June 2012

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Inside this issue Ads from Rabun's Past

Red Barron's Camp For Boys MOUNTAIN CITY, GA. Season: Six- week period beginning June 9, 1949 For Boys 6 to 16 SPECIAL PLAN FOR RABUN COUNTY BOYS FOR THIS SEASON For further Information, see "RED" BARRON, at Camp any day from 4 to 10 p.m.



- Please visit our museum and research library on Mondays and Fridays from 10:00 until 2:00 and on Wednesdays from 12:30 until 4:30.
- Group tours by appointment

The Vintage Rabun Quarterly

Headlines from the Past

Here's what was making news in Rabun County 100 years ago:

After Georgia's first major environmental battle to save the falls at Tallulah, Georgia Power began constructing the first of five dams on the Tallulah River in 1912. In August, the sixth drowning victim in fifteen years was pulled from the whirlpool at the foot of Tempesta Falls in Tallulah Gorge. After a search of three days, "the bruised body of Leland Smith of Mississippi was found a quarter mile down river from where the tragedy occurred."

90 years ago:

In 1922, a front page article from the *Clayton Tribune* urged that women register to vote. The 19th amendment to the United States Constitution was passed in August, 1920 giving women the vote. "May 6 is the last day in which ladies of your county may register in order to vote this year. ...I hope you will ask your lady friends to do the same. ... This matter is important to our section and state."

Also that year, Austrian immigrant Augustus Andreae built a rustic hotel of his own design catering to visitors to the new Lake Rabun. The lake had been impounded by the building of Mathis Dam by Georgia Power in 1915. Andreae enlisted his two daughters to work as maids.



Tallulah Falls Dam with a one-lane bridge across it

The Lake Rabun Hotel only operated in the summer, as there was no heat.

80 years ago:

In March 1932, the telephone company installed a free phone in the home of Clayton police chief, Mart Hollifield, so that Clayton residents would have a number to call for emergencies. "For police and fire, call 69."

On March 24, "One Killed as Cyclone Sweeps through Valley." Crossing the mountain from Lake Burton into the Germany Valley and then across Black Rock Mountain into Sylvan Lake Falls, a church was completely blown away and many homes were seriously damaged. **75 years ago:**

In April of 1937, Rabun County's first public library opened in temporary quarters inside the courthouse with Mrs. Percy Randolph as librarian. The most popular book in the library one month later was *Gone With the Wind*, "taking the cake as the most popular by leaps and bounds."

In August, one of the Tallulah Falls hotels that survived the great fire of 1921 that almost wiped out the town of Tallulah Falls, was destroyed by fire. The Cliff House, a 50 room hotel built by the late R.H. Moss of Athens in the 1880s, was a total loss after a fire escaped the cook stove. It was located on the edge of Tallulah Gorge directly across the street from the train depot and was never rebuilt.

70 years ago:

In January 1942, the Tire Rationing Board had only 9 tires for passenger cars and 24 tires for trucks that could be distributed in January because of the rubber shortage





More Headlines from the Past

caused by World War II.

Mrs. J.C. Dover, head of the Red Cross sewing room, announced that each Wednesday volunteers would sew garments for war relief families and others who needed disaster assistance. feet about 12 feet deep." The 81 year old Mr. Ledbetter lived in a one-room house without heat or electricity. The mine was at the end of a steep, crooked, narrow road that could not be negotiated by vehicle.



Clayburne Manufacturing facility in north Clayton shortly after its opening in 1953

As of July 23, 98 Rabun County men were serving with U.S. Armed Forces in World War II.

60 years ago:

In May 1952, a New York manufacturer called Clayburne established a new manufacturing plant in Rabun County that employed up to 400 people. The operation was to be called Clayton Manufacturing Company and manufactured garments. The building had 40,000 square feet of floor space and construction began in July.

In June, it was announced that the Clayton to Hiawassee road that had been under construction for 6 years was finally finished. "It is a good road with an ample supply of gravel placed on it...and many people will want to travel on it for the scenery."

50 years ago:

In 1962, J.H. Ledbetter of Mountain City claimed his amethyst mine to be the largest in the United States. "Amethysts are being mined everyday...and visitors are amazed at the work in progress. The stones come from a bed of 100 square

40 years ago:

In January of 1972, three years before the fire that destroyed Rabun County High School, the State Fire Marshall declared it to be unsafe for occupancy.

April of 1972 saw the closure of the old



Rabun County High School burning in March of 1975.

county landfill in Tiger which was an eyesore, a fire hazard and a pest control problem. The new landfill on Boggs Mountain Road opened earlier that year.

In September, 75 Clayton merchants asked the city to remove Main Street and Savannah Street parking meters and provide off-street parking for business owners and employees.

30 years ago:

On January 14, 1982, a record cold temperature for the date was set at minus 4 degrees.

In June, the American Civil Liberties



The metal structure that held the controversial religious symbol in Black Rock Mountain State Park-1970s

Union (ACLU) prevailed in a lawsuit to have a lighted religious cross symbol removed from state property at Black Rock Mountain State Park. The issue was the promotion of a particular religion, Christianity, on property owned by all state taxpayers.



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Signs of the Times

Ads from Rabun's Past Let the New Ford V-8 DELIGHTFUL MEALS EVERY DAY Tell You Its Own Story! Serving meals is our business and we are making it our business to serve the very best of "GREATEST CAR I'VE EVER DRIVEN." "LIKE AN AIRPLANE." AMAZING COMFORT AND BAL-ANCE." "REMARKABLE GASOLINE MILEAGE." meals at all times. Use our cafe for your convenience and let us do the worrying about the cooking. You These are just a few of the many comments about just do the cating. the New Ford Eight. Roy Green's Cafe You'll be even more enthusiastic when you drive it. Words can't begin to describe the thrill of its per-WARNING!! Clayton, Georgia Fast! Smooth! Marvelously responsive! You can February 27, 1930 go places-quickly, comfortably, economically-in the New Ford Eight. Drive the New Ford V-8 today and Is Your Daughter Safe?? let it tell its own story. FOURTEEN BODY TYPES SEE The Most Sensational Picture Ever Made at The Square Dance RABUN THEATRE Up (F. O. B. Detroit, plus freight and delivery) Wednesday, only, March 27th. SATURDAY NIGHT THE NEW FORD EIGHT FOR LADIES ONLY. MATINEE, 3 P. M. ------2 Shows, 7 P. M. & 9 P. M. FOR MEN ONLY REGULAR ADMISSION.— CHILDREN UNDER MOUNTAIN CITY PLAYHOUS SIXTEEN NOT ADMITTED. 0.000.000.000.000.000 March 21, 1929 **Derrick Motor Co.** Music by **BILL CLARK and His RHYTHM** November 3, 1932 RANGERS SHOOT THE WORKS' 1700-000-000-000-000-000-0 Here Is Some Real I have a considerable amount of fireworks Owned and Operated by consisting of firecrackers, tarpedoes, Roman **Rabun Memorial Post No. 220** Front Page News: Candles, Sky-rockets, Sparklers, and every other THE AMERICAN LEGION Pure Silk, Full Fashioned, Guaranteed Perfect, kind of fireworks imaginable, in my store. st Shades, French Heels, Cradle Sole This entire shipment specially was purchased from one of the most reliable hose manufactur-ers in the country for this special selling. IDMISSION --- 75c per person Get your fireworks HERE and shoot them EVERYWHERE. EVERY PAIR A SUPERB BUY September 25, 1952 Buy them by the half dozen pairs, for hose of this quality are seldom to be found at this price. Pair 500c BLECKLEY GROCERY CO LAKEMONT. GA. Hummingbird Silk Hosiery Hummingbird Pure Thread, Full Fashion-ed Silk Hosiery at an unheard of prirce. 79c December 22, 1932 Per Pair W. A. CUNNINGHAM CLASSIFIED ADS. "Home of Good Values" CLAYTON, GEORGIA Wanted-FAT CATTLE, Will SPECIAL PRICE FOR pay eash for same. Come to see Permanent Waves the Clayton Market, Clayton, \$2.98 complete Georgia. A regular WINTER CLEARANCE SALE of Ladie's COATS, DRESSES and HATS as well as SHOES, HOSIERY and many other ar-ticles of CLOTHIING. WORK GUARANTEED Week of May 9-14 only June 6, 1929 Now don't forget that there are some very fine bargains in this WINTER CLEARANCE SALE that you can not afford to over-look at Appointments Necessary We have many other bargains that are included in the special sale that are of un-**Rabun Beauty Shop**

May 5, 1932

January 26, 1928

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NEW SPECIAL ONLINE EXHIBIT:

The Golden Age of Rabun Tourism

We're on the web! www.rabunhistory.org





Tourists inside Tallulah Gorge at L'Eau d'Or Falls, circa 1900

From the late 1880s until interstate highways and air-conditioning changed habits and destinations, Rabun County's beautiful scenery and delightful climate brought visitors by train and car loads. Although tourism is still a major economic boon, hotel rooms in 1910 no doubt exceeded today's numbers.