



ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Promoting and enhancing the awareness and preservation of
the heritage and traditions of Bartow County*



Volume 46, November 2002

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

Special Year-End Anniversary Edition

EVHS Celebrates 30th Anniversary at Valley View

Annual Business Meeting
& Awards Presentation
October 5, 2002

Attendance at the EVHS Annual Business Meeting reached almost one hundred, as members and guests gathered in celebration of the society's 30th anniversary at Valley View, the historic home where it all began.

With nightfall coming earlier these days, the meeting got underway while dinner was still being enjoyed, but no one seemed to mind. The mood was fun and festive, the evening punctuated with much laughter and applause. For the many members still elated after their day-long participation in the successful event at Allatoona Pass, the happy evening with EVHS family and friends was especially enjoyable.

In his last official act as EVHS president, Guy Parmenter presided over the meeting with obvious delight at the large turnout. Recapping the society's accomplishments over the last year and handing out awards took up most of the meeting. In addition to the awards, Guy was pleased to recognize, on behalf of the board of directors, the wonderful courthouse volunteers who keep the EVHS office open. In honor of their work for the society, they received invitations to a special luncheon—to be prepared and served by board members—at Valley View in November.

Jodeen Brown was also recognized by Guy with the gift of a golf shirt embroidered with the EVHS logo. The shirt made its debut that morning when it was worn by volunteers at Allatoona Pass, and was an especially appropriate gift for Jodeen, who designed the logo for the society.

Among the handful of those original members who organized the society thirty years ago, in 1972, four were at the meeting: Lizette Entwisle, Margaret Knight, Pat Mansfield, and Bob Norton. Guy was full of surprises that night, but the best surprise was when he had a cake brought out and presented to the society. Lizette had the honor of blowing out the candles and making a "happy" wish for

*See **Anniversary & Awards**, continued on page 4*



Lizette Entwisle, one of the original organizers of EVHS, had the honor of blowing out the candles on the anniversary cake presented by EVHS board member Joanne Smith during the Annual Business Meeting & Awards Presentation on October 5, 2002.



*This holiday season, treat yourself
to something wonderful*

Christmas at Rose Lawn

6:30 o'clock p.m.

Saturday, December 7, 2002

*Live Entertainment &
Catered Dining
\$15*

Reservations: 770-606-8862



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Administration
Ed Hill
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John Lewis

The EVHS office and research
facilities are located in the
1903 courthouse at
115 West Cherokee Avenue
in downtown Cartersville.

Visit EVHS online at
www.evhsonline.org

Email
evhs@evhsonline.org



1903 Courthouse Centennial Celebration

Lewis Benjamin Matthews Shedding Light on Another "Forgotten Folk"

On the very day the September issue of the EVHS Newsletter arrived in his mailbox, member Stan Moseley contacted the Courthouse Centennial Committee with the news that his great uncle had been the chairman of the Board of Bartow County Commissioners when the 1903 courthouse was built. Stan pulled together his resources, and here shares with us information about Lewis Benjamin Matthews.

The upcoming Courthouse Centennial Celebration has prompted for me some points of focus that might be of interest to members of EVHS. Through research of the Matthews family, family hand-me-down notes, and my own memories while a boy living in Cartersville, it is timely to share about my great Uncle Lewis Benjamin Matthews.

Uncle Lewis was a citizen of Cartersville and very active in both city and county affairs. The courthouse was built under his chairmanship as Committee Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. He pursued forcefully for the structure that we will honor in January. Many did not want the splendid building but, as quoted by the writer of his obituary, Lewis' position on the building of the courthouse was stubbornly antagonized but having the cooperation of the majority of his fellow-members on the board, backed up by a responsible and representative citizenship, and conscious that in the time to come the people would approve, Uncle Lewis went on undaunted and succeeded in having built one of the finest public buildings in Georgia. His foresight has proven to be correct.

Uncle Lewis was born on March 20, 1828, in Lincoln County, North Carolina, in the Buffalo Creek area. His father was Anderson Matthews and mother, Elizabeth Copeland Matthews. Uncle Lewis was one of 10 children. The youngest, Joseph A. Matthews, was my great grandfather; he also was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina, was a Cartersville citizen, and passed in 1921 at his home at 18 Greene Street, in Cartersville. His wife was Lettie Jarvis Matthews.

My research on the Matthews family has led me to two brothers leaving Greenock, Scotland, in 1774, coming to New York Harbor on the ship "Matty." Lewis's grandfather was Samuel, who settled in South

Carolina, and then moved a short distance into North Carolina in what is now Cleveland County, near Shelby, North Carolina. In 1838, Anderson and Elizabeth with their family moved to Forsyth County, Georgia, and then into Cherokee County, near Keithsburg, Georgia. Their residence was land which is now on the Fate Conn Road.

Lewis was adventuresome and went to California with some other brothers to find his gold. If there was great success in this venture, the family was not made aware. To my knowledge there was very little "gold talk." The adventure was a two year event.

Lewis had mechanical talents and, upon his return from California, joined Cooper Iron Works on the Etowah. He worked in the blacksmith shops and in the rolling mills at these works. In the 1850s Uncle Lewis married Mrs. Susan C. Chamblee, a widow. There were no children by this marriage, but his wife had a daughter, Mary Chamblee, who was reared by Lewis and Susan. Mary married a gentleman by the name of Zenor.

The War Between the States approached and Uncle Lewis was detailed by the Confederate Government to continue working at Cooper's operation. The Confederates took over the plant to manufacture war materials. Uncle Lewis later moved to Indiana. When he returned to Georgia, he made Cartersville his home, establishing himself in the grocery business at the corner of Wall Street and Church Street. Susan Chamblee Matthews died December 1913, at their home on Tennessee Street.

Lewis lived on until March 1917 and is buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. Uncle Lewis lost his eyesight two years prior to death. He remained cheerful and showed continued life interest. Lewis was age 88 at death.

Writers of his obituary speak of him as an active person in civic affairs, serving as Mayor of Cartersville at one time, a Judge,



Speaking of the Cornerstone...

The cornerstone of the courthouse was laid on Thursday, April 23, 1902 with full Masonic honors. Following a luncheon attended by members of every lodge in the county, about 150 Masons assembled at the lodge in downtown Cartersville and paraded to the courthouse, where a crowd of 600 spectators had gathered.

The ceremony opened with a prayer by Rev. George W. Yarbrough. Judge Thomas W. Milner delivered the welcoming address, which was followed by a speech by Judge Augustus W. Fite, who called the courthouse "the house of every man in Bartow County." Music and singing, performed by a local quartet, kept the atmosphere festive.

Thirty-seven separate items were placed inside the hollow cornerstone, including much Masonic paraphernalia: the request by county authorities to the "most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia" for the ceremony, a roll of officers of the lodge, a lodge manual and Masonic Law Digest, a stone-cutter's journal, and a Masonic apron. Other items placed inside the stone included Confederate bills, notes, and postage stamps, local and Atlanta newspapers, a silver coin dated 1773, a 1902 nickel, and a widow's mite inscribed with the Lord's Prayer.

Though what is thought to be a complete list of the stone's contents was published in the April 30, 1902 *News and Courier*, there is speculation that it might also contain the architectural plans of the courthouse and, perhaps, a word of encouragement to future generations. ☺

Chairman of the Board of Bartow County Commissioners, L.B. Matthews supervised the construction of the courthouse. His name survives, inscribed on the courthouse cornerstone, laid on April 4, 1902, which reads in part, "L.B. Matthews, Chairman."

Chairman of the Bartow County Board of Commissioners, and a member of the local lodge of Free and Accepted Master Masons—a strong and useful member of this secret society. His funeral service was conducted under Masonic honors. Both Pastors, Rev. C. L. McGinty, First Baptist Church, and Rev. John Logan, First Methodist Church, presided at the service. Pallbearers were Judge A.W. Fite, W.T. Townsend, James W. Stanford, G. M. Jackson, Lee Freeman, and E. G. Shaw.

As a boy my Mother, Kathleen Matthews Moseley, said her Uncle Lewis was quite instrumental in the construction of the Court House. It was not until my later years that I read and researched this information.

No doubt there are many memories and stories relating to this structure. I have two vivid memories. The first centers on the courthouse lawn, when Governor Eugene Talmage came to Cartersville and spoke to an obvious loving crowd. I believe the time frame was in the 1940s. The crowd was wild with praise and yelled to Gene to take off his coat and show his red suspenders. He did, and the crowd was excited big time.

The other memory I have about the old court house has to do with a black custodian who worked there. His name is not remembered. A few of us boys liked to raise pigeons and this man met us at night and let us go up in the dome and collect pigeons while they were at roost. We would get a crate full for \$3. This might not have been allowed by authorities, but the old gentleman could use the money, and we raised the pigeons, enjoying their soothing sounds and their many colors. I was a boy about 14 years old. My money came from part-time work at the Georgia Gold Dairy.

It is my privilege to salute Uncle Lewis, wishing I could have known him and regretful that my accounting of his life is limited. He was a contributor and a useful man to his community. ☺

Stan Moseley, October 2002

You are Cordially Invited
to a Dedication Ceremony for the
1903 Bartow County Courthouse
Sunday, January 12, 2003
2:30 p.m., on the Courthouse Lawn

Reception & Open House to follow
Please join us as we honor this enduring symbol
of hope and home, as we dedicate it to the
next century and rededicate it to
the people of Bartow County.

Sponsored by
the Etowah Valley Historical Society



Dinner on the grounds at Valley View

EVHS. As the smoke cleared, everyone sang "Happy Birthday," fumbling only as they reached the last couple of lines, and ending the song with laughter and applause.

Darkness interfered somewhat with the Awards Presentation, and some photographs didn't come out. But those who were there witnessed for themselves the surprised faces of those who received the handsome, carved wooden plaques presented to awardees. Recognized for their active and outstanding participation within the society were: James Hamilton for his work with the annual events at Allatoona and Iron Hill; J.B. Tate for his efforts to help preserve Spring Bank as county greenspace and for his many, many other activities; Tricia Simmons for her leadership of the 2001 Tour of Historic Homes; Ed Hill for his tireless work at Allatoona Pass and Friendship-Puckett Cemetery; Diane & Dennis Mooney for Allatoona Pass and Clayton House preservation; and Michael Garland for his work on numerous projects and special events, and his all-around work within the society. Billy Womack and Bill Smith, who saved the Stegall House in Emerson from certain destruction, also received plaques. David and Chantal Parker were recognized for their editorship of the newsletter and other work they do within the society, but not with plaques. The couple were given matching denim shirts with the EVHS logo. Chantal received a bonus gift of a red North Face jacket, also embroidered with the society's logo.

In addition to the awards mentioned above, Bob and Mary Norton, who own Valley View with Bob's sisters, received a plaque recognizing the historic home as the birthplace of the Etowah Valley Historical Society. Bob's sister Shirley Rudisill, her son Jones, and his girlfriend Mel Greene were also at the meeting. Guy expressed great gratitude, on behalf of the society, for the family's preservation of the landmark home.

Bob presented a brief history of the home prior to the awards presentation. He and his sisters inherited the ancestral estate from their father. Prior to and following the meeting, the house was open for visitors to walk through

and enjoy.

Valley View was built in the 1840s by Bob's great grandfather James Caldwell Sproull, a planter from Abbeville District, South Carolina. The brick used in construction was made from native clay baked in kilns erected nearby, with native limestone burned for the mortar. The beautiful woodwork throughout the house is made of heart-pine timber harvested from the property as the land was cleared for farming. Original furnishings include a china cabinet made from the plentiful walnut on the plantation by the Sproulls' German cabinet maker, Mr. Vitinger, called Mr. Witey by the family. A boxwood maze and a hedge of Carolina cherry were constructed with plants brought from the South Carolina homeplace of Sproull's wife. The maze was thought to have been laid out in a "wagon wheel" design, but Bob reported that it was recently identified as a "sun and moon" design, distinguished by its circular left side and angular right side. The original plantation extended over Sproull Mountain and into the Mission Road Valley.

In the fall of 1864, General John Schofield was headquartered at Valley View for three months. During that time horses were stabled in the parlor to keep them safe from Confederate skirmishing. A rosewood piano, since converted into a desk, was used as a horse trough. In one of the upstairs closets, an inscription left by Union soldiers reads: "Newton Westfall, 4th Indiana Cavalry, Sept. 7th '64, Michael McNertry." A bullethole in one of the back porch columns was reportedly fired by a Confederate who rode his horse up to the well and shot a Union soldier as he leaned against the column reading. There are also minie ball scars on the wall of the original detached kitchen.

The meeting concluded with a little business, as vice president David Parker attended to the election of new directors and a change in the EVHS by-laws. Returning to the board are Mary Norton and Ed Hill. Guy Parmenter is leaving, and coming on board is Joe Head. Joe is a past EVHS vice-president and the one-man Entertainment Committee for the annual Christmas celebration. The approved revision of the by-laws will allow flexibility in scheduling the annual meeting so that it does not conflict with events at Allatoona, and will become effective with the 2003 annual meeting. The society's by-laws may be viewed at the EVHS office in the 1903 courthouse.

As Guy pointed out, it was an outstanding year for the society, one that is sure to be remembered for many years to come. ☺

Purchase your EVHS Golf Shirt and Allatoona Pass T-shirt today. Quantities are limited. No, really. They are. So call today, 770-606-8862, email us at evhs@evhsonline.org, or visit our office in the 1903 courthouse to find out how to get your very own EVHS and Allatoona Pass shirts.

Golf Shirt with embroidered EVHS logo \$30 (most sizes)
Allatoona Pass T-shirt \$12 (sizes L & XL only)

For mail delivery, add \$3 S&H

Congratulations To All Our Award Winners

Shown with EVHS President Guy Parmenter



Bob & Mary Norton
*Preservation of Valley View,
Birthplace of the EVHS*



Diane & Dennis Mooney
*Allatoona Pass and
Clayton House Preservation*



Michael Garland
*Numerous Projects and Special Events,
and invaluable assistance to the EVHS*



James Hamilton
Allatoona Pass and Iron Hill Events



Jodeen Brown
EVHS Logo Design



J.B. Tate
*Spring Bank Greenspace and
invaluable assistance to the EVHS*



Ed Hill
*Friendship-Puckett Cemetery and
Allatoona Pass Preservation*



Tricia Simmons
2001 Tour of Historic Homes Chairperson



Chantal & David Parker
*Newsletter, Numerous Projects
and invaluable assistance to the EVHS*



Billy Womack & Bill Smith
Stegall House Preservation

Congratulations To Our Courthouse Volunteers

Becky Boyle
Ann Bridges
Emily Champion
Linda Cochran
Jean Cochran
Lelia Johnson
Carol McLean
Carolyn Parmenter
Glenda Collier
Joretta Scott
Tricia Simmons
Laurette Smith
Ellen Thomasson
Linda Trentham
Tish Johnson
Bob Redwine
Trudy Redwine
Martha Mercer
Pat Mansfield
Norma Tidwell
Candy Antonio
Rosemary Clabo
DiAnne Monroe

Look What We Did!

The Year in Review

2002

October 13-14, 2001

Allatoona Pass Civil War Encampment

EVHS had been preserving the Pass for about 8 years, and the Georgia Division of Reenactors had been camping there for about 11. It just made sense that the two organizations should get together to promote the battlefield's history. And what better way to celebrate that first occasion than with the dedication of a monument honoring the Missouri troops who fought there.

November 3-4, 2001

Tour of Historic Homes

Following the passage by the City of Cartersville of an historic preservation ordinance, the biannual tour highlighted homes in the historic Olde Town neighborhood to illustrate the possibilities of purchasing and preserving an older home.

December 8, 2001

Christmas at Rose Lawn

The traditional holiday gathering of the EVHS, complete with live music, great eats, and the company of friends, is an annual treat seldom passed up by members.

January 17

Membership Meeting

Architectural historian Dr. Fred McCaleb's outstanding lecture and slide presentation, "A Walk Through 19th Century America," left members begging for more and hoping for his return. (We're keeping our fingers crossed.)

February 14

Family Tree Climbers Genealogy Workshop

Just in time for Valentine's Day, the EVHS Family Tree Climbers offered a workshop on "Researching Marriage Records and Finding Maiden Names," led by genealogist Linda Cochran.

February 16

Friendship-Puckett Cemetery Preservation

EVHS began the task of cleaning up one of the oldest cemeteries in Bartow County. The effort followed a fire in the area that threatened, but fortunately didn't damage, the historic cemetery founded by the First Presbyterian Church congregation in the 1840s.

February 21

Membership Meeting

Dr. Randall Patton, author of *Carpet Capital: The Rise of a New South Industry*, presented an interesting history of the Shaw family and the carpet industry in Bartow County.

March 14

Family Tree Climbers Genealogy Workshop

The Family Tree Climbers celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a workshop entitled "Ellis Island and the Search for Immigrant Ancestors," led by Linda Cochran.

March 21

Civil War Roundtable

Civil War historian and the author of many books, including *Forgotten Confederates*, Charles Kelly Barrow was the guest speaker at a combined membership meeting and Civil War roundtable. Kelly's presentation on forgotten black Confederates drew a large crowd of interested members.

April 15

Membership Meeting

One of the largest turnouts of the year was for guest speaker Jim Rongers, whose program "Cassville Before the War" shed new light on the previous scholarship of Cassville historian Joseph Mahan. Jim's enormous map of what the former county seat looked like before the war was of special interest to the audience.

April 27

Hills of Iron

It's hard to believe anything could top that first Hills of Iron program, which won Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites Service's highly coveted "Most Innovative Special Program" award, but the second one did. The addition of boat tours to the site (now an island) of the former home of Mark Cooper and "iron enthusiasts" from Alabama tipped the scales. The Alabama crowd actually built a mini-furnace behind the lodge at Red Top and smelted ore extracted from Iron Hill.

May 5

Mayfest

Volunteers braved the cold and blustery weather to man a booth at the downtown Mayfest celebration in Cartersville. A first for the society, EVHS teamed up with other historical organizations to sponsor the booth and hand out literature about the county's distinguished history. The society also sponsored a drawing for two door prizes.

May 12-18

Historic Preservation Week

The week-long celebration in honor of National Historic Preservation Month included a county-wide "Sample Our History" Open House organized by EVHS with other historical organizations. The week climaxed with "An Evening Downtown," sponsored by EVHS and featuring live music.

May 18

Membership Dinner Meeting

Members Jody & Delean Brandon were gracious hosts when the May membership meeting came to their home "Belvedere" in Stilesboro. Jody even treated the membership to a little Stilesboro and Brandon family history, which tends to run hand-in-hand through the history books.

May 18

Lifetime Achievement Award

After months of scheming and plotting—in secret, no

less—EVHS pulled off one of the biggest surprises of its history, honoring Mary Ellen Taff with the first ever “EVHS Lifetime Achievement Award,” which recognizes life-long efforts in the field of historic preservation.

June 8 & 22

Family Tree Climbers Genealogy Workshop

The most popular genealogy workshop this year was the “Beginning Genealogy” classes taught by Linda Cochran. Every year, more and more people are becoming interested in their family history, and EVHS is happy to sponsor these “how-to” classes free of charge.

June 22

Membership Dinner Meeting

Host Billy Wright was delighted with the turnout to the June membership meeting at Old Mill Farm, where his family has bred and trained race horses for generations. Billy's grandmother, Francis Weinman, married the famous horse trainer Huratio Luro, who trained Kentucky Derby winners Decidedly and Northern Dancer at Old Mill Farm.

July

Membership Meeting

It was too hot to meet, so we didn't! We all stayed home with the air conditioning on and iced tea at the ready.

August 31

Membership Dinner Meeting

It was just like an old-fashioned homecoming when EVHS met at the Munford-Birdsong House in Powder Springs. Before it was moved to Cobb County, the house was the home of the historical society; now it's the home of members Bill & Angela Birdsong.

September 21

Ramble to Spring Bank

It was like a meeting, except we didn't get to sit down much, and it was like a field trip, except we didn't have a bus. We did have J.B. Tate, however, whose extensive knowledge of the Howard family and the historic property made the first-ever EVHS Ramble a great success. Hey, let's do it again next year!

Wait, there's more!

The generosity of our members never ceases to amaze us. In January, **Barry Colbaugh** donated a microfiche reader and numerous books to the society. Also in January, EVHS was thrilled and very grateful to receive the large private collection of books and research materials of **Grady Golden**.

In March, **Judge Jere White** donated a lovely, one-of-a-kind pen and ink drawing of the courtroom to the society. And this summer, historian and author **Bill Scaife** graciously gave EVHS all the rights to his book *Allatoona Pass: A Needless Effusion of Blood*.

Throughout the year, many other members donated books and research materials to the society that have helped to dramatically increase our holdings, and help establish us as one of the foremost research facilities in Northwest Georgia. Contributions of time and money have also been

gratefully received this year.

Outside of the membership, EVHS received over \$400—half the proceeds!—from the Atlanta Campaign Interpretive Event held in November at Conyers Horse Park. The event raises money to benefit the preservation efforts at Allatoona Pass and Pickett's Mill.

EVHS extends its heartfelt thanks to all of our contributors and donors, and those who keep us continually in their thoughts. ☺

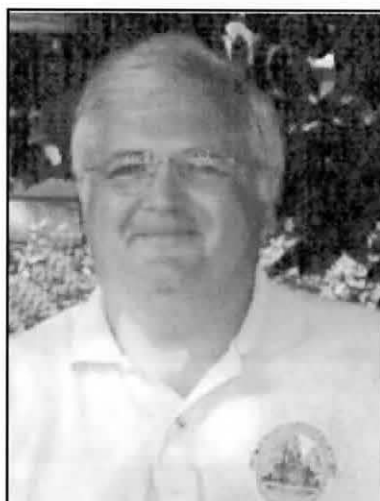
Special Thanks

As Guy Parmenter *yet again* retires from the EVHS Board of Directors, we express our deepest gratitude for his excellent leadership in bringing the historical society to its respected position in the community.

Guy has served off and on as president and/or chairman of EVHS for almost two decades, and much of the

society's growth and success can be directly attributed to his leadership. The annual Hills of Iron event, the Vaughan Cabin Relocation Project, the Allatoona Pass Battlefield Restoration Project, and the annual Allatoona Pass event (to name just a few) were, and still are, all accomplished with Guy at the helm of each and every project.

Guy is also the EVHS Library Chairman and one-man committee who has al-



*Outgoing EVHS President
Guy Parmenter*

most single-handedly developed the EVHS library into the top-notch research facility it is today. His tireless efforts to track down and purchase for the society every obscure Georgia and Bartow County history was topped only by the hours he put into building bookcases to hold them.

And without Guy, no one would even have known what was going on in the society because he was also, for many, many years, the newsletter editor.

Early on, Guy set high standards of excellence for the society, which can, in part, account for our growing membership, and which continue to make a difference in our appearance and presence in the community. The valuable contacts he has made for the society throughout the state has also increased our respectability.

Though he is happy to retire from the board of directors for a much needed rest, Guy won't be going far. His passion for the preservation of local history won't allow it. And so Guy will take on a new role with the society, that of “Advisor to the Board.”

Thanks, Guy, for all you continue to do. ☺



Allatoona Pass

EVHS was pleased to sponsor, for the first time, a Civil War encampment and battlefield tours on October 13-14, 2001 at the Pass. The society also developed a memorial area on the battle field and helped place the first monument. The Missouri Monument paid tribute to troops under the command of General Francis Marion Cockrell, who fought at Allatoona on October 5, 1864.



Christmas at Rose Lawn

"It's the most wonderful time of the year!"



Friendship-Puckett Cemetery Preservation

A handful of EVHS volunteers showed up on a cold day in February to begin cleanup of one of the county's oldest cemeteries. Pictured left to right are: Guy Parmenter, Pat Mansfield, David Parker, Carl Etheridge, and Ed Hill. Not pictured is Chantal Parker.

Family Tree Climbers Genealogy Workshops

Linda Cochran led three workshops this year, in February, March, and June, for genealogists looking for some how-tos. Topics included "Beginning Genealogy," "Researching Marriage Records & Maiden Names," and "Ellis Island & the Search for Immigrant Ancestors." Shown above, left to right, are: Trey Gaines, Linda Cochran, Megan Gravely, and Tina Shadden. Four more genealogy workshops are scheduled for 2003.



Snapshots

Tour of Historic Homes

Mal & Gail Underwood were among the proud homeowners who laid out their welcome mats for the EVHS "Come Harvest Our History" 2001 Tour of Historic Homes on November 3-4, 2001. The tour, sponsored by the EVHS Preservation Committee and led by Tricia Simmons, featured 5 homes in the Olde Town Neighborhood, and raised almost \$4,500 for preservation projects.



Kudos to Hills of Iron

At the January Membership Meeting, James Hamilton shared the good news that the inaugural Hills of Iron program in May 2001 had won the coveted "Most Innovative Special Program at a Park" award, given by Georgia State Parks & Historical Sites. The truly "innovative" program celebrated the iron industry in Bartow County and was dually sponsored by EVHS and Red Top Mountain State Park.





Cassville Before the War

One of the most popular membership meetings of the year was on April 15th, when Cassville historian Jim Rongers shared his research and detailed map (on the table above) about old Cassville.



Hills of Iron

The second annual Hills of Iron program, on April 27, achieved great success with the addition of boating tours to Glen Holly and a real working furnace constructed by iron enthusiasts from Alabama.



Membership Dinner Meeting at Old Mill Farm

EVHS held four dinner meetings in 2002, each one deliciously catered by Miss Charlotte and her wonderful crew at Unique Caterers. Besides the meeting at Old Mill Farm, with our host Billy Wright, dinner meetings were held at the homes of Jody & Delean Brandon in Stilesboro, Bill & Angela Birdsong in Powder Springs, and Bob & Mary Norton in Cartersville. We should probably also count the breakfast meeting at Morrells Corner Café in Kingston that kicked off the Ramble to Spring Bank in September.



Historic Preservation Week

It began with a booth at Mayfest on one of the coldest Saturdays of the year and ended with an EVHS-sponsored evening downtown, complete with music. In between were numerous activities, including an Open House (above) where Joel Adams served up plenty of hospitality, along with chicken wings.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Mary Ellen Taff, (right) with the Euharlee Historical Society, was honored on May 18, 2002 with the very first "Lifetime Achievement Award," given by EVHS to those outstanding people who uphold the mission of the society.



Behind the Scenes

The Anniversary event at Allatoona didn't just happen. Waaaaay back in July EVHS members met with representatives from other organizations (below) to set the wheels in motion. Months of planning go into every event EVHS sponsors—



from membership meetings to community projects—and the success of every event is directly attributable to the volunteers who make it happen. EVHS is a volunteer organization, after all. So, as you read over this year-end special edition of the newsletter, make note of the faces you see and the people who make it all happen. We couldn't do it without them.

The 138th Anniversary of the Battle of Allatoona Pass

October 5 & 6, 2002

Well over 500 people visited the Pass for the 138th Anniversary of the bloody battle fought in Bartow County on October 5, 1864.

The rain that fell for days prior to the event, and let up only the night before, simulated, almost exactly, conditions 138 years ago. Participants of the first tour on Saturday morning had the bonus experience of being on the battlefield at the same time of day the battle occurred. Though more than a century separated the battle and the anniversary, the experience of the morning tour under the same conditions, at the same time, on the same day lent great emotion to the event.

EVHS volunteers, working hard in the heat and humidity, presented a professional and uniform appearance wearing golf shirts embroidered with the EVHS logo. The shirts, designed for the 30th anniversary of the society, made their debut during the event. In fact, it was a weekend for debuts, as the new Allatoona Pass t-shirt and the new Allatoona Pass brochure were also debuted.

Appearing for the first time in public was the Don Troiani print "Allatoona Pass," shown at the Clayton-Mooney House. The print, commissioned by the Booth Western Art Museum, illustrates the hand-to-hand combat that took place around the area of the Star Fort.

Over \$1,000 was brought in through book and t-shirt sales, and the society even picked up a few new members. Donations for the Texas Monument Fund came to \$1,700.

On Saturday afternoon, the dedication of the Texas monument attracted a large crowd of spectators to the memorial area of the battlefield, where everyone was awed by the thunderous echoing of a cannon salute. Key-note speaker for the dedication was Chuck Carlock, author of *The Tenth Texas Cavalry*, and a descendant of one of the soldiers in the Texas brigade. A wreath laid at the monument by Lisa Ellis, with the P.M.B. Young



Roy Queen, interpretive ranger at Red Top Mountain State Park, enjoyed showing off a Henry repeating rifle like those used by Illinois troops during the Battle of Allatoona Pass.



Above: Visitors were greeted at the mouth of the pass by reenactors who described the conditions under which Confederate soldiers lived and fought, the uniforms they wore, and the gear they carried with them. A bugle demonstration called the troops to assembly (below).



The infantry demonstration included weapons firing by company (front and back lines simultaneously), by rank (front or back line), and by file (one front and one back man). Above, the entire company fires.

Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, paid further tribute to the fallen Texans.

During the dedication ceremony, EVHS President Guy Parmenter awarded Allatoona Pass historian Bill Scaife a plaque for his help in interpreting the battle for signs EVHS

See Allatoona Pass, continued on page 16



The encampment, where reenactors ate, slept, and lived for two days, was established on the hill overlooking the historic Clayton-Mooney House on the west and the memorial grounds on the east.



Cannon fire in the heart of the Pass signalled the near completion of the tour, which ended with a visit to the Star Fort, where most of the battle action occurred.



Col Ken Padgett (third from left) and officers of the Georgia Division of Civil War Reenactors offer their solemn respects during the Sunday memorial to Missouri Troops.



The Texas monument was unveiled during ceremonies on Saturday, Oct. 5.



Among the EVHS volunteers working the two-day event were (front, l-r) Joanne Smith & Diane Mooney; (back, l-r) David Parker, Guy Parmenter & Dennis Mooney. Not pictured are Ed Hill, Michael Garland, Linda Parmenter & Chantal Parker. The volunteers achieved a uniform presence with their new EVHS logo golf shirts, which debuted at the event.



The next generation of EVHS volunteers was represented by Gentry & Katie Mae Parker, who manned a table on the Mooney porch, where they sold local Civil War histories and Allatoona t-shirts. Not pictured are Lance & Adam Mooney, who also worked the Pass toting drinks, directing visitors, and helping out wherever they could.



Posing at the newly erected Texas monument are (Front, l-r) Clay Williams, Jim Dale & Chuck Carlock; (Back, l-r) John Ben Williams & David Parker.

What Do EVHS Members Do In Their Spare Time?



On September 28, 2002, geologist and EVHS member Stan Bearden (right) led a tour of Mineral Mines in Bartow County. The day-long program was sponsored by Jose Santamaria (left) and the Weinman Mineral Museum. The inaugural tour was a huge success, and rumors are that Stan enjoyed it so much, he just might lead another tour again next year. ☺

For This EVHS Member, It's A Living

EVHS has a wonderful relationship with Red Top Mountain State Park, and part of the reason for that is EVHS member and park superintendent James Hamilton. James is the link in the successful partnership forged between the society and the state park, whose desire to preserve historic resources opened the door to such co-sponsored annual events as Hills of Iron and Allatoona Pass. James's latest venture was to establish a blacksmith shop behind the Vaughan Cabin (another co-sponsored project). The shop and equipment was donated by the Sonny Jackson family and was dedicated on Sunday, October 20, 2002. James is always generous with his public praise of EVHS, and the society is more than happy to return that praise to one of its most valuable members. ☺



Three generations of the Jackson family were on hand to dedicate the Jackson Blacksmith Shop at Red Top Mountain State Park with (far right) James Hamilton and State Parks Director Burt Weerts.

Community Benefits When EVHS Members Get Involved

By Masie Underwood

The Etowah Valley Historical Society is well represented on the 7-member Cartersville Historic Preservation Commission. The two newest commission members, Daniese Archer and Alison Dillen, are both EVHS members. They replace Genie Certain and Kate Dougherty.



EVHS members on the Cartersville Historic Preservation Commission are (l-r) Kate Dougherty, Alison Dillen, Joel Adams, Daniese Archer, and Genie Certain. Kate's & Genie's terms recently ended. Not pictured are Emily Champion and Masie Underwood. (Photo by Masie Underwood)

The City of Cartersville created the Cartersville Historic Preservation Commission in May 2001. In September that year, the original members were appointed, including EVHS members Joel Adams, who chairs the commission, Masie Underwood, co-chair, Emily Champion, Kate Dougherty, and Genie Certain.

Since its creation, commission members have attended statewide training sessions and worked toward establishing historic preservation guide-

lines and historic districts in compliance with state and federal regulations. They have spent hours working on the guidelines, that will soon be ready for public hearing to gain input from local residents prior to presentation to the city council for approval.

The two newest commission members bring numerous talents to the board. Alison Dillen, a native of Rome, has lived in Cartersville since 1990. She and her daughter Anna Rose Dillen, make their home in the Olde Town neighborhood of Cartersville, which is expected to be one of the first historic districts submitted by the commission to the city council for its approval in the next few months. Alison is a graphic designer, whose home was featured during the EVHS "Come Harvest Our History" Tour of Historic Homes in 2001. She is also an active member of the Olde Town Neighborhood Association.

Daniese Archer, a former Atlanta native, made her home in Cartersville 23 years ago when she married Cartersville native Russell Archer. Daniese and her husband own and operate Arco Ideas and Designs in Cartersville. Their home on West Avenue was featured during the 1995 Tour of Historic Homes. ☺

Rebecca Felton

The Nation's First Woman Senator

By David Parker

This month marks the 80th anniversary of Cartersville's Rebecca Latimer Felton being named and seated as the first woman in the U.S. Senate.

The story begins on September 26, 1922, when Senator Tom Watson died suddenly, just days after the ending of the second session of the 67th Congress.

Watson's death created a situation similar to that when Senator Paul Coverdell died in July 2000: before a special election was held to replace the deceased senator, the governor appointed a replacement. Governor Roy Barnes appointed Zell Miller, which of course gave Miller the advantage of incumbency when the special election was held in November.

In 1922, when Tom Watson died, the governor, Thomas Hardwick, had the opportunity to appoint a temporary replacement. But unlike the situation in 2000, Governor Hardwick had no desire to give anyone an advantage in the special election, to be held on October 17, because Hardwick himself wanted to run for Watson's seat. This presented a problem for the governor: Whoever he appointed would have an advantage in October, but he couldn't appoint the person he wanted to win, which was himself. What could he do?

Hardwick decided that the best plan would be to appoint someone who could not realistically run in the special election.

Rebecca Felton was perfect. The governor knew that, at 87 years old, Felton would not run for the seat. And he also figured that appointing Felton would gain for him the political support of Georgia's women. Prior to the 19th Amendment, women were not allowed to vote, and Rebecca Felton had been one of the nation's strongest champions for women's suffrage. Hardwick had offended women by his active opposition to the 19th Amendment, ratified just two years earlier. Perhaps he figured that by appointing Felton as the first woman in the U.S. Senate, he could unruffle a few feathers and gain a few female votes, while keeping the seat open for his own candidacy.

On October 3, Hardwick announced the appointment of Rebecca Felton: "She is wise, even beyond her years,

and is glorious in the sunset of a splendid and useful life." He was sorry, he said, that Mrs. Felton would not be able to actually serve as senator, but by the time the next session of Congress began, in November, a successor would have been elected.

People in Cartersville were proud of their new senator. The local paper published a cartoon labeled "Grandmother

of Yesterday and Today." The first picture showed an old woman at the fireplace; the second showed the same woman making a speech in the U.S. Senate.

On the same day that he made the appointment, the governor announced that he himself would be a candidate for Tom Watson's seat. As it turned out, Hardwick lost the election to Walter F. George, who ended up serving with distinction in the Senate for many years.

Senator-elect George, at the urging of thousands of women across the country, agreed that when the new session began, he would not present himself as Georgia's new senator for a couple of days, allowing the Senate, if it wished, to swear in and seat Rebecca Felton, so she could go down in history as more than a senator "in name only." But would the Senate agree to seat Mrs. Felton, knowing that another person had been duly elected to that seat? A newspaper in Texas ran a cartoon of an elderly woman looking into a room filled with men in

their big chairs. The caption read: "Will the gentlemen offer the lady a seat?"

At noon on November 21, the second day of the new session, with George remaining in the background and with little debate, Rebecca Felton was sworn in as U.S. Senator. The next morning she made a speech thanking the Senate for allowing her to be sworn in, and especially George for letting her "have her day in the Senate." She said that she was just the first of many women who would someday be in the Senate, and she noted that those who followed her would serve with "ability," "integrity of purpose," and "unstinted usefulness." Senator-elect George was then sworn in. Felton's term had lasted for exactly 22 hours and 25 minutes. ∞



November 21st marks the anniversary of Rebecca Felton's swearing in as a United States Senator. A late-comer to the women's suffrage movement, she became one of its biggest champions early in the twentieth century, adding momentum to the movement.

Ramble to Spring Bank

September 21, 2002

In lieu of a membership meeting in September, EVHS hit the road for a Ramble to Spring Bank, the historic property recently purchased by the county as preserved greenspace. Leading the tour was EVHS member J.B. Tate. J.B. is a past president of EVHS and a retired history professor from Kennesaw State University. He currently serves on the county's Board of Greenspace, and was instrumental in helping the county acquire the property.



The spring at Spring Bank

published first-hand accounts of the effects of the Civil War on the civilian population.

The group of fourteen members and guests met at Morrells Corner Café in Kingston for breakfast before caravanning out to the 40-acre preserve. Arriving at the location of the house, which burned in 1974, visitors saw the rock wall which once surrounded the home, and which still remains. Huge sycamore trees lined the roughly 500-foot driveway that once led to the back of the house. It was down this drive that Frances and her sisters ran to meet Confederate troops in the spring of 1864.

From *In and Out of the Lines*: "At four o'clock on the morning of the 18th of May one of our servants awoke us to say that the army was passing. Dressing hurriedly we hastened to the upper gate, which opened directly upon the public road. A heavy gray mist at first concealed nearly everything from view, save objects only a few feet distant, but as the morning advanced the fog lifted, and as far as the eye extended nothing could be seen but a moving mass of men and horses.... For that distance we could see clearly.

Spring Bank was the home of Rev. Charles Wallace Howard, a scholar, clergyman, and writer, who came to Cass County in the 1830s and purchased a little over 800 acres of land north of Kingston. Here he settled his family and opened the Howard School, which operated into the 20th century. Howard's daughter, Frances Howard, is the author of *In and Out of the Lines*, one of the few



Ramblers met at Morrells Corner Café in Kingston for breakfast before heading out to Spring Bank, the historic property recently purchased as greenspace by Bartow County.

Such a multitude!"

Within 100 yards of the entrance to Spring Bank are the rock wall and filled-in cellar remains of the house, a spring and spring house foundation, the ruins of a gristmill, and the family cemetery. One of the highlights of the ramble was the Spring Bank White Oak Tree, estimated to be between 250 and 300 years old. The circumference of the tree is 19.2 feet, the crown spread is 101 feet, and the total height is 105 feet. It is the second-largest white oak in the state. The champion Georgia white oak, in East Point, has a 20-foot circumference, a 90-foot crown, and is 120 feet tall.

Clearing of the property was begun ten years ago by J.B. and another EVHS member, Michael Garland. In his youth, Michael frequently visited the family who lived at Spring Bank, and was able to share his memories of the home and grounds. The once lush, green pastures were seeded with pines in the 1980s following the purchase of the property by Bowater Timber Company, who turned the land into a hunting reserve.

The county has bush-hogged and cleaned up much of the heavily-wooded property, and will continue to maintain the site for user friendliness. There are no immediate plans by EVHS or the county for interpreting the history of Spring Bank, possibly with signage. But, as J.B. pointed out, that will come in time.

The tour concluded with a peek across the road at the now privately-owned town of Cement, Georgia, where Rev. Howard founded the Howard Hydraulic Cement Plant, which produced the cement used in the construction of the East River Bridge in New York, Union Depot in Chattanooga, Shorter College in Rome, and the post office in Atlanta.

For the rest of the century following the Civil War, publications focused on the politics and personalities, military strategies and battle accounts of the war. There was little or no interest in accounts of the war from a civilian particularly a female civilian, perspective. Written in 1870, *In and Out of the Lines* was not published until 1905, and

recounts the lives of Mrs. Howard and the four Howard daughters as they lived under Union occupation after Rev. Howard left home to join the Confederacy. The story is also told of Frances's difficult journey through Georgia, in and out of Confederate and Union lines, to find her father.

Following the first printing, Howard's book remained out of print for 92 years, until J.B. Tate and Michael Garland brought it to the attention of EVHS. In 1997, EVHS reprinted the book, adding numerous photographs and keeping all the descriptive details that were edited out of the original publication. *In and Out of the Lines* continues to be a popular seller, and may be purchased at the EVHS office in the 1903 courthouse, or from the EVHS website at www.evhsonline.org.



The Spring Bank White Oak Tree

EVHS Officers Elected

As reported elsewhere in this issue, the election of new EVHS board members took place at the annual business meeting on October 5th. The new administration met for their first board meeting of the fiscal year on October 8, 2002. The first order of business was the election of officers.

Stepping down as president is Guy Parmenter, who assumes the newly created position of Advisor to the Board. Stepping into the presidency is former Vice-President David Parker. The office of vice-president has been split into two positions: Vice-President of Administration is Ed Hill; Vice President of Programming is Joe Head. Michael Garland remains as Treasurer and Joanne Smith remains as Corresponding Secretary. Sitting in with the board as Recording Secretary is Rosemary Clabo.

The EVHS Board of Directors meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month. Members wishing to bring business before the board should contact the president by the Friday before the monthly meeting.

EVHS congratulates the new board members and officers; thanks them for taking an active role within the society; and offers them best wishes for the coming year.

A Plug for Sam Jones

Just a little nudge from the editors to remind readers about Christmas at Rose Lawn, the evangelist's former home

This item showed up recently on an online auction. It's called a tobacco tag. Tobacco tags were common from about 1870 to the 1930s. They were used in the days before tobacco plugs (chewing tobacco) were wrapped in paper or cellophane, as a way of identifying the brand.

The tag was a small tin label bearing the brand name and often an illustration. The tags came in all shapes, but all had sharp points that would be pressed into each piece of plug tobacco.

There were thousands of brands of plug tobacco in those years. Sometimes a single company would produce dozens of different brands. Customers could save the tags and redeem them for premiums, like saving box tops today. Catalogs from various companies listed hundreds of items that were available for as little as 25 tags for a child's silverware set, to as many as 90,000 for a grand piano.

Nowadays, people save tobacco tags not for premiums, but as collectibles. Recently one tag, for an R. J. Reynolds brand, sold at auction for \$2,300!

Apparently there was, at one time, a brand of plug tobacco called Sam Jones (that is certainly the evangelist's face on the tag).

Jones smoked and chewed tobacco his whole life, with only occasional lapses when he tried, always unsuccessfully, to quit. The habit did not sit well with northerners, who condemned Jones and urged him to give it up. "You ask how Christ would look on a theatre or a ballroom," two young men from Minneapolis wrote to Jones, listing two things he preached against, "and we ask how Christ would look upon smoking a pipe or cigar or chewing the filthy weed."

The pressure became so great during a revival in Chicago in 1886, that Jones announced he was quitting. But according to Kathleen Minnix, Jones's biographer, Jones's failure became public knowledge a few months later when a cigar company sent him a box of cigars and then used his letter of appreciation as an advertisement.

For the most part, Jones was unrepentant about his habit. When a church deacon asked him, "Why do you chew tobacco?" Jones replied, "To get the juice out." He said that he would give up tobacco when someone showed him a verse in the bible that said, "Look not upon the tobacco when it is yellow in the leaf, when it showeth its color in the plug."



A tobacco tag found online bears the likeness of evangelist Sam Jones.

erected at the Pass.

Sunday afternoon, a memorial service honored Missouri Troops, whose monument—the first on the battlefield—was erected last year. Like the monument dedication, the memorial service featured infantry and artillery salutes. EVHS member Gary Wehner laid the wreath.

The complimentary lunch on Sunday was sponsored by EVHS, with food contributed by Doug Ferguson of Doug's Place in Emerson. "Doug has been more than happy to do this for us for a number of years now," EVHS President Guy Parmenter said. "He's been very generous with us." Guy also expressed his delight with the huge success of the event, and his gratitude for the sponsors and many volunteers who helped make it happen. "We're especially grateful to Dennis and Dianne Mooney for opening up their home for tours; to James Hamilton and Roy Queen from Red Top Mountain State Park; and to Col. Ken Padgett and the Georgia Division of Civil War Reenactors," Guy said. ∞

EVHS Welcomes New Members

Ronny & Carlene Beck, Cartersville
Ariel & Sally Conlin, Cartersville
Joseph & Susanne Dabney, Cartersville
Deborah M. Hall, Cartersville
Jim & Jane McElreath, Cartersville
Martin & Leigh Ann Shepard, Cartersville
Resource Manager, Lake Allatoona Corps of
Engineers, Cartersville



Happy Holidays, Y'all
See ya next year!



Etowah Valley Historical Society
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www.evhsonline.org

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