



The CCHS

Newsletter

Carroll County Historical Society

P. O. Box 1308

Carrollton, GA 30112

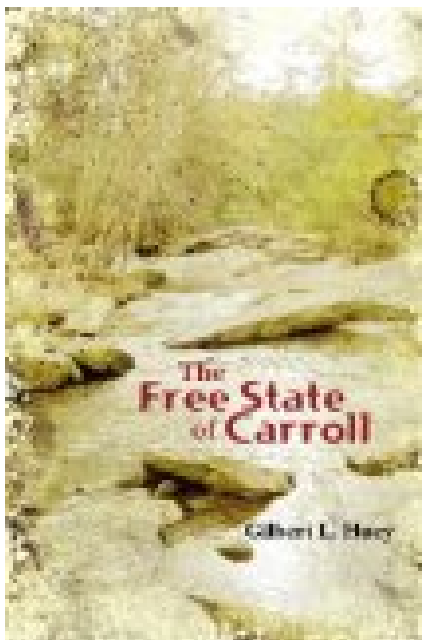
OCTOBER 2010

GENERAL MEETING

**THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

Neva Lomason Library

We are fortunate to have local author Gilbert Huey to present his new book, *The Free State of Carroll*, at our November meeting.



The Free State of Carroll is a non-fiction novel set in 1830s Carroll County on the western edge of the Georgia frontier. Indians, horse thieves, and a desperate vigilante group collide with an indomitable sheriff, Jiles Boggess, in a true-life adventure rivaling the best westerns. Readers get a glimpse of the hardscrabble life early Georgians endured and a feel for the volatile political climate that eventually lead to the Civil War. Although the stalwart characters featured in this novel do not appear in history books, they were the founding fathers and mothers of Carroll County. Their lives helped shape the destiny of our great state. Many Carrollton families can trace back to the characters whom Huey has painstakingly researched. The Free State of Carroll introduces these characters to modern readers.

Author Gilbert Huey, originally from New Hope, Alabama, has called Carrollton home since 1975. He started researching this book in 2003, hoping to finish it for the 175th anniversary of Carrollton's founding in 2004. The book is published by BookSurge Publishing and can be purchased at Horton's Book Store on the square. This is his fourth book.

Don't miss this meeting!

GA. CONFEDERATE MOMUMENT REDEDICATED

(This article appeared in the September 2010 issue of the **Civil War Courier**, page 8, reprinted by permission.)

A real son of a Carroll County, Georgia Confederate Veteran marched from Tanner Hospital in Carrollton, Georgia up Dixie Street to Newnan Street under police escort to the Confederate Memorial on the Carroll County Courthouse lawn.

His two sons Trey and Aaron drove behind him. This route covered the last move of the Carroll County Confederate Monument in November 1976 when the monument made a lone trip up the same route.

On this day, a small crowd assembled to witness a rededication and the unveiling of a new brochure on the monument's history on its 100th Anniversary.

The service began at 11 a.m. with Billy Bearden reading a listing of known Confederate regiments and the various units' nicknames if applicable, of those drawn from the estimated 2,500 brave men of Carroll County served. Ernest E. Blevins, Historian of the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, who researched and created the brochure, did a presentation of the history of the monument.

This brochure will be carried locally and is planned to be placed in visitor centers in this area.

The brochure documents the very mobile monument from its dedication on Adamson Square, two blocks west of its present location, on 28 May 1910, then its move to Tanner Hospital with the straightening of the roads through Adamson Square in 1958. In 1976, Courthouse renovations and a new park on the landscape eventually brought the statue back downtown in November 1976.

Carroll County Commission Chairman Bill Chappell said a few words on the statue, history, and his ancestry. Presently there are discussions to replace four cannon balls that were discovered missing in the research.

A representative for several local radio stations was present to report on the activities. Direct newspaper coverage was lacking, but articles and photographs were submitted to local newspapers. The following is pulled from the newly issued brochure.

"Carrollton Unveils Shaft to Heroes"

The monument was a ten year project to erect. Some of the financials appear murky over the century, but based on ledgers and newspaper accounts, the Annie Wheeler Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) raised \$800 for the statue and the Veterans of the McDaniel Curtis camp of United Confederate Veterans raised the \$2,000 for the obelisk topped with a soldier. Besides donations, the UDC wrote Carroll County, Georgia Souvenir-Historical Edition for local sale.

The book was described in early May 1910 as "completed and offered for sale at the Carroll Free Press Offices, Hamrick Drug & Jewelry, Camp's Drug, Fitts Drug, and Stewart's Store."

A mid-May story urged those pledging funds to fulfill the obligations so that the fundraising could be completed and "pay for the monument in full on the day of unveiling." The effort to raise the statue was a countywide affair. This book is in its second reprinting by the Carroll County Historical Society.

The statue is reported to have been hand carved in Italy, possibly through Carrollton Marble Works, which advertised in April 1910



to be "in direct touch with Sculpture Marble Co. of Carfare, Italy, the finest statuary people in the world."

Four cannonballs adorned the statue pedestal and all were lost at an unknown point after a 1915 postcard shows two of the balls. The corners of the monument bare the scars where the balls were placed. There are plans for future restoration including replacing the missing cannonballs.

The monument originally rested on the site of the original county courthouse in the Center of Adamson Square.

Reported dates vary as to its erection from 19 January 1910 (Robert E. Lee's Birthday) to May 1911 with the latter dates supported by better documentary evidence. It was to be dedicated on Confederate Memorial Day, 26 April 1910 and that date is etched in the stone of the base. However, because of construction delays it was unveiled on 30 April as described in a hand-written note show in the scrapbook of the Annie Wheeler Chapter under a 17 April 1910 article from the Atlanta Constitution but not dedicated for a month.

The monument was finally officially dedicated on 28 May 1910. By 10 a.m. the courthouse and square were crowded with nearly 2,000 people present including 100 old soldiers marching in behind the Carrollton Band.

The flag of the 44th Georgia was hung over the assembly. For the 100th anniversary, a reproduction of the Confederate Battle flag used by the "Georgia Brigade" of the 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd and 52nd Georgia Infantry Regiments was used.

These regiments included men of Carroll County. Miss Pauline Harris, president of the Annie Wheeler UDC delivered a number of crosses for veterans' graves decorating the graves after services on Adamson Square.

There was a large program including music including "the Sunny South" and a who's who of local politicians including family names still local today, such as Rev. J.M.D. Stallings, Rev. W.E. Dozier, and Rev. Jessie M. Dodd who offered prayers and Col. Sid Holderness who introduced the orator Hewlette A. Hall of Newnan who spoke on behalf of the UDC.

Hall then introduced Capt. Tip Harrison of Atlanta who expressed the thanks of the Confederate Veterans to the UDC. Carrollton Mayor H.W. Long and Ordinary W.J. Millican accepted the statue from Pauline Harris for the City and County.

A line behind a band then marched toward the city Cemetery down Maple Street to decorate the graves before the benediction by

Rev. A.W. Quillian.

At least three dinners are noted at the county courthouse, Bradley's Warehouse, and the UDC Chapter Room in the West Building.

Over the years landscaping around the monument changed. A 1912 photograph shows the monument at street level but later 1915 postcard and an undated photograph and a 1954 photograph show a green space square with a fence and bushes and then without a fence with trees to beautify the square.

"An Era Ends"

On 5 June 1958, ironically Confederate Jefferson Davis, birthday, the Carrollton monument was dismantled with the removal of the soldier and over several days moved to the lawn of Tanner Hospital on Dixie Street. The 40-foot monument was described as coming down in "about 12 pieces" in a Carroll Georgian article. When the statue was moved to Tanner, it maintained its northward view throughout the ride with citizens maneuvering the statue as it was trucked down Newnan and Dixie Street to the hospital.

From 1958 to 1976 the statue remained vigilant to the north with Dixie Street on his right.

"Confederate Statue to be Relocated"

The courthouse received a new modern addition in 1976. Architect Ray Roddenberry designed a mini park to accompany this expansion on the site of the old Carroll Theater. Though not entirely executed as planned the idea was floated to move the monument to the site in July 1976.

Over the summer of 1976, County Commissioner Horrie Duncan proposed the statue to be moved to the site of the planned mini-park.

In November, the Confederate Monument was moved again, the tip facing northward, the length of Dixie Street and Newnan Street to the corner of Tanner and Newnan Streets.

"Into the 21st Century"

With the turning of the century mark and into the 2nd century the statue will continue to watch the courthouse as a new justice center is built behind the statue.

The history of the monument is recorded in a brochure and a documentary is currently being produced based on the brochure's history and additional information that could not fit into the printed document.



FIELD TRIP TO MOORE'S BRIDGE

On a recent beautiful Saturday morning, about 20 members of the Historical Society met at Moore's Bridge and explored a small part of the 485 acres under the guidance of Doug Mabrey. Doug showed us the 1857 house (above left), a bluff behind the house which (when cleared of underbrush) overlooks the 1 and 1/2 mile stretch of the Chattahoochee River (above right), and the remains of the 1917 bridge (left). There is also an old family cemetery on site. While walking back up the old roadbed from the river to the house, Carter Clay reached down and plucked a Civil War mini-ball from the dirt. Moore's Bridge is the site of the only Civil War battle fought in Carroll County.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

November 4th, 2010 Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
The Neva Lomason Library

The Society will hold its next general meeting on November 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the Library.

**CCHS BOARD MEMBERS
FOR 2010**

President	David Perry
Vice President	Mel Steely
Secretary	Rebecca Fordyce
Treasurer	Meredith Barr
Membership	Susan Vandiver
Newsletter	Janice Ivester
Programs	Doug Mabry
Archives	Gwyn Chesnut
Nominating	Judy Schulenburg



**IN CASE YOU HAVE NOT OFFICIALLY JOINED THE SOCIETY
YET.....**

Inside this newsletter you will find a membership form which you can fill out and send back to the society with your dues.

OR IF YOU WANT TO JOIN EARLY FOR 2011.....

Either way, your membership will start in January of 2011.

Carroll County Historical Society
P. O. Box 1308
Carrollton, GA 30112

