



ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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

Volume 73, October 2009

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

EVHS BEGINS 38TH YEAR

The Etowah Valley Historical Society began at Valley View in 1972 with 24 members. Currently our mailing list contains nearly 350 names. We have members from Alabama, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Texas and Virginia. Most areas of Georgia are also represented, but the vast majority of our members are people who reside in Bartow County.

Members are very proud of the many accomplishments that the organization has made over the years and the Board of Directors plan to continue our fine record.

Our fiscal year runs from October 1 until September 30 with the new officers taking place at the meeting of the board on the second Tuesday of October.

Dues for the 2009-2010 year are now being accepted. Dues are the third largest source of funds used to operate EVHS. We already know that our grant money will be drastically cut for the coming year making dues our second largest source of income for 2009-2010.

At \$15 per person, \$20 per family, \$30 for a club or organization, and \$100 for a corporation, we are a very low cost investment in our community.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 9TH

This year's annual meeting of the Etowah Valley Historical Society will again be held at Grand Oaks located at 302 West Main Street in Cartersville.

After dinner, the President of EVHS will present the annual report and the election of three board members will be held. The evening will be highlighted by the announcement of the winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is given to an individual who best represents the society's mission of "promoting and enhancing the awareness and preservation of the heritage and traditions of Bartow County" over a period of twenty or more years. Past winners have been: 2002, Mary Ellen Taff; 2003, Martha Mulnix; 2004, Lizette Entwistle; 2005, Dr. Susie Wheeler; 2006, Emily Champion; 2007, J.B. Tate and 2008, Guy Parmenter.

Deadline for dinner reservations for the Friday night event will be Wednesday, October 7th. Reservations can be made by calling the EVHS office at 770-606-8862.



Etowah Valley Historical Society
115 West Cherokee Avenue
Cartersville, Georgia 30120
Email: evhs@evhsonline.org
Website: www.evhsonline.org

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THE BATTLE OF ALLATOONA PASS WILL BE REMEMBERED OCTOBER 3-4

The public is invited to visit the site of the October 5, 1864 battle which had one of the highest casualty percentages of the Civil War. Although the Mooney House will not be open for tours and there will be no monument dedications this year, there will be artillery demonstrations, cannon firings, battlefield tours and displays of camp life.

The battle took place on both sides of the "deep cut" a 360 feet long and 175 feet deep cut through the mountain by the Western & Atlantic railroad to lay tracks for trains running between Atlanta and Chattanooga.

The property is owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who, in 1995, gave the Etowah Valley Historical Society permission to clean up the site.

Two years ago, after 12 years of clearing the property, building trails, erecting signs, and maintaining the grounds, EVHS turned the property over to the Red Top Mountain State Park.

Red Top and EVHS continue the yearly observance of the battle in an event which has been held at the battlefield even before EVHS and Red Top became involved.

ORAL HISTORY TO BE PART OF GEORGIA LITERARY EVENT

The EVHS oral history committee will present a program at 11am on Saturday, October 17th in the Rome City Commission Chambers. The presentation will cover the program now being offered in Bartow County by the Etowah Valley Historical Society, with the hope that our program will be adopted by other communities throughout the state of Georgia.

The program will feature snippets from tapes made in Bartow County featuring some of our citizens talking about times gone by. It is planned that a longer version of the composite tape will be made available for presentation at a future program presented at an Etowah Valley Historical Society gathering.

This will be the ninth year for the Georgia Literary Festival and the first time that it has been held in Northwest Georgia. Four authors with connections to the Rome area will be honored at this year's event. Thirty-one authors have been invited to participate in the Festival.

*The following appeared in the Cartersville News,
April 13, 1911*

YOUNG BROTHERS NEW SODA FOUNTAIN

ONE OF THE FINEST YET INSTALLED IN THIS SECTION

Young Brothers, the well-known and popular druggists, have just installed in their store, one of the handsomest soda fountains to be found in the south. It cost about \$3200 and is a beauty in every respect. It is a Bishop and Babcock opal onyx glass fountain and is made by that well known firm in Cleveland, Ohio.

The counter is made of rolled glass and is twenty feet long with a six foot bend. The bottom is made of marble. It has automatic glass washers and sterilizers and every other convenience to be desired. It has fourteen feet of refrigerator cold storage, eight feet cold storage in front, two hot and cold water sinks, eight crushed fruit bowl cold storage and fourteen syrup jars.

It is the only one of it's size in the south and the second of it's kind ever brought south, there being one other at Columbus, Ga., but being a much smaller one than this.

Young Brothers invite the trade to call and see their new fountain, which is in the charge of Messrs Alvin Parsons and Hugh Akerman.

JODIE HILL HONORED

An EVHS member was recently honored when July 21 was declared Jodie Hill Day in Cartersville. Jodie is well-known for his involvement in saving the former Corra Harris home. Recently he transferred ownership to Kennesaw State University, so that the property could be saved for future generations to enjoy.

IN MEMORY

Bill Scaife

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

James & Jo Ann Becker	Patricia McCoy
Hunter Carter	Billy Neel
Lila Champion	Nancy Rewitzed
Eric & Denise Gray	Ben & Iris Stein
Linda Gray	Sherry Stephens
Wanda Gray	Jane B. Thompson
Michael & Heather Heatherton	Betty Tilley
Ann Marcus	Jane Weiss
Margaret White	

TOUR OF HOMES ON NOVEMBER 7-8

The 2009 bi-annual Tour of Homes will be held the first weekend of November and will feature homes on Cherokee Avenue. It will be a walking tour, but a free van service to accommodate those who are unable to walk along the tour will be available. The tour will begin at the EVHS office in the gold-domed courthouse and will include five historic homes on Cherokee Avenue plus the Rose Lawn Museum. The tour has always been popular with people who enjoy meeting with the owners of the historic properties.

The first EVHS tour was held in 1994 with a tour of historic homes and churches. The 1995 tour was a tour of historic west avenue homes. Since then the tours have been held every other year on the first weekend of November.

The tour is the main fund-raiser for the Etowah Valley Historical Society.

Corporate sponsors of the tour are Phoenix Air, New Riverside Ochre, Shaw Hankins Insurance Company, Unity National Bank of Georgia and in Memory of Vickie A. Ford.

500 POUND BEAVERS? WHEN PLEISTOCENE ANIMALS ROAMED IN GEORGIA

by Lucy Justus

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine 3-23-75

"What you really need to do is come here late in the afternoon and watch the birds and bats flying in and out of the caves and crevices," Dr. Lewis Lipps said. "You need to feel dusk come and see dusk come. Knowing what creatures lived here, by gosh, to make you feel a little bit creepy."

Dr. Lipps is a professor of biology at Shorter College in Rome and she was talking about Quarry Mountain, which is also called Ladd's Mountain and Ladd's Quarry, about 1 1/4 miles southwest of Cartersville, Georgia.

The creatures that lived there include some of the most fascinating ones that ever existed, many of them now extinct. In size, they ranged from large bears to tiny bats whose skulls are smaller than the end of a pencil.

Like the nearby Etowah Indian Mounds, the mountain is a burial ground, but a much older one and a different type. No human bones have been discovered at Ladd's, but remains of more than 100 species of Pleistocene animals have been found there. So far, a very small section of the mountain has produced Georgia's largest known assemblage of Pleistocene fossils.

"The material here has filled an enormous gap in our knowledge," Dr. Lipp said. "Vertebrate paleontology has been going on in Georgia for more than 150 years. The first ground sloth fossil was described from Skidaway in 1823. But until we started working here, Georgia was a blank except for the coast. In fact, a lot of people said vertebrate fossils probably didn't exist any place except on the coast. But we have found more vertebrates here than have been found in the rest of the state put together. We have more animals in this one spot than have been found elsewhere in Georgia in the last 150 years.

The Pleistocene, which included four ice ages, lasted from about two million years ago until about 10,000 years ago. It was the age of great animals - elephants, mastadons, glyptodons, sabretooth tigers, North American camels, llamas, and giant beavers that were 10 feet long and weighed up to 500 pounds. All of these animals and many others lived in Georgia at the time. Although all of them were not at Ladd's, many were.

"This was big game country," Dr. Lipps said. "It was much like Africa is today."

And there were some things at Ladd's which nobody had ever seen before.

"Fossils of a number of the animals here, including certain salamanders, had never been found before." Dr. Lipps said.

"We also found some new species. One was a chipmunk. Dr. Clayton Ray of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, described that : *Tamias aristus*, which means 'noblest chipmunk'. The skull was so big that when he looked at it, he first thought it was a squirrel's. He went to museums up and down the East Coast and made measurements of their largest chipmunks. None of them was as large as the chipmunks that grew here."

If you are at all imaginative, the mountain makes you "a little bit creepy" even at midday and, as Dr. Lipps says, "It puts you in your place." The 70 years of a normal human lifespan seems incredibly short as you try to think back through millions of years, far beyond the Pleistocene, because the creatures from that period are not the oldest ones at Ladd's. The oldest date obtained on any of Dr. Lipps' collection is about 17,500 years ago but geologists say the limestone which forms the mountain is some 500,000 million years old and contains fossils of small creatures which lived during a period near the beginning of life on Earth.

As your thoughts move from that dim era to the Pleistocene, you visualize a vast forest of pine and spruce trees.

The weather is very cold. Or, if you prefer, quite warm, with somewhat different vegetation. Both settings are valid.

There are all sorts of birds and animals, including rattlesnakes, which haven't changed much through the years. Over there, is a ground sloth, a long-haired lumbering creature which measures five feet or so from the ground to the top of its shoulders and is more than ten feet long. He walks on the sides of his feet, part of the weight on the knuckles of his forepaws, the rest on the outside edges of his hind feet. His toes have large curving claws and, although he is clumsy, he is extremely strong. Occasionally, he stands upright to bite off the leaves and branches of trees and large shrubs.

Over there is a tapir you almost didn't see because it is so quiet, a shy, nocturnal creature who sleeps all day and rouses when darkness falls. He's short-haired, sort of medium-sized and resembles a poorly designed horse.

Despite his awkward inelegant appearance, the tapir isn't as ugly as the long-nosed, long-legged, bristle-backed hog rooting up the soil. That's a peccary, a species which has been in North America since Oligocene times, which began about 38 million years ago.

There are white-tailed deer and possums and rabbits and weasels and skunks.

You look for a puma, crouched to spring at something, and listen for a mastadon crashing through the forest. Then suddenly, you realize the forest is no longer there and the animals are gone. About a fourth of them are now extinct.

Ladd's is a little mountain, rising perhaps 500 feet above the land around it. Through millions of years, water percolating downward dissolved some of the limestone, creating caverns and clefts in the rock. Sometime during the Pleistocene period, a great many animals apparently either fell into caves and died, unable to get out, or were washed there after death, covered with clay and preserved.

Part of the mountain has been blasted and scooped away in quarrying operations which began in 1912 and stopped about three years ago. Without the quarrying, which uncovered caves, fissures and layers of soil, Ladd's fossils might have been buried forever.

Within an area of a few hundred feet square, Shorter College students and faculty members have found bones or teeth of tapir, ground sloth, bobcat, peccary, otter, jaguar, North American spectacled bear, black bear, a new species of mouse, lemming, spruce grouse, gray wolf, gray fox, beaver and dozens of other animals. They have found armadillo plates and enough fragments to reconstruct the entire shell of a box turtle.

The fossils have raised some interesting questions. "We have found bones of the spruce grouse, a non-migratory bird which now lives only in Southern Canada and Northern New England," Dr. Lipps said. "We have also found spruce pollen here and another place in Bartow County. This indicates that the vegetation was right for that bird to live here. It suggests the climate was quite cold."

"But we also have the jaguar. Where does the jaguar live now? Central and South America. And the same is true of the tapir. So, there were tropical and Boreal forest animals here. Whether they lived in a temperate environment where they co-existed or in two different environments at two different times, we don't know."

"There are exceptions, but cold country usually produces larger animals than warm country and many of the animals that lived here are larger than their modern relatives. The toad that we found is the biggest one known and the chipmunk is the biggest one known."

"I can't pretend to interpret everything that happened here. I am a plant ecologist who specializes in forestry and this is the kind of thing that a plant ecologist would never expect to inherit. But when you run into something like this, you have to heave to and be responsible for it, because you can't just leave it to pass into oblivion. It's turned out to be one of the most meaningful things of my whole life."

Dr. Lipps inherited Ladd's in 1963 when Mr. and Mrs. Warren Moore were enrolled at Shorter in a National Science Foundation Institute for public school teachers. On a picnic at Ladd's, the Moores found fossil snails and vertebrates and brought them to the college. The fossils initiated a continuing correspondence

between Dr. Lipps and the Smithsonian. The following spring, Dr. Clayton Ray came to Ladd's and a cooperative was arranged between Shorter and the Smithsonian for work at the mountain.

Dr. Lipps gives lots of credit to Mr. and Mrs. Moore whose discovery started the whole thing. Unlike the Moore's she says, many people who find fossils simply take them home as curiosities and never mention them to scientists who might study them and perhaps add something worthwhile to the world's knowledge of ancient creatures.

All of the fossils from Ladd's have been shipped to the Smithsonian and some of them, on which studies have been completed, have been returned. Others will remain at the institution.

"People from the Smithsonian have been three or four times and have given us all aid and comfort and some small financial assistance," Dr. Lipps said. "And I have spent some very pleasant summers working there on stuff we sent them. I spent one summer learning how to make rubber casts and molds. We later made casts and molds and sent them to a lot of schools so kids could see what animals lived here."

During her summers in Washington, she also learned some valuable techniques for collecting and handling fossils. "In the washing and screening process we use, we can recover a single bat tooth," she said.

Other people who have provided aid, comfort and assistance include several private citizens and the staff of the Georgia Geological Survey, which is part of the state's Department of Natural Resources. An exhibit of Ladd's fossils is on display in the Survey offices at 18 Hunter Street in Atlanta.

Most of the actual field work, however, has been done by three Shorter faculty members - Dr. Lipps, Dr. Philip Greear and Paulina Buhl - and also college students.

So far, about 300 students have worked at Ladd's collecting fossils, washing and screening them. "This is the sort of thing that sticks in the kid's minds", Dr Lipps said. "It's something they can participate in and brag about and a lot of them are not even science majors. When we first started, some of the kids made the difference in going on with the work or not. You have somebody who will take the ball and run with it and they did."

"I've heard students moan and fuss about picking the little bones but then come in and tell me what they saw, such as an archaeologist on TV the night before doing the same things we do. Somebody asked me one time how we get the kids to do it. I told him, 'It's just part of the course. They don't have a choice.' We have worked here every semester and we are going to continue."

"The biggest bone we have found was the radius bone, part of the arm bone of the ground sloth. The bone was broken, probably after the animal died. Dr. Ray has a great memory for breaks. Sometimes he sits down and goes through drawers of stuff, remembering breaks, and every once in a while, he finds pieces of the same bone and sets it. He did that with our ground sloth."

Dr. Lipps thinks there are still many undiscovered fossils at Ladd's "If they are on the edges of the hills and caves we have seen. They are going to be back into the mountain for some distance, but how far, I don't know," she said.

"I don't think we will find many new species here in the future, although I think we will find some. I think what we will find is great enormous quantities of what we already have and then we can make population studies. If you have 10,000 jaws, you can say a lot more accurately how many animals lived here than if you have 100 jaws, so continuing work here isn't silly at all, particularly when it is done with school kids who are learning as they are doing."

"We don't know much about the populations of the animals we have found," she continued. "In cold climates, such as Alaska today, you don't have many species, but you have large populations. In the tropics, you have a lot of species, but not many of each. All we can do is speculate on the populations at Ladd's on the basis of the bones we have. From them, we do have lots of bats and rodent and foxes and wolves and things like that."

One animal which may well turn up at Ladd's is the porcupine. Georgia's only porcupine fossil came from a cave in Walker County. There's no historical record of porcupines in the Southeast," Dr. Lipps said. "Our kids found the one in Walker County but there is no—just plain no—written record of the porcupines in this section of the country. There are plenty of porcupines in the Southwest, but none in the Southeast."

"I think the reason is the Southwest is hot and arid and the South is hot and humid and porcupines do not grow where you have humidity, or if they do, they are under stress, and some catastrophe pushed them over the edge. I think the catastrophe was fire and one of these days we may be able to say so."

Armadillos definitely lived at Ladd's "When I first found the armadillo plates, I thought they were pieces of asphalt roofing because of the little jagged edges," Dr. Lipps said. "Then I realized that the jagged edges are just like the little jagged edges of your skull, where the pieces fit together. They also look something like the plates on a turtle's back, except there are holes in them. I once asked Dr. Ray if turtle plates ever have holes in them. He said, 'Not unless it's an awfully hairy turtle. The holes in the armadillo's plates are hair holes.'"

Since the Pleistocene period included four Ice Ages, with alternating warm and cold weather within each, it seems reasonable to assume that descendants of animals which lived here then would have changed considerably in the process of adapting to different environments. But some have changed little, if any. "We haven't found any animals that have changed drastically except in size," Dr. Lipps said.

The quarry area is dangerous because erosion has loosened some of the rocks and the entrances to some of the caves, where fossils were found, are on the verge of giving way. All Shorter people who work at the mountain are required to wear hard hats and other protective equipment.

Dr. Lipps suspects there are probably several other caves or entrances to the same ones. "It just stands to reason there would be," she said. "I would like to get a bunch of kids stirred up to walk the rest of that mountain and see if they could find some others."

As she escorts you around the old quarry, she points to a small cave. "That one is off-limits now because the rock is slipping, but a beautiful skull and jaw of a jaguar came from there," she says. A few feet along the trail, she indicates two small cavities, perhaps a yard apart, among the rocks. "One half of the tapir was found here and one half down there." The tour continues, the armadillo plates were here, the sloth bone there, the peccary teeth over yonder. Again, your mind wanders backward. You feel the cold, wet winds of the Glacial Age, when the Spruce Grouse lived there, and the warm sunshine of the era when the tapir came.

Then, Dr. Lipps suggests, you drive a short distance northward so you can turn around and see the mountain from that direction, watching the curves and ridges of the quarried sections unfold.

"It's a beautiful place," she says as she turns and looks back at it before leaving, "I'll never do it justice but at least, by gosh, I will have tried."

MANASSAS

The October 2009 issue of the *Civil War Times* contains an article entitled, "The First Manassas You Missed", that lists 10 sites visitors to that battlefield should see.

The fifth site on their list is the spot where Colonel Francis Bartow was mortally wounded. Bartow was posthumously promoted to the rank of Brevitt General and was further honored when Cass County in Georgia changed it's name to Bartow.

Prior to the war, Bartow had been a guest at Barnsley Gardens. The museum at First Manassas displays the hat of "General" Bartow.

TRAIL OF TEARS

Recent legislation doubled the interpreted area of the Trail of Tears, adding almost 3000 miles of new trails. The area includes a memorial park on the Tennessee River, a cultural area at Ross' Landing, and an interpretive center at Moccasin Bend. All of the improvements should be completed within the next three to five years.

Budget cuts by the State of Georgia have severely curtailed activities at three Trail of Tears sites: Etowah Indian Mounds, New Echota Historic Site, and the Chief Vann House.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed in the Etowah Valley Historical Society office in the gold-domed courthouse for the hours of 1:30-4:30 on the fourth and fifth Friday of each month. Training will be provided for new volunteers.

The Etowah Valley Historical Society's fiscal year runs from October 1 until September 30. Dues for the upcoming year are now being accepted.

evhs@evhsonline

Use the above e-mail website to keep up with EVHS activities



ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3-4
ANNIVERSARY of the BATTLE of ALLATOONA PASS
Allatoona Pass

October 9
EVHS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
Reservation Deadline - Wednesday, October 7, 2:00 pm
Grand Oaks

October 17
GEORGIA LITERARY FESTIVAL
*EVHS presentation will be
at 11 am on Saturday, October 17
in the Rome City Commissioner's Chambers*

November 7 & 8
TOUR of HOMES
*Five homes on Cherokee Avenue will be open.
The tour will begin at the Gold-Domed Courthouse.*

December 4
CHRISTMAS PARTY
Reservation Deadline - Wednesday, December 2, 2:00 pm
Rose Lawn

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