LOWNDES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

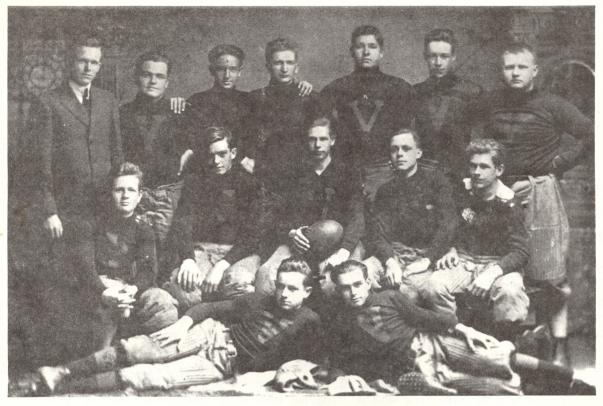
NEWSLETTER

Dr. J. W. Durrenberger, President

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VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

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FOOTBALL.

Top Row: Turner Rockwell (Coach), Tom Cranford (R. T.), Will Collier (Sub.), Albert Saunders (L. T.), Osborne Holtzendorf (Sub.), Frank Roberts (R. E.), Frank Rose (R. G.) Second Row: West Cranford (L. H.), Lewis Pindar (R. H.), John Stevens (Capt. and Q. B.), Eric McIntyre (L. E.), Carl Blair (Sub.).

Bottom Row: James Cranford (F. B.), Jim Tom Blalock (Sub.). F. Childress (C) not pictured H. Griffin not pictured

CIASS OF '14.

Mrs. John Stevens has loaned me the 1914 Valdosta High School annual. The above picture is of the first organized football team of the Valdosta High School, Fall 1913. The annual book is called Volume II as if there were one published the first part of the 1913-14 school year. The book was published by the students, with drawings by C. W. Collier '15, A. Smith, V. Morgan, S. M. T., Thelma Dampier '16, and others. There were ten grades and Nina Frances Tabor was the historian.

There is a brief history of the schools of Valdosta:

The Original Valdosta Institute

Soon after the settlement of Valdosta in 1859, a school was established by Mr. Mathis on the site where the Old Building now stands.

During the Civil War the school was suspended. The crude wooden structure was used for a church and for a meeting place of the Masons. During the fall of 1865 Mr. S. M. Varnedoe of Liberty County rented the building from the Masons and began the school session January 1866. Before the end of the year he bought the building, remodeled it and fixed the upstairs for a residence, naming the school "The Valdosta Institute." Mr. Varnedoe's daughters were the

assistant teachers. At his death in 1870, his, son, Mr. J. O. Varnedoe and Bishop Pendleton, now of Philadelphia, took charge of the school till its close in May.

In 1888 the school was graded and improved by Mr. and Mrs. Moore of Ohio, to whom it had been leased for five years.

After 1878 the school passed under the management of a body of citizens, who organized themselves into a stock company, and they continued in charge until it became a public school in 1894.

The Central Grammar School

This Building, now the Central Grammar School Building, commonly known as the Old Building, was erected in 1892. It was the home of the V. H. S. from 1892 until 1905. It first consisted of one main building without the present annexes, and had only one spire. During the years that immediately followed the town had a phenomenal growth, caused by the rapid development of turpentine and lumber industries. So the school building which consisted of class rooms and an auditorium became inadequate. The auditorium was first divided and in 1899 the annexes and a new spire was added, which gave the building its present appearance. All the city public schools were in here until 1905, when the present New High School Building was erected.

The Old Building was later the Valdosta Junior High School building, briefly part of Central Grammar School later, and now the playground for the First Baptist Church. The New Building later became the Central Grammar School, then Valwood School and has just been torn down by the First Baptist Church in preparation for a parking lot. The annual shows a picture of a flag pole erected in 1913, at a cost of \$325, and presented to the High School by the Students and Graduating Class. Holidays were Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Holidays (December 19th to January 5th), Lee's Birthday on January 19th, Washington's Birthday, February 22nd, and Memorial Day on April 26th. The annual staff included: Nina Tabor, Albert Saunders, Thomas Cranford, James Dasher, Virginia Varnedoe, Mable Morgan, Eric McIntyre, Clara Ruth Smith, and Harvey Griffin. The faculty were W. O. Roberts, Superintendent, T. D. Seals, Principal, with E. G. Elcan, T. M. McComb, Miss Maude Bolton, and Miss Lola Lou Smith. There were six graduates of Fourth Year High. They were: Janie Mae Lord, Albert Francis Saunders, John Law Stevens, Winona Virginia Varnedoe, and Lynette Willis.

History of Fourth Year High

The Fourth Year High is one of those strange phenomena that has appeared recently upon the horizon of the animal world...its materialization was suddenly perpetrated on the last year's class of heroics, and four or five straggling ones were delagated by their parents to perpetuate this hypothetical and objectionable quality of High School life....

Janie Mae Lord tried to escape by running away to North Carolina, but like the cat, came back--the reason has always remained a mystery.

John Stevens and Albert Saunders came back because they thought they could be the most popular boys in their class.

Virginia Varnedoe and Lynette Willis both registered at the South Georgia Normal College, but fearing that the monotony of the blue uniform would injure their complexions incidentally and their social aspirations eventually, they came back....

Albert Saunders was "a cracker from Florida's sand, Some of a boy, but more of a man," and John Stevens... "A Beau Brummel is he."

The Third Year Class had pictures of the students as did the Fourth Year Class. Of the Third Year Class, there were such names as, Iillian Audrey Bray, Annabelle Converse, Thomas Gordon Cranford, Jr., James Alexander Dasher, Garrard Harrell, Katherine Hightower, Lena Jenkins, Rachel Iouise McRee, Robert Eric McIntyre, Caroline Alger Stapler, Sallie Pearl Smith, Alma Smith, Margaret Sue Varnedoe, Samuel McWhir Varnedoe, Jr., William Lester Varn, and Nina Frances Tabor.

The Second Year Class Roll includes such names as, Marion Thelma Dampier, Grace Dunnaway, Estelle Ravenell, Christine Sagerholm, Iila Pope Thomas, William Breck Conoley, West Cranford, Reddin Parramore, Ben Hill Roberts, Charles Carroll Varnedoe, and Jesse Pittman Whitaker. Eighth Grade Roll included, Thomas Converse Ashley, Matt Ashley Briggs, Joseph Edwin Dasher, William Lester Goodloe, Charlie Paine Goodloe, Harvey Dixon Griffin, Roberts Hoges Myddleton, William Jeter Pinkston, James Roy Powell, William Benjamin Roberts, Frank Darnell Rose, Julie Adams Saunders, Sadie Mae Tillman and Velarie Birdie Wisenbaker.

The Glee Club Roll included, Audrey Bray, Grace Dunaway, Lena Jenkins, Mabel Morgan, Rachel McCree, Sallie Pearl Smith, Caroline Stapler, Margaret Varnedoe, Garrard Harrell, Frank Rose, Jeter Pinkston and S. M. Varnedoe, Jr. The V. H. S. Quartet were James A. Dasher, Jr., Second Tenor, R. E. McIntyre, Baritone, T. G. Cranford, Jr., First Tenor, and T. C. Ashley, Bass. The

members of the quartet were also members of the Glee Club.

From a cartoon in the back pages of the annual, it seems everyone struck out for school at 7:30 AM, arriving at 8:00. The City Bakery truck arrived at 10:15 and some had snacks, and then school was out at 2:30. It seems boys hung out at "Baptist Church Corner," and some must

have been tempted to seek a nearby drug store for a soda water.

Pictured as the Varsity Basketball Team were: Smith, Tabor, Stapler, Chance, Harley, Jenkins, Conoley, Bray, Bamberg, Morgan (Captain), Ritch...all girls. Boys are listed with baseball and football, but no basketball for them. The basketball teams were also divided into three Valdosta High School teams who played each other, still all girls. The "Rubes" were: Morgan, McCollum, Chance, Bamberg (Capt.), Ritch, Milhouse, and Bray. The "Cats" were Scott, Driskell, Converse, Stapler, Proctor, Smith (Capt.), Dyer. And the "Jenks" were, Rouse, Sagerholm, Conoley, Jenkins

(Capt.), Tabor, Harley and Presley.

Some ads in the back of the book are: S. B. Breedlove, Manufacturer of Ice Cream, dealer in limes, Phone 81, 205 E. Central Avenue; Barnes, Three Registered Prescription Clerks to attend to filling of your Prescriptions; Mathis & Youmans Co., Pianos, Victrolas, All Kinds of Musical Instruments and Sheet Music, 112 N. Patterson Street; Bergstrom & Newberry, The Rexall Store; Converse Bros., Will take pleasure in showing you the new Spring Styles in Hart-Schaffner & Marx Clothes, Manhattan Shirts and Furnishings for Men; W. H. Briggs Hardware Co., Pefrigerators, Lawn Mowers, Freezers, Devoes Paints, Goodyear Automobile Tires and Tubes, Everything in Hardware; Stump, Rockwell and Stump, phone 36, paints, varnishes, oils, mantels, grates and Tiles; W. M. Oliver & Co., Ladies' Department Store,; Ingram Buggy & Harness Co., phone 276. Sell and Warrant "Home-Made" Buggies and Harness with "Patent" Swinging Traces and Harness Accessories, Harness repairing a specialty; Blackburn's Studio, All Photographs in this Annual Made by Blackburn, 210 N. Patterson Street; T. M. Vinson, Presctiption Specialist, phones 245-246; J. W. Pinkston, Exclusive Ladies' Store, Laces, Millinery, Dry Goods and Coat Suits of Latest Styles; Rosco Rouse, Plumbing and Steam fitter, 124 W. Central Avenue, phone 120; A. A. Parrish, dealer in Automobiles and supplies, Bicycles and Sundries, Sewing Machines and supplies, phone 256, 116-118 West Central Avenue; W. R. Youles Fancy Groceries, phone 9; Drink CheroCola, The Winning Drink, It Has Come To Stay; W. A. Jenkins, Fancy and Staple Groceries, Chickens and Eggs, Fruits and Vegetables, 203 North Ashley Stret, Phone 749; and many more.

Thanks to Mrs. John Stevens for loaning the 1914 annual for this write up. It is a most

interesting book.

Our next newsletter will include a list of library book gifts to the LCHS museum library.

Quite a few have been given already.

Christmas Open House will be held at the museum on December 22nd, with Lonie and me in charge of the festivities. Please plan now to attend and bring your friends and neighbors. We promise a good celebration. The November meeting will be held the third Thursday of this month, November 21, instead of the usual last Thursday of a month. This issue of the newsletter begins our fourth year.

Albert S. Pendleton, Jr. Editor