



# ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Volume 96, July-August 2016

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

## EVHS FIELD TRIP SERIES: DIGGING DEEP – SALT PETER CAVE

EVHS Field Trip Series continued Memorial Day weekend with a visit to Salt Peter Cave in Kingston. Joel Sneed from the Georgia Spelunking Association gave a brief history of the cave noting that it was first used by Native Americans as shelter. In the mid-1800's the Confederacy mined the cave for nitrates, used to produce gun powder for the Civil War. In the 1930's dances were held in one of the large caverns after wooden steps and floors were installed.

This was the fifth in a series of field trips EVHS has hosted since early April, with outstanding attendance. According to EVHS Vice President Joe Head, organizer of the field trips, "the series has been phenomenally successful thus far. In fact, we were not completely prepared for the response. The turnout has demonstrated strong interest in our local history." Joe continued to state that these field trips have uncovered many new sources of history from attendees who have shared document, stories, artifacts and suggestions. "Clearly people are proud of our county and want to contribute and see our treasures. We have hit on a hot spot and they are asking 'WHAT'S NEXT?'"

Planned future field trips include a hike to the Stamp Creek stone furnace ruins, a relic of the rich mining and iron smelting industry that once thrived in Bartow County, as well as a picnic and lecture at Spring Bank to visit and learn more about Charles Wallace Howard, a very prominent and early citizen of Bartow County. In the 1830's he acquired over 800 acres just north of Kingston, where he built his home at Spring Bank and opened a school. Martha Berry and two of her sisters were students at the Howard School. Across the public road from Spring Bank is the remnant of a once flourishing industry and town called Cement, which will be included in the field trip series visit to Spring Bank.





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Email: [evhscartersville@gmail.com](mailto:evhscartersville@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.evhsonline.org](http://www.evhsonline.org)

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Joanne Smith Pugh

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Joe Head

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Mina Harper

#### *Treasurer*

Larry Posey

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## SAVE THE DATE

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR EVHS

**Fall 2016** – Stamp Creek Furnace Hike. Members only.

**October 1-2, 2016** – Allatoona Pass Battlefield. Open to the public.

**October 7, 2016** – Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner at Grand Oaks.

**October 8, 2016** – Oral History Fund Raiser at Valley View

**November 5 and 6, 2016** – Tour of Homes features homes on West Avenue. Check back for ticket information. Open to the public.

**December 2, 2016** – Annual Christmas and Holiday Member Dinner at Roselawn

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Anne Marcus

Jan Russell

Jake Gresham

Jacob Pruitt

Kathi Palmer

Bob and Janet Neel

William Newby

Gary Prewett

Michael & Justine Tidwell

Hoyt Jolly

Cecil & Connie Mann

### EVHS COMMITTEES

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Chaired by  
Guy Parmenter

#### *Bartow History Scholars*

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Joe Head

#### *Courthouse Office*

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Chaired by  
The Preservation  
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#### *Website*

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Joanne Smith Pugh  
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Larry Posey

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## TOUR OF HOMES

*November 5 and 6, 2016*

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All homes are featured on West Avenue and Attaway Drive. Homes scheduled for the tour and open to the public are:

1. Arnold Tillman's former home, now owned by Larry Pritchard. Larry is known for his decorating talents, he was showcased in a publication years ago when he lived in Atlanta. 2 Attaway Drive
2. Mr and Mrs Bud Shaw's former home now owned by the Carvey's. It is located at the corner of Cedar Lane and West Ave. 721 West Avenue.
3. Gay Dellinger's former home, now Brenda and Reid Dunn's. 745 West Avenue.
4. Gay Dellinger's mother's house, the Pettit Home. Now owned and occupied by Ansley and Jay Choate. 633 West Avenue

## ORAL HISTORY FUNDRAISER AT VALLEY VIEW WHERE SOUTHERN LEGENDS COME ALIVE

*October 8, 2016 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM*

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Join EVHS members at the home of the Norton Family, 100 Valley View Farm Road, as EVHS sponsors a fundraiser to support our Oral History Project and other preservation programs. Southerners adore their appetizers, and the versatile collection of hors d'oeuvres and libations, served up with a healthy dose of Southern hospitality, will be the life of the party!!! Some of Bartow's most famous legends will share some intriguing and fascinating stories while you enjoy signature cocktails on the Veranda of one of Bartow's most prized antebellum homes. Guest will mingle and enjoy entertainment by Steven Lee Band and a silent auction. Limited to the first 100 registrants. Call EVHS office at 770-606-8862 for more information.

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## FUTURE EVHS FIELD TRIPS

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Anticipated Future Field Trip Events (Fall, Winter or Spring 2016/17) – Hike to Stamp Creek Stone Furnace Ruins. This lost and forgotten area holds further treasures that underscore the rich mining and iron smelting industry that once thrived in Bartow. Also the Jones Carriage and Buggy Factory ruins is a destination hike in the Stamp Creek location. Picnicking at Spring Bank and tour of Cement Furnaces in Kingston. Available to members only.

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## “BARTOW AUTHORS” CONTINUES TO EXPAND @ EVHSONLINE.ORG

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Research and Archives - A venue for local authors to publish their research about Bartow County.

In this issue we invite you to check out the Bartow Authors collection to see some of our latest entries. Visit [evhsonline.org](http://evhsonline.org) and scroll down the home page to find the Bartow Authors link. Click it to access our most recent submissions including these two feature works.

### Bartow Short Stories by David Archer

Enjoy some fun Bartow facts in a variety of tales as told by one of our beloved local historians.



### Pretty Boy Floyd by David Parker

Read the story behind one of America's most wanted gangsters who grew up in Adairsville, Georgia.



## WHAT SOME OF OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING ABOUT EVHS

*"I learned more about Saltpeter Cave yesterday than all the other times I went there as a kid! Kudos to the EVHS, Joe Head, and Joel Sneed for organizing, leading and teaching us about the cave. It was a very good outing with a great group of people. Keep up the cool trips EVHS!"*

— Dan Floyd

*"Thank you for a lovely day at the quiz bowl & all you do with the schools to preserve our history. We had a great conversation with two EVHS ladies at the reception. It was so nice to learn more about Bartow & Cartersville's history".*

—Erin Robertson



## PRESERVATION PROFILE



*Photo courtesy of Phil Bridges*

This photo was taken 6/26/1930 at the ground breaking for Market Street School which later became Cherokee Avenue Elementary School. That's the old women's college in the background which became Cartersville High School until the current site on Church Street was built in the early 1950s.

The Stiles Auditorium, located inside the old Cherokee Avenue School, hosted Ms. Donna Dicksson for a lecture and book signing as she presented "Mattie Lee Price – The Forgotten Georgia Wonder" on July 26, 2016.

Mattie Lee Price -The Forgotten Georgia Wonder Dickson's book reveals the amazing story of a young Bartow woman in the 1880's who became one of four women known as the Georgia Wonders. She preformed in pre-vaudeville acts in which the young women performed feats of strength, usually pitted against men.

Among other points of interest, Dickson's research finds that Mattie Price was raised in Stilesboro. Her stage act eventually toured throughout the United States and Europe. Her career included performing in shows that featured Harry Houdini.

Donna Dicksson presented her research on her great, great grandmother who was raised in Bartow Count.



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## ALLATOONA PASS – OCTOBER

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On October 5, 1864 the Battle of Allatoona Pass took place when a Confederate Division, led by General Samuel French, attacked the Union garrison. Although the Confederates made repeat attacks against the fortifications and nearly overtook the Star Fort, the Union troops were able to halt the attacking Confederate Division.

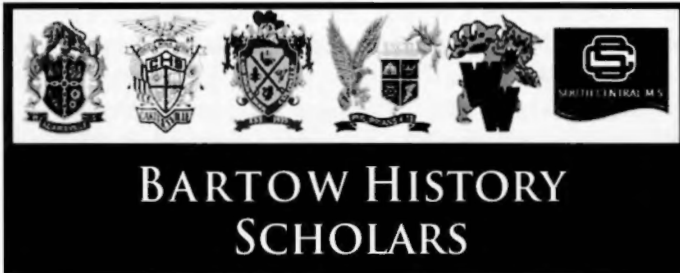


*This image, from the Wilbur Kurtz collection, is from 1887; reprinted in Railroad Magazine, Dec 1945 issue. It shows The General, pulling several cars of a railroad employee tour group, stopped at Allatoona Pass.*



General Corse (of Battle of Allatoona Pass fame) returns to Pass in 1886. See next image for description.

## CASS MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS QUIZ BOWL 2016



It came down to a sudden death tiebreaker, but Cass Middle School emerged as the champion of the 2016 Bartow History Quiz Bowl held on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at Sam Jones United Methodist Church.

The second annual contest, sponsored by EVHS as part of its award winning Bartow History Scholars Program, offered students from Cass Middle, Cartersville Middle, South Central Middle and Adairsville Middle Schools a chance to exhibit their knowledge of history of their local area and their awareness of their own heritage. Each team battled it out to see which school knew the most Bartow County History.

Cass coach Blake Fallin, who teaches eighth grade Georgia history, stated "I am very proud of these students – they worked very, very hard." A number of attendees also stressed they learned facts about the county they never knew.



*2016 Quiz Bowl Winners – Cass Middle school proudly display their first place trophy*



*The Second Quiz Bowl is history! Cass Middle School took the first place trophy in a sudden death tie breaker with Cartersville Middle. Thank you , thank you, thank you to students, parents, coaches, EVHS members, Grand Oaks and Sam Jones UMC! A very special thank you to our sponsors: Gold Sponsor: Wells Fargo, Silver Sponsor, Century Bank and Bronze sponsors Chemical Products, Community Foundation of Northwest Georgia, Parmenter Insurance Agency and Georgia Power Company.*



*Participants of the 2016 Quiz Bowl loved the reception at Grand Oaks and said "Thank You" to our sponsors: Wells Fargo, Century Bank, Georgia Power, Chemical Products Corporation, Parmenter Insurance Agency and Community Foundation of Northwest Georgia*

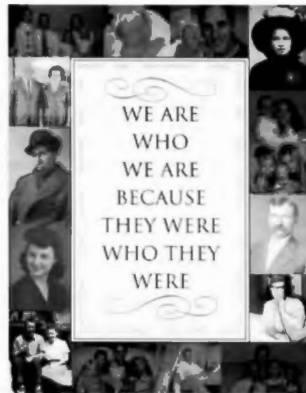


## SKETCHES OF BARTOW COUNTY AVAILABLE

Sketches of Bartow County Books, by local historian J. B. Tate, is available at Gold Dome Courthouse, Bartow History Museum and Euharlee History Museum.

Get your signed copy – third printing is in stock now!!!! Would make great birthday, housewarming or thank you gift. Know someone new to Bartow County? Give them their own copy to introduce them to all EVHS and Bartow County have to offer.

Bob Smith, owner of City Cellar and Loft in Downtown Cartersville, a former student of J. B. Tate's, purchased a copy of Sketches of Bartow County for EACH Bartow County, Cartersville City and Excel Academy schools. He wants the students in Bartow County to know "We Are Who We Are Because They Were Who They Were".



## CHANGE TO EVHS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL BILLING SYSTEM. CELEBRATING YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

As a convenience for our members and to assist with your tax records, the EVHS Board recently voted to change payment of your annual dues to a rolling renewal schedule based on each members individual enrollment date. Each member will receive a personal renewal notice during their EVHS anniversary month.

EVHS, is a 501c(3) non-profit organization. Services provided by EVHS from dues paid are not substantial and can be deducted in full. EIN 58-1368875 (reference [https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/rp\\_1990-12.pdf](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/rp_1990-12.pdf)). Consult with your CPA/tax preparer before making the deduction.

Previously dues were announced in October as a batch notification. Beginning immediately you will receive a notice for renewals based on your EVHS anniversary date.

As Always, thanks for your support through the years!!!

**We need volunteers to  
help us in the EVHS office.  
Can you come help one  
afternoon per month?**

**Call 770.606.8862 and  
leave a message.**

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*www.evhsonline.org*  
*Use the above website to*  
*keep up with the activities of the*  
*Etowah Valley Historical Society*



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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