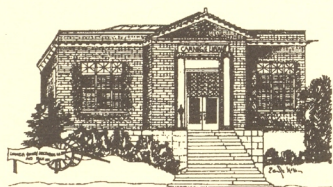


YESTERDAY



&

TODAY

Newsletter of the LOWNDES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chartered September, 1967

305 W. CENTRAL AVENUE
VALDOSTA, GEORGIA 31603

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November 2001

VOL. XXX I

NO. 1

Albert Edits 30 Years of Newsletters!

The Lowndes County Historical Society, 1110 North Patterson St., Valdosta, Georgia

November 15, 1971

Volume No. 1.

Our first "Open Sunday" at the Museum was held November 7th with twelve interested visitors. Lonie and I sat down for coffee and a visit with two sisters, Mrs. Rachael (Auburn) Parrish and Mrs. Cecelia Lawson. They have a picture of Confederate veterans (Hahira), which includes their father, Lawrence Folsom Lawson, and have offered the Society a copy. Some time soon Rachael will loan us a gramophone and records. Cecelia and Rachael were interested to find their ancestors recorded in one of the Huxford volumes of which we have six. These books cover the early families of South Georgia. We had about six young people come and I believe they really enjoyed their visit. Go yourselves as members and help talk to these people and tell them about our exhibits and history. People are really interested, and they enjoy our microfilm reader, though we have no film of our own. We borrow old county and state records on film. We are ordering film and will have some of our own very soon.

Mrs. Margaret Graham, who gave our first family history at a meeting, said she had to go to Dr. Huxford's books for early Roberts family information. Mrs. Graham's talk about the Robertses, who lived in a house older than Valdosta, was most enjoyable and is on tape at the Museum. A history of the Pendleton family will be presented next. Mr. Ralph Richardson came by "Open Sunday" on the 7th and was interested to see copies of some of his valued old pictures of Valdosta. He has offered to let us copy more, particularly the J. T. Roberts home on Wells Street, "With chickens in the yard," he said. Ralph informed us that the "Dairy Dinner" (I call it) picture at Suitsus Dairy was at the original location where the S & K Drive-In used to be, now an Enco Station at the point of Ashley Street and Bemis road. The dairy later moved out Bay Tree Road beyond the railroad track.

Our second "Open Sunday" was Nov. 14th and Emma and Joe Stevens report a dozen or more visitors. Mrs. Elwyn Dasher brought a picture of her father-in-law, John R. (Bob) Dasher, Mayor 1930 (died same year in office), adding to our growing number of pictures of city and county officials.

We have the following pictures of city-county officials: P. C. Pendleton, Mayor., 1930-32, 1932-34. J. T. Roberts, Mayor 1906-16 (5 consecutive terms), Maxwell Oliver, Mayor 1960-62, 1962-64. Marian Bright is having a copy made of her father, Tom Converse, Mayor 1916-18. And she has other pictures to offer us. Among the pictures presented by Mrs. Edith Mixon was an early Jack Oliver Tournament: J. E. (Ned) Thigpen, M.M. (Massey) Belote. J. T. Mathis, James Dasher, George H. Feagle, Maxwell Oliver, Billy Oliver, Russell Peeples, Johnny Oliver, George Converse, Winston McKey and Mr. Jack Oliver.

Prof. J. L. Lomax has promised a copy of the history of the Macedonia Baptist Church that had its beginning at Troupville. He said the church was near the site of the Lowndes High School on what was the McKey Plantation.

We are continuing to tape family histories and reminiscences of local people. The Society is planning a book of family histories, pictures and local stories. It will be a contribution to the history of Lowndes County, certainly not a complete one, but a volume, with more hopefully to follow. Let us record the things you remember about old Valdosta, your families and friends, stories that should be preserved and shared by all. Joe Shelton reports that he and Joe Stevens were invited Monday Nov. 15th to the old Troupville site by Walter Zant of Correctional Institute, to be shown a recently discovered Troupville Cemetery four hundred yards up the river. There was much overgrowth, evidence of old cedars, outlined graves and a few wooden markers, but no discernable names.

I believe we had planned to be closed on Sundays in December. But I'd like to see us have an old-fashioned Christmas atmosphere in our museum and be open on Sunday afternoon, have scenes of the way it was, serve old-fashioned candy and cookies. This is a project for all the Society and with only your approval, so this is merely a suggestion and we can talk about it on Nov. 18th at the meeting.

A request: Does anyone have copies of June 1905 Valdosta Daily Times that they would loan me, ASAP? Please let me know. They are not on microfilm anywhere.

This is our first attempt at a newsletter. Send us some information, requests, anything we should let our members know. Next meeting, November 18th.

Albert Pendleton

A reproduction of our first Newsletter.

Footnotes of History

William Gabard

Many people mistakenly believe that history is the story of political, military, and civil affairs directed by prominent men and women. Actually, history is the sum total of all activities of mankind, including the most ordinary and mundane daily tasks and activities in the busy hum of life.

For the past 30 years, Albert Pendleton has chronicled the lesser activities of people in the past and reported on a myriad of diverse activities of citizens of Valdosta and Lowndes County, bringing to life lost trivia and people. To dig out and report the footnotes of history is a commendable and worthwhile effort. We congratulate you upon completing 30 years of service to the Society and its members.

*Dr. William Gabard was the first President of the Lowndes County Historical Society.
He is Professor Emeritus of History and Director Emeritus of International Studies at Valdosta State University.*



Man Of The Years

By Louie White

When Albert S Pendleton, Jr., a young American soldier, was severely wounded on a European battlefield during World War II, he lay all night wondering if he were alive or dead and when and if the medics would ever come. They came at dawn and he was transported to the nearest military hospital.

Albert knew something had happened to his right leg but he wasn't sure exactly what. It was when he overheard in the hospital one doctor talking to a visiting doctor in his ward that he learned the terrible truth. The foot of his injured leg had to be amputated and he was transported home to live the rest of his life with a souvenir of the war no serviceman likes to bring home.

With an artificial foot, however, Albert rose magnificently to the utmost challenge of his lifetime. He entered the business world; he married, as it turned out, a most stalwart, wonderful nurse; and together, they raised five children, with, naturally, their own varying degrees of life challenges.

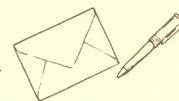
He led them into the battles of their lives, in pursuit of their various interests, while keeping them altogether, like a sergeant shepherding his squad in full command, as if he had a dozen right feet.

For his own salvation he wrote. Poems at first. Then short stories. Then plays. Then Songs. Then columns. Then books. He concentrated on history, particularly that of the area in which he lived. In so doing he became Valdosta's and Lowndes County's own "Mr. History." Albert is indeed a man of the years. His years. His Country's years. He not only survived, however. He prevailed.

Well Done, Albert. Well done indeed!

Louie Peeples White is Past President of the Lowndes County Historical Society.

PRESIDENTS LETTER



Unless one has done a newsletter, it is impossible to appreciate the enormity of the task. Albert S. Pendleton, Jr. has done this for the Lowndes County Historical Society for **THIRTY YEARS**. One is amazed that he ever found enough material to accomplish this, plus write a weekly column for the *Valdosta Daily Times*, compile three volumes of *Way Back When*, write two local history cycle plays performed at Sunset Hill Cemetery, a musical "Baze," plus a lot more. In his "spare time" he managed to keep our museum open by himself for many years, and be our Archivist/Historian.

Thanks Albert, for making our Museum such a wonderful place, and presenting in print much of the rich heritage—people, events, and customs—of our Valdosta.

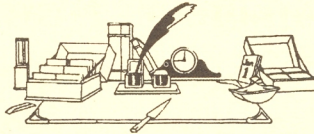
Behind the scene has been his wonderful wife Lonie, who has always been generously helpful supporting of his work in historic preservation and writing. Truly, without her the wonderful job he did may never have been done. Thank you immensely Lonie and Albert.

J. Edward Willis



Albert and Lonie with Kathleen Lancaster on Albert S. Pendleton Day, November 20, 1997.

Albert's Desk



by Albert S. Pendleton, Jr.

THIRTY YEARS OF NEWSLETTERING

It was the first meeting for the 1971-72 season for the Lowndes County Historical Society at the W. L. Fender Home at 1110 N. Patterson Street.

Sitting in the former Fender library, next to me, were Tom and Jane Shelton. We paused in our chattering long enough for them to say, "We need a Newsletter for the Society and you're the one to write it." I was surprised to say the least; I had been winning contests with the Georgia Writers Association, and my play "Many Mansions" was produced the year before. Anyway, I accepted and asked what does a newsletter look like or do. Tom said he would get me in touch with Mr. Ed Ferrell who had written some local stories. A friendship started up between Mr. Ed and myself. We'd meet at the library room of the Converse-Dalton-Ferrell home and read each others stories.

We have 7-8 bound books of Newsletters at the museum. To write about thirty years of all this looks like a job to me, but here goes.

The first three stories were by Mr. Ed Ferrell, and then I slipped in one of mine called "The Measly Thirteen." Jane Shelton wrote one for us, "The Ladies' Soldiers Aid Society, 1864;" followed with stories by Fred Pindar, Rena Mae Campbell, and three more by Mr. Ferrell, before he wrote the famous story about Gypsy, the elephant that killed her trainer in downtown Valdosta in 1902.

The first interview was with Susie Thomas, me and Mrs. St. John, who provided us with historical gifts and the information that her grandfather, Reuben Thomson Roberds was Valdosta's first mayor and was killed in the Civil War. Mrs. St. John's story was in the August 1972 Newsletter.

In October we reported that Margaret Dasher gave us a collection of James Dasher's musical compositions, an important gift. That same month I wrote about Grandma Thomas, the grandmother of my half sisters, Clyde and Frances Thomas. I claim Grandma as mine, too.

Hyta Mederer wrote about The Valdosta Drug Company while I wrote about the telephone company in Valdosta.

In June 1972, I wrote about the Ritz Theatre being torn down. This was about when Susie Thomas and I began researching Doc Holliday. We published the next year, 1973.

We explored the Withlacoochee, and wrote about our Sunset Hill Cemetery, followed with a six-page story of the building of our Lowndes County Courthouse.

We covered sports, fairs, Christmas, Cat Creek, Mr. Corn of the Barber Shop, the Varnedoes and finally the John Roberts Home and Family in November 1975. This article describes the property's history. I interviewed Ralph Johnson and Louie White on the Drum and Bugle Corps.

Skipping around, then followed the story subjects of Catherine and Tom Cranford, Wright Bazemore, the Wests and the West Home.

We used many photographs and newspaper items. My family visited many cemeteries. One day at home I called out for all to get in the car and my daughter Missy called back, "What cemetery are we going to today, Daddy?"

Susie Thomas wrote about her Converse family, while I wrote about Susie's trip to Hollywood she won through the Eddie Cantor Program. Billy Haygood wrote of the legendary Blind Jim.

All these years we addressed the Newsletters by hand and folded them to mail. Later we started bulk mailing. Botie Chitty and I wrote the musical "Baze!" I graduated from college with a degree in English. Lonie received her second degree, this one in Nursing.

There are seven bound books of the Newsletters, from 1971 to 1996, with an index given to us by the Odum library of Valdosta State University. There are plenty more to be bound. Over the years I have written more than 300 historical stories. With the stories of others, there must be 400. I can't report on each one, but I will hit some highlights.

Sometimes a president, mainly Mary Young Smotherman Manning and Louie White, would give a report on the Society imparting interesting information. Mike Paine wrote several stories and Susie wrote a history of the Valdosta UDC Chapter. Arlia Tomlinson wrote about the First Presbyterian Church and the Valdosta Fashion Industry, I wrote about the Browning Murder Case, Olympia, Georgia and the West Yellow Pine Company, the Second Annual Hahira Pick-in, the Ellis Family (Miss Leila), Bottle Digging (Mary Ann Blanton), an ambitious 12-page History of the Mystery Club, the 1875 tour of men in the Okefenokee Swamp, Twin Lakes' Early History, Valdosta Country Club, Postal Service of Valdosta and Lowndes County, First Baptist Church, and about the Little House That Blew Up.

Lonie, Susie, and I (with John, Missy, and Helen) traveled to Atlanta one weekend to see the newly found Holliday Bible. A retired guard had traded a pistol for the Bible and given it to his eighteen-year-old daughter. Mother and daughter agreed to let us see it. So we met early one morning, looking for two females carrying a large package. You can't imagine how many passed us by with just a smile. We must have looked anxious. They walked up behind us.

Jon Corn Schroer wrote of her husband's family in "An American Saga." I hope I gave a good treatment to the U.S.O. in "Where the Boys Were." I interviewed Mrs. Charles White, hostess, who said "what big job" and "we were trying to forget that old war."

My one chilling story is the kidnapping of Mary Nell Carlyle. Someone told me Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle, Mary Nell, and brother Bud were all deceased. I soon found out only Mr. Carlyle was not with us. I had a letter from Mrs. Carlyle and spoke with Bud's wife. Mary Nell was living in New England, retired from World Book. Mrs. Carlyle wrote about the truth in the kidnapping, but

Thirty Years Continued from Page 3

nothing ever came out. But - Mary Nell's grandchildren were ecstatic, "Grandmother, had been kidnapped!!" I often think back to that chilly Easter weekend when Mary Nell left home to pick up a friend at college and she never made it - not that night anyway. For that night she literally disappeared. She was found the next day, but the truth of the kidnapping never came out.

My favorite personal story is "Summer Music—Still Dreaming of a Song." It is about several songs that I remember being played by musicians Sidney Pearlman and James Dasher in my Brookwood-Slater Street area. There was other music as well, all most memorable.

About all churches were covered with stories in the Newsletters and stories about Charles R. Pendleton, Editor of *The Times*. Another month had the early history of *The Times*, many stories of football at Cleveland Field and baseball at Pendleton Park.

A special story and display was Veran O. Blackburn: "Photographs Are Forever," the quote being Blackburn's slogan. Two hundred photographs by Blackburn were collected and shown. Months later, wedding photographs were displayed, still later the paintings of Elizabeth Rogers Varnedoe were shown. She was the second wife of Col. J. O. Varnedoe, Spanish American War Soldier who took his wife to Cuba on their honeymoon when the war was not even over yet.

The longest running story in separate Newsletters was "Marie Crockett --Dancing Lady," long-time dance instructor, who came to Valdosta as physical education instructor for our college. The day after her marriage, she received notice from the college president her employment had ended, as she was no longer fit to teach young girls. She opened her own studio and became very successful. All eligible Valdosta girls were her pupils. Some of the names of special students were: Helen Miller, Myra Lott, Penny Williams, Virginia and Meta Shaw, Madeline Race, Marian Converse, Mary Frances Clyatt, Anita Oliver, Clyde Thomas, of course, Marie's son, John Youmans, Bobby Converse, the Valdosta High School football team, Mary Kate Burrows, and Kathleen Winn. Others were: Juanita Conoly, Bobbie Howell, Gloria Moore, Elaine Sims Hurt, Lucy Lane, Virginia Copeland, Jane Kennon, Catherine and Lonie Redles, Eleanor and Frances Strickland, Coot Rose Price, Lilla Mae West, Henrietta Denmark, Mary Louise Strickland, Josephine Reddick, Betty Mathis, Trudy Schroer, and hundreds more.

In between I wrote about Dynamite Goodloe, Margaret Pardee and her violin, the Dalton Gang, LaForrest Smith Eberhardt, Cook's Motel, "Miss" Jenny Darnell, and hundreds more. Many thanks are due to those who helped collate our many pages of Newsletters. Those were: Lonie, Susie, Mary Young, Gwen Goodloe, and others. Until we got a computer, Ed Crane, for 6 or 7 years, printed labels. And we thank him greatly for that. I must have typed thousands of miles. It all paid off, Miss Burt (high school typing teacher)!!!

Besides poignant stories, I enjoy the ones where I find a funny story, like this. Fannie Elder, of Quitman, taught Judge Speight's children at Blue Springs while living with family in Quitman. W. L. Thomas visited her family and, after Mrs. R. A. Peeples said Thomas was a handsome widower and she should set her cap for him, he and Fannie fell in love. On the day of their marriage, they bounced their way in a wagon to Valdosta, his home. They got out of the wagon, started to the house. Fannie slowed down when in

the yard were three little well-dressed boys. She stared at them. As he opened the door for her, she said, "Such clean looking little boys. I wonder who they belong to." Rather quietly, he said, "Oh, they're mine," as he walked through the door ahead of her. Through the years, they had eight children of their own.

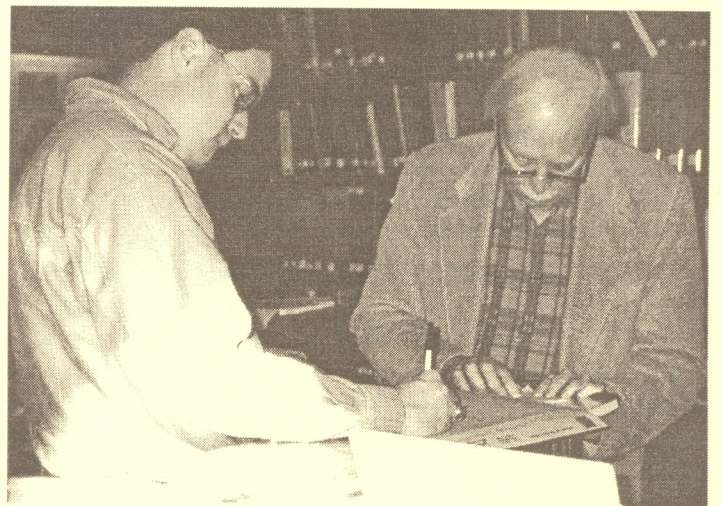
I enjoyed all this writing. As our friend, the late Julia Deveraux Smith, once said, "It was right down your alley." And as I ended most Newsletters...

Come see us at the museum,

Albert S. Pendleton, Jr.
Editor



Albert doing newspaper research with Catherine Redles at the Museum.



Albert at the museum working with former Director Alan Morgan.

Lake Park Historical Society and Salute to Albert Pendleton

Barbara T. Slocumb

I am honored to contribute a history of our Lake Park Area Historical Society for the Lowndes County 30th Anniversary Newsletter. I'd like to thank Albert Pendleton for all of his contributions and love of Lowndes County throughout the years. The first time I remember the name Pendleton was in the late 40s. Albert's grandfather (A. S. Pendleton Company) delivered merchandise to my grandfather's general merchandise store in Lake Park (Ewell Brown General Merchandise Store). The store was operated by Robert (Daddy Bob) Brown, Ewell's brother, because Ewell was devoting his time as President of the Lake Park Bank.

The next time I remember the name Pendleton was when our family went to see the musical *Baze* that Albert had written. Locals at Mathis City Auditorium performed it. It was a great production. Over the past 30 years we have all enjoyed reading Albert's articles in the Lowndes County Historical Society (LCHS) newsletters and the "Way Back When" stories in the *Valdosta Daily Times*. I clip many of the articles and pass them on to local and out-of-town friends who have previously resided in Lowndes County. I know that the articles keep us all aware of our local and family histories.

In 1990 the City of Lake Park celebrated its Centennial. A committee decided to do a museum of Early Lake Park History. I was on this committee and remember Albert and his family visiting our museum at the Lake Park Elementary School. I was so thrilled that he visited. After the week's celebration, the Centennial Committee prepared a time capsule of history and buried it in front of Lake Park City Hall. It is marked with a granite monument, with inscriptions and names. As a result of the Centennial and the collection of so many pictures, family histories and artifacts, a group met and decided to form a historical society in the Lake Park area.

On April 4, 1991, the Lake Park Area Historical Society was chartered for the purpose of preserving and promoting the history of the area so that it could be used as an enrichment instrument for present and future generations. Albert Pendleton was our very first speaker. His program was The History of Lowndes County and he urged us to move ahead with our purpose. So move ahead we did. We published our first newsletter that year. We had our first Christmas Tour of Homes in December 1992, which turned into an annual affair that serves as a fundraiser for the museum.

Early in 1993 we asked Mayor Keith Sandlin and the City Council for the use of the Old City Hall on Cotton Avenue for our first museum. I was honored to become the museum's Chairman. Later that year our committee visited LCHS and Albert welcomed us and gave us a tour. We appreciated all the information and ideas he shared with us. Our Society continued monthly meetings at City Hall.

On October 31, 1993, we had a dedication service and open house at the museum. Shortly after, we outgrew our small facility. Our good fortune continued for us on April 28, 1994 when my mother, Leslie Brown Taylor gave the society her fathers (Ewell Brown) store building to accommodate our growth. It is located at 300 Railroad Avenue.

In 1995 we began walking tours for Lake Park Elementary School 5th graders. We were also excited to have our first special exhibit Indian Artifacts and Arrowheads. Our ladies designed and made a quilt for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, and locally made a quilt for the new Methodist Children's Home in Valdosta. We also made a small quilt to hang in the museum. In August, a Property and Grounds Committee was appointed to apply for grants to restore the Ewell Brown General Merchandise Store. We received a Georgia Heritage 2000 Grant (\$21,000), a Governors Discretionary Fund grant (\$10,000), \$2,000 from the City of Lake Park and many personal donations.

In May 1996 work began on restoring the building as our new museum. Our contractor was Harris Greene and the project was completed by October, and our Society had the first meeting in the building. December 15th we had an Open House, Festival of Trees and Lights and an area Christmas Tour of Homes.

January 1998 our Society began its affiliation with the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah, Georgia. In the spring we helped the city sponsor the first Cotton Boll Festival. During 1999 we were delighted to host the LCHS members with a tour of our new museum. Albert, family and friends attended. Julie Smith presented a program on Spanish Missions. And later we visited the Spanish Mission dig located across Ocean Pond, adjacent to the I-75 Welcome Center. Marvin Smith and his class from Valdosta State University were conducting the dig. In 1999 Johnny B. Lastinger had Darryl Brock write an article about the history and restoration of the Ewell Brown Store building for his new *Valdosta Magazine*.

The year 2000 found us busy planning our Society's 10th Anniversary Celebration. We made large picture boards featuring the Lake Park Centennial and our Society's first 10 years. They are still on exhibit at the museum. On April 20, 2001 we had an Open House and party to recognize all who had worked so hard to make it all happen. Many friends and members attended. A welcome invitation is extended to all that would like to come and visit our museum. Our hours are Tuesday 3-5 pm, or by special appointment. Groups are always welcome. You may call me, Barbara T. Slocumb at 559-5771 or Ann Peterson at 559-7470.

See YOU at the museum and Albert, thanks for the memories!



Albert and Lonie Pendleton talking with Ann Cork at the Lake Park Museum during the LCHS Spring Tour in 1999.

CLOAKROOMS AND FIRE CHUTES

Morris Smith

The Central Grammar School, back in the thirties, was not exactly the prize school in the Valdosta System. Unlike the spanking new Leila Ellis School, Central Grammar was old, shadowy, and the floors, after years of being swept with a dank compound, were the color of mucky dirt from a barnyard. Real dirt had been ground right into the warped floorboards. Yet for those of us who attended--we who lived on Central, Hill, River, and points south and west--Central Grammar definitely had its pluses. There was Fannie Lou S. Pinkston (Mrs. J. W.), our plump, efficient principal, who walked briskly along the wonderfully wide halls that crisscrossed the first floor. The second floor rooms had long windows that you could look out of and see down onto the sidewalk, and below the first floor was a mysterious subterranean level, a "basement," that inspired a few horror tales. And adjacent to each classroom was a long enclosed space, a cloakroom.

Even though the space had a certain musty, stale odor that didn't encourage a child to linger in it, a cloakroom was essential. Inside, we hung our jackets and sweaters on hooks, and those of us who didn't walk home for lunch parked our metal lunchboxes on the floor, or tried to hide them under a coat. (Inside, precious sandwiches, cookies, and thermoses full of milk, sometimes chocolate milk.) Also, a cloakroom was a place of banishment, a needed "time-out spot," although no one knew that term then. If a boy--not often a girl--kept cutting up, the teacher might say, "You'll have to go stand in the cloakroom, *Lester*, until you learn to behave." *Lester* left, often with a frown. Later, some girl might open her lunchbox and complain, "My boiled egg is gone! *Lester* ate it." An inquisition started but seldom was anything proved.

Rarely, if *Henry* was overheard using a curse word or if *Eugene* started a fight, the cloakroom was the scene of the ultimate punishment--a spanking, several licks with a rickrack paddle. Another teacher was brought in as a witness. The classroom became deadly quiet as the students listened to the whack, whack. There was no simply nowhere else but a cloakroom where a spanking could take place. When the chastised student walked back into the classroom, a few children snickered or looked to see if the boy had tears on his cheeks, but most gave a sigh of relief. The cloakroom went back to being a place to hang your coat and park your lunchbox, no longer a spot for high drama.

Another big plus for Central Grammar was the tube-like silver fire escape chute that one zipped down on one's fanny. One-story Leila Ellis School couldn't boast of anything so exotic, although the Junior High, Valdosta's oldest, had a chute. It was like a covered slide--a slide with a curve-faster and taller than those on playgrounds almost as good as the one at Barber's Pool. The purpose was to evacuate the children on the second floor in case of a fire. The opening to the chute was in Mrs. Elsie Jones's fifth grade classroom on the second floor. Except for fire drills, the opening was covered with a board. Children were threatened with a spanking if they dared to try to sneak a slide down from the top or else crawl up from the bottom. Still, on Saturdays or late in the afternoon, a few daring children might spread out their arms and legs like a spider and wiggle themselves half-way up, then shoot down and hop out onto the ground.

The most exciting times, however, were when the fire drill bell clanked, and a slide down the enclosed chute became legal,

High and Grammar Schools, Valdosta, Ga



Central Grammar School

even mandatory, done with precision. Children from six upstairs classrooms filed into Mrs. Jones's room, staying in line, and then one by one, often with a squeal, popped into the opening. The chute took a right hand curve, then angled straight down. At the top, the tunnel ahead looked dark and scary, and some students cried and said they were afraid. (Waiting a turn, Billie Ruth often mopped her sweaty palms with the handkerchief she always carried, trying to get up her courage.) A few times a girl had to be pushed. The ride down was slick and fast, and before a child could let out a shriek, she found herself hitting the ground, sometimes pitching forward to her knees. Often we felt proud after shooting down the chute. We had proved ourselves and were ready for another fire drill. Hurray for all the lessons we learned at ole Central Grammar!

After being away for 23 years, Morris Smith returned home to Valdosta. A social worker, she retired and now writes and publishes fiction based on real life.

MEMORIALS

Myra Webb Clary

by

Pat Franklin & Dana Franklin Champion

James W. (Dick) Corbett

by

Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis

Howard Lillis Lincoln

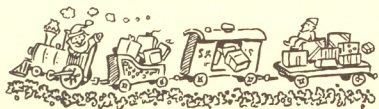
by

Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Willis

Becky Shelton Allen

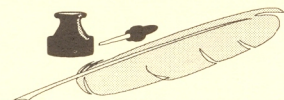
by

Mary Jane Yorke

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

AND

**RECEPTION HONORING
ALBERT S. PENDLETON, JR.
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF
ALBERT EDITING
OUR NEWSLETTER**

**DECEMBER 1, 2001**

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
12:00 – 5:00 PM**

**RECEPTION FOR ALBERT
2:00 – 4:00 PM**

**LOWNDES COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
305 W. CENTRAL AVE.**

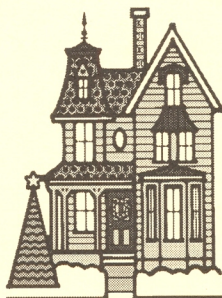
Museum News

Everyone is keeping busy at the Museum. The "Archives and History" grant is in full swing, as is preparation for the reception honoring World War II veterans and their friends and family. The holiday season is approaching, so plans are underway to "deck the halls" at the Museum. If you have not seen the building decorated for Christmas, please plan to attend our Christmas Open House. Toys are displayed around the tree and a festive atmosphere pervades the building.

Ed Pucket continues to work daily identifying people in our photographs. He is having a wonderful time and accomplishing so much to help us with our collections. At this time of year we are truly thankful for Mr. Pucket's help.

Renate continues organizing the library. During the inventory of the library holdings, librarians from South Georgia Regional Library and Valdosta State's Odum Library suggested organizing our reference books according to subject. We hope this will enable us to locate materials more quickly.

KID'S PAGE NOTICE!! It's up and running. Log on to www.valdostamuseum.org for seasonal children's activities and information about Valdosta and Lowndes County.

9th Annual Lake Park

**Christmas
Tour of Homes**

**Sunday
December 9, 2001
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**December 15 – 2nd Annual
Lake Park Christmas Parade.**

WORLD WAR II EXHIBIT

**RECEPTION AND SPECIAL
PRESENTATION
DECEMBER 8, 2001
2:00 – 5:00 P.M.**

**THIS SPECIAL EXHIBIT MAY BE VIEWED IN
THE DOWNSTAIRS GALLERY
THROUGH FEBRUARY.**

Infantry

I was there, old man of 26
Officers averaged 20
There were many Boys, Mere Boys
But everyone a man.
We're here now, FREE
Because of them
Bravery, sacrifice does not express
The Slaughter, The Pain
From Light to Dark
The Anger, fear, loneliness.
Mingled all together like a Dream
Motion slowed
Nothing Real--So different-or comparable
Such Noise, Loud, muffled cries, voices,
"poppin" like firecrackers, motors, Explosions,
Fire, smoke
Reality Gone! It's Stopped
Enemy Gone? for NOW

**Robert W. McKey
PFC., G Co,
290th Infantry 75th Division**

Dr. Robert W. "Widby" McKey is a native Valdostan and retired pediatrician living in Metairie, LA. He served in the U. S. Army during World War II.

MUSEUM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 1** (Saturday, 12:00–5:00 p. m.) **Holiday Open House**
(*Downtown Open House*)
- December 8** (Saturday, 2:00– 4:00 p. m.) **WWII Exhibit Reception**
- January 13** (Sunday 3:00 p. m.) **Quarterly Meeting**
- March 16-17** **Georgia Southern & Florida Railroad Historical Society**

JANUARY MEETING NOTICE! We have a new day and time for our Quarterly meeting. We hope that our members and friends will find this to be a more convenient day and hour. See you there!

Lowndes County Historical Society & Museum

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YESTERDAY & TODAY

Newsletter of
Lowndes County Historical Society

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Newsletter Editor

Albert S. Pendleton, Jr.

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Julie Barnes Smith

Museum Curator

Albert S. Pendleton, Jr.

Archivist Historian

Renate Milner

Museum Director

YESTERDAY & TODAY

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