



Linwood Legacy

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

For those of you who missed the 2003 Linwood Ramble, it was a religious experience!

Rev. Jimmy Elder of First Baptist carried us through the dramatic moments of Noble Leslie DeVotie's death in Mobile Bay, as seen through the eyes of his father, First Baptist's own Rev. DeVotie.

Rev. Hal Brady from St. Luke looked for all the world like Columbus' most famous early divine, the Rev. Lovick Pierce, Nestor of Georgia Methodism (even Rev. Pierce's great-grandson, Lovick Corn, was almost convinced that his ancestor had come to life!).

First Presbyterian's Chuck Hasty aged before our eyes into the elderly Rev. Goulding, recounting Goulding's tales of arriving in pioneer Columbus and building the first First Presbyterian Church.

And who could forget Ruth Cummings, in her priestly vestments, standing beside the monument to Lucy Dillingham Cairns, the wife of Trinity's first rector, and reminding us of Lucy's critical role as the first Episcopal communicant in Columbus.

This was our most successful Ramble ever, thanks to the hard work of our staff and dedicated volunteers, especially Warren Foley and Mimi Childs. This year's presentations won't be repeated (how could they be?), but we're already planning an exciting new tour for next fall.

In the meantime, there is much going on inside the gates.

Our staff, Executive Director Linda Kennedy and Administrative Assistant LeeAnne Meeks, assist an increasing number of people almost daily in their searches for family lots and ancestral information. At the same time, they continue the oversight of cemetery restoration. David Via has returned to work on iron fencing, and hopes to complete two lots during the next several weeks. Bo Patterson has also returned to continue masonry repair, especially walls and copings.

The campaign to complete the new iron fencing along Linwood Boulevard has been very successful, thanks to the contributions from many of you. We are within \$10,000 now of having the earmarked funds to place the order and finish the job. Panels may be donated for \$750 a piece, and we are still 12 short (Hint, hint!!!).

Christmas is just around the corner, so please don't forget to send in your order for wreaths to be placed in your family lots. Volunteers will place the wreaths on Saturday, December 13th. But better yet, come yourself and place yours personally. I promise its fun. You get to ride around in the golf carts, and Nancy Reaves is planning holiday refreshments.

My personal theology is that cemeteries are sacred places but not necessarily sad ones. They are places to remember both the joys and sorrows of this transitory life. An unusual number of recent burials in Linwood, of young and old, have certainly reminded us of the sorrow. It is my hope that the occasional gatherings of our Foundation members amidst these sacred grounds will remind of also of the joy. To repair, restore, decorate, and celebrate together in Linwood Cemetery is to pay tribute to the continuity of life.

John Sheftall



Bo Patterson hard at work repairing a brick wall in Linwood Cemetery.

Historic Linwood Foundation, Inc.
P. O. Box 1057
Columbus, GA 31902-1057
1-706-321-8285
E-mail: hlinfo@knology.net
Website: historiclinwood.org

Warren Foley, Chairman
John Sheftall, President
John Holt, Vice President
Mimi Childs, Secretary
Frank Lumpkin, Treasurer
Linda Kennedy, Executive Director
and Editor



Victorian Christmas

December 13, 2003

10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Linwood Cemetery

**Come place your wreath and enjoy
Refreshments.**

Welcome New Members

- Jean Cassell**
Columbus, GA
- Sue Morgan**
Palm City, FL
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank B. Schley, III**
Columbus, GA
- Corrin Riley**
Columbus, GA
- Mr. & Mrs. Gene Dykes, Jr.**
Midland, GA
- Rosalie Reynolds Murray**
Charlotte, NC
- Howard Jefferson, Jr.**
Columbus, GA
- Dr. & Mrs. Cecil F. Whitaker, Jr.**
Columbus, GA
- Reid Wallis**
West Point, GA
- Alice Gentry Douglas**
Columbus, GA
- Alice Ruth Gammage**
Columbus, GA
- Charles Kimbrough**
Pine Mountain, GA
- Terry D. Followill**
Columbus, GA
- Mr. & Mrs. Walter Calhoun**
Columbus, GA
- Vickie Del Stephens**
Columbus, GA
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert K. David, Jr.**
Columbus, GA
- Mr. & Mrs. Jake Burrus**
Columbus, GA

For Sale

Grave Intentions:
A Comprehensive Guide to
Preserving Historic Cemeteries in Georgia
By: Christine Van Voorhies
\$12.95 (If mailed cost will be \$13.95)

The Georgia Historical Society will hold a lecture and book signing event at the Columbus Museum on Sunday, January 25, 2004, at 2 p.m. Mr. Buddy Sullivan will be there for a lecture and book signing and reception following. Copies of the book, *Georgia: A State History*, will be available for purchase that afternoon. Buddy is a Columbus High Alumni. Historic Linwood Foundation is an affiliate of The Georgia Historical Society.



To the left, Dr. Hal Brady in the persona of Rev. Lovick Pierce and below, Rev. Jimmy Elder portraying Rev. DeVotie at 2003 Ramble.



Zachariah Herndon and Malinda Cox Gordon

Compiled from research by Edwin L. Cliburn

While probably known better as the father of Confederate General and Georgia Governor John B. Gordon, Zachariah Herndon Gordon lived a rich and full life as a Baptist Minister. Born in Wilkes County, N.C. on March 10, 1794, he moved to Jones County, Georgia about 1815. During this time he became interested in religion and after his conversion moved to Eatonton where he came in contact with Jesse Mercer, a Baptist leader.

He moved to Upson County and soon began his ministry. Preaching one Sunday in a church across the Flint River in Talbot County, he met Malinda Cox. She invited him home to dinner with her parents, Icabod and Mary Rowan Cox. They were married on April 26, 1826. This union produced 12 children. Those known are Mary, John B., Chapman, Gus, Eugene and Walter.

Zachariah and Malinda worked together many years in pastoring churches around the Flint River area.

Around 1840, the Gordon family moved to Walker County, Georgia. The land they owned was rich in mineral springs and he built "a watering place," a large hotel which he called Gordon Springs. It became one of the most fashionable places in Georgia.

In 1856, the Gordons crossed the state line into Alabama and Zachariah became involved in coal mining.

In 1861, four of the Gordon sons marched off to war. John B. Gordon organized the 6th Alabama and brothers Eugene and Augustus enlisted with him. Walter, the 4th son also served.

As the war moved closer to the Gordons, they refuged to Columbus. During this time, their son Augustus Manly Gordon was killed at Chancellorsville, VA on May 13, 1863 and was brought to Columbus and buried in Linwood Cemetery.

Soon after the war, Malinda Cox Gordon died and was buried near her son in Linwood.

Zachariah returned to Alabama to live out his life. He died in December, 1886, and his four surviving children brought him back to Columbus for burial. Also buried in the Gordon lot is Mary Gordon, Zachariah and Malinda's daughter Mary, who married Joel G. Roper. Mary died in Atlanta in 1923. The last burial in the Gordon lot was Augusta, Mary and Joel's daughter, who died in 1972.

Memorials

Bettye Kyle Patterson
Mr. & Mrs. Ben H. Hudson
Mrs. H.D. Wiley
Dr. T. Earl Taylor
Warren Foley and Jim Gray