

## “VALDOSTA THE RICHEST CITY PER CAPITA Not Only In Georgia, But In United States”

By Donald O. Davis: Technology is certainly allowing us to find clues and answers to long standing questions in our local history. On occasion I quizzed those keen to local history concerning the specific origin of Valdosta being titled, at one point in history, as the “richest city of its size per capita in the nation.” Everyone knew that it had to relate to the 1910s, but they, and then I, could only give as an answer, “We don’t know the specific source, we have just always heard it.” Finding where Valdosta was so specifically titled from 1913 articles in other newspapers, led to noticing mentions as early as 1895 of Valdosta’s particular prosperity.

Very little of the *Valdosta Daily Times* is searchable electronically via Georgia Library services, only 1908 through 1912, and this in only the biweekly *Valdosta Times* rather than the *Valdosta Daily Times*. For many years after the *Valdosta Times* became daily in 1905, it continued to publish the biweekly edition that repeated some articles from the *Daily Times*. In their south Georgia newspapers, Albany electronically searches from 1845 through 1901; Thomasville, 1873-1922; Waycross, 1884-1914; Americus, 1870-1921; Bainbridge, 1872-1922, and some others.

However, Valdosta information can be found in other newspapers. When searching by topic in the Waycross newspapers for information relating to the January 1913 opening of the college, “Lo, and Behold!!!” an article appears that contains the long sought source information of Valdosta as the “richest city per capita.”

The title of this article, the headline above on this page, is the same title from the *Americus Weekly Times-Recorder*, January 16, 1913. *The Atlanta Constitution* used a similar title with the article on January 12, 1913 as did the *Waycross Journal* on January 17. *The Atlanta Constitution* cites their article as Valdosta, January 11; *Americus Times-Recorder* cites as Valdosta January 13; and the *Waycross Journal* cites as Valdosta January 14. Since the ability to electronically search Valdosta papers ends with 1912 (1908-1912), I have not had a chance to manually check the 1913 microfilm. If someone can find the referenced article in the *Valdosta Times* or *Valdosta Daily Times* please let us know at the museum.

The article below, citing “Valdosta, Ga. January 11,” is taken from the *Atlanta Constitution* January 12, 1913. The same article appeared in other Georgia newspapers.

### Valdosta, Ga., January 11 (Special)

Figures compiled by President John T. Blalock, of the Chamber of Commerce, show that besides being unique in the matter of name, there being no other Valdosta on the map, this city is the richest town per capita in the United States. The banking resources here are nearly \$6,000,000 with deposits of about \$2,500,000. The number of telephones in use, the receipts at the post office, the business done by the railroads and the number of post office boxes far exceed those of any town in the state of Valdosta’s size. The 1910 census gave this city less than 8,000 people.

This city also enjoys the distinction of being the largest inland long staple cotton market in the world. The Chamber of Commerce will begin this year a more extended campaign than ever to let the rest of the country know what Valdosta is.

**Below:** Postcard circa 1915. West Hill Avenue looking east. The first three buildings on the right, including the five story are now demolished. The ambitious plans of city leaders beginning in the 1880s had helped make Valdosta a booming center of commerce.



**Richest City Per Capita.** Before the specific article in 1913, Valdosta's increasing per capita prosperity is written of in special issues of the *Valdosta Times*: the 1895 Harvest Edition, the 1899 Valdosta Exposition Edition, and the 1900 Georgia State Fair Edition. During the time of these publications the *Times* was only biweekly, the 1875 courthouse still stood brick-plain in the square, and Valdosta had no modern hotel (Valdes 1902). Thomas and Brooks Counties had their current stately courthouses, Thomasville had fine hotels for the northern industrialist and winter tourists, and its newspaper had been daily for a decade. The commentary below is chosen from among several. Of note, it, as do others, make notice that Valdosta is growing using her own money.

### Commentary on the 1899 Valdosta Exposition

by Captain John Triplett of the *Thomasville Times Enterprise* November 7, 1899

Valdosta should be an inspiration and example to every town in Georgia. By unity of action, push, perseverance and pluck, she has forced her way to the very front among the most prosperous and progressive towns in Georgia.

Great steel railways radiating from that place make her the center of a large and prosperous area. The town fairly pulsates and throbs with vitality.

There is nothing dead about Valdosta. Everything and everybody is alive and pushing with all their might and main.

They are in for expansion. And it is expansion with a big E; Expansion with the throttle wide open and not a brake on.

And better, the track is well ballasted with capital, and it is clear of any obstructions. And it is up-grade all the way. Here is a town built up and made prosperous without foreign capital. These people have gone into their pockets and established many manufacturing establishments with their own means. And the result is that the place is a veritable bee hive of industry. There are no drones there.

"We rejoice, most heartily, in the prosperity of our ambitious and growing neighboring town. May the present be but the fore-runner of a greater and lasting prosperity which shall permanently crown the city and its public spirited citizens."

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Some Ramblings at 50 Years:

### Valdosta Tech, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

The community celebrates with Wiregrass Georgia Technical College the occasion of their 50th Year and the service they have been to education in our area.

At the museum we have a few hundred clippings and photographs that archive their history. There is also a framing from a 1951 issue of the Valdosta Times concerning the opening of the early Valdosta Vocational School and the area leader in this field Shell Hartley. An emphasis in the need for vocational education grew with the return of WWII soldiers.

I serve on the board of directors of a south Georgia entity that includes an attorney from Waycross. Discussing other items during lunch he mentioned how certain changes were not serving Waycross and Ware County in the best manner. The name Waycross College is gone in the merger with the Douglas campus, the new name South Georgia State College. When he mentioned "Wiregrass/ Wiregrass Georgia" as a potential name for the upcoming merger of Altamaha Tech and Okefenokee Tech, a lady on this board, who is also on the Blackshear city council, said that it was too late, Valdosta already has the name.

**VALDOSTA, Queen of the Wiregrass,**

**Holds Aloft the Light of Progress.**

Within the pages of this issue of THE TIMES is a story of the development of the fairest region of the Sunny South. Valdosta is the undisputed Queen of that section and THE TIMES aspires to be nothing more than the light which blazes the way and points out the path toward its perfect development and the happiness and prosperity of all of its people.

Here is a wish for the health, wealth and happiness of all of our readers.

LUDWIG HUBERT  
RESTORATION SOCIETY  
AND MUSEUM

**SOUTH GEORGIA,**

**The Wiregrass Section of The Empire State.**

**Its Wonderful Resources Exhibited at The Coming State Fair.**

The City of Valdosta, representing the Wiregrass Section of Georgia, will draw back the curtain at the State Fair next week and exhibit the wonderful development that has been accomplished by the plucky citizens of this section of the state.

### Promoting Valdosta & Wiregrass Georgia

**Right:** from the 1895 Harvest Edition, a 24 page promotional paper that was the first of its kind publication for the town.

**Above:** from the 1899 Valdosta Exposition Edition. A feature of the exposition was the completion of the Atlantic, Valdosta & Western Railroad from Jacksonville, FL to Valdosta.

**Left:** from the 1900 Georgia State Fair Edition. Valdosta hosted the first state fair ever below Macon.

### LOWNDES COUNTY

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**The Bright Particular Star**

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**In the Wiregrass Firmament**



## Museum Activities: Always Varied and Interesting



**Left:** Ruby Lee Whittle Wetherington when donating her Oberman employees photograph to the museum. During the summer we received a call from Mrs. Wetherington asking us to come to her home in order that she donate a framed photograph to the museum. She went to work at Oberman Manufacturing when it opened circa 1957. She had formerly worked at Kress in downtown Valdosta. She stopped working at Oberman for a period to care for her mother then resumed employment in 1968 continuous to 1987 when she retired.

Her husband Hamp Wetherington had worked for Georgia Plate Glass Company and made the picture frame. The photo is dated 1962. Oberman was purchased by Levi Strauss Company.

Mrs. Wetherington identified herself in the photograph and friend Althea Hightower who is standing beside her. She said that the seven ladies front left were the supervisors. Those front center include Edith Hart, Alex Baldwin and Fred Buescher. She told that Oberman had one shift but Levi Strauss also ran a night shift. The Metal Products Company building is in the background top left in the photo. We at the museum would like to hear from people that can identify others in the photo.



**Above:** Rozzie Bird of Smyrna, Georgia, and Drew Johnson.

Perhaps a saga began in 2012 when studying the first known Valdosta group to take the Grand Tour. It coincided with the sinking of the Titanic, the Valdostans being on the Atlantic Ocean on the sister ship Olympic. The big trip is reflective of the prosperity in Valdosta at this time as stated in this newsletter. The museum had a photo and a dozen known postcards of the trip. When I decided to take a chance and see if Rozzie Bird's grandmother, who had died a decade before Rozzie was born, might have postcards from this tour, Rozzie was unaware of the trip. When Rozzie searched she found almost 250 of these cards collected in 1912.

Late this Spring we received a call at the museum from VSU concerning early images of the J. D. McKey house, 1208 N. Patterson Street as it is to undergo some restoration and is college property. An early photograph was supplied from our archives. Internally, since this subject had come into question, we learned more about the J. D. McKey family. These occasions always serves as good "connect-a-dots" for the future. In looking in archive boxes of the "J.D. McKey/Stump" collection page after page of postcards appear. Now uncovered are another 250 post cards of this trip. These were preserved by Marion Wilkinson who married Harry Stump. Drew Johnson had majored in Spanish, minored in German, and could read most every card. We contacted Rozzie and she hurried here with her cards as Drew had graduated and was moving. Rozzie is fascinated as she took her step-grandmother to several of the same places and plans to write a book on perhaps "Grandmothers Grand Tour." It covered from Gibraltar to a Budapest/Vienna Danube cruise, to St. Petersburg, Algiers, Egypt, the Holy Land, Lapland, everywhere in between, getting to Stockholm for the 1912 Olympics, Italy twice, England and more. We await Rozzie's book to include highlight postcards and later, with today's technology, the over 500 electronic postcards images can be available as a resource and for study.



**Above:** Kathryn Burgsteiner Stevens holds a family Civil War era bonnet she donated to the museum before moving to Fernandina Beach, FL near family. Early in 2014 the museum will have Civil War Commemorative exhibits that will include all the interesting details of the bonnet.

## “At 100 Years, Americas Winningest High School Football Team”

With the completion of this 2013 season, Valdosta High football, regardless of any future situation, will always be able to claim “At 100 Years, America’s Winningest High School football team.”

In tribute to this community achievement the Lowndes County Historical Society is, albeit slowly, developing a 100 Years of Football electronic exhibit on our website. The first phase will mainly include 1958 through Wright Bazemore’s last season 1971. Why these years? When the library annex was completed at the Williams Street VHS in 1958 they began compiling extensive scrapbooks of school activities. These books, which date into the 2000s, were donated to the historical museum several years ago. A very few scrapbook years were missing and not available for donation.

With so much information in chronological order, the website exhibit will first feature 1958-1971. We hope this first phase will be published to the website before the end of October.

The following article is from the 1961, Book One, Scrapbook. It was clipped from *The Atlanta Journal* in 1961. The article states written Nov. 20. Our attempt to get the exact date it appeared in the newspaper was stymied. *The Atlanta Journal* has Historic Archives from 1868 to 1945 and News Archives 1985 to Current, thus 1961 at present is not available to check electronically. The article was “A Journal Visit” by Tom Willow, *Atlanta Journal* Staff Writer.



Betty and Wright Bazemore from Sandspur yearbook



Some of the coaches of the era; Bill Bennett, Charlie Greene, Bill Davis, Joe Wilson, Wright Bazemore and Johnny B. Roland

### A WINNING FORMULA

## Bazemore Makes Valdosta Click on Field and Off

Valdosta, Ga., Nov. 20— By his own admission, Valdosta High Coach Wright Bazemore is a family man who loves to coach, loves to win and has few aspirations to step up to the college coaching ranks.

His 21-year coaching record [*ed. note: actually 18, WWII soldier during 1943, '44 and '45 seasons*] is as good as any coach in the country. Bazemore-coached football teams have won 206 of 238 games and have been in state championship games 10 times, winning eight titles.

However, Bazemore is not strictly a football coach. From 1947 to 1952 he was also the basketball coach and his teams won 176 of 198 games. In five of the seven years he handled the basketball reins, Valdosta went to the state finals. They won once.

Surprisingly enough, however, winning has never come easy for the 44 year old coach. His players are not super beings. They simply work hard at what they do and success follows.

“I am very happy here,” says Wright, “This is a good town and people place football ahead of other sports. The three things we have working for us are enthusiasm, spirit and tradition. And very often they make up the shortage of ability.”

Bazemore has been offered many college coaching jobs but apparently it is difficult to find a better working situation than he has here.

“Yes, I’ve thought about it seriously several times,” he said. “But this business of hanging coaches in effigy doesn’t make sense. I think if they did that to me in college I’d leave the next morning.”

There are no hanging trees in Valdosta. In fact, there is no pressure exerted from any source. The townfolks love their team and worship its coach.

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You’ve never seen such a determined bunch of kids in your life.” and Lewis Blair, who operates Castle Park service station. “Bazemore makes ‘em click. I don’t think they’d knock heads out there for anyone else.” *continued next page*



# When Pinevale Stood in the Gap

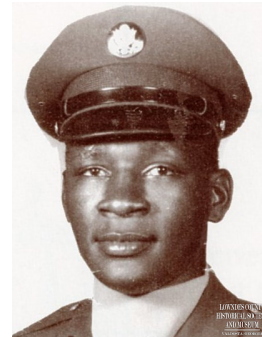
*By Donald Davis:* This September the 1963 Pinevale Tigers football team held a 50th year reunion recognizing their winning the Class A-4A State Championship. This particular game was played December 6, 1963 on Cleveland Field at the then Valdosta High campus. Other home games that year were played at Pinevale Stadium. The Pinevale Tigers defeated Lemon Street High Hornets of Marietta 27-13.

Regretfully, I was unaware that this recent reunion was taking place but do have personal memories of the game, I attended. I was 12 years old and a seventh grade student at Valdosta Junior High School. This was during the era of racially segregated schools. I felt compelled to attend and told my father I wanted to go to the Pinevale championship game and he took me.

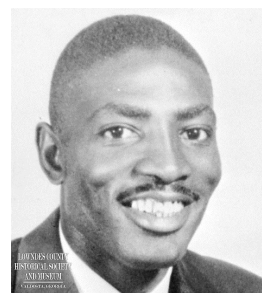
By circumstance, a few days ago, I learned of another VJHS seventh grade classmate that attended the game. Robert Bohler, of the Texas Christian University journalism faculty in Fort Worth called the museum on totally different topics. After discussing Robert's topics I mentioned the Pinevale reunion and he said that he had read about it in the online version of the *Valdosta Daily Times*.

Robert told that in his case his father was going and asked him if he wanted to go. He also remembered that 1963 was Bazemore's only losing season 2-7-1 after three perfect seasons and state championships in 1960, '61 and '62. Pinevale playing for the championship was tonic for all football fans after the Wildcats dismal season. Pinevale truly did "Stand in the Gap" and "Carry the Banner" for the community. The GHSA Historians website shows that the Pinevale Tigers went 8-0-2 during the regular season. The ties games were Johnson High of Savannah 0-0, and Center of Waycross 7-7. Regular season victories were over Liberty Co.(old) of McIntosh, Hutto of Bainbridge, Ralph Bunche of Woodbine, Monitor of Fitzgerald, Washington Street of Quitman, Douglass of Thomasville, Carver of Douglas and Wilson of Tifton. Playoff wins were over Center, 2-0; Douglass, 32-0; R.L. Norris of Thomson, 35-0; and then Lemon Street.

Pinevale predecessor Dasher High Purple Tigers won a 1953 state championship over Hunt High of Ft. Valley. Dasher played all home games at Cleveland Field.



**Above:** Horace Hampton was remembered, as well as others deceased, at the reunion. This photo is part of the Vietnam War exhibit at the museum. He died in service to his country, March 27, 1966.  
**Below:** Coach Edward Jones



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Vernon Walker, a painter, admits to being a devout Wildcat fan. Two of his sons played on championship teams. Jimmy Walker made all-state in 1953.

"I've got another boy, Dave, in the ninth grade," said Mr. Walker, "and I hope he can help Bazemore in the next few years. He's six feet but only weighs 135 pounds. I'm sure Bazemore will fatten him up."

Valdosta's city manager, Harold Farmer has only been here a few weeks. But he still hasn't gotten over the football-crazy town.

"Kissimmee, Fla., was never like this," said Farmer. "Folks tell me this is natural but it is unnatural for me. To me it means that people have a keen interest in their youth."

The towns keen interest in football didn't begin in the era of Coach Bazemore. The first coach of a Valdosta High team, Turner Rockwell, who now is editor of the *Valdosta Daily Times*, remembers the following his first team had back in 1913.

"We had only 15 boys on the squad," said Rockwell, "and we had to scrimmage one side of the line against the other. But for our games we had as many as 300 standing on the sidelines. We didn't have any stands for them."

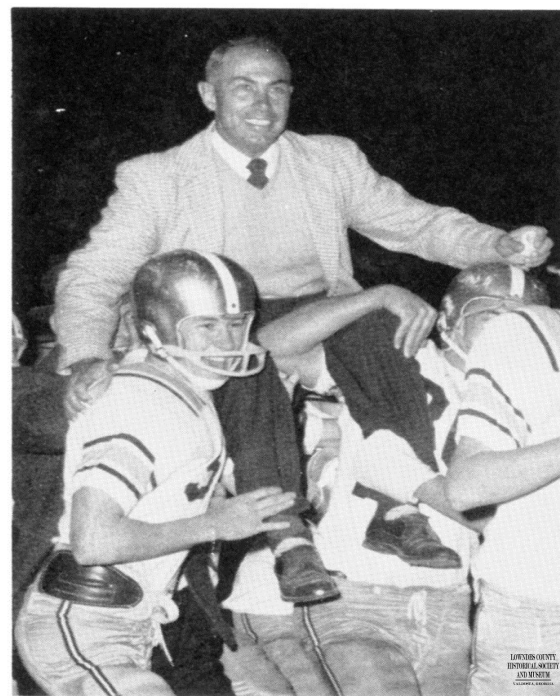
Ellis Clary, a former big league player who can claim to being the only Valdostan to make it big in a sport aside from football, looks at Bazemore's accomplishments in another vein.

"What kind of guy is he? I'll tell you. Anybody who take a team with a backfield that averages 154 pounds and a line that weighs only 177 and stay unbeaten is a great coach. But heck, he has proved through the years the years he's great. Nobody can argue that point.

"Sure there are people who do not praise him," explained Clary, "and you will find them in Thomasville and Moultrie but not in this town."

At a meeting of the school board earlier this year talk had gotten around to procuring a guidance councilor for the school. After much discussion one board member proved his point to all when he said: "Heaven help us if we ever loose Wright Bazemore."

The University of Valdosta would never be the same. *Atlanta Journal*



**Above:** Coach Bazemore carried off the field after the VHS Wildcats defeated R. E. Lee High School of Thomaston 34-13 in the 1961 AAA state championship game. Identified hoisting Bazemore is number 31 Rusty Griffin who played tight end. After a successful business career Rusty Griffin is now a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. Note the era of "gold" helmets.



# Crossing the Withlacoochee

With a new bridge being constructed across the Withlacoochee River below Clyattville it seemed a good time to review the wooden 1895 Horn's Ferry Bridge and the 1940 bridge, currently being replaced, which had in turn replaced the 1895 bridge. When gathering research on these structures other somewhat obscure but "new" Withlacoochee crossings and bridge information began to surface.

Thus, this story began diverging from its original emphasis to making sure that new "odd-lot" bits of local history being found were recorded for the future.

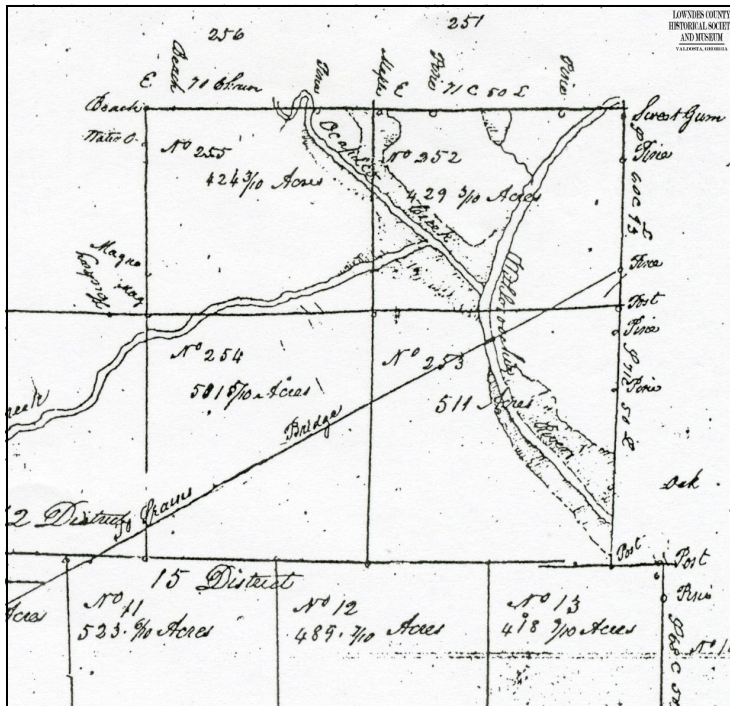
## Spain Ferry, yes; but Spain's Bridge?

On current Lowndes County maps we can locate Spain Ferry Road a bit below US 84 west. The name is self explanatory designating a road that led to an early ferry crossing of the Withlacoochee River.

When looking closely at a plat drawing from the *Jeremiah Wilson's Original Land Surveys 1844-1866* something appeared that was unknown to us in local history. In the plat map **at left** note the diagonal line, representing a road, that was not actually that straight, above which is written "To Spain's Bridge." The plats of this land, which took more than one page, were "of the Estate of John W. Spain. Resurveyed between the 12 and 28th days of October 1857 in Lowndes County Georgia." The area west of the Withlacoochee River would become Brooks County in 1858.

There is a copy of the *Jeremiah Wilson's Surveys* in the Huxford-Spear Library in Homerville. It is 215 pages with two property surveys on most pages. An index for the survey entries in the journal was made in 1978 by the Cracklins class at Valdosta High School. This index allows for effective use of the survey.

Still this was the only example of the existence of Spain's Bridge. Early state capital, Milledgeville, newspapers provided information showing that in 1843 and 1844 the legislature approved that John Spain could build a bridge across the Withlacoochee River. This was just below where the combined Piscicola and Okapilco Creeks enter the Withlacoochee. Piscicola became the postal name on the Spain property. Later 1840s, and 1850s postal routes imply crossing the Withlacoochee at Spain's Bridge. Perhaps the arrival of the railroad or John's Spain's death led to the later demise of the bridge. But it has fascination that John Spain could and would construct a bridge across the Withlacoochee and join his lands on both sides.



**Below:** The wooden Horn's Ferry Bridge was constructed ca. 1895 and replaced in 1940. **Right:** 1943 aerial photograph still showed the old road and 1895 bridge location on the right at the bend in the Withlacoochee. Each of these bridge and ferry crossings were in the 16th land district lot 163, east of Warner's Ferry, in lot 162, the 16th.





## 'New' Local History Learning about Warner's Ferry

Just as coming across sources of specific information on "Valdosta the Richest Per Capita," as told on page one of this newsletter, is "new" history for us, so is coming across the name Warner's Ferry. That name is recorded in the book *Journal into Wilderness, An Army Surgeon's Account of Life in Camp and Field during the Creek and Seminole Wars 1836-1838* by Jacob Rhett Motte who was the medical doctor traveling with the troops. Jane Twitty Shelton references this journal in her book *Pines and Pioneers, A History of Lowndes County, Georgia, 1825-1900* when writing on the Indian Wars.

The map brought first attention to the name, in addition Motte mentions Warner's Ferry two times in his journal. One mention states "...the 22nd of Febr., when we struck our tents and proceeded to Warner's Ferry on the Upper Withlacoochee, close to the boundary line between Georgia and Florida. While there we built a stockade, for the protection of the neighboring inhabitants [when after we left] as a place of refuge for them."

Again technology allows us the possibility of more information. The example shown below is of post roads. This listing from 1836 is the only postal route that searches to Warner's Ferry. Troupville was very soon established and Franklinville would demise.

Note: Townsend, Florida Territory, in the post roads below, and Camp Townsend on the map at right are different locations.

### Development of post roads

#### Excerpt from

#### *Milledgeville Federal Union, November 1, 1836*

**2465** - From Waresboro to Franklinville in Lowndes County, 55 miles and back once a week.

Leave Waresboro every Tuesday at 6 a.m., arrive at Franklinville next day by 12 noon.

Leave Franklinville every Wednesday at 1 p.m., arrive at Waresboro next day by 7 p.m.

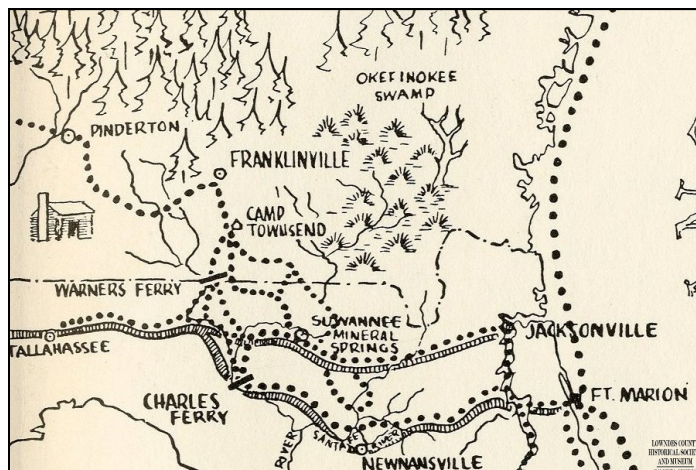
**2466**—From Franklinville by **Warner's Ferry** to Townsend, Madison County, Florida Territory. 40 miles and back once a week.

Leave Franklinville every Wednesday at 6 a.m., arrive at Townsend same day by 8 p.m.

Leave Townsend every Thursday at 6 a.m. arrive at Franklinville same day 8 p.m.

Of the names listed above in the postal routes we were now aware of Franklinville, Warner's Ferry and Waresboro, but what now was the site of Townsend, Florida Territory? I contacted Cary Hardee, attorney, and Kay Schnitker, accountant, Madison County citizens with whom I currently or formerly serve on the Huxford Board of Directors. They both responded. The following information came from Beth Sims' *History of Madison County*. "Overstreet was established in 1833 with Silas Overstreet as postmaster. Silas Overstreet was born in NC, moved to SC, then GA and finally to Madison County, probably in 1829. He and his son Silas are both shown in the 1830 census..... In 1834 Overstreet's was changed to Townsend with Asa Townsend as postmaster; then again in 1837 to Cherry Lake, Dennis Hankins, postmaster."

By 1837 the names Franklinville and Townsend were replaced, the former by new the town Troupville and the latter by a new name, Cherry Lake. However, through this small window of time we learn of Warner's Ferry and its service to early citizens.



**Above:** From *A Journey into Wilderness*, 1963 printing, a map showing the travels of Jacob Rhett Moore during the Creek and Seminole Wars of 1836-1838. Note Franklinville, Camp Townsend and Warner's Ferry.

### Lowndes Records Burned in Courthouse Fires

Courthouse fires place a burden on early historical and genealogical research in Lowndes County. The last fire was 1870 with a devastating fire in 1858 in Troupville. They were arson.

The new availability of Milledgeville, then the state capital, newspapers on line is significantly helpful. New, wilderness-counties with no newspapers often chose the Milledgeville papers to print their legal adds. Searching these papers provided our bits of information on "the who" involved in Warner's Ferry. Luckily for us, the newspapers record various legal situations of Zenas Warner from 1835 to 1843. We were very glad to find the notice below as it is the only one that connected him specifically to Warner's Ferry.

#### Lowndes Sherriff's Sale

#### from the *Milledgeville Federal Union* March 30, 1841 and repeated April 6th, 20th and 27th.

"490 acres of land, well improved, known as the Warner Ferry's lot, being No. 162 in the 16th district of originally Irwin now Lowndes County—levied on as the property of Zenas Warner, to satisfy three fi fas. Issued from Lowndes Superior Court, one in favor of Richard Cox, one in favor of Levi Starling and one in favor of Dennis Hills vs. said Warner."

#### *Lot 162, 490 acres, 16th Land District of Georgia Once all Lowndes*

#### *Now Lowndes, Brooks; and Madison County, Florida*

In 1841, at the time the levy on Zenas Warner, lot 162 of the 16th land district was entirely in Lowndes County, Georgia.

In 1858 the portion of this lot east (actually south at this spot) of the Withlacoochee River became part of Brooks County, Georgia. All of lot 162 was still in Georgia.

In 1870 the lower portion of lot 162 in Brooks County, GA became part of Madison County, Florida when Georgia gave up a strip of land to Florida from the Chattahoochee River all the way to the St. Mary's River to settle the border dispute.

So lot 162 of the 16th Georgia Land District is now located in Lowndes and Brooks Counties, Georgia and Madison County, Florida. It is in the discontinuous area of Brooks County.

For more confusion note: Lot 162 makes the western boundary of Land District 16. Abutting immediately west is Lot 162 of the Georgia 15th Land District, being its eastern boundary.



England people



## Kind Words we Appreciate

Above are Jo and Austin Handley of Chesterfield, Suffolk, England and her sister Linda Morton of Valdosta. They were museum visitors during the summer. Although our guest register has no specific place for comments we found kind words from the Handley's later when reviewing the register to get addresses for future newsletter and program mailings. The Handley's left these kind words for us. "An excellent museum and very helpful with much knowledge."

## Museum Visitors and Activities



**Above:** Drew Johnson and Alan Morgan

Alan Morgan, formerly on museum Staff came by the museum when visiting in Valdosta and donated Lowndes High Georgia Bridgemen Marching Band items from his era for the archives. Drew who also played for the Bridgemen when in high school began processing the acquisition. Alan began as an intern at the museum, became curator and Executive Director before leaving in 2001 to attend Baptist seminary. He and wife April have two children and live in Pensacola, FL.



**Above left:** Three groups from different Children's Network Adventure Summer Camps enjoyed the slide show, scavenger hunts and outdoor activities. **Above right:** Highland Christian School eight graders tour the outdoor exhibits before leaving the museum.

**Below:** Some of the group from South Street Community Care House at the museum. We had many other groups and on site/ off site programs during the recent months.



**Above:** Patti and David Wessling of Gainesville, FL. They were by looking for Moody AFB information where he was stationed in 1969-70 as a jet engine mechanic for T37s and T38s. We had Moody yearbooks, etc. of his era.



# Memorials

**Betty Pittman Allbritton**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Dr. Hugh Coleman Bailey**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Moon*

**Harold Martin Bennett**

by

*Rita Suiter*

**Frank Stanaland Christian**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lastinger*

*Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Moon*

*Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles*

**Barneta O'Quinn Davis**

by

*T. Michael and Nancy P. Harrell*

*Tallahassee, Florida*

**Jean Farris DeLoach**

by

*Beulah E. Hennly*

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Wallace Herbert DeLoach**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Mary Judson Lilly Eye**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Moon*

**William O. Feimster**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Harris S. Greene**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lastinger*

**Charles W. Hatcher**

by

*Donald O. Davis*

*Patsy T. Giles*

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Dr. Joseph S. Houston**

by

*Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles*

**Harley Langdale, Jr.**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lastinger*

**William M. 'Bill' Lester**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lastinger*

*Mr. and Mrs., Floyd B. Moon*

*Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles*

**Maurice William Lindauer, PhD.**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Mary Alice Gallagher McKinney**

by

*Donald O. Davis*

**Edna "Dot" Hotchkiss Moore**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Clarence Mathews Paine, Jr.**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Moon*

**Sam D. Register**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lastinger*

**Ilavann Hansen Sims**

by

*Donald O. Davis*

*Jane Twitty Shelton*

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Patricia Ann Carroll Smith**

by

*Patsy T. Giles*

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis*

**Susan Converse McKey**

**Thomas**

by

*Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lastinger*

*Judge and Mrs. H. Arthur McLane*

*Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Moon*

*Rita Suiter*

*Dr. and Mrs. Owen K. Youles*

**Charles H. West**

*(wife Majorie Noell West)*

*Washington, District of Columbia*

by

*Joyce Bullington Paine*

*Morris Smith*

## 2013 Calendar Year Memberships

*List continued from*

*previous newsletter.*

*Place of residence listed for those outside of Lowndes County*

Allen County Public Library

Fort Wayne, IN

Rozzie Rutledge Bird

Smyrna, GA

Citizens Community Bank

James and Dorothy Cruse

Gainesville, FL

James W. Hall, Jr.

Julie Lumsden

Ashburn, GA

Floyd B. Moon

Bill and Susan McLeer

McDonough, GA

Jack and Cheryl Oliver

Billy and Betty M. Schroer

Mariette, Ga

James and Teresa S. Steinberg

John F. Tomlinson

Mail to: LCHS

P.O. Box 56

Valdosta, GA 31603

### 2013 Membership Application

Lowndes County Historical Society

### Membership Category

Individual \$25. \_\_\_\_

Family 30. \_\_\_\_

Business 50. \_\_\_\_

Contributing 100. \_\_\_\_

Patron 250. \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Date to be Confirmed: Event co-hosted with Girardin Jewelers.

Dr. Louie Schmier Book Signing and Lecture: Chant of Ages, Cry of Cotton.

Date to be Confirmed: Book Signing and Lecture

Dr. George Beddingfield: Hush Boy– based on his Valdosta childhood.

November 28 - December 1.....Closed for Thanksgiving

**Officers and Executive Committee**

**President, Patsy Giles; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, T. Davy Shelton; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Martha N. Gibson; Secretary, Joseph Tomberlin; Treasurer, Redden Hart; Past President, Julie Smith; Mary McRee, and Anita Shelton**

**Lowndes County Historical Society & Museum**

305 West Central Avenue  
P.O. Box 56 Valdosta, GA 31603  
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Fax: (229) 247-2840  
E-mail: [ddavis.lchs@gmail.com](mailto:ddavis.lchs@gmail.com)

Web page:  
<http://www.valdostamuseum.com>

**YESTERDAY & TODAY**

Newsletter of

**Lowndes County Historical Society**

**Newsletter Editor**

Donald O. Davis

Newsletter Assistant

Adam Doughty

**Museum Staff**

Donald O. Davis

Executive Director

Amy Brown

Textiles and Research.

Hannah Parker

Harry S. Evans

Special Collections and Research

Adam Doughty

Drew Johnson

Social Media

**YESTERDAY & TODAY**

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Valdosta, Georgia 31603-0056

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