



# ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Volume 108, June 2020

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

## EVHS Quarantines

### Historical Society Revisits Uncertain Times with Coronavirus

The unexpected COVID 19 pandemic was a set back for all of the world, nation and Bartow County. EVHS along with our sister historical partners had to suspend programming as it related to lectures, events, office operations and field trips.

As an alternative to normal business EVHS continued to communicate with members using our social media, email and newsletter options. Additionally, custom research articles were published that focused on the historical impact of the 1918 Spanish flu and its comparison to the 2020 COVID 19 epidemic in Bartow County. A companion article also posted on the Bartow Author's Corner (Cartersville's Coronavirus Chronicles) soon followed that recorded how Cartersville coped, tracked and documented COVID 19 data.

Bartow's First Social Distancing Epidemic article (Spanish flu) was initially published in the Daily Tribune News on Easter Sunday receiving popular reviews. It was also posted on the EVHS website under the Bartow Author's Corner and was read over 1400 times between Easter and May 1st. The article was also mentioned on Atlanta's WSB 750 radio segment, April 20th call-in show about Governor Kemp's decision to reopen the economy. Comments compared the irony of issues between the flu of 1918 and today's COVID 19 challenges.



Some of the more colorful masks of 2020



Photo of Bartow family appeared in local papers during the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic



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**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Upcoming Events for EVHS**

**TBA** – *Train Wrecks of Bartow County postponed, date and location to be announced.*

**November 7 - 8, 2020** – *Tour of Homes, Historic Downtown Cartersville*

**October 9, 2020** – *Annual Membership Dinner*

**Fall 2020** – *Pine Log Exhibit Project, Reinhardt University*

**December 4, 2020** – *Christmas Dinner*

Note: Some dates are subject to change.



**Rolling dues are due**

EVHS reminds members that dues are now due according to the anniversary month that you joined. Notices are being mailed out or emailed to individuals. If you have received a notice and not yet renewed, please do so now by mailing your check or going online.

PO Box 1886 Cartersville GA 30120

[www.evhsonline.org/membership](http://www.evhsonline.org/membership)

**Don't be Blind, Deaf, or Dumb**



1. Wash hands frequently
2. Cover face
3. Social distance



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## KSU Transfers Corra Harris Property



In a recent action Kennesaw State University transferred the historic Corra Harris property known as In the Valley near Rydal to Bartow County. According to Dr. Catherine Lewis, AVP for Museums, Archives and Rare Books this action has come as a result of “lack of utilization” by the university and a desire to place the property with a government entity. Further disposition regarding the property’s legacy, preservation, ownership, and management will be determined at a later date. The Etowah Valley Historical Society will serve as advisor for the property.



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# Historic Train Wrecks of Bartow County

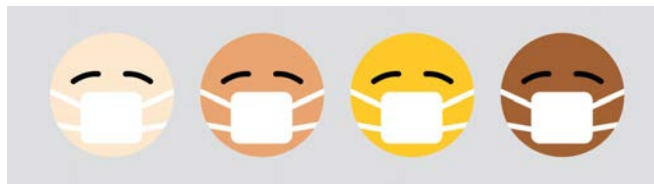
## & Tribute to the Wreck of 1920

Save the Date!



Coming soon is a rare EVHS program dedicated to the scores of epoch train wrecks that have occurred in Bartow County since 1847. This is a unique story hidden in the fabric of Bartow's past and has never been told before. A special tribute will be extended to several families that lost loved ones in the wreck of 1920 at the viaduct overpass south of Cartersville. Joe Head has exhaustively researched this topic for over twenty months finding amazing "smash ups," long forgotten tragedies that cost life, limb and massive property damage. Learn about head on collisions, bridge collapses, explosions, overturned trains and hobos. This photo-rich power point/lecture will reveal forgotten wrecks, railroads of yesteryear and where the disaster hot spots happened in the county.

Watch for future announcements regarding program location, possible schedule changes and instructions.



We're all in this together.

# Hi O Silver! Away!

New Members Wanted! Who are these Masked People?  
Answers are on page 8 (Mina won't be too difficult)



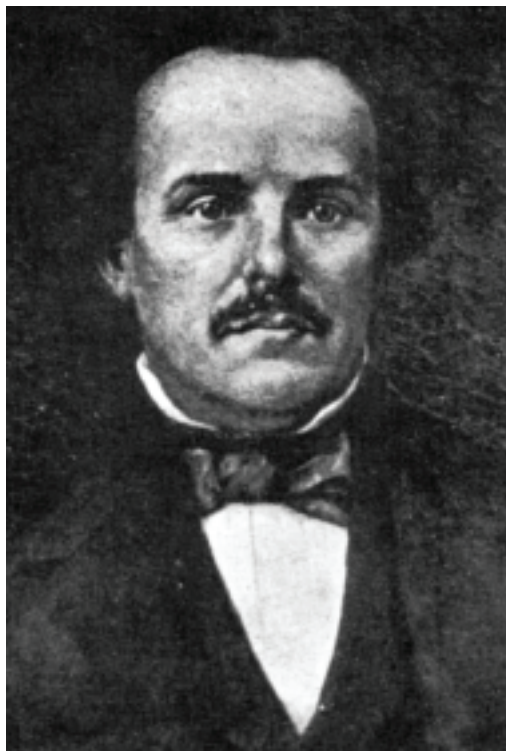
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## The Name Game

### Patriotism and Place: Community and Commemoration in Civil War Bartow County

By

Matthew Gramling



**Francis Stebbins Bartow**

The name sake of a community can provide profound insights into the communal identity of its early residents and their relationship to the landscape in which they lived. Place names often describe a topographical feature, signify a kinship relationship to a particular locale, or commemorate a person, place, or event which is seen as being particularly representative of a community's character. This has been especially true in the history of Bartow County and its former county seat of Cassville. Amidst the dramatic opening events of the Civil War, both county and town underwent a dynamic process of renaming.

When the county and county seat were established in 1832, it was decided that both should be named in honor of President Jackson's Secretary of War Gen. Lewis Cass. Cass was an esteemed Democratic politician from Michigan and a major proponent of Indian removal. As such, he was exceptionally popular with Georgians who were eager to seize Cherokee lands. The people of Cassville and Cass County would continue to hold Cass in high regard throughout the antebellum era. The editors of the *Cassville Standard* would routinely include letters, addresses, news, and approving editorials about Gen. Cass in their weekly issues. They even strongly endorsed a nomination of Cass as the Democratic candidate for the 1856 presidential election

With the outbreak of the secession crisis in the winter of 1860, Cass' popularity would begin to wane. During his long political career, Cass had earned a reputation as a political moderate and advocate of sectional compromise. But, he was also an ardent Unionist who dismissed secession as unconstitutional and believed that decisive action must be taken in order that the Union be preserved. Cass's desire for decisive action would eventually lead him into conflict with President Buchanan in whose Cabinet he had been serving as Secretary of State. For weeks, Cass had tried to convince Buchanan to reinforce federal fortification in Charleston harbor. Cass believed that without reinforcement federal garrisons would not be able to withstand secessionist attempts to seize the forts. Buchanan refused Cass' appeals and on December 18 Cass resigned in protest.

As the secession crisis turned into open civil war, Cass would demonstrate his strong support for the Union cause. In a speech delivered before a Union meeting in Detroit just after the Confederate siege of Ft. Sumter, Cass expressed his desire "to do all I can to manifest the deep interest I feel in the restoration to peace and good order and submission to the law of every portion of this glorious Republic."

Such pro-Union statements did not engender Cass praise from Confederate supporters in Cass County. Therefore, in the fall of 1861, county leaders drafted legislation to provide the county and Cassville with a new name which reflected their new identity as part of the fledgling Confederate nation. With the Confederate victory at the First Battle of Manassas on July 21, 1861, patriotic sentiment in Georgia was at high tide. Yet, this victory came at a price for Georgians who suffered their first high-ranking casualty of the Civil War--Col. Francis Stebbins Bartow. Bartow had distinguished himself as a congressman in the Georgia General Assembly and was among the Georgia delegates sent to the Montgomery Convention of the Provisional Congress of Confederate States in February 1861. He was also captain of Savannah's elite Oglethorpe Light Infantry and when the Civil War began he volunteered their services to the Confederate war effort. Bartow rushed his "Oglethorpes" to the front in Virginia where he was elected Colonel of the Eight Georgia Infantry Regiment.

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By July 1861, he was commanding the brigade he would lead in battle at First Manassas. On July 21, 1861, the Battle of First Manassas commenced. Bartow would fall after being shot through the heart while leading a charge on a Union battery. As he lay dying, Bartow is reputed to have exhorted his troops stating, "They have killed me boys, but never give up the field." His body was recovered and he would be buried in Laurel Grove Cemetery in Savannah with the highest state honors. He would also be posthumously brevetted to the rank of brigadier general. His death was mourned throughout the entire Confederacy, especially Georgia where newspapers throughout the state would praise Bartow for his gallantry and leadership. Several Georgia military companies would name themselves in his honor. But, the greatest tribute he would receive was from the people of Cassville and Cass County who would commemorate Bartow's memory by renaming their county and county seat in his honor.

The process of renaming would prove a unique episode in the history of Cass County. Two of the leading figures behind the drive for renaming the community were the Hon. Warren Akin and Hon. Samuel Sheats, who were serving as Cass County's state representatives at the 1861 session of the Georgia General Assembly at the state capital of Milledgeville. On November 9, Sheats introduced a bill to the Georgia House of Representatives which would begin the transition. The bill proposed to change the name of Cass County to Bartow, and the name of Cassville to Francis. This proposal was received with great applause by members of the House. On November 13, the bill was taken up and amended at the suggestion of representatives Lester, Whittle, and Black. Hon. Black amended the bill so as to substitute **Bartowville for Francis as Cassville's** new name. The amendment was approved and the bill was passed 'with a rising vote' and sent to the Georgia Senate. On November 30th, the Senate took up the bill where it became apparent that not everyone in Cassville was happy with the name change. Just before Hon. D.R. Mitchell took up the bill for amendment, a communication by Hon. Akin and Sheats was read which stated they had addressed their constituents regarding the renaming process and found a significant portion of them were opposed to the change. Whether this opposition was rooted in a residual Unionism among a portion of the Cass County populace is difficult to ascertain. However, Akin and Sheats made their case to their constituents "why no foot of soil in Georgia should, in their judgment, bear the name of Lewis Cass." They also stated that they would press the bill to its passage in opposition to the fairly expressed will of their people." Despite this communication, the bill was taken up for amendment with Mitchell proposing to substitute Manassa[s] for Bartowville. The bill was passed and sent for final approval to the House, which passed it with no further amendment and a resolution was drafted requesting the Postmaster General of the Confederate States to change the name of the Cassville post office to Manassas. The bill would finally be signed into law as an act on December 6th, 1861. As part of its final form, the Act contained a preamble which provided a brief summary justifying the name changes of Cass County and Cassville. The preamble condemned Lewis Cass as an inveterate Unionist bent on subjugating the South by whatever means necessary and commended Bartow who gallantly died for his country while bravely leading his men in battle on the "Manassas Plains."

Cassville would retain its new name of Manassas throughout the Civil War. But with Union victory in April 1865, the Federal Postmaster General would have the name changed back to Cassville. Only Cass County's new name commemorating Col. Bartow would survive the flames of war and the restoration of the Union.

Note: To read the complete article including citations visit the Bartow Author's Corner on the EVHS website.

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## Answers to Members In Masks

Judy Kilgore

Joe Head

Dianne Tate

Larry Posey

Mark Matthews

Joanne Pugh

Diane Mooney

Becky Champion

Mina Harper

## Speaker's Bureau

Carl Etheridge presented "Native Americans of the Etowah Valley" to a group of students at LakePoint Station in early March. These students were from the Academy of the Double H Ranch in Woodstock, Georgia



### Need a program? EVHS Speaker's Bureau can help!

- History of Bartow County
- Selected Civil War events in Bartow County
- Mining history in Bartow County
- Native American history of the Etowah Valley
- African American history of Bartow County
- The Great Locomotive Chase in Bartow County
- Iron Furnaces in Bartow County
- Train Wrecks of Bartow County
- Historic homes of Bartow County
- Historic Railroads of Bartow County
- Prominent Personalities of Bartow County
- Geology and ores of Bartow County
- Historic Businesses of Bartow County
- Legacies of Reverend Sam Jones
- Early schools and/or churches of Bartow County

## Bartow Author's Corner

A new article has been submitted to the Bartow Author's Corner on the P. M. B. Young family and history of Walnut Grove. This work was done by KSU intern Jennifer Billingsley as a directed study under Dr. Terry Powis. Visit the EVHS website Author's Corner to read the entire article.



*Walnut Grove in the late 1800's*



*Walnut Grove circa 1900's*



*Walnut Grove as it stands today, in 2020*



## Custom Masks

EVHS Board member Judy Kilgore made over 200 virus masks.

Thank you Judy!



# Quiz Bowl and Ladd's Mountain Hike

COVID 19 required that EVHS cancel Ladd's Mountain Hike and the annual BHS middle school Quiz Bowl. We regret that coaches and teams had prepared and did not get a chance to compete. Below is Cass Middle School's 2020 team. We very much appreciate all the teams and look forward to 2021.



Left to Right:

Blake Fallin-coach, Mac Draper, Scarlett Hale, Jocelyne Cruz, Olivia Barnett, Brvant Cullifer (Captain), Justin Deras, Christie Barnett-coach.



Thanks to our Quiz Bowl sponsors



Photo by - Victor Mulinix

# Magnetometer Survey Update of the Leake Site

Scot Keith

On February 21-22 Jarrod Burks and I conducted a magnetometry survey of portions of the Leake site west of Cartersville on highway 113 near Ladd's Farm Supply. Less well known than the Mississippian Period Etowah Mounds that are located three miles upriver, Leake became a very important site during the Middle Woodland period, circa 200 B.C. – 650 A.D. During this time, Leake served as a significant ceremonial center where people from across the Eastern Woodlands journeyed to participate in events held at the site, within what archaeologists often refer to as the Hopewell Interaction Sphere. Named after a famous earthwork site in Ohio, this “social network” extended from Wisconsin to Florida, as revealed by a series of mound and earthwork sites built by participants who congregated for religious and ceremonial expression. Ceremonial activities would have included the construction of mounds, embankments, and enclosures; feasting; music; and story-telling. The activities held at Leake also would have included Ladd's Mountain across the river from Leake, as indicated by several sites that were once present on the mountain. Due in part to its location at the divide between Atlantic and Gulf-draining waters and the Tennessee River Valley, Leake served as a gateway community that bridged the lower Southeast with the Midwest, thusly becoming a primary interaction center of the period.



Figure 1. Magnetometer and the interpretive signs along the Leake walking trail, with Ladd's Mountain in the background.



Figure 2. Jarrod running the magnetometer. Markers are used as a sight target so he can walk a straight line, which is important for proper data collection.

Jarrod is a specialist in the archaeology of Hopewell sites and also in remote sensing technology, which is increasingly used in the survey of archaeological sites. Remote sensing techniques allow archaeologists a way to view the archaeological record without having to excavate. Apart from artifacts, the other primary thing archaeologists search for are “features” (the disturbances in the natural soil matrix) that remain from previous human activities - features like hearths, posts, and refuse pits provide a record of what and where specific activities took place at a site. Magnetometry is one of several remote sensing techniques, specifically designed to measure the magnetic variation in the soil. Because previous human activities - such as burning - alters the magnetism of materials contained within the soil, this instrument records variations to help provide a view of those activities. As a founding member of the non-profit Heartland Earthworks Conservancy with a mission of documenting and protecting American Indian earthwork sites, Jarrod has a goal of surveying as many Hopewellian earthworks as he possibly can. To date, he has surveyed around 50 sites. He came to Leake equipped with a magnetometer hand-built in Germany, having large wheels and a wide frame which allows coverage of approximately 8 acres in a days survey.

Jarrod and I share mutual interest in Hopewell archaeology. Based upon my research at Leake, in 2016, I participated in an archaeological conference held in Chillicothe, Ohio, which is the heartland of Hopewell archaeology due to the presence of many amazing earthworks of various forms and size, including circular, square, and octagonal enclosures; mounds; and wood henges (see [https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Hopewell\\_Culture](https://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Hopewell_Culture) for more information on Ohio's Hopewell sites). Jarrod and two other organizers of that conference edited the papers into two volumes (titled *Encountering Hopewell in the Twenty-first Century, Ohio and Beyond*), and I contributed a chapter on Leake for the second of these volumes. Because of Leake's importance as a Hopewellian site, and the high potential for features at Leake, magnetometry was a natural fit for acquiring data that would provide a map of potential features at the site. EVHS was very supportive of the project including funding and acquiring permission from the City of Cartersville and Bartow County to allow us to conduct a survey of their parcels.



Figure 3. Obligatory fieldwork selfie. Scot Keith and Jarrad Burks.

We are currently in the process of analyzing the data, which includes documenting the location and type of the observable features and type of activities that generated the features. Upon conclusion a final report will be provided to EVHS for publication.

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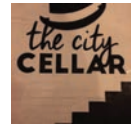
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## ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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