

Spring 2019

The LEGACY

A Publication of Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc.

Call of the WILD

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

THE Stallions' SIGNIFICANCE

T.R.R. COBB AND THE INFLUENCE OF HORSES

HIGH Society

ACCORDING TO SALLY FORTH





Legacy

Volume 19
Issue 2



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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



Colton Borresen, Sophomore, Georgia Southern University – Armstrong: “This has been an incredible year for me. First I was able to get scuba certified during the first semester of school. As a marine biologist-to-be, I thought this was an incredible opportunity. I have since been able to dive many times and have taken the advanced diving course. I will get my Master Diver certification, as well. On an academic note, it has been incredible to be so successful both semesters. I am very proud to once again be on the Dean’s List and look forward to that continued success.

“With my academic success and scuba certifications I have been able to secure an internship this summer in Florida, where I will be conducting shark and stingray research. This is my field of interest, and I feel extremely blessed to have this opportunity.

“I want to thank the Watson-Brown Foundation for this incredible opportunity!”



Alberto Carrillo, Sophomore, North Carolina State University – Raleigh: “Volunteering at an NC State engineering outreach event hosting the Jack and Jill Organization has been my favorite organizational involvement so far. The responsibilities for the all-day event involved arriving to the site early for setup and training. There were multiple activity stations set up for a wide variety of students from Pre-K to twelfth grade. After the initial setup and students arrived, my responsibilities shifted to being a supervisor for students of various ages from early middle schoolers to high schoolers. I rotated between stations providing assistance where applicable. At the end of the day, I was tasked with cleaning and packing up the activity stations.

“I choose to volunteer for the event because the work sounded fun and interesting, and I could share my knowledge of engineering and experience with college so far with ambitious students. The activity

stations were engaging, and such events were not available to me during high school and much less during middle school. It is important to participate and help push for more engineering outreach events in the future.

“During the event, I was genuinely surprised from the overall enthusiasm the students showed. Initially, I expected only a few students to be truly engaged in the activities, but, in reality, most, if not all, were fully engaged in the activities and actively participating. In particular, the middle schoolers were the most enthused group. Their activity station was a vertical wind tunnel station where the students were tasked with designing and building a device that can hover within the wind tunnel without flying out.

“Furthermore, I enjoyed being a mentor for that activity, because, although I could not provide a direct answer to their questions about design, my indirect answers, or rather rhetorical questions, helped spark an idea. I showed the students that knowing the solution to a problem is not always about knowing direct information, but rather sometimes the solution is about looking at the problem from a different perspective.

“As a result, I would definitely choose to volunteer for another engineering outreach event. I must help provide opportunities for future engineers and help persuade people who might be uncertain if engineering is an appropriate major for them. For instance, I learned minority student retention in STEM fields is significantly low. Events and programs such as the engineering outreach event and Minorities in Engineering Program are available as a measure to assist students struggling through an engineering major. In the future, I plan to attend MEP discussion panels as an upperclassman for freshman entering the engineering program at NC State.”

Kelsey Cunningham, Junior, University of Georgia: “As a student at the University of Georgia, I have been afforded countless opportunities to pursue my passion of filmmaking. Last summer, I attended the most prominent film festival in the world, the Cannes Film Festival, and watched over thirty films in the span of twelve days.

“Throughout the school year, I managed the university’s theatre by contacting distributors and acquiring the film rights for over seventy films. I ran two drive-in events, networked with the producer of *American Pie* and *Final Destination*, and ran over ten other



film events on campus. I produced a student short film and was the script supervisor for another independent study short film.

“This upcoming summer, I will be interning in Los Angeles with both Buffalo 8 Management and the Producers Guild of America. I will produce one more independent study short film in the fall. I cannot wait to see how these adventures unfold!”

Isabelle Doan, Junior, Duke University: “Huddled around a computer in *The Chronicle* office, you might find a few weary pre-meds writing a breaking news story. I happen to be one of them.

“This year, I had the pleasure to serve as University News Editor at *The Chronicle*, Duke University’s independent daily paper. Some people have asked me why I spend so

much time writing articles, editing stories, and laying out papers when I could be doing something much more related to my career goals. However, my passion for journalism is so much more than a passion for writing. Journalism is a search for truth. In fact, *The Chronicle’s* masthead is comprised of many pre-medical students at Duke, all imbued with the same desire to search for the truth and tell it.

“Next year, I’ll be News Editor and run the department. It’ll be a lot of work, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. If there’s one thing I’ve learned from these past two years at college, it’s that you should do what you want, and pursue it passionately. Don’t just do what looks good for your career. Search for the truth, and the rest will come.”





BRANDON HERNANDEZ

Brandon Hernandez, Senior, University of South Carolina: “This year was my first full year at the University of South Carolina-Columbia. At first it was hard because I did not know anyone, but this past semester I was able to get involved and meet lots of people. I joined Pillars for Carolina, an organization that helps first-year students get adjusted to life at the University of South Carolina. My job title in the organization is Extended Mentor (XM), and I am tasked with helping participants throughout their first six weeks at the university. I’m able to help them get around campus, answer any questions, or give them advice as they adjust. This past year has really changed me as an individual for the better. I started taking more journalism classes and have discovered that I want to go to law school after I graduate. I am definitely excited for my final year at USC, and I know it’s going to be great.”



DEMONICA JACKSON

Demonica Jackson, Kennesaw State University, Junior: “Entering into the fall semester of my sophomore year, I had one major goal: getting an internship or co-op. The highlight of my year was accepting a co-op position for Spring 2018 with Southern Company, working for their subsidiary company, Southern Nuclear.

“There were many challenges, being that I was away from school and completely engorged in a work environment for an entire semester. During my time working at Vogtle Electric Plant Units 3 & 4, I was exposed to many sides of engineering as well as the components and systems of mechanical, electrical, and civil groups per the construction of these new nuclear units.

“Since I am studying to become an electrical engineer, learning these new concepts in the other disciplines was quite challenging. I was given the opportunity to learn and grow professionally in my field and with my peers. I contributed to the progress of the site by developing a material-tracking Microsoft Access database and alleviating backlogs of unused and disposable materials, saving the company time and money. I also had time for fun, aside from the challenges I faced at work, where I participated in career-linked organization, NAYGN, as well as being a liaison co-op between Vogtle and other nuclear sites and programs, such as the Hatch plant in Baxley, Georgia, and the Virginia Commonwealth University Nuclear Engineering Program in Richmond, Virginia. Now, going into my Junior year, I will be working in distribution and transmission with Georgia Power, furthering my career by achieving my goals that I continue to set for myself.”



ALEXANDER KIROV

Alexander Kirov, Sophomore, Yale University: “I am sophomore at Yale University studying economics and mathematics. My first year in college was challenging but fun. Learning about the things that you love most does not feel like a burden but is actually pleasant and rewarding. There is great care in the undergraduate experience at Yale. To me, the undergraduate experience is diverse academics, the unique residential college community, high student satisfaction, and devotion to teaching, knowledge, ‘well-roundedness,’ and a classical education. I like that we have to take classes from many disciplines, as it lets us explore and develop as scholars. Besides economics and mathematics courses, I also took organic chemistry, a literature class that compared different cosmologies (universe creation myths) across cultures, and an introductory computer science course in Java. I especially enjoyed proof-based mathematics, since it gave me an idea of what studying math is like. On the other hand, it was cool to read medieval texts in my ‘Birth of Europe’ course from 1000 to 1500, a time period that many do not have the chance to study. Lectures are read by world-leading professors like Dr. Steven Berry in introductory microeconomics, who is on the short list for the Nobel Prize in Economics. It was



SAMUEL MATHIS

humbling to jump into this intellectually stimulating environment that is a hotspot of talent and culture.

“On the side, I participate in several student organizations on campus, some career-oriented and others just for fun. Perhaps my most relevant activity is work with the Urban Philanthropic Fund. We are a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization started last year by Yale students (theupfund.co/). We strive to help New Haven nonprofits succeed by providing micro-grants generated from our investment returns. As a member of the Healthcare Investing Team, my teammates and I got to prepare a pitch deck for Heron Therapeutics. Our club is also unique in that our nonprofits and grants branch, of which I am also a member, works closely with New Haven nonprofits to help them develop data-driven metrics that analyze their efficacy. This year, I have completed such a report for Elm City Internationals to position them better to receive large grants. With this club, I have had the chance to take a class at the Yale School of Management with the Tiburon Externship Research Program. I am thrilled to be part of something entirely new that requires us to constantly learn and work well together.

“To relax, I play on the club tennis team. Here, I found my closest group of friends. We play together twice a week and have team dinners. We compete in several tournaments throughout the year, and the national championships are the most fun. This year, we traveled to Orlando to compete, and we recorded our best performance, finishing

twenty-fourth out of sixty-four qualifying teams in the US. Next year, I am looking forward to helping organize home and away competitions as our team’s tournament director.

“In July, I will continue to broaden my scope of knowledge in history with a summer class in Paris on Gothic cathedrals. This five-week program called the ‘Age of Cathedrals’ will examine how architecture and literature of the Middle Ages influenced society, sparking an intellectual revival known as the Dialectic Movement. I am excited to expand upon what I have learned in my medieval history class last term in one of the most beautiful cities of Europe. One would be surprised to learn how sophisticated and developed the unaptly named ‘Dark Ages’ were.”

Samuel Mathis, Senior, Florida State University: “This past year was a great one. Academically it was by far my best, and socially, I was able to really grow in so many friendships. I am very thankful for the awesome year I had. I had a ton of growth vocally and learned so much about myself in the process. I feel very lucky to be able to study what I love and am passionate about. I was able to meet a few famous opera singers this year which was really cool, and I performed my first solo recital. It was a tough, but extremely rewarding year, and I look forward to getting started on my last year at Florida State. This summer I will be working at a church in Jacksonville, Florida, as an intern for their youth group. I can’t wait to start my job and have a great summer.”

Kaitlyn Mills, Sophomore, Agnes Scott College: “In my first year as a Watson-Brown Scholar and Agnes Scott student, I got the opportunity to study the culture in Petersfield, Westmoreland, Jamaica, and work on the preservation of some historic sites for a week with my global leadership class. I created an action plan for working to decrease the number of Richmond County schools on the Georgia Turnaround Eligibility School List in my leadership class on student activism. I was offered a summer job as the coordinator for a multifaceted internship program at Whole Life Ministries in Augusta, Georgia. Next year, I will serve as a tutor in Agnes Scott’s Center for Writing and Speaking and an IMPACT Peer Leader in the areas of Fine Arts Education and Veterans Affairs.”

Matthew Robison, Sophomore, Rochester Institute of Technology: “Having lived in South Carolina for almost my entire life up to this point, moving up to Rochester where it snows from October to April was comparatively a little crazy. I have a picture from the first big snow: I call it ‘Guess Who Won’t Be Seeing Grass in Months?’

“I became a member of the Honors Program, which allowed me to live in the honors dorm, get out of taking Freshman seminar, and go to Honors Pizza Fridays where we would get weekly free pizza. I completed twenty hours of ‘complementary learning’ (essentially



MATTHEW ROBISON



KAITLYN MILLS

community service) as part of my honors membership, most of which I spent helping RIT convert to a no-landfill school.

“I joined the pep band as a sousaphone player and got to play for almost every home hockey game. Hockey is quickly becoming one of my favorite sports now because the players can actually get rough with each other. I would come home, watch football games, and laugh when players would get penalties for taunting, since that is an integral part of hockey!

“I love the pep band and I threw myself wholeheartedly into it, and when I ran for vice president I actually won! I would consider being elected vice president to be my biggest accomplishment this year.

“Finally, a couple of friends and I started a personal coding project at the end of the first semester. We started out knowing nothing about what we were doing, but by the end of the year we were very comfortable in Java (the language we used) and we were able to present a tech demo at RIT’s annual creativity symposium, ImagineRIT, and we are all immensely proud of what we’ve accomplished. We plan to continue work on the project throughout college.”

Alexis Thompson, Sophomore, Clemson University: “My first year in college was not at all what I expected. Sure, the classes were difficult, but I was expecting to have more free time to do whatever I wanted. It was true that I was the one in charge of myself, but I found myself mostly studying and not having time for fun. That changed when I finally got adjusted to my schedule and started to meet wonderful new people. I also was able to become more independent and learned that it is OK to be alone sometimes. Once I became more comfortable, I did have a lot of fun. The classes were challenging, but it has encouraged me knowing that I was able to get through them and my first-year experience has given me an optimistic outlook on the future.”



ALEXIS THOMPSON

Eden Weidman, Senior, Lander University: “I cannot believe next year is my final year of being an undergraduate! Junior year was busy, but I enjoyed my classes throughout the two semesters. I think my favorite classes would have been my poetry class and my political science class. The latter made me decide to minor in political science! This year marked the first time I gave a panel presentation in front of my fellow peers and teachers. My partner and I discussed about the growing music genre K-Pop, or Korean Pop. It was a huge success! We received numerous insightful reviews about our topic. I made other personal accomplishments alongside that presentation, but the greatest accomplishment would have to be my induction into Alpha Chi. This organization



EDEN WEIDMAN

is an honor society that accepts only the top ten percent from all colleges. I am honored to be in this society, and I look forward to what is in store with them next year. As my final year approaches, I want to score an internship and do more activities with my anime club. I am eager to see how next year unfolds as I continue to learn from my peers and my professors.”

Amanda Yi, Junior, University of Georgia: “I am proud to say that I am officially in University of Georgia’s College of Engineering after applying Fall 2017. This year was a lot more balanced than freshman year, as I allowed myself to go out more and spend time with friends, like seeing Kendrick Lamar in concert or hiking in the



AMANDAYI

Smoky Mountains, while also studying hard during the week. I would say my biggest accomplishments of this year were creating reachable goals and sticking to them.

“First semester of this year I was focused on doing well in my classes and creating my statement of purpose for my application to the college. I created monthly goals that would yield tangible products and told my friends about my goals so that they would keep me accountable. Second semester, I didn’t make monthly goals, but my whole semester was focused on doing well in my classes because this information I need for my career, and I wanted to get an internship. I’m grateful to say that I obtained an internship in Woodstock, Georgia, for the summer.”



CINDY CULPEPPER

Alumni Spotlight

BY SHANNON FRIEDMANN HATCH

When Cindy Culpepper walks into Paws and Claws Animal Medical Center, the veterinary clinic she opened last September in Dunedin, Florida, she never knows what to expect. “Nothing is ever the same,” she said, “even a dog with fleas.”

Many kids say they want to be an “animal doctor” when they grow up—Cindy did it. But it wasn’t without determination and hard work, every step of the way.

A Florida native, she grew up surrounded by pelicans and egrets, opossums, armadillos, and an ocean full of fish. But it was the spacecraft that flew from Cape Canaveral in their arch out of the atmosphere that inspired her first career aspirations. “In elementary school, I wanted to be an astronaut,” she recalled. However, on a cold, windy day in 1986, she looked up from her schoolyard at the January sky and saw the *Challenger* explode—a tragedy that stunned a nation and changed the trajectory of young Cindy’s life, too.

Tragedy struck again when she lost her father in middle school and her grades began to slip. “It wasn’t until tenth grade that I got serious about school,” she said, even piling on



summer and college classes. It was around this time, age 15, that she got her first job at a veterinary office. Cindy said, “I worked reception and kennel work, starting from the ground up.” She took the job seriously, working weekends, and, “I even reported for kennel duty the day after prom!” she said.

Her interest in animals was present from a young age. Cindy and her brother had a menagerie of pets growing up, some willing—a black bunny, guinea pig, and hamsters—some less so—the lizards they chased in the backyard and roly polys they plucked from the dirt. For better or worse, her mother encouraged her: “She did find me dissecting my fish on a cutting board at age 10,” Cindy remembered.

All this experimenting eventually led her to vet tech school in

retrofitting it to her needs, and hiring staff. “Nothing goes as plans, and there’s never enough money,” Cindy said. “It was scary at times, a totally different stress. My mom and husband were my biggest supporters.”

They weren’t the only ones. Several of the staff members from Cindy’s previous job followed her. “My team believed in me,” she said. “Without them, there isn’t a vet office.”

Now, several months in, they all are finding their groove. “I never look at the schedule because I know it’s going to change,” she said. Six days a week, Cindy examines animals, does surgery, vaccinates, and eases the pain of the patients who are too sick to treat.

Her clients trust her because she trusts them. “I tell them, ‘You are your pets’ advocate. Trust your gut. You might not know what’s wrong,



“I’m blessed to have had people who believed in me.”



Florida, a bachelor’s degree from the University of South Carolina – Aiken in 2002, and then a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from Mississippi State in 2006. She worked in Ocean Springs and then moved back to her home state in 2010, working for a private practice in Clearwater for eight years. Then, she decided, “It was time to do it myself.” She knew she made the right decision when she talked to one of her first bosses, who said she remembered when she made the same move thirty years before. “The cycle starts again,” Cindy said, recalling their conversation.

That was the first step. Then came finding the right property,

but you know that they’re not acting right. You drove here. There are no stupid questions.”

Cindy never knows what she might learn from what a client is Googling. “CBD is said to possibly help dogs with pain,” she said of an increasingly common topic she’s hearing. “I learn from my patients, take classes, attend conferences, and call specialists when a case is out of my area of expertise. I believe that if you stop learning, you might as well just quit. Animals are constantly teaching us—all we have to do is listen and watch.”

Garden Club Show Offers Rare Blooms



os by Kenneth Rogers, staff photographer.

Four judges and the prize-winning table at the Peachtree Garden Club's flower show Wednesday is shown in the upper photograph. The judges are Mrs. Charles Jerome, Mrs. J. J. Goodrum, Mrs. Samuel C. Peckham, and Mrs. Lida Nash Montague. The table was entered by the Cherokee Garden Club. The chairman of the flower show was Mrs. Edwin F. Johnson, shown at the lower left, while on the lower right is a group of members of the club with their exhibit. They are, seated, Miss Anne Gray, chairman, and Miss Eleanor C. Johnson, president; standing, Miss Frances Lyle, chairman telephone committee; Miss Martha de Golian, secretary; and Miss Elise Terhune.

May Goodrum was frequently featured in Forth's society column. Credit: Rogers, Kenneth. "Garden Club Show Offers Rare Blooms." *The Atlanta Constitution* [Atlanta, Georgia], 23 May 1929, p. 15.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Goodrum House

BY BARBARA HYDE

The demise of the printed newspaper has been lamented for several years, and, I must admit, I've contributed to its present state. I haven't subscribed to a newspaper in at least fifteen years! Gone are the days of reading the morning paper over a cup of coffee and the evening news with a tumbler of Scotch as my father once did. And yet, historic newspapers are one of my first "go-to" resources for research. Amongst its pages one can find the answers to a myriad of questions: How much did a man's suit cost in 1934? When did Aunt Ruth die? What types of jobs were offered up in the classifieds in 1932? As I trolled through *The Atlanta*

Journal-Constitution archives searching for any mention of May Patterson Goodrum Abreu, one writer's name continually popped up—Sally Forth, Society Columnist. It set me wondering who was this Ms. Sally Forth and when did Society Columns become so popular?

It should come as no surprise that the first society reports came out in the *New York Herald* in 1835. They were meant to be a satire on the comings and goings of the "rich and famous" in New York City, but by 1885 it became so popular that everyone was voraciously reading about the glamorous Gilded Age world of the Vanderbilts and Astors. Around the same time in the South,

Pearl Rivers began writing the *Society Bee* as a column in the New Orleans newspaper, reporting on the town's local society and gossip. By the early twentieth century, newspaper editors recognized an untapped market in their readership, namely women. An entire cottage industry was born on the Women's Page of newspapers across the country with articles written for women by women. Everything from marital and childrearing advice to local gossip, fashion to interior decoration, and culinary instruction to flower arranging could be found in the Women's Section, and that's exactly where I found Sally Forth, a pseudonym with a wonderful play on words



Portrait of Mildred Cabaniss as a young girl in Atlanta, Georgia. Credit: Photographer: Linnie Condon. Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center.

suggesting her travels and travails through Atlanta society gatherings. But who was she?

First stop, the obituaries! Surely someone who had been Atlanta's society editor for over thirty years would be commemorated for it. And sure enough, there she was in *The Atlanta Constitution* on Friday, January 11, 1957. "Miss Cabaniss Dies at 85; Society Writer Here 25 Yrs." Her first name was Mildred, and she was the daughter of Henry H. and Sarah Royston Cabaniss. She had lived at the Biltmore Hotel since 1935; graduated from the Lucy Cobb Institute and spent two years studying and traveling in Europe in the early 1890s. Her debut ball was one of the first social events held in the old Aragon Hotel. She had worked as a society writer since the 1920s and purportedly retired by 1940. She was survived by two brothers, a niece and two nephews. As with most family-written obituaries, some information rang true and some did not. I was compelled to do a bit more digging.

Next stop, Ancestry.com! Here I learned that she came by her love of writing through her father, Henry. Henry came from Forsyth in Monroe County, Georgia. Born in 1848, he'd spent the latter part of his youth as a soldier of the Confederacy, graduated from the University of Georgia in 1869, and promptly set himself up as an editor/journalist of the *Monroe Advertiser*. He married Sarah E. Royston in December of 1870 and started a family. By 1883, Henry had his eye on a bigger arena—Atlanta. He eventually became the editor and business manager of *The Atlanta Journal* and took an active role in a variety of industry associations, including the Associated Press, where he served as vice president.

Mildred was born with newspaper ink running through her veins. A quick look through the *Atlanta City Directory* revealed that she lived with her parents for most of her life, moving into the Biltmore Hotel upon the death of her father in 1934. The 1921 *Atlanta City Directory* listed her as a "society editress." [sic] She apparently did

not attend social events incognito! In fact, she blended right in; she was educated at one of the most popular girl's schools in the South, came from a prominent Southern family with roots as deep as the American Revolution, and had travelled the world. She grew up in and socialized with the very society she wrote about.

Back to the Atlanta History Center to look up more of Mildred's articles! Between January 3, 1935, and September 12, 1950, she'd written over 3,500 columns under the name Sally Forth for *The Atlanta Constitution*. May Patterson Goodrum Abreu was just one of the many women on whom she reported. In lieu of photographs, Mildred's effusive reports of diaphanous clothing, colorful hats and gloves, shoes and corsages accompanied detailed descriptions of the settings of the major events in the lives of Atlanta's prominent citizens. She announced who was traveling where and when; who was out of town and enjoying the beach at their Sea Island home; who was entertaining a prominent writer, artist, or politician; whose daughter was preparing for her debutante ball; and who was expecting a new grandchild. In truth, while she may have written quite a few of the articles, she more than likely had a team of ladies following up on the myriad of tips. She helped define Atlanta society, for not only might you see your own name in print, but also you might see which parties and socials you were not invited to. Unprinted names were almost as conspicuous as those that were.

And so, it was through Mildred's writings that I learned May Goodrum was a cherished member of the Mimosa Garden Club, consistently opening her gardens every year to raise money for a variety of philanthropic causes such as the Henrietta Egleston Hospital for Children. She was a member of the Current Events Class, a lecture series which focused on contemporary world-wide events, and she hosted tea in honor of Mrs. Charles H. Sabin of the Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform, where presumably only tea was served. Old Grand-Dad whiskey, May's favorite drink of choice, was still illegal in 1932. Reports of her social calendar give me a framework for her travels to Europe, New York, Virginia, South Carolina, and Florida with family and friends.

While it's a far cry from the visual stimulation of Facebook, Instagram, and SnapChat, I'm grateful Mildred Cabaniss spent 30 years of her life diligently writing about Atlanta society and creating a window through which I can imagine May's life—a way of life that no longer exists.



In the picture at the left Miss Elkin Goddard is standing beside Mrs. James J. Goodrum at the recent elaborate dinner-dance given by Mrs. Goodrum for Miss Goddard at the Piedmont Driving Club, a beautiful scene from the party being featured at the right of the page.

Credit: "Attractive Figures in the December Social Spotlight." *The Atlanta Constitution* [Atlanta, Georgia], 27 Dec 1936, p. 30.



MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE

T.R.R. Cobb House

BY SAMUEL M. THOMAS, JR.

During the Civil War many horsemen were probably often wont at some point during the war to express the words of William Shakespeare, “My kingdom for a horse.” Whether being used for work or in fighting, the horse was the backbone for both sides during the Civil War. During the war, the largest source of non-human labor, the horse, was critical to waging an effective war. We tend to take that for granted these days with our mechanized and technology warfare. Horses carried generals and messages, hauled the guns, pulled the ambulances, moved men and supplies. Horses were used in both command and supply during the war, but their primary function was with the two branches of the army, the cavalry and artillery.

This was not lost on those in charge of keeping the fighting men in the field. Union Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs frequently reminded soldiers, “Extraordinary care be taken of the horse, on which everything depends.” And during Sherman’s March to the Sea, he instructed his troops in the value of the army’s horses: “Every opportunity at a halt during a march should be taken advantage of to cut grass, wheat, or oats and extraordinary care be taken of the horses upon which everything depends.”

The toll on horses during the four years of fighting was staggering. More horses were lost during the war than men. For every soldier who became a casualty during the war, nearly five horses met a similar fate. As a result, horses became scarce and were constantly in short supply, especially in regions of near continuous conflict.

Southern cavalrymen were required to furnish their own horses. As the war progressed it became more and more difficult to continue keeping horses in the field. Horses became casualties of war as a result of one of three different causes: killed in battle, worn out and broken down, and disease.

New ammunition in the form of the Minié ball became widespread during the war by both sides. Although extremely efficient in producing damage to the human body, the Minié ball could not bring down a horse

with a single shot. To kill a horse, it had to be hit on average by five or six shots.

Since the artillery needed horses to haul the guns back and forth, they were often targeted first at the beginning of any fight. When attacking an enemy’s gun, the horses were taken out first so that the gun could not be removed from the field of battle and prone to capture. In July 1861, T.R.R. Cobb wrote to Marion after receiving reports of the battle of Bull Run, “The scene after the rout as described to me by eye witnesses must have been awful – wagons turned over, heaps of dead horses with necks broken.”

The Confederate government agreed to reimburse any man for the loss of his horse in battle. William Delony, lieutenant-colonel of Cobb’s Legion, had his horse shot out from under him at Jack’s Shop, Virginia, in September 1863. Delony’s widow, Rosa, was later reimbursed \$500 for the loss of the horse. Confederate General Joseph Shelby had twenty-four horses shot from under him, while Confederate General Nathan B. Forrest lost thirty-nine in battle.

With the constant campaigning and movements across the landscape, horses were quickly reduced to mere shells of their former selves. Poor nutrition, starvation, disease, and lack of general body and hoof care quickly wore out the army’s supply of good quality horses. Many no longer even had the strength to carry their riders and were simply ridden to death. Other mounts had worn their shoes out and could barely stand. Porter Alexander (General Longstreet’s artillery chief) stated at one point the condition of the army’s horseshoes had gotten so bad that the artillerymen were forced to strip the nails and horseshoes from the hooves of both Confederate and Union dead mounts to provide for live mounts.

On Stuart’s famous ride around McClellan and the entire Union army in December 1862, he stayed one step ahead of the pursuing Union troopers. Along the way, Stuart collected necessary intelligence along with capturing a great number of prisoners, supplies, horses, and mules. After taking Burke’s Station on the Orange and Alexandria

Railroad in Fairfax County, Stuart directed one of his men to splice into the telegraph lines, and then he sent a personal telegraph addressed to U.S. Quartermaster General in Washington, DC. The message read: “General Meigs will in the future please furnish better mules; those you have furnished recently are very inferior.”

Sickness in their mounts was always a major concern among horsemen. Just as with soldiers during the war, more horses were lost to disease than to battle. Two of every three men in the army died of disease as opposed to battle. For horses, the number was estimated at nine of every ten horses died of sickness. Between October 1862 and April 1865, one artillery battery, the 10th Massachusetts Artillery lost 157 horses. Of that number, 112 died of disease and forty-five were shot because they were too exhausted to continue.

For Southern cavalry troopers, if your horse died from disease, you were not compensated and you were responsible for going out and replacing it. There was no remount system within the Confederate cavalry. If a trooper lost his horse to battle or disease, he was responsible to find a replacement, and if he remained without a mount for an extended period of time, he was placed within the ranks of the infantry. Later in the war, furloughs were granted to some for the sole purpose of going home and obtaining new mounts for the unit. Delony wrote from Culpepper, Virginia, in May 1863 that, “Our Regt can only muster about 265 horses for duty ... It is certainly very discouraging to regimental officers to have half of the men always unfit for duty on account of unserviceable horses & I feel sometimes almost like joining the Infantry.”

The Confederacy had a pool estimated at half as many horses as the North from which to pull. This smaller supply of available horse flesh quickly drove the price of horses up, making them one of the biggest

overall expenditures of the war. When the war first broke out, the average price of a horse was \$150. T.R.R. Cobb wrote from Virginia on June 21, 1862, “Miller sold Willy’s horse today for \$180, a good sale. The horse was worn out.” Just a month later he reported, “Tell Johnny I am offered \$250 for his black horse who looks badly and I am inclined to sell him.” The following year, some were having trouble purchasing horses for \$800 to \$1,000.

This helped propel the Confederacy into another solution to alleviate the shortage. The Confederacy had no legislation providing for veterinary care until October 1863, when the War Department established a system of four-horse infirmaries, including one in Georgia, under the control of the Quartermaster General. This move to centralize collecting and distributing horses, resulted in some improvement in animal care. The disabled and diseased horses were examined and distributed to different hospital pastures where they could be more closely cared for by individuals more accustomed to this work. The Georgia horse infirmary in Johnson County claimed it cured thirty cases of glanders and 85 percent of their disabled and diseased charges were healed.

Even with the increased emphasis the Confederacy placed on the care and attention to the country’s horses, it was simply a matter of too little, too late. Following the summer of 1863, the efficiency and strength of the Confederate cavalry began decreasing while the Union cavalry’s abilities increased. At the same time the Confederate artillery found itself having to rely more and more on the use of mules in hauling their guns. In both cases, it was the horse, or lack thereof, that deeply impacted the ability of these two branches to continue keeping up with their adversaries in the field.



Scene from a Civil War camp. Horses were a valuable, and often scarce, commodity.



FINDING ALICE

Sticks & Stones

BY MICHELLE ZUPAN



Alice Lytle, second from right, pictured with delegates from the Women's Party in 1922.

Mysteries are one of the perks of being a museum curator. When someone hands a curator a puzzling tidbit to research, it's like a catnip toy to a languorous feline on a hot summer day — watch the curator brighten and begin to dismantle it inch by inch. The mystery at Hickory Hill is that of Alice Louise Lytle.

In 1908, Tom Watson bid a not-so-fond adieu to William Randolph Hearst and decamped with *Watson's Magazine* to Atlanta. Simultaneously, he was making his second bid for the U.S. presidency, so he needed someone who could handle the day-to-day publishing operations of a national magazine. It must have caused no small amount of consternation when Watson hired a woman news reporter for the job ... not only that, she was ... divorced ... a Yankee ... and a single parent! <<Gasp>> Not so long before, women working the news desk published under male monikers, so hiring Alice Louise Lytle for such a prominent position was equally scandalous and highly progressive.

When Watson moved the publishing operation to Hickory Hill in 1910, Alice and her son, Stanley, moved too. They occupied a small cottage at the north end of the Hickory Hill driveway, an easy walking commute across the cotton field to work. She often published articles under the byline "A.L.L." In addition to her tasks at the Jeffersonian Publishing Company, Alice assisted with various projects and trips undertaken by the Watsons, including traveling to Florida and Washington, D.C. For a period, she and John Durham Watson were the owner and publisher of record for a short-lived Watson newspaper, *The Thomson Guard*.

Following the passing of the Watsons, Alice stayed on at Hickory Hill for several months publishing Watson's final newspaper *The*

Columbia Sentinel. What became of Alice after the shuttering of the *Sentinel* was a mystery, no correspondence or family lore remained to indicate her whereabouts. Despite having more than 500 photographs related to the family, no photos were identified as Alice Lytle.

What had happened to Alice?

Searching Ancestry.com turned up a remarkable number of Alice Lytles in the U.S. Census! Google searches produced similar results. Alice spent much of her adult life working at newspapers, so the hunt for Alice took a new turn through the virtual pages of old newspapers. Many sites, including the Library of Congress and the Digital Library of Georgia, are digitizing historic newspapers. Jackpot!

Alice was a busy woman! Articles ranged from her "motoring to Augusta" with Mrs. Georgia Watson to her own writings carried by newspapers across the nation. In Brunswick, Georgia, Alice taught Sunday school. One of her pupils, William Coney, became a military aviator, but tragically died in a plane crash. In 1921, Alice was affiliated with the National Women's Party, despite having penned an anti-Suffrage article ten years prior! A curious mention of her appeared in the March 17, 1923, *Atlanta Constitution* indicating that Mrs. Lytle was chosen as a member of the National Geographic Society for her writing on Tutankhamen's tomb. That article has not been located to date. Following the deaths of Tom and Georgia Watson, Alice made her way to Washington, D.C., and then to Baltimore. She worked variously as a teacher for the electric utility and a supervisor for the gas utility.

Sadly, Alice disappears from the records after 1940 but may have passed away in the Monkton section of Baltimore in 1953 at age 82. Research continues with sincere hopes that one day, again, we will find Alice.

Mrs. Lytle Is Chosen Member of National Geographic Society

Thomson, Ga., March 16.—(Special.)—Mrs. Alice Louise Lytle, editor and publisher of The Columbus Sentinel, recently has written for the National Geographic Magazine, Washington, D. C., several articles on the recent excavations in Egypt. King Tutankhamen's tomb has been chosen a member of the National Geographic Society. This is a signal honor for Mrs. Lytle, a talented and brilliant writer.

Lytle's writings earned her notoriety.

DOVA DAILY TIMES, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1922

VIEW OF WASHINGTON THROUGH THE LENS OF A WOMAN'S EYES

(Editor's note—Alice Louise Lytle gallery." It's different in the house; here a friendly spirit prevails that finds its outlet in the hand-clapping when a good point has been made, and the members look their pleased recognition of their efforts.)

The two outstanding figures in the house are "Uncle Joe" Cannon and "Miss Alice" Robertson; each in its way is pathetic—Uncle Joe, because he will soon be named with the traditions of the house, and Miss Alice because a woman always looks pathetic when trying to do, alone, the work of man.

MAY DESIGNATE SWAMP FEDERAL RESERVATION

WAYCROSS, Ga., July 7.—Setting aside of the Okefenokee Swamp as a national reservation will be urged on the federal government if a united movement launched here is successful. The movement was launched at a banquet recently by the University Club, at which a resolution endorsing the project was read.

Lytle's position as an editor and prominent writer defied gender norms.



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.