

# ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September 1993

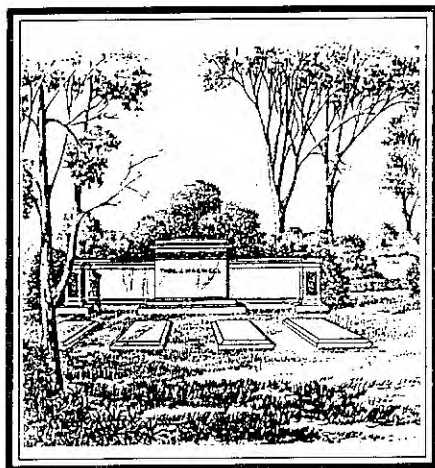
P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, Georgia 30120

## **EXCITEMENT! EXCITEMENT! EXCITEMENT!**

The Etowah Valley Historical Society is creating  
**EXCITEMENT** all across Bartow County.

Cemetery Records Book, Crossroads Television Show, Newsletters,  
Historic District, Meetings, Historic Awareness Signs, Increased  
Membership, Republishing "A History of Old Cassville, 1833-1864",  
Speakers Bureau... and more.

**What's New?...Details Inside!**



## **ANNOUNCING** *The publication of...* **BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA** **Formerly Cass** **CEMETERIES** **VOLUME 1**

This book is professionally lithographed on the finest quality acid-free archival paper, Smyth section sewn and bound, and encased in a handsome hardback cover with gold foil embossing and will contain approximately 475 pages covering 144 cemeteries. Order your copy soon. Pre-publication cost \$25.00 / Post-publication cost \$30.00. Call Mary Siniard at 387-5162 if you have not received your order form.

**NEW**

## HARRIS EXHIBIT

EVHS members J. B. Tate, Guy Parmenter, DiAnne Monroe, Tom Lewis and Michele Rodgers, along with Lisa Wheeler from the Etowah Foundation, met with Joe Frank and Elizabeth Harris on July 21. A request was made for the opportunity to house and exhibit the papers and memorabilia collected by the Harris' during Joe Frank's terms of public service as legislator and Governor. We intend to publicly acknowledge these as important contributions to the history of this community and the state. The Bartow History Center, a division of the Etowah Foundation, has agreed to house this exhibit for the Society. EVHS Director, Michele Rodgers, also serves as Director of the Bartow History Center.

Our request was well received by Joe Frank and Elizabeth. We are now in the process of reviewing the enormous volume of material. This project is a tremendous challenge that could take well over a year. Volunteers will be needed as well as monetary contributions. The Society will be responsible for the full cost of the actual display.

We do hope to conclude this project with a Joe Frank Harris celebration which would include an open house at the Museum and an appreciation dinner.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am enclosing a check for \$15 to cover membership in your society.

A cousin sent me the May issue-which I enjoyed but noted a mistake.

Dr. Michael Harris was born in Tennessee and bought The Oaks. He had sons, William Edward McDonough, James and Crampton. His brother was Alexander, father of Nat. Michael's mother was Diana McDonough - McDonough was my great grandfather. Enclosed is a copy of Michael's will.

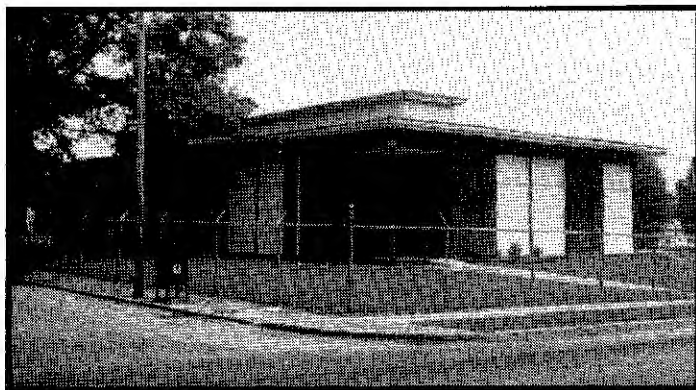
My wife's cousin Ora Vincent was married to B. B. Branson who owned the Benjamin Reynolds place in Kingston.

I am looking forward to future publications.

Ralph L. Taylor

**NEW**

## ATCO STORE & BARBER SHOP BUILDING



*Photo by Guy Parmenter*  
"Old Atco Store"

Two of Bartow County's historic treasures have a chance to be saved thanks to a casual conversation at the 1991 EVHS Christmas party. Jodie Hill and Guy Parmenter thought it would be a great idea to acquire the old Atco store and barber shop buildings as a museum and future home of the Society. Guy approached EVHS member and Goodyear Mill manager Steve Widner the following week. Fortunately, the idea was well received as an alternative to the possibility of eventually tearing down the buildings. Your officers and board gave full support to this endeavor even though serious negotiations could not begin until both buildings were vacant.

The barber shop building has been vacant for about a year. The store building, currently used as office space, will be vacant in about a month. Jodie Hill, J. B. Tate and



*Photo by Guy Parmenter*  
"Old Atco Barber Shop"

Guy Parmenter were invited to tour the buildings earlier this year. All agreed that the store building especially offered lots of space desperately needed by the Society. Of course, time and money will be needed to restore these buildings to their original beauty.

Thanks to Steve Widner for his positive consideration of this project and his recognition of the importance of preserving these buildings. A formal request will be made soon to Goodyear.

**KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED!**

**NEW**

## VAUGHAN CABIN

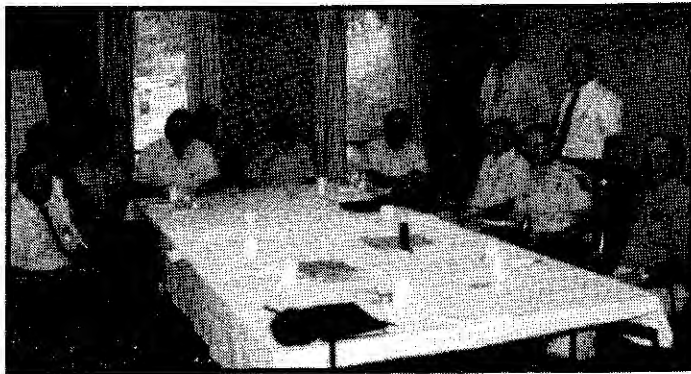
Sherlin Vaughan of Marietta is generously donating an 1800's log cabin to the Society and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The cabin is to be placed near Red Top Mountain Lodge. Mr. Vaughan contacted Board Chairman, Guy Parmenter, back in March requesting assistance on the disposal of his childhood home. President J. B. Tate mentioned the existence of this cabin to Ralph Delgiorno, Services Manager of Red Top Mountain State Park. The idea of placing a cabin at the lodge surfaced two years ago and could now become a reality, said Billy Hanson, Site Manager. The cabin which is located on Vaughan Road just east of Peoples Valley Road will be moved soon to it's new home. Society members can assist with tax deductible contributions of money.

*Photo by Guy Parmenter*

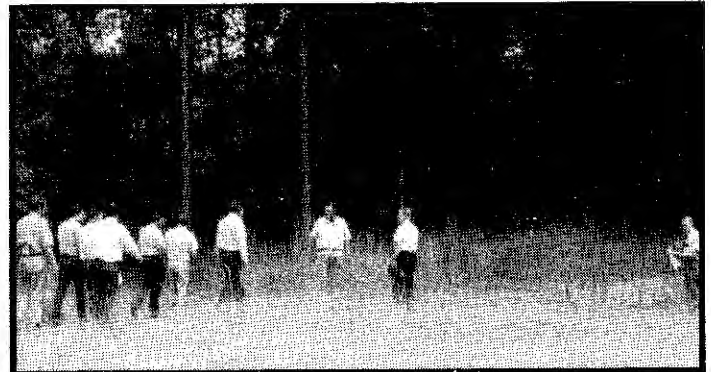
*Yes, there actually is a log cabin which makes up the front section of the Vaughan house as seen today.*

We are initially pledging up to \$2000 to replace the cabin roof. Other funds will be needed to rebuild the two chimneys.

A CROSSROADS program to document this project is in the planning stage. The nearly one million people visiting the Red Top Mountain Lodge each year creates a lots of exposure for the Society.

*Photo by Guy Parmenter*

*August 5th meeting at Red Top Lodge. J.B. Tate and Guy Parmenter attended. Sherlin Vaughan is seated on right.*

*Photo by Guy Parmenter*

*Future site of Vaughan cabin -- between Allatoona Lake and Red Top Mountain Lodge.*

**NEW**

## LUCY CUNYUS MULCAHY

Long time EVHS member Lucy Cunyus Mulcahy, died on July 9, 1992. She will not soon be forgotten, as her book, "History of Bartow County, Georgia-Formerly Cass", will always serve as a constant reminder of her efforts to preserve the history of Bartow County.

Since her efforts paralleled the goals of our Society, we are pleased to be able to honor Lucy with a permanent display of her papers. We are excited that her niece, Dorothy Ann Roth, has generously offered to give us the records and papers accumulated through years of research. As this project develops, we will keep you informed.

# MEMBERSHIP MEETING

## August 28, 1993

It was a warm Saturday afternoon when the EVHS held its membership meeting, August 28, 1993, on the lawn of the Kingston Women's History Club Museum. The History Club catered the event with the profits going to their museum building fund. Thanks to Martha Mulinix of the History Club for doing an outstanding job coordinating this event. With hamburgers from the grill, salads and lots of desserts, members dined along side the historic train tracks in a once thriving town.

President J. B. Tate opened the meeting by welcoming fifty five members and guests.

Lisa Ellis reported on the cemetery book which has gone to the printer. We expect to receive the books for distribution this fall. It will include approximately 475 pages encased in a hardback cover.

Donna Fowler of the Downtown Alliance showed members the "Preservation 1993" poster that can be purchased for \$5. For each sign purchased by an EVHS member, a \$2 donation will be given to the Society. Also, Dianne Tate reported on the progress of the Historic Awareness Signs. In addition, J. B. Tate announced that the Lucy Cunyus Mulcahy collection has been donated to the Society by her niece.

Guy Parmenter told members about an 1870 log cabin that is being given to the EVHS by Sherlin Vaughan of Marietta. The cabin will be turned over to the Georgia

Department of Natural Resources for relocation to a site near the Red Top Mountain Lodge this fall.

Also Guy told of the meeting that several board members had with Tom Lewis, Joe Frank Harris and Elizabeth Harris. A request was made by the EVHS to display the papers and memorabilia collected by the Harris' during Joe Frank's terms of public service. The request was well received and the possibilities are being explored.

A reflection of Kingston's history was given by both Guy and J. B. The meeting concluded with the drawing of a door prize donated by the Bartow History Center Gift Shop managed by Patty Richardson.

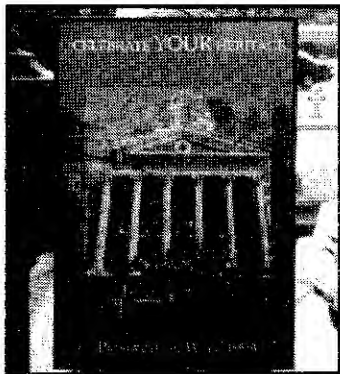
Rosemary Clabo, Secretary



*Photo by Larry Gregory*

## Cartersville Downtown Alliance, Inc.

You can still get your "Preservation 1993" poster at a cost of \$5.00. For each poster purchased by an Historical Society member, the Alliance will donate \$2.00 to the Society. A discount framing coupon is included with each poster. Pick yours up at the Downtown Alliance located at 3 Wall Street, Cartersville, or call the Alliance at 386-6458 to obtain more information.



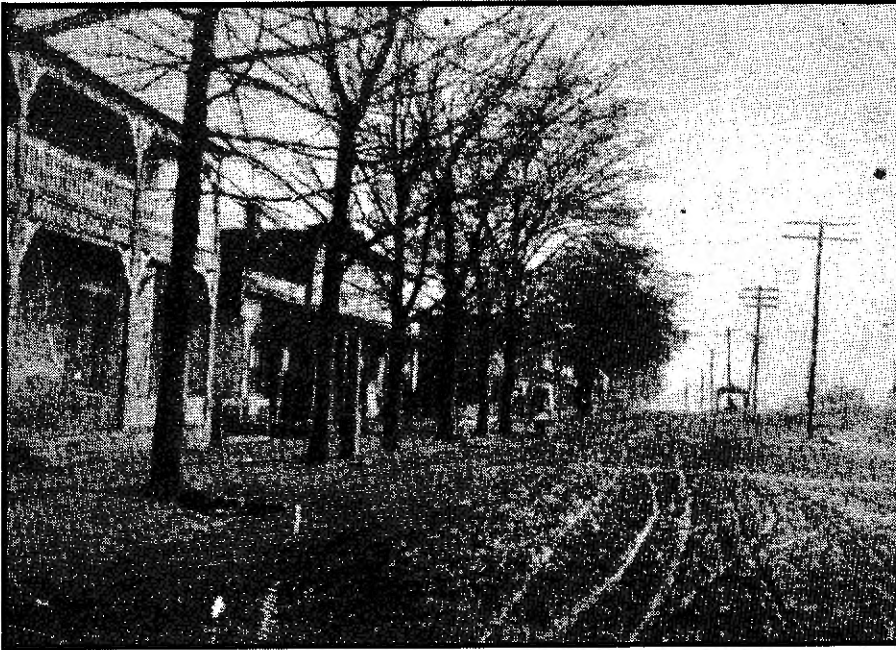
## Kingston Women's History Club

"We Remember Kingston" is an outstanding collection of writings compiled to preserve the memories of Kingston. The book was printed in 1992 and is still available through the Kingston Women's History Club at a cost of \$11.25 which includes postage and handling. To get your copy, call Martha H. Mulinix at (706) 336-5269 or write her at 100 Mulinix Road, N.W., Kingston, Georgia 30145.





# KINGSTON TELLS TALES OUT OF PAST BUT PREDICTIONS OF FUTURE NOT NEW



*Kingston about 1900. Picture courtesy of The Bartow History Center.*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Reprinted with permission of the Bartow Herald. This article was originally printed on May 23, 1963.

Kingston, once the cultural center of the cotton aristocracy, is now a town of ghosts that can't seem to catch the magic ring of the present that will lift her back on the right road into the future.

As Leo Aikman wrote in the September 6, 1953 Sunday edition of the Journal-Constitution, "Kingston is long on history but short on industry."

The Georgia Pipe Company in Kingston and the J. W. Martin Gin Company are the only employers in the community and combined, they work only 16 people.

The other employed, except school personnel and employees in the nine stores in town, are commuting workers to Rome, Cartersville, Calhoun, Marietta and Atlanta.

Presently, according to the 1960 census, there are 675 people living in Kingston. This is the very same number as shown on the 1950 census. In 1940, Kingston had 653 residents.

These figures, with the population explosion causing world-wide tensions, seem impossible when it is considered that Kingston had 1,169 residents as far back

as 1852. This, plus 231 slaves.

There have been more wounded soldiers in Kingston than there are citizens today. During the three years that a hospital was maintained in Kingston, some 10,000 Civil War soldiers were treated. Many of them died.

And when Stephens A. Douglas was a candidate for President of the United States, a crowd estimated at 10,000 jammed into the town to hear his address. Back in 1860, Douglas stood before this vast throng and spoke on the "Vital Issues of the Day."

It seems a cruel blow indeed that the town where the sewing machine was invented could have fared so poorly to the present time.

Kingston's claim to fame doesn't stop with the invention of the sewing machine. It was in Kingston that Dr. Francis Goulding, a Presbyterian minister and inventor of the sewing machine, wrote the best seller of his day, "The Young Marooners."

The citizens of Kingston also claim that the cement which forms the foundation of the Brooklyn Bridge was mined just north of town. Mrs. W. W. Roberts, operator of the Kingston Hotel, said the cement at the foot of the Brooklyn structure came from the National Rock Cement Plant which was opened by Dr. Charles Wallace Howard in the 1840's. The plant, located at Cement, Ga., continued to operate until about 1910.

At one time the cement plant was putting out 200 barrels per day. Walter Martin, Kingston City Clerk and owner of the Kingston gin, said that his father came to Kingston because of the cement plant's nearness.

General Sherman, in his march to the sea, made Kingston his base of operations, directing his troops from the old Hargis home. The home has since been destroyed by fire and is presently in use as a baseball field.

Kingston was named for Pendleton King of Augusta in 1856. King, a lawyer and railroad financier, was instrumental in getting the railroad established through Kingston.

In token of his appreciation to the city bearing his

*Continued on Following Page*

name, King gave the town a bell which now hangs in the belfry of the Methodist Church. It has rung in commemoration of the end of four wars and has sounded hundreds of alarms such as the outbreaks of fire in the town.

Just out of Kingston are two historical sites, Barnsley Gardens and Salt Peter Cave. The gardens were built in the 1850's by Godfrey Barnsley. The cave was mined for gunpowder ingredients during the Civil War.

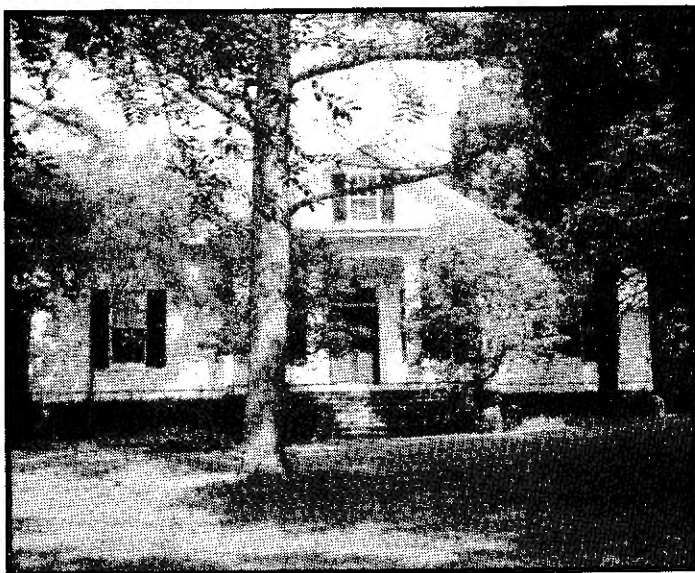
Several experiments have been conducted to make Salt Peter Cave a tourist attraction but thus far none of them have met with financial success.

Earl W. McClesky and family presently live in the old Barnsley Castle, or one wing of it. Mr. McClesky has said that he would like to restore the home to its original condition but would need financial assistance to do so.

If the state or the county would become a party to this reconstruction program, then Kingston could again be put on the map, especially the tourist map. The Barnsley estate is but a few miles from Rome and other metropolitan districts.

Perhaps now that Bartow County has been named winner in the Georgia Stay and See program, something of this nature can be done for Kingston.

There is no doubt but that the old Goulding house is the best preserved landmark in Kingston. Presently Mrs. G. C. Phillips, the widow of a Birmingham businessman, is residing in the home. Mrs. Phillips is the former Nancy Rabb Ligon and she grew up in Bartow County.



*"Goulding House" in picture taken from "Historic Bartow County, circa 1828-1866".*

At one time the Phillips owned Barnsley Gardens and

acreage along the Etowah River. So she is vitally interested in the history of Kingston.

There are several stories surrounding the invention of the sewing machine in the home where Mrs. Phillips now resides. The residents of Eatonton claim that the machine was invented there when Dr. Goulding resided in that town.

The place that the machine was invented has never been established but it has been generally agreed that Dr. Goulding was the inventor of a sewing machine, although Howe was the first to get a patent on such a machine.

Mrs. Phillips said that she had been told that Goulding once said he would never patent the sewing machine because it would throw too many women out of work.

In an introduction to "The Young Marooners", Joel Chandler Harris, the Uncle Remus storyteller reported that Goulding invented the machine in 1842. After which he is said to have told Harris, "Having satisfied myself about this machine, I laid it aside that I might attend to other weightier duties."

Bell Bayless, a Kingston resident, who knew the descendants of Goulding's, wrote several years ago, "...as to the sewing machine, the nieces told me that Mr. Goulding started to Washington to obtain a patent on his 'contraption' but in crossing a stream during the flood waters his vehicle overturned, the model destroyed, so he came home to make another one. In the meanwhile Howe beat him to the patent."

It has been pointed out that the sewing machine was invented by three different persons in three different localities at the same time. Goulding is accredited with the southern invention. Howe with the invention in Massachusetts and another inventor in France.

But it is a known fact that Goulding was the author of the following books: The Young Marooners, Sapelo, The Woodruff Stories, Little Josephine, Confederate Soldiers Hymn Book and Frank Gordon.

Goulding was born in Liberty County in 1810....spent his childhood near Savannah and was known to have lived in Oglethorpe County, Eatonton, Kingston and Roswell. He is buried in Roswell but Mrs. Goulding and his daughter are buried in Kingston.

During his stay in Kingston, he operated an exclusive school for young boys.

Kingston was incorporated in 1869 with L. M. Gilliam, T. F. Flowers, C. M. Mayson, T. R. Couch and Mr. McMurray serving on the city council.

In its day, Kingston boasted of 40 business houses and three hotels. Kingston was a summer resort for the Southern Aristocracy. And then the war came to bring destruction of what has never been regained.

A plaque in the Kingston Hotel reads, "The little town of Kingston responded wholeheartedly to meeting the needs which existed here in the early days of the war...after the war these same townspeople needed a helping hand. Brig. Gen. William T. Wofford, under the direction of Brig. Gen. Henry M. Judah supervised the distribution of food and supplies.

It can be understood if the people of Kingston have a bitter taste in their mouths when they think of the past. But if the flow of people would ever begin to come back to the place of by-gone glories, then the past would be an elixir rather than a pill.

Kingston citizens do not turn their backs on the past, instead they hold it close to their breasts. It was at Kingston that the first Memorial Day observance of the Civil War dead was held. The Memorial has continued to be observed until the present day.

City Alderman and Clerk Martin has stated that presently there is no concerted effort to bring new industry into Kingston. He said that the Chamber of Commerce ceased to function in that town about 1953.

But he said that he and other citizens of the town would like to get some type of industry into the town that would put it back on its feet.

He pointed out that Kingston still has its railroad connecting Atlanta and Chattanooga. Kingston Mills got its start in Kingston. It moved from Kingston to Cartersville and then to White where it is now.

The town has a deep well that supplies the residents with water with a pumping capacity of 6,000 gallons per hour. Alderman Martin pointed out that the city council composed of May Cliff Johnson, Joe Pratt, Floyd Baxter and Emmett Wilkie, have just completed repairs of the water lines and purchased \$800 in fire fighting equipment for use of the volunteer fire department.

The fire department, composed of 10 volunteers, is headed by B. T. Abernathy.

There is no bank in Kingston, although there were two at one time. The last one closed in the 1920's when hundreds of banks failed. There is no sewage system in Kingston but there is an abundance of electricity and gas. Electricity is furnished by Georgia Power Company and gas by Southern Natural. Southern Bell Telephone has installed dial telephones in the community and they are

on the same toll line with Cartersville.

Kingston might not know what the future holds but at least one resident at nearby Barnsley Gardens prophesied the Attack on Pearl Harbor.

Mrs. Addie Baltzell Saylor was the last of her family to stay at the mansion built by her grandfather, Godfrey Barnsley. Mrs. Saylor lived until her death in the castle which fell into ruins in the midst of its marvelous, but neglected gardens of rare plants and trees from Europe and Asia.

Mrs. Saylor firmly believed in ghosts, especially her family ghosts. Tragedy did not spare Mrs. Saylor in her old age at Barnsley. Her favorite son Harry, who was, she thought going to make a fortune and rebuild the fallen house of Barnsley, was shot by his brother Preston in a moment when the brother (who had been injured by blows as a prize fighter) was not mentally responsible.

Harry fell and died in his mother's arms in the living room of the left wing at Barnsley. Thereafter, Mrs. Saylor said Harry's spirit often returned and spoke to her.

According to Col. Thomas Spencer, Mrs. Saylor told him: "Harry came last night and said for me to tell President Roosevelt that the Japs are going to attack in the Hawaiian Islands next Sunday."

Col. Spencer added, "Harry had asked his mother, she said, to wire President Roosevelt, and we discussed whether we should do that or not. But you know how far such a wire would have got--and she decided not to. Well, everybody knew there was going to be war with the Japs. The curious thing was that she could have known WHEN the attack would be made.

"I write a column for several weekly newspapers," Col. Spencer related, "and that week before the 7th, I included Mrs. Saylor's story in my column. All but one of the editors considered it so improbable that they cut it out. Then on Sunday--the attack she had predicted came."

With that in mind, Kingston might be the place to go to find out about World War III. Or it might be a good town to capture a bit of the past.

There's one thing for sure, it'd be worth the price of a room over the weekend to stay at the Kingston Hotel and talk with Mrs. Roberts. Kingston is a good "STAY AND SEE" place.

Harris Dalton

## Parmenter & Tate Spread the Word

Guy Parmenter and Dianne Tate spoke to the Lions Club on August 3rd and the Exchange Club on September 9th. Thanks to Lance Barry for arranging these speaking engagements. Guy and Dianne continue to spread the word about our society.

If you need a program for your club, call Guy at 382-5371 or Dianne at 386-7944.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Robert Bloink, Cartersville, GA  
Mrs. O. L. Combee, Rome, GA  
Mr. Kenneth R. Herron, Cartersville, GA  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Murphy, Cartersville, GA  
Mr. Kenneth R. Nix, Cartersville, GA  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter H. Sager, Cartersville, GA  
Mrs. Marjorie Towslee, Cartersville, GA  
Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Walker, Cartersville, GA  
Mrs. Chet N. Wells, Fort Worth, TX  
Mr. & Mrs. William E. Wofford, Jr., Cartersville, GA

## CROSSROADS

A show about Bartow County Grist Mills debuted August 4 with host, Guy Parmenter. Thanks to Rogers Mill owners, Butch and Melissa Walker, for opening up their mill for the filming of this show. Butch also contributed much to this show with his excellent commentary. Thanks also to Donna Weaver and Charles Cowan for their assistance in making this show a success. Look for the next episode to be on the life of Corra Harris with host J. B. Tate.

If you have an idea for a new show, give J. B. Tate a call at 386-7944.

## Grand Oaks Site of October Meeting

The annual meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday, October 2, at "Grand Oaks", home of EVHS member Ray Thacker. Look for your notice in the mail soon.

ETOWAH VALLEY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 1886  
Cartersville, Georgia 30120

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