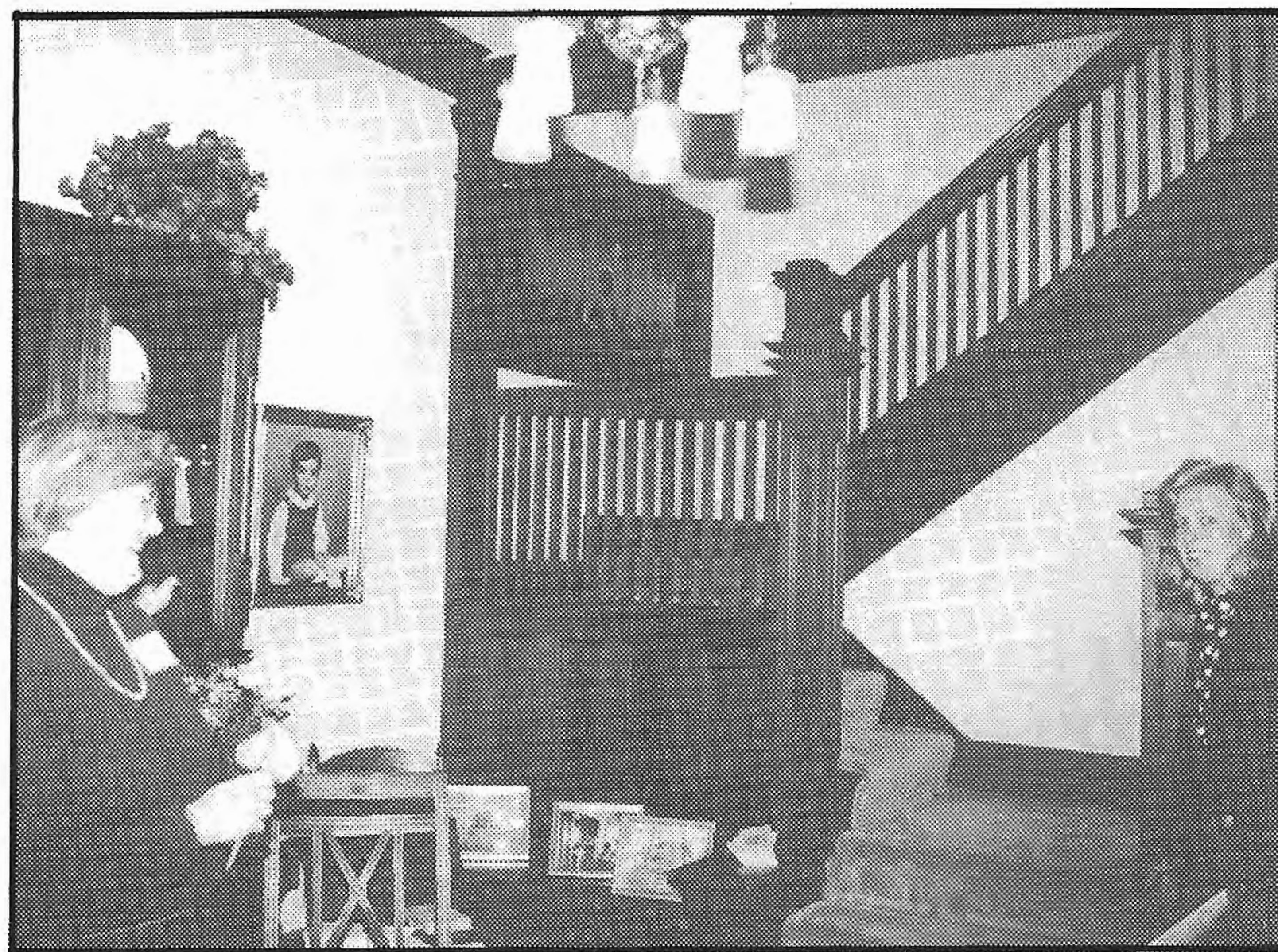
Bonnie Floyd (2nd from left) shares the history of the Backus-Dellinger Home with several of the guests.

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"Tour of Homes" Continued



Our tour begins at the 1903 Courthouse. (L-R) Norma Tidwell, Diane Mooney, Jere White, Dianne Tate, Clay Mooney, Frank Entwisle and Thomas Champion.



Ginny Martin (left) and Jan Smith discuss the beauty of the Neel-Choate Home.



Russell Archer (left) shares stories of the Hall-Archer Home.



Margaret Ann Sager having a casual conversation with one of her guest at the Spier-Sager Home.



Zim and Martha Choate (L) and Margaret Ann and Walt Sager display framed tour brochures given to each homeowner following the tour. A reception for the homeowners was held at the home of Robert and Angie Wilson.

EDITORS NOTE: This article originally appeared in the Tuesday, November 19, 1946 issue of The Weekly Tribune News titled "McKelvey Home Near Cassville Figures in Confederate History". Today the McKelvey home no longer exists. The home was razed in the early 1980's after being allowed to deteriorate beyond repair.

McKELVEY HOME

Let's take a trip to the William Neal McKelvey home.

The home, you will note, is on the left hand side of Mac Johnson Road, and not on the right side as has been pictured by some of our historians. In this house was born two of the McKelvey's who are alive this date.

Mrs. Kate McKelvey Quillian of Cass Station was born in this house at about the time Sherman was ready for his campaign to Atlanta. Five years before that another McKelvey was born there. That McKelvey is grand and fine, Mr. Jonathan Neal McKelvey, a Justice of the Peace for over fifty years. But, more of these two people later.

Let's turn back the hands of time to Thursday, May 19th, 1864. On that day the Confederates occupied lines running almost north and south from a point above Cassville to a point across the W & A Railroad at Cass Station. The Federals were in lines somewhat opposite the Confederates.

On this day Joseph E. Johnston, commanding the Confederates, had issued one of his orders, (very rare indeed) in which he had stated that "at last we will not retreat but turn and face the enemy". This, and other evidence, indicated that Johnston would no longer permit himself to be flanked out of position, but would stop and fight.

All during the day of the 19th of that hellish May, men and officers cheered Joe Johnston when he passed, for at last the grand Army of Tennessee was going to fight.

The men had every confidence in Johnston. Johnston was one of the most loved of all the leaders of the Confederate armies.



Picture taken from news article.

He had retreated from Dalton to Cassville, always in good order, and always inflicting greater losses on the enemy than his army suffered. He always brought away all of his equipment, except the guns Hood lost at Resaca. Cassville seemed to be the spot where Johnston would show his might, though far out-numbered by the Federals.

That day General Polk, commanding a corps under Johnston, had his headquarters in the McKelvey home. Across the road and by the creek Johnston had his headquarters in a tent. South of the McKelvey house, Loring had his headquarters.

At about dusk Johnston, Polk and Hood held a conference at the McKelvey home. Present was part of Johnston's staff as was French, the hero of Allatoona. In the McKelvey home that 19th of May 1864 started a controversy that has lasted to this day. There it was that Hood and Johnston became enemies, and there it was Johnston and Hood deprived the future historian of real facts of the Atlanta Campaign.

Hood and Polk stated that they could not hold their lines in the face of the enemy, while Johnston thought otherwise. French agreed with Johnston that not only could the Confederates hold their lines but that the Federals could and would be whipped. Hardee, another corps commander, though not at the conference, agreed with Johnston. The outcome of the meeting was that Johnston decided to withdraw across the Etowah and hunt for another position where he might wage a major engagement.

Had Hood and Polk agreed to fight at Cassville, the history of the Dalton-Atlanta Campaign might have had a different ending. Had Johnston won a victory there, he could have crushed Sherman, and the War Between the States could have had a different ending.

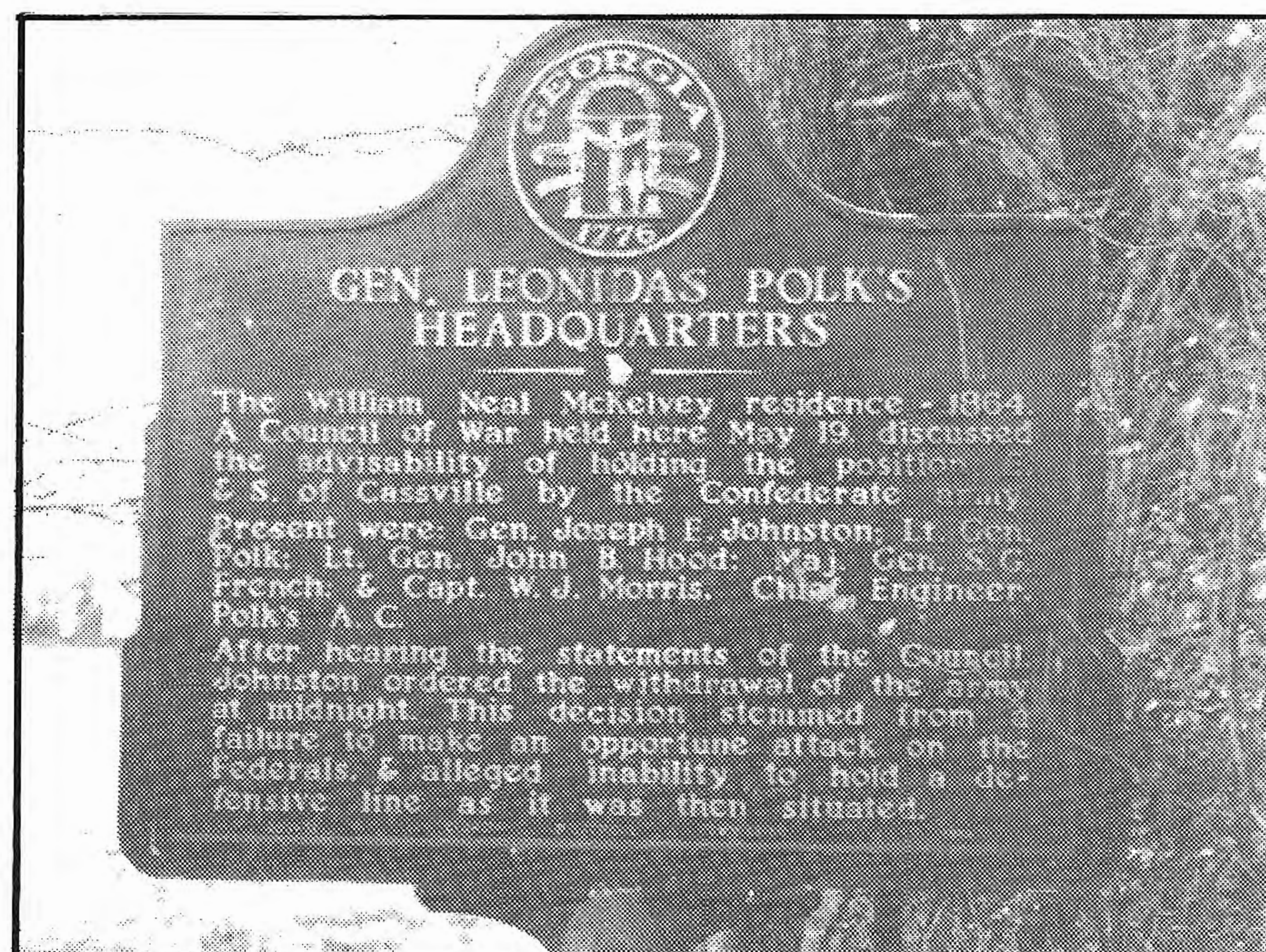
Thought outnumbered, Johnston had a great chance for victory. His only weak spot was his left flank, for the Federals could have crossed the Etowah near Kingston and at other places. Certainly Atlanta would not have fallen into Federals' hands so soon. Polk might have lived to the end of the war. Of course, all of this is mere might-have-beens.

So, I say to you good people of Bartow, mark this

"McKelvey Home" Continued

spot of historic interest. It is interest, in that the fate of two armies hinged on the outcome of the "conference" that night of May 19th, 1864. And, here met the corps commanders of the Confederate army, and because of this meeting Hood and Johnston were forever afterwards enemies. Hood also lost the friendship of Hardee, who demanded to be relieved of his command, and was granted that request after Atlanta fell. Johnston was also relieved of his command on July 18th to be shunted off to obscure commands, and poor, old gallant Hood led the Army of Tennessee on that terrible Tennessee Campaign that ended in death for thousands of gallant Confederates.

So, mark the William Neal McKelvey home. It was one of those places that plays a mighty important part in your history of the grand Confederacy.



Georgia State Historic Marker at site of McKelvey home. Located on the left side of Mac Johnson Road, 1/2 mile northeast from U.S. 41.

Christmas Party at Roselawn

The Etowah Valley Historical Society (EVHS) held its annual Holiday Banquet at Roselawn on December 8, 1995. President Dianne Monroe welcomed members and guests to the beautifully decorated mansion/museum. After enjoying a hospitality time and a delicious buffet-dinner, the group was entertained by a male quartet.

Bandstand was introduced by Vice-President Joe Head. Although the group has been together for only a year, they represent a total of almost fifty years of bar-

bershop experience. During the past year, Bandstand earned the right to represent the southeastern United States at the SPEBSQSA International Convention and is currently one of the top twenty-five quartets in the world. They presented a delightfully entertaining program of old, favorite songs as well as several seasonal selections.



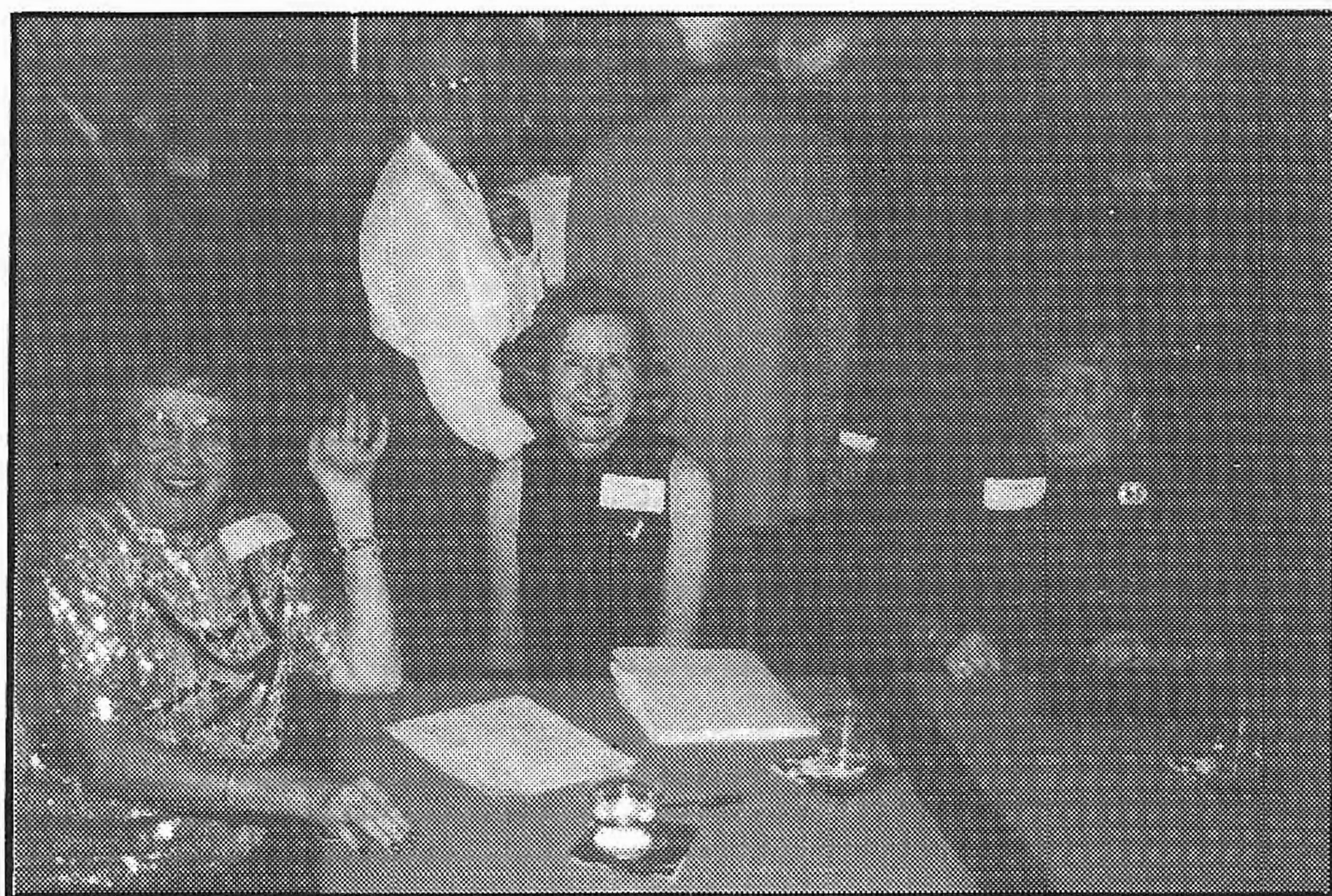
*The evening's entertainment was provided by BAND-
STAND, a quartet of international acclaim.*



*Having a great evening! (L-R) Lance Barry, Anna Barry,
Chantal Parker and David Parker.*

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"Christmas Party" Continued



Our welcoming committee. Seated (L-R) Dorothy Anne Roth, Ellen Thommasson and Norma Tidwell.



Our EVHS President, DiAnne Monroe, is very excited with the huge turnout. (L-R) Donna Gregory, Diane Monroe, Carolyn Parmenter and Rosemary Clabo.



Joe Head (far left), EVHS VP and Party Chairman, is joined in the dinner line with (L-R) Richard Nix, Debbie Head, Catheryn Swan, Gordon Swan, Oliver Smith and Louise Smith.



Just a few of the many (95) who turned out for a joyous event.

MEET OUR SPECIAL VISITORS



(L-R) Col. James Bogle, DiAnne Monroe, Franklin Garrett, Guy Parmenter and J.B. Tate. Photo by Linda Trentham.

Our good friend and EVHS member Col. James Bogle of Atlanta recently visited our office and research center and brought with him a special guest, Mr. Franklin Garrett of Atlanta. Mr. Garrett is the official historian of the City of Atlanta, Fulton County, and the Atlanta Historical Society. He is also a founding member of the Atlanta Civil War Roundtable.

Col. Bogle has written numerous historic articles for major publications and has also contributed articles to our newsletter. We were indeed honored to have both these gentlemen drop by. By the way, both men returned within a couple of weeks and presented the EVHS with Atlanta and Environs, Vol. I and II, written by none other than Franklin Garrett himself. They also presented us with several historic maps and a copy of Atlanta and the Old South, paintings and drawings by Wilbur Kurtz.

Many thanks to these fine gentlemen.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dr. & Mrs. Larry Brown, Cartersville, GA
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Coombs, Cartersville, GA
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Graham, Woodstock, GA
Mr. Jim Haigler, Cartersville, GA
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Marr, Birmingham, AL
Mrs. Richard McClurg, Cartersville, GA
Mrs. Georgia Morris McMinnin, Eufaula, OK
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Phillips, Woodstock, GA
Mr. & Mrs. Cal Powell, Cartersville, GA
Mr. Lewis Shorpshire, Athens, GA
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Thomas, Cartersville, GA

SCOUTS TO RESCUE



Webelos and Boy Scouts from St. Francis Catholic Church join in the cleanup at Allatoona Pass. Scout leader Miles Chesley brought a large group of about twenty boys and adults to work on a November Saturday. Pictured are some who participated.

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Mr. Ernest Garrison.

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