

Winter 2017

The LEGACY

A Publication of Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc.

Academic HERO

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Brave BULLDOG

T.R. COBB'S GEORGIA LEGION CAVALRY

TALES of a TALISMAN

GOODRUM'S GOOD FORTUNE

Gets BALED OUT



Georgia Doremus Watson Craven, as a young girl,
sitting in a wheelbarrow.

– circa 1907-1908 –



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OUR MISSION

The Watson-Brown Foundation, through creativity, diligence and financial support, labors to improve education in the American South by funding its schools and students, preserving its history, encouraging responsible scholarship and promoting the memory and values of our spiritual founders.

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CAMPUS NOTES



Watson-Brown Scholars in Action

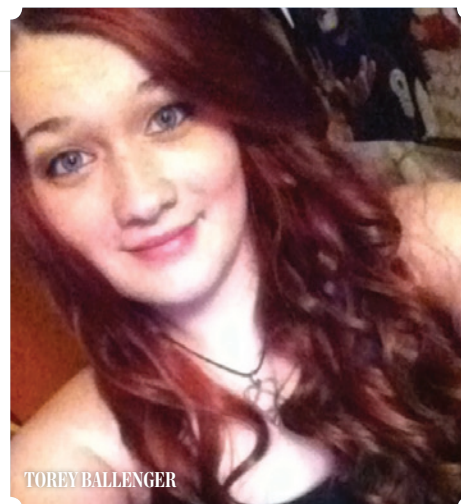


CODY ARRINGTON

Cody Arrington, University of Georgia, Junior: "This year, I began my first student-teaching experience at Jefferson Academy in Jefferson, Georgia. I feel like I was already so prepared mentally that the experience was encouraging rather than being enlightening. I fell in love with the process of children learning to connect ideas and build original perspectives. It was unlike anything I've ever experienced before. Also, in the Spring I took on nineteen credit hours and excelled

despite the heavy workload. I'm prepared for my senior year to be unforgettable, especially with my final football season ushering in the new era of Georgia football under new head coach Kirby Smart!"

Torey Ballenger, Wofford College, Sophomore: "My professors had a great impact on me this past year in college. Spring of 2016 was a very challenging semester that consisted of countless late nights and early mornings. Essays, exams, and projects were in abundance this year. Being a very organized person, it was frustrating when I could not accomplish my many tasks in one day. Because of this, I will forever be grateful for what my professors have done for me this past year and what they will do for me these next two years. Not only were they very understanding, they were encouraging, too. They wanted every single student in the classroom to succeed as much as possible. I never felt hesitant to send them an email or stop by their office, even when I had even the simplest of questions. If it were not for them, I do not think I would have



TOREY BALLENGER

been able to pull off straight A's in the spring. Now that I have declared my majors, I am becoming even closer with my professors, and it seems like everything in terms of my future is working out. I'm not just another student to them and they are not just another professor to me. We have connected much more this past year, which is going to be essential for my junior and senior years. I am thankful for what they have done for me, and I look forward to what next year holds for us."



field of study, I changed my philosophy major to a minor in order to make room for another minor in math.

"The experience which proved most influential in the focusing of my studies was being a part of the Extreme Orange (EO) creative inquiry. Extreme Orange is a product of collaboration between Clemson professors and researchers at IBM. The class introduces students to big data, cloud infrastructures, and the Internet of Things. Initially, I was hesitant to become involved. The class was geared toward high-achieving juniors or seniors in the computer science department. Being only a sophomore, I feared that I would be ill-prepared for the work and that my inadequacy would both keep me from learning anything and lead to an endless stream of embarrassments. However, this fear ended up being more of a motivator than a deterrent. Up until this point, I had never been faced so directly with an academic challenge where I felt that I could probably not succeed. In the end, I signed on, wanting to see how much I could achieve, even if that meant achieving far less than what would be expected from Extreme Orange students.

"I am very glad that I decided to participate in EO. At first, I was overwhelmed by the amount of material with which I was not familiar. Every class seemed to last forever as I continually had to admit that I was not familiar with IP, TCP, MQTT, VPNs, JSON, and a myriad of other acronyms. By the end of the year, I noticed that I could now have conversations about all of these things which were so alien to me at the beginning of the creative inquiry. I also loved my particular role in the creative inquiry as a web application developer. I created a web-

Kyle Bolton, University of South Carolina – Columbia, Senior: "My sophomore year at the University of South Carolina has been my best year so far, because I maintained high academic criteria and met some unforgettable friends from Hong Kong. My fall semester was an academically rigorous semester with eighteen credit hours of chemical engineering, philosophy, and chemistry classes. This academic rigor showed that college is where I belong, because as a first-generation college student I didn't know if I could fit in and maintain my high academic standards to be able to compete for a place in an elite graduate school.

"Even though I had a rough fall semester, my spring semester was a lot more relaxed and I had a lot more free time because I was only taking fourteen credit hours of chemical and nuclear engineering classes. In fact, when one of my friends convinced me to come to the Baptist Collegiate Ministry on campus for the first time, she introduced me to her International Study Abroad students. Before you know it, we all became really good friends and we all learned so much about Hong Kong's culture and lifestyle. It was amazing to see how much American's take for granted when compared to their culture. They were the highlight of my sophomore year. I'm very grateful I had the chance to have met them and tell them a little bit about the American culture, food, hobbies, and lifestyle! This was one of the best experiences of my life, and I can't thank the Watson-Brown Foundation enough for helping with the opportunity to go to college.

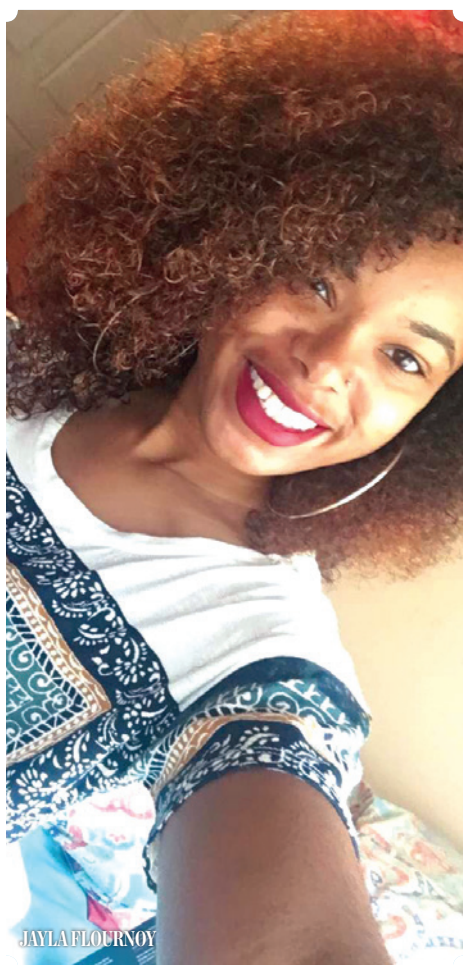
"Last but not least, I received an REU internship at Carnegie Mellon this summer, and I will be researching with Dr. Kelvin Gregory on the microbial interactions with nanoparticles!"

Benjamin Coomes, Clemson University, Sophomore: "At the start of my second year at Clemson, I did not know what I wanted to do after graduation. I was pursuing a double major in philosophy and computer science, and my ideas about what kind of career I might want to have shared as much in common with each other as Kant and a C compiler. I am happy to be able to say that my sophomore-year experiences helped me to develop a narrower trajectory for my academic and professional life. In accordance with my decision to pursue data science as a



based application that visualized solar data collected by sensors spread about Clemson's campus. My love of working with data lead me to pursue a math minor.

"As a member in EO, I had the opportunity to work on a long-term project as part of a team. My experiences as a team member were very valuable when I began interviewing for summer internships. I think that being able to describe how I worked in my EO team to overcome challenges impressed my interviewers at Optum Technology, who later offered me a position as a summer intern. I cannot wait to begin working and learning as a software development intern in June!"



Jayla Flournoy, Valdosta State University, Sophomore: "I decided my sophomore year would be different than my freshman year. Since I now had a feel for the university, I decided to actually get involved. I am part of a few organizations, but my favorites are Black Student League and Collegiate Women.

"Getting involved is one of the best decisions I have made in college so far. I have gotten to know people I never would have known if it was not for joining organizations



on campus. I even hold executive board positions. I also got my first college job. Balancing school, work, and being involved has been hard, but it has taught me so much. I have learned better time-management skills, gained better leadership skills, and even gained volunteer hours.

"I am also happy to say that I am continuing to keep my promise to myself of making Dean's List, and I was also accepted into the program for my major. This summer I am taking summer classes and continuing to work to prepare myself for the school year to come."

Joy Hong, University of Georgia, Junior: "Everyone told me that my junior year would be a struggle. They weren't lying. My third year began, and I was completely submerged into all things public relations. I started all of my major classes with a lot of insecurity and uncertainty. Constant thoughts of my classmates being better writers and better speakers haunted me, but I got through the first semester with compliments from my professors and pretty good grades. I was pleased with myself, and my confidence was slightly boosted.

"But then, the second semester came around. The second semester of my junior year was without a doubt the most challenging semester I have ever experienced. I was in two of the most time-consuming public relations classes at the University of Georgia, and these two classes were based around semester-long group projects. This meant I had to keep up with the project every week so I wouldn't be overwhelmed with the entire project to start and finish at the end of the semester. My average week was fifteen hours of classes, fifteen hours at my part-time job, and fifteen hours meeting with my project groups. Then I had to think about applying to summer internships. Long story short, I ended up getting good grades on those projects, thank God, but more important, I learned so much about the world of communications and the world of public relations. I felt like I finally knew why I wanted to enter the field of public relations.

"During the spring semester of 2016, I applied to sixty-two internships, and I only got offered four. This story I'm telling so far might seem a little bit discouraging, but the point is that I got four. I had the luxury

of choices for where I could intern in the competitive field of public relations. The rejections were worth it because I was able to choose two internships for this summer. I am and will be working at two real estate companies this summer, one in Athens and one in Atlanta. I'm so excited to gain some real-world experience and to continue learning about this field. I can't wait to find a company or a cause that I feel passionate about and become a part of bringing light to that company or that cause. Looking back, if I had a choice to do to it again, I would because it's taught to me find joy in victories, no matter how small. And one of those victories is that I can look forward to another semester of the Watson-Brown Scholarship."

Dillon Jones, Georgia Institute of Technology, Freshman: "My freshman year at Georgia Tech was an exciting experience that gave me the opportunity to grow both intellectually and personally. In my fall semester, I learned how important it is to choose good professors when registering for classes. I also found out that it is much more difficult to wake up for an 8 a.m. class

than it was in high school. Although high school had given me a taste of college with advanced placement classes, I found that college classes are much more rigorous, challenging, and time-consuming, despite there being less in-class time. I certainly had to complete more work and spend more time studying than I had previously.

"Aside from my academic endeavors, I made a plethora of friends and learned a lot outside of the classroom. My Peer Leader (PL), Landon, introduced me to Tech's art studio Paper and Clay. There, I found a passion for pottery (and clay sculpting, in general) and picked up a new hobby. There's a rich irony in learning that I loved sculpting at an engineering school. My PLs and friends introduced me to many of Tech's traditions. I also joined the club swim team to try to get involved and stay in shape.

"For winter break, I returned to Evans, Georgia, for some much-needed rest and was able to visit with friends and family. After four weeks of break, I was ready to get back to work at Tech.

"With a few credits under my belt, I was excited to face my next semester and

learn more. Spring semester was a bit more challenging than fall, but I had learned a lot about how to prepare for tests and manage my time. For spring break, I drove up to Penn State with my mother, stopping in Pittsburgh to drop my mom off at my grandparents' house so that she could visit with her mother and father. I continued my journey to Penn State to visit my girlfriend Laura (on the left of the photo). I had a great time and she was able to show me many of the interesting places on and around her campus. Shortly thereafter, I officially declared chemical and biomolecular engineering as my major. I also applied to a few companies seeking an internship for this summer and was offered an internship position at Savannah River Site (SRS), working as a chemical engineering intern for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions.

"I completed my semester with satisfactory grades and am excited to begin working at SRS. I also look forward to returning to Georgia Tech to begin my next semester of classes. Go Jackets!"



Alexis LeBlanc, Oxford College of Emory University, Sophomore: “Coming to college, I was nervous about making friends for life, about doing perfectly in my classes, and about getting plenty of leadership roles on campus. Oxford College turned out to be a great place for all three, and even though it hasn’t been the easiest journey, it has definitely been the most worthwhile experience.

“I surprised myself on countless occasions. One of the most remarkable examples is my General Chemistry 2 class, for which I was given the most difficult professor, but soon I figured out that she simply has high standards. At first I dreaded the class, and I failed the first two tests, but of course, I mean failed by my standards. I began to try harder, and I got a study buddy, who is actually going to be my roommate next year. The last two tests, I got B’s, and I finished the semester with a B- in the course.

“That was my lowest grade at Oxford, and I was sort of down about that until I was asked to be a lab assistant. I was to help run the labs for chemistry, and on top of that, I was asked to be the tutor for chemistry. This was such an honor. It made me nervous, but I did my best. Students would come to me asking questions so complex and above what I ever learned, and I would help them figure it out logically. It was fun at times, but very difficult at others. From that experience, I learned that there is nothing I love more than helping people grow, but teaching isn’t my thing.

“Through that one experience, I achieved most of what I wanted at college. It was undoubtedly a role of leadership and I became acquainted with some unforgettable people through it (including the entire chemistry department), but I didn’t exactly do perfectly in chemistry. However, I figure that if I became a tutor for the most difficult class I’ve had in college, then I’m doing alright.”

Morgan Mims, Young Harris College, Sophomore: “Wow! So much has happened to me this year. I’ve been so busy. This year, I competed in a theatre conference, spent spring break in New York, performed in my own feature sophomore recital with my best friend, performed in the musical theatre review, and starred in the studio show *Sylvia* by A. R Gurney. This year was impeccable. I thoroughly enjoyed my classes, and Young Harris has offered me so many opportunities that I wouldn’t have even dreamed of. While in Manhattan, I sang a featured solo with



ALEXIS LEBLANC



MORGAN MIMS

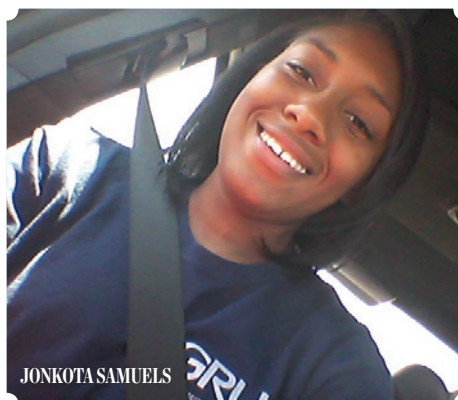


my chamber choir group in St. Patrick's Cathedral. I am looking forward to another wonderful year at YHC, and I have to give the Watson-Brown Foundation credit for that. Thank you!"



Samantha Ng, University of South Carolina – Columbia, Senior: "During the Spring 2016 semester, I began taking most of my global supply chain and operations management major courses. Although the courses are challenging, it made me realize how much there is to learn; it was certainly an eye-opening experience for me. We often have group projects where we work with local companies to gain experiences to prepare us for the career in this field after graduation. We helped the local nonprofit organizations think of ideas to improve and make their systems and processes more efficient. We utilize various simulation and statistical software to analyze a sample of each company's current data to assist us in understanding the companies better before we think of methods to improve them. My greatest accomplishment of the year so far is learning about the ways I can use the knowledge I learn within my major courses to help local nonprofit organizations."

Jonkota Samuels, Augusta University, Sophomore: "When I signed up for the classes, I was very skeptical of taking political science and history at the same time because I knew there would be high volume of reading to do—not to mention I had both on the same day. Once the semester got going, I got into a routine of how to equally balance both



classes when it came to the assigned readings. So when I had my hour break before history, I was studying a little bit of political science and the remainder of time just going back over the notes I jotted down from the several pages we had to read in class the previous day. Political science wasn't hard at all, and my teacher made learning the material so comprehensible and gave assignments related to current issues we were facing. History was the hardest class that I had ever struggled with since I started college. On the tests over the first and second books I made C's on both, and it made me so upset that I cried. I went to my teacher for guidance and study tips, had multiple study groups, and spent more than eight hours daily studying notes and listening to recorded class sessions. I guess all those methods of learning stuck, as I ended up with a B.

"As for humanities, I now had both a music and art teacher, which was something new. I had the art sections together but the music was a tad bit more challenging. We had various composers to learn about and when time for the quizzes she played a short snippet of the composition. And we had to tell who the composer was, the era of the music and the title of the music, and then apply a certain amount of vocab words to it and tell how they were related to the era of the composition. Trying to remember all of that with the music itself boggled my brain. However with both music and art combined I got a B in the class. Even though I was pulling so hard for an A, I was still grateful for that grade.

"Color Experience was truly an experience: The basis of the class was to use specialized colored paper to create illusions and ultimately make art. In the beginning it was difficult trying to figure out what a color would be if two colors were overlapped and the illusion of that. If done right, it would create the illusion of tissue paper or glass. Pushing through the semester, I got

the hang of how to mix/match the paper to get my desired illusions and deceive other classmates on how many colors I used. Now the funny thing about the class was I thought I was doing good in it probably averaging a high B, but I actually I was borderline C/B. What pulled me to a high A was our final project, which was to do a self-portrait using the paper. Knowing me, I did a 20x20 piece bigger than what others did, using more than eighteen different colors of the paper. And because I ran out of several of my main colors I had to use the next value of the colors and its various shades and pastels also. I put in serious overtime work to get it done. But I did, and it was sweet sweet victory; my mission was accomplished.

"Overall, I think that this semester topped everything with the amount of hours I put into each subject and the overtime hours to assure I got all that I needed to get done. It was hard, stressful, and caused a ton of body tension, but the results were well worth it."



Kevon Smith, University of South Carolina – Columbia, Sophomore: "This past year in my life as a college student at USC Columbia, was interesting and fun at the same time. During the fall, I participated in the Carolina Band in the drumline section. Being at the football games, volleyball games, basketball games, and other fall season games was fun. Being at Williams-Brice Stadium with 80,000 of your closest friends is exhilarating.

"Also, in the fall I helped around the Columbia area after the historic flooding that took place in the city. Helping families find shelter and food, and also helping those same families repair their homes was something special. I also joined two organizations at the school, too: Association of African American Students (AAAS) and Association of Black Journalists.

"During the spring, I kind of just laid low and kicked back, and focused solely on my grades and studies."

DARIUS WILLIAMS



Alumni Spotlight

BY SHANNON FRIEDMANN HATCH

PHOTOS BY SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY



Chances are that if you're reading this sentence, someone at some point in your life believed in you. Not only that, but they told you that your future was not already written in stone but rather a blank page—all you had to do is write your path. You graduated from high school, went to college, and pursued a career that allows your strengths and interests to shine.

Darius Williams will tell you that not everyone is so lucky.

Every day, from August to June, he stands in front of a classroom of twenty-eight fourth graders at Asa Philip Randolph Elementary School in Atlanta. That's fifty-two pairs of eyes watching his every move; fifty-two pairs of ears hanging onto his every word. Some of the students who attend Randolph Elementary are from well-to-do families; however, enough are from low-income backgrounds that the school qualifies for Title I funding.

"We take for granted that everyone has someone in their corner," Darius said.

He learned while pursuing his education degree at Morehouse College in a class at Spelman College Education Studies Department that children become what you call them, so he has chosen not to call those twenty-eight girls and boys "students" but rather "scholars."

"My job is to instill in children a sense of excellence," he said. "I want them to know that I expect the best because they are the best."

"A" is for Academics

Darius was one of the lucky ones. Raised by his mother with two of his brothers in Warrenton, Georgia, he credits her with much of his success. "She always told us, 'Get your education, and I'll take care of the rest.'"

Darius did not disappoint, holding leadership positions in school and the

community: He served as class president in high school both junior and senior year and student body president, as well as chairman of the Watson-Brown Junior Board.

He traces his family's emphasis on education back to his grandmother, who had to drop out of school in the second grade to tend to the family farm. As a result, Darius said she was adamant that her children and grandchildren achieve their high school diploma. In her fifties, she even went back to school herself to earn her GED and graduated valedictorian of her class.

"She made sure that doors were open for us," Darius said. "She placed a value on education, and I now share that with the world."

"B" is for Breakthrough

Darius didn't set out to be a teacher. "It was a calling that I tried to avoid," he said with a laugh. But the idea was always in the back of his mind, and he had many family members in the profession.

"My aunt was a teacher, and I always looked forward to the end of the year when she gave us her old handouts—I'd spend all summer teaching my teddy bears and cousins!" Darius said. He also took on hands-on roles, helping lead sessions of Watson-Brown conservation camps and working with Rock Eagle 4-H Center camps.



Still, as a freshman at Morehouse, he started out on a pre-med track. “Science came naturally to me, and I like to help people,” he recalled. However, he found the subject matter a chore to study.

A seminar in education the second half of his freshman year changed the entire course of his studies. The professor, Dr. Andrea Lewis, encouraged the class to chase what they love and everything else will work out. “Her message was extremely powerful and pushed me over the edge,” he says.

“C” is for Champion

After graduation, Darius landed at Randolph Elementary on the recommendation of his department chair. It turned out to be the right choice at the right time: Darius had recently begun building a stronger relationship with his father, right before he tragically passed away. “I wanted to take time to grieve after graduation, but the support was put into place at Randolph and I was surrounded by veteran teachers,” he recalled.

His transition was also eased by his belief that by simply standing at the front of the classroom, he is doing an important job.

“There are not a lot of males in education period, but especially not in elementary education,” Darius said. “I want the children, especially the boys, to see that it’s OK to be academically sound, and I’m constantly trying

to model behaviors that I expect of them.”

In addition, Darius is a member of *Profound Gentlemen*, an organization dedicated to supporting and promoting men of color in the field of education. “Only 2 percent of the nation’s teachers are African-American males,” he said. “I’ve had parents thank me personally for doing this job.”

“D” is for Dedication

As a fourth-grade teacher, Darius wears many hats. He teaches math, science, social studies, English/language arts, and health. To bring the subjects to life, he integrates technology in the classroom whenever possible and uses a Website to keep the parents connected.

“When I grew up, I was yearning to be engaged with such devices—I would be silly to keep that from them,” he said. “We look up information together, and I encourage them in their digital citizenship.”

Daily, he lives his teaching philosophy: “All children can learn.”

His scholars walk a little taller in the hallway and turn in papers with more pride. “Anyone can be a student,” Darius said. “I tell them that they are college- and career-bound, and they take me up on that.”

What is a Dapper Dolphin?

Darius said that he knew that when he went into education that he wanted to start a male-mentor group. “I want to help debunk the myth that there are more black males in prison than in college,” he said. “They need to know that there are doctors, dentists, even a president that looks like you.”

Enter *Dapper Dolphins*, a cohort of boys at Randolph Elementary that meets weekly, follows a code of conduct, and develops their leadership skills. They read a book every month, dress up on Dapper Dolphin Thursdays, and must ensure that their grades do not dip below an 80.

Darius is already planning on partnering with similar groups—one is an all-girls group at Randolph, another is an all-male boys mentoring group called “GQ” led by his cousin, Pastor Antonio Grissom, at Westlake High School, also in Atlanta.



GEORGIA'S FIRST BULLDOG?



T.R.R. Cobb House

BY SAMUEL N. THOMAS, JR.

The term “bull dog” dates back to the sixteenth century and the British Isles. It was a term used to describe an action more than a particular breed of dog. One of the early sports of royalty in northern and western Europe was the sport of bullbaiting in which, as the name implies, dogs were used to bait bulls. To be a good bull dog, the dog had to have the right temperament and great courage, ready to take on something much larger than he. It wasn’t until the seventeenth century that a breed of dog began to emerge with the name “bulldog.”

Over the centuries, numerous individuals have earned the moniker “bulldog,” because of their aggressive temperament and courage under pressure, usually a person of military background. One such person was William Gaston Delony. Born on the Georgia coast, he moved to Athens to attend school at Franklin College (University of Georgia). Graduating in the Class of 1846 as the first Honor Graduate, Delony developed a passion for patriotism and politics. Within a couple of years of graduating, Delony was hired by the trustees of the college as a faculty member to teach “ancient language.” While he taught at the university, he also studied law and quickly gained a reputation for being a highly skilled attorney in Athens. During this time, he became acquainted and then friends with Thomas R.R. Cobb.

Men of like minds tended to associate, especially in the late 1850s, and Delony and Cobb were of like minds. By 1860, Delony was a member of the “Cobb Faction,” those pushing for the immediate secession of the state. After Georgia’s secession and the firing on Fort Sumter, Delony set about raising troops for a company of cavalry, known as the Georgia Troopers. Once he had enough men to complete the company, they became a part of Thomas R.R. Cobb’s Georgia Legion Cavalry.

For the next three and a half years, Delony gave all his energy and determination in to molding Cobb’s Georgia Legion Cavalry into a dependable fighting force. He was respected and loved by the men who served under him, and those whom he served under regarded him as efficient and dependable. One of those who most admired him was Wiley C. Howard, a twenty-two-year-old law student at the University of Georgia who claimed to have given up an opportunity to serve as a first lieutenant in an infantry unit so as to serve as a private under Delony.

Delony’s leadership qualities blossomed early in the war. In late June 1862, during the Seven Days Battles, Delony took part in his first cavalry charge. He was ordered by Jeb Stuart to attack Dispatch Station and route the Federals on the railroad being used as part of the Union army’s main supply line on the Pamunkey River. Delony

led the charge from the front, a position that characterized his style throughout the war. In this attack, his squadron captured 120 Federal soldiers and scattered the rest.

The greatest example of Delony’s aggressiveness and fighting spirit took place during a skirmish in northern Virginia in a small village called Little Washington following the Battle of Sharpsburg, also known as Antietam, in November 1862. The action began when a squadron of Union soldiers collided with Confederate sharpshooters dispatched by Delony as pickets. As the pickets began to give ground, Delony, scouting the situation alone on his beloved horse, Marmion, found himself being charged by a dozen mounted Union cavalry. Instead of galloping away from the pursuing Union column, according to Wylie Howard, Delony “wheeled his horse like a lion at bay prepared to meet the onslaught and alone coped with a party of ten far in advance of the others. Emptying both his pistols and deliberately drawing his saber he met them as they dashed around him ... he was fighting like a mad boar with a whole pack of curs about him, having his bridle hand dreadfully hacked, his head gashed and side thrust.”

In the middle of the crisis “Gallant Jim Clayton” led several of Delony’s company “dashing down the hill ... like lightening to the reserve of our brave and beloved Delony.

Stalwart Jim Clayton spurring his horse knocked others aside and plunged his saber” into one of the Union soldiers who was in a virtual death lock with Delony. At that moment, “Delony quickly drew up his blade, and, with almost superhuman effort, cleaved his antagonist’s skull as he fell forward.”

Delony’s most critical and significant fight took place in 1863 during the famous battle of Brandy Station. Early in the morning of June 9, prior to Lee’s second invasion of the North, John Buford’s Union division crossed the Rappahannock River and headed south. Buford’s 11,500 cavalymen attacked Stuart’s 9,500 troopers, initiating the largest cavalry battle in North America. With the initial Union attack neutralized, suddenly another Union Cavalry division led by Gen. David M. Gregg appeared from the south at Fleetwood Hill, Stuart’s headquarters.

Wade Hampton ordered Cobb’s Legion and the 1st South Carolina Regiment to save Stuart’s headquarters. With Col. Young, Cobb’s Legion commander leading the first two companies, and Delony leading the last two, the Georgia Troopers and the Richmond Hussars, the Legion charged up Fleetwood Hill hitting the Federals from the flank. Just as they were about to hit the Yankee flanks, Delony yelled to his men in that “deep voice,” Howard recalled, “sabers, boys, sabers, no pistols.” Howard’s next sight of his commander was of Delony “smiting Yankees right and left as he charged along in advance. He sat on his charger grandly, his fine physique and full mahogany beard flowing, he looked a very Titan of a war God, flushed with exuberance and exhilaration of victory. He called to me to rally with others of his old company about him and on he led us pressing the retreating foe right down to a railroad cut.”

While Delony escaped the Brandy Station charge without any injuries, he was not as lucky in his next gallant but reckless charge at Hunterstown, Pennsylvania. During the later stages of the battle of Gettysburg, Hugh Judson Kilpatrick’s Federal cavalry, with George A. Custer and Elon J. Farnsworth, conducted a probing mission of the Confederate position and ran into Hampton’s rear guard at Hunterstown. The two forces charged each other, resulting in fierce hand-to-hand combat. In one of the charges led by Delony, he was thrown from his horse and seriously wounded with saber cuts to his head.

Following the battle, with his head bandaged, Delony was loaded into a wagon as part of the seventeen-mile ambulance train along with 6,000 other wounded Confederates retreating to Williamsport. When the convoy reached Williamsport, it was unable to ford the swollen Potomac caused by the heavy rains. Close on the heels of the ambulance train was Buford’s cavalry division. The Union threat forced the



Col. William Gaston Delony – Cobb’s Legion Cavalry

Confederates to form a three-mile defensive perimeter along the river. All hands were needed to help in the desperate defense. Responding to the boom of cannons in the distance, Delony climbed out of his wagon and collecting other walking-wounded, stragglers, wagoneers and teamsters, they filled in a gap in the defense of the train. Delony reported that he eventually commanded “a heterogeneous crowd” of around 200 willing bodies and led them in support of Hart’s Battery. The makeshift Confederate defenders fought gallantly, and after the battle, raged back and forth for some three hours, Delony’s motley crew, along with the battery, attacked the right flank of one of Buford’s Brigades, driving “the enemy about three fourths of a mile, and about dark had completely flanked one of their batteries.” Soon after the attack, Gen. Fitzhugh Lee’s Brigade arrived to support the courageous defenders. Realizing his position was untenable, Buford called off the attack and retired from the field.

After recuperating, Delony would return to fight again. His unit was raised to even more lofty heights years later when Margaret Mitchell wrote of Melanie asking the returning soldier as to the whereabouts of her husband who was a member of Cobb’s Legion. William Delony is

buried at Oconee Hill Cemetery in his beloved Athens in the shadows of where other bulldogs exhibit aggressive temperament and courage, just a few yards away from his friend, Thomas R.R. Cobb.

Following the war, Wiley Howard described William Delony’s leadership and tenacity after the retreat from Gettysburg and the Battle of the Wagoneers: “With his commanding presence, bulldog courage and superb generalship, he made a most determined resistance and successfully held them at bay until reinforcements arrived, thus avoiding a train stampede and a great disaster to Lee’s retreat.”

In May 2017, Mercer University Press will release *The Legion’s Fighting Bulldog: The Civil War Correspondence of Lt. Col. William Gaston Delony of Cobb’s Georgia Legion Cavalry and Rosa Delony*, edited by Vincent J. Dooley and Samuel N. Thomas Jr. In it you will read of William Delony’s “commanding presence, bulldog courage and superb generalship.”

Like the bull dogs of the sixteenth century, the story of William Delony tells of the beginnings of another bull dog—Georgia’s first bulldog.



PINNING HER HOPES



Goodrum House

BY BARBARA HYDE

Clara Clarke Steele Cody was a British domestic who immigrated to the United States through Canada in 1924. By 1930, she landed in Atlanta on May Patterson Goodrum's doorstep as a nurse to May's ailing mother, Mollie. Clara would spend the next seventeen years not only serving as May's housekeeper, but also as a close treasured friend—so close that by 1937, May had a simple cottage, affectionately named the Little House, built on the Goodrum property for Clara, Clara's second husband, Bob Cody, and her son, Kenneth Steele.

While Clara never returned to her hometown of Calverton, Buckinghamshire, England, she maintained ties through correspondence with her parents, siblings Laura, Rose, and Tom Jr., and a few girlhood friends. Her scrapbooks are filled with photos of her thatched-roof childhood home, cherished pets, a growing cadre of nieces and nephews, and friends in the neighboring town of Wolverton. When war struck Europe in 1939, her concern for her loved ones must have been palpable.

Most of Clara's history and possessions come to us from her eldest son, Kenneth. One cherished item is a pin nestled in cotton tucked in a simple white cardboard box. Of modest value by today's standards, it clearly held a special place for the woman who wore it. The gold pin depicts a rampant lion on a white enamel ground with the words *Dieu Et Mon Droit* (God and My Right) emblazoned on a shield topped with a crown and cross. An enamel ribbon of blue, white, and red decorates the background. Engraved in an oval on reverse are the words "Official B.W.R.S. and B.B. By Accessocraft".

The B.W.R.S. was the acronym for the

British War Relief Society and B.B. stood for one of its American partners, Bundles for Britain. Established in 1940 by Mrs. Natalie Wales Latham in New York City, Bundles for Britain was featured in the May 19, 1941, issue of *Life* magazine. The thirty-year-old single mother of two organized a group of women committed to knitting socks, gloves, hats, sweaters, and scarves for distribution to British civilians affected by the ravages of World War II. The article reported that within sixteen months, Natalie and her team had raised three million dollars, sent hundreds of thousands of used garments, twenty-four ambulances, fifty-nine mobile

canteens and twenty-one X-ray machines to Britain, and their efforts had multiplied into 975 chapters across the United States. The pins, designed by Robert Appleby and manufactured by costume jewelry makers Monet and Accessocraft, were marketed for fundraising and promoting sympathy for the tragic circumstances in Britain.

Far to the south, Atlanta's citizens were reminded daily by the *Atlanta Constitution* of the situation in Europe. While American sympathies were with the people suffering under German occupation, polls showed that U.S. citizens were reluctant for the government to actively participate in the

war. By September 1940, news of The Blitz reached Atlanta with the headlines screaming “British City in Flames after Massive Air Raid” and “Nazi Bombers Unleash Greatest Raid on London: Enemy Unloads 50 Explosives in 10 Minutes.” In a *Constitution* article dated September 5, 1940, Atlanta’s women were challenged to organize their own chapter. Mrs. Albert Thornton and Mrs. Daniel MacDougald accepted the post of cochairs with bevy of other society matrons volunteering to head various committees. Posting their frequent meetings in the newspaper, their endeavors included a knitting circle, organizing benefit events, and selling the specially designed small gold emblem pins for \$2.50, with a reported ninety percent of the profits benefiting the cause. While Clara had little free time to knit and sew, and less to participate in dances or golf tournaments, she could donate \$2.50 from her modest earnings to support her kin and countrymen. She proudly wore the pin as evidenced in the photo of her on the Goodrum estate.

A monetary donation was not the only sacrifice Clara would be asked to make for the war. Her son Ken would soon be graduating high school. As with many young men after the airstrike on Pearl Harbor in December 1940, Ken was eager to defend his country and join the fight. Unable to sign on until he finished school, he graduated in December 1942 from North Fulton High School and enlisted in February of the following year, just shy of his eighteenth birthday. By 1944, Ken was based in California and would finally board a ship for the Pacific. Clara’s fear of losing her son was unfathomable. She broke down in tears while reading his letters. Wounded at Iwo Jima in February 1945, he recovered and spent the remainder of the war with the military police patrolling a base at Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Clara must have been euphoric at their reunion ten months later. “Kennie-Boy,” as he was lovingly called, returned home to a joyful household. January 1946 was marked by a telephone invitation to a dance at Oglethorpe University. It was a fateful encounter. Ken decided to matriculate that year on the G.I. Bill, becoming Oglethorpe’s student body president four months later, joining the “B” basketball team, and pursuing his degree in finance.

Clara could rest a bit easier knowing Ken was safe, secure, and well on his way to a promising life, free from her legacy of manual labor. But tucked away in a drawer, she kept the pin, perhaps as a reminder of the uncertainty of life or a talisman for good fortune.



Clara Clarke Steele Cody



Clara’s pin

Strawberries and drip line





STRAW BALE GARDENING



Sticks & Stones

BY FRANKE SMITH



Prepping Bales

On paper, straw bale gardening sounds amazing. Its proponents promise healthy plants and weed-free beds. They tout the benefits of straw, which holds in moisture, but also drains excess water. Straw bales lift the garden bed higher off the ground so harvesting is less wearisome.

The truth of the matter is a little more complicated.

After a summer of testing at Hickory Hill, I have compiled the following facts and tips about straw bale gardening for the crowd south of the Mason-Dixon line.

First, the man that wrote the book on straw bale gardening is not from the South. (This is also true about the man that wrote the square foot gardening book. Someone needs to invite both of these gentlemen to the South to see how large and heavy a proper tomato plant actually gets.) This minor detail may seem unimportant, but, in reality, checking hardiness zones and frost dates is just the beginning when it comes to the differences between gardening in the Deep South and Minnesota.



“Our cherry tomato plant grew close to seven feet tall and had to be propped up with a two-by-four and metal stakes.”



Second, straw bale preparations are quite extensive and time consuming. It takes about two weeks to prep the bales with Milorganite, kelp meal, and blood meal, or, if you do not identify with the “crunchy granola” crowd, 10-10-10. For twelve days straight, we poked holes in the bales, funneled in fertilizer, and watered them until they leaked. Milorganite is fragrant straight out of the bag, and when you let it bake in the Southern summer sun, its potency is spectacular. The smell was so pungent even Dexter commented.

Third, around the time the bales start to truly turn to compost and are ready for plants, you will have an impressive

collection of large chia pets on your hands. Weeding is, in fact, still on the menu. A side note for the “crunchy granolas”: I have it on good authority that only one farmer in the state sells organic bales.

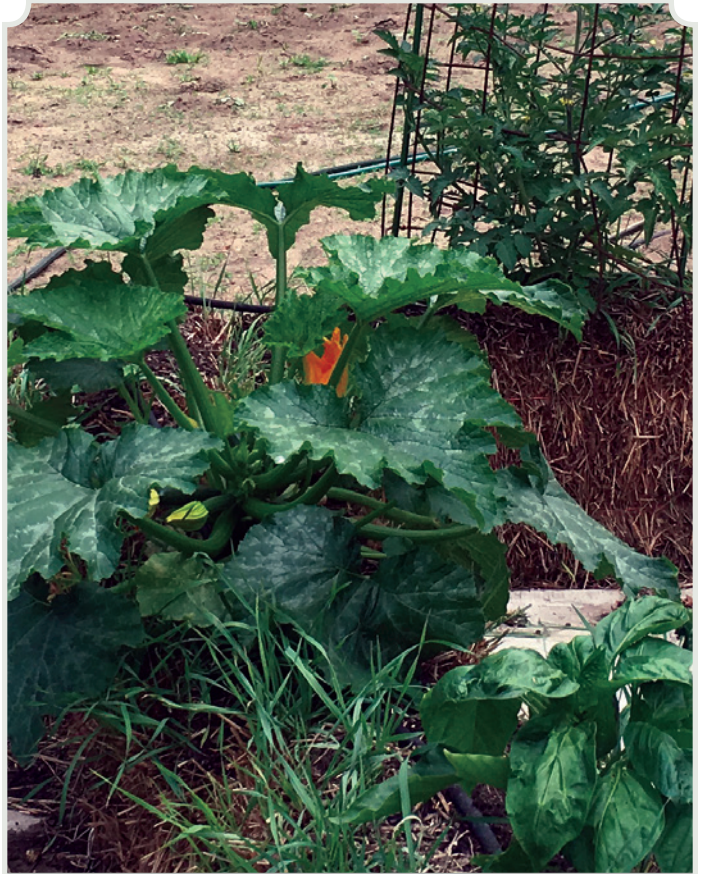
Finally, the plants that love straw bales really love them. Our cherry tomato plant grew close to seven feet tall and had to be propped up with a two-by-four and metal stakes. The stems on the okra plants were the size of healthy saplings, and the zucchini plant grew so large it had to be supported on either side of the bale by tomato cages laid on their sides. The strawberry starts quickly began their assault on the onions’ territory, and by

the end of the summer, had sent scouts far and wide in their lust for bale domination. Sadly, the onions only grew to about half of their expected size, and the carrots were all tops and stringy roots.

The results of our experiment were mixed, and it is my belief that the internal temperature of the bales was simply too high for most of the plants, even though they were watered daily. Straw bale gardening is not for the faint of heart, and just like traditional gardening, requires hard work, patience, and a healthy respect for the power of nature.



Happy zucchini



Happy zucchini and tomato plants



Long view of garden in May 2016



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OUR FOUNDER

Walter J. Brown was a journalist and a broadcast pioneer who built and chaired what would become Spartan Communications, Inc., one of the larger privately held TV companies in the country.

Early in his career, Brown had an office in the White House when he served on the staff of Secretary of State James F. Byrnes. Brown's enduring love for politics was eclipsed only by his respect for Jimmy Byrnes. Inspired in part by Byrnes's philanthropy—which in 1948 established the James F. Byrnes Foundation—Brown created his own private Foundation in 1970. Named for Thomas E. Watson and J.J. Brown, the men to whom Brown attributed his success, the Watson-Brown Foundation today continues to ensure that hundreds of deserving students are provided the opportunity to excel at the college of their choice.