



# ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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

Volume 61, October 2006

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER SCHEDULED AT GOLD-DOMED COURTHOUSE OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup>

The 2006 annual meeting of EVHS and election of board members will be held on the lawn of the 1903 gold-domed courthouse in downtown Cartersville on Saturday evening, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

It is a fitting location since the courthouse holds the offices and research facilities of EVHS and is one of the most historic buildings in Bartow County.

Members may make reservations by calling the EVHS office at (770) 606-8862 prior to 2 pm on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Four vacancies on the Board of Directors will be filled (three for a three-year term and one for one-year of an uncompleted three-year term.)

Feature event of the evening will be the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award to an individual who, over a period of at least 20 years, has contributed greatly to the fulfillment of the EVHS mission statement: promoting and enhancing the awareness and preservation of the heritage of Bartow County.

EVHS has never had a meeting struck by bad weather, but just in case, in the event of inclement weather, festivities will be moved inside the courthouse.

### FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

A SPECIAL TABLE WILL BE SET UP  
AT THE ANNUAL DINNER ON OCTOBER 7  
FOR THE COLLECTION OF  
ANNUAL DUES.

EVHS FINANCIAL YEAR RUNS FROM  
OCTOBER 1 TO OCTOBER 1.

Annual dues are \$15 individual, \$20 family, \$50 club or organization, \$100 or more for corporation or patron. If you do not plan to attend the dinner, checks may be mailed to:

EVHS  
P.O. Box 1886  
Cartersville, GA 30120



Etowah Valley Historical Society  
 115 West Cherokee Avenue  
 Cartersville, Georgia 30120  
 Email: [evhs@evhsonline.org](mailto:evhs@evhsonline.org)  
 Website: [www.evhsonline.org](http://www.evhsonline.org)

**Officers**

*President*

Ed Hill

*Treasurer*

Trey Gaines

*Recording Secretary*

Linda Cochran

*Corresponding Secretary*

Michael Garland

**Directors**

Ed Hill  
 Linda Cochran  
 Carl Etheridge  
 Trey Gaines  
 Eleanor Linn  
 Mary Norton  
 Bob Redwine  
 Dianne Tate  
 Sally Tonsmiere

**Office Manager**

Linda Trentham

*Inventory*

Mary Norton

*Program Director*

J. B. Tate

*Preservation*

John Lewis

*Membership Chairman*

Dianne Tate

# EVHS MEMBERS TOUR CONYERS' HOME

The clouds kept the temperature down, the rain did not fall, and the large group of EVHS members enjoyed their visit to the historic home occupied by John and Sonny Conyers.

The Jackson-built home, constructed in 1872, was purchased by the Leakes, ancestors of the Conyers, in the 1890's and has been occupied by the family since that time.

Members of the Conyers family, led by Johnny and Sonny, current residents, were on hand to answer questions from the appreciative audience.



*Sonny and Rachel Conyers (brother and sister)*



*Ed Hill, Troy Hopper, Beth Hopper*



*Johnny Conyers,  
 Mina Harper,  
 Eleanor Linn*



*Tom Champion,  
 Emily Champion,  
 Hope Conyers*

---

# ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF ALLATOONA PASS TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 7 AND 8

---

Red Top Mountain State Park and Etowah Valley Historical Society will honor those soldiers, of both sides, who fought in the bitterly fought struggle at Allatoona Pass on October 4, 1864. The two-day event is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, October 7th and 8th.

The battle is noted for its high casualty rate with 30% of those who participated being either killed, wounded, or missing. The list of casualties totaled 1603 names.

Over the past 10 years, EVHS has built trails, erected signs, and maintained the property for the benefit of the public.

Festivities on both days will include tours of the battlefield and the pre-Civil War home used as both a headquarters and a hospital. The visitors can also view rifle and cannon demonstrations by reenactors.

## SCOTS-IRISH SPEAKER OCTOBER 20

---

Billy Kennedy, world-renowned Irish journalist and author, will speak in Cartersville, at the Old Floyd College building (directly behind the Bartow History Center) on Friday, October 20. The impact of the Scots-Irish on this country has been tremendous. Their legacy in Northwest Georgia is particularly strong and can be found in Bartow County today.

Learn more about the Scots-Irish in America when the Etowah Valley Historical Society and the Bartow History Center join together to bring this well-known journalist and author to Cartersville to discuss his latest book, *Our Most Priceless Heritage*.

This program is free and open to the public. Copies of his book will be available for sale.

## BATTLE OF RESACA DONATES TO MONUMENT FUND

---

A check for \$251 was received by the EVHS monument fund from the group which sponsors the annual reenactment of the Battle of Resaca. The funds were a portion of the receipts raised by the group at this year's reenactment.

EVHS is conducting a fund drive to place more monuments at Allatoona Pass in honor of those soldiers on both sides who fought there on October 4, 1864.

---

# A FORGOTTEN TEXAS HERO

# ROBERT BUTLER YOUNG

---

BY SHARRON JENKINS MARTIN, JEFFERSON DAVIS  
CHAPTER NO.1637, HOUSTON

November 30, 1864, was a day of devastating loss for the Army of Tennessee at the battle of Franklin. The casualties were said to be four times as many as Pickett suffered at Gettysburg; historians place the figures at 6,200 men killed, wounded, or captured. Included in this figure were six generals killed, five wounded, and one captured. Legend says that the bodies of five of the generals were taken to Carnton, the family home of John McGavock which was being used as a Confederate hospital, and placed on the back porch. There were five bodies laid side by side on the back porch, but not all five were generals. Alongside the bodies of Generals John Adams, Patrick Cleburne, Otho Strahl, and Hiram B. Granbury was that of Colonel Robert Butler Young, Granbury's Chief of Staff. Colonel Young was a man whom history has often forgotten.

Robert Butler Young, the son of Dr. Robert Maxwell and Elizabeth Caroline Jones Young, was born in 1828 in Spartanburg, South Carolina. By 1839, the family had moved to *Bartow County, Georgia*. Nine years later, following his graduation from Georgia Military Academy, Young was appointed a major in the Georgia Militia.

In January of 1853, Young, who had left the military and was in the mercantile business, married Josephine Florida Hill. One child, a girl named Ida, was born to this union. In 1858, due to economic problems and the lure of bountiful land in Texas, the family moved to Texas.

As the division between the North and the South escalated and the threat of war became more ominous, Young's support of states' rights became more ardent. With the firing of the first shots of the conflict, Young joined the Sixth Texas Volunteers with the rank of captain. When the Texas State troops officially became a part of the Confederate Army, new units were formed. The 10th Texas Infantry was formed and mustered into Confederate service in Waco with Allison Nelson as Colonel,

Roger Q. Mills as Lieutenant Colonel, and Robert B. Young as Major. At the death of Colonel Nelson in October 1862, Mills was promoted to Colonel and Young was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. Young was to hold this position throughout the War.

The 10th Texas Infantry served west of the Mississippi River in the early days of the War. It was among the troops captured at Fort Hindman at Arkansas Post, Arkansas, on January 11, 1863, and sent to Camp Chase Prison in Columbus, Ohio. The men of the 10th were exchanged a few months later and for the duration of the War they served east of the Mississippi as a part of the Army of Tennessee.

*...Many a brave  
man was sacrificed  
for an ill-conceived  
battle plan.*

Young, who had been wounded during the fighting in Arkansas, contracted a serious fever while a prisoner. His incarceration, complicated by a fever, took its toll. When Young was exchanged in April of 1863, he was met by his brother, Pierce, who described him as a living skeleton, and trembling like an old man. Pierce took him to the family home in *Cartersville, Georgia*. After a long convalescence, Young rejoined his regiment in time to participate in the Atlanta campaign. During the fighting around Atlanta, Young was cited for gallantry by General Granbury.

The 10th participated in many engagements and the hard fighting took its toll. Of the original 1,050 men who enlisted in 1861, only ninety-six remained. Numerous consolidations of units were made and the 10th was consolidated with the 6th Texas Infantry and the 32nd Cavalry, dismounted. They were part of Granbury's Brigade, Cleburne's

Division, at the time.

After it's defeat in Atlanta, the Army of Tennessee moved back to its home state in the fall of 1864. Plans were made to take Tennessee, then move into Kentucky; however this was not to be, and many a brave man was sacrificed for an ill-conceived battle plan.

Cleburne's Division was given the task of attacking the middle of the Union defenses, which were located across the Columbia-Nashville Pike. Granbury's Brigade was a part of this division and was positioned just to the east of the Pike. Young, who was serving as Granbury's Chief-of-Staff, was in close proximity to his commanding officer. The fate of Cleburne's three brigades was nothing short of slaughter. Granbury's men were ripped to shreds as they were caught in a murderous crossfire from three directions. The sheer firepower that these men faced was almost unbelievable; the smoke hung close to the ground, making it almost impossible to see. Even with the fierce heat and the deafening sounds of battle in their ears, the brave Southerners followed their commanders into battle, and in many cases, into the pages of history.

General Granbury, at the front of his men, died instantly from a shot in the head. Young, close by, also fell.

Though legend says that the five generals killed on the field were taken to Carnton, General States Rights Gist of South Carolina died at a field hospital where his body was found by his body servant. Gist was temporarily buried in the Judge White family cemetery and was never taken to the McGavock home.

The day after the battle the body of General John Adams was taken by his men to Pulaski, a short distance away, for burial. The bodies of Generals Cleburne, Granbury and Strahl, and Colonel Young were first buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Columbia. The sexton of the cemetery had buried them in the

*... Colonel Young's remains were never moved. Was he forgotten, or simply left to rest in peace in the state of Tennessee?*

potter's field, which was deemed to be most unsatisfactory, and their remains were removed to St. John's Church Cemetery about six miles away. Following the War the remains of the Generals were all taken to their home states.

Colonel Young's remains were never moved. Was he forgotten, or simply left to rest in peace in the state of Tennessee? Could it be that because during the reconstruction years times were hard any available money was needed for the bare necessities?

Young's widow never remarried and collected a Confederate widow's pension. Mrs. Young died in 1920 at the home of her granddaughter in Hunt County, Texas.

Robert Butler Young gave his life for a cause in which he believed on that dreadful day in November 1864. Just as the generals and the enlisted men who died, Young was a hero and should be remembered as such. In death, he became a mystery figure almost lost to history. It is fitting that his story has been found and preserved. Robert Butler Young is truly a Texas legend.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Buck, Cpt. Irving A., C.S.A. *Cleburne and His Command*. Broadfoot Publishing, Wilmington, NC. reprint 1991.

Burgess, Tim. A Texas Legend at Franklin, *The Brigadier*, Murfreesboro, TN, 1991.

Horn, Stanley F. *The Army of Tennessee*. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK, 1952.

Pension Records, Mrs. J.F. Young, Texas State Archives, Austin, TX.

Wright, Gen. Marcus J. C.S.A. *Texas in the War 1861-1865*. Hill Junior College, Hillsboro, TX, 1965.

## A TEXAS HERO FROM BARTOW

Many people from Bartow County are familiar with the name of Pierce (PMB) Young, but fewer are familiar with the name of his brother who also lived and went to school here. This article is from the collection of J.B. Tate and was originally printed in the Dec. 1995 issue of UDC Magazine.

---

# CIVIL WAR STATISTICS

---

One Hundred Eight Civil War engagements took place in Georgia according to a listing made by the Civil War Preservation Trust. Adjoining states list 78 in Alabama, 32 in Florida, 60 in South Carolina, 298 in Tennessee, and 85 in North Carolina.

Two of the bloodiest battles took place in Georgia, Chickamauga with a total of 28,399 casualties and Atlanta with 19,715. The bloodiest battle of the Civil War occurred in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where 60,638 men were reported dead, wounded, or missing.

For the entire war, casualties were listed as 646,392 Union and 454,000 Confederate.

## INVENTORY UPDATE

---

Phase 2 of the inventory project is well underway. Volunteers are working on: oral history, historic gardens, national register workshop, educational power point presentation, planning commissions, and the historic sites database work team. Work continues on phase 1 with reports being made to the Cartersville City Council on August 17.

If you would like to assist with this project, please call Mary Norton, Inventory Chairman, at 770-607-9359.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION LICENSE PLATES ARE AVAILABLE

---

Georgians can now reserve a Historic Preservation license plate for \$25. These special tags can be ordered anytime during the year at your county tag office. Proceeds will benefit the Georgia Heritage Grants program.

---

# NEW MEMBERS

---

Sim and Betty  
Archer

W.E. and Sharon  
Camp

Lynn Garrison

Troy and Beth  
Hopper

Barry and Desiree  
Loudermilk

Ann Mascia

Sarah Munn

Joe Anne Rodgers

LeRoy and Jan  
Shepherd

Weinman Mineral Museum

Truman and Martha  
Wellsandt

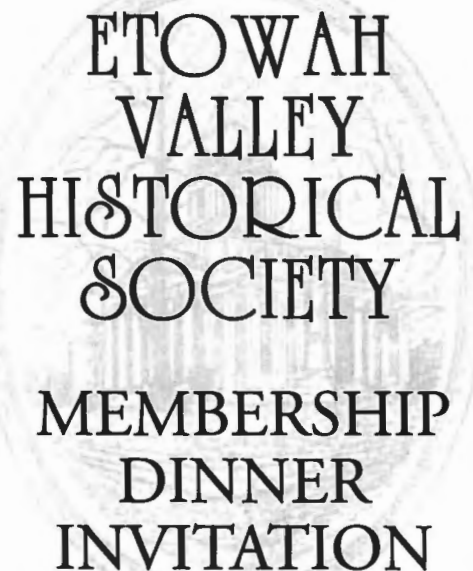
# IN MEMORIAM

---

John "Skip" Cummings

Joe Nelson

Helen Smith



ETOWAH  
VALLEY  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
MEMBERSHIP  
DINNER  
INVITATION

---

# UPCOMING EVENTS

---

October 7, 2006  
Annual Meeting,  
Gold-Domed Courthouse

October 7-8, 2006  
Anniversary Of  
The Battle Of Allatoona Pass

October 20, 2006  
Scots-Irish Speaker

December 2, 2006  
Christmas Party  
At Rose Lawn

# YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED

*Where*

The Gold-Domed Courthouse

*When*

Saturday, October 7, 2006 6:00 pm

**Annual Meeting  
of the  
Etowah Valley Historical Society**

*Cost*

\$15 per person

Reservations deadline is  
2 pm, October 5th.

Call (770) 606-8862

# RETURN THE FAVOR

**D**o you know someone who should be a member of EVHS? Return the favor and ask them to join us in preserving Bartow history.

Contact Dianne Tate, Membership Chairman, at 770-386-7944.



## ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1886  
Cartersville, Georgia 30120

[evhs@evhsonline.org](mailto:evhs@evhsonline.org)  
[www.evhsonline.org](http://www.evhsonline.org)

### Inside...

1. Conyers Residence
2. Texas Hero from Bartow
3. Anniversary of the  
Battle of Allatoona Pass
4. Civil War Statistics
5. EVHS Inventory