



Parade of Heritage



**A TRIBUTE TO OUR
FALLEN WARRIORS
1858 - PRESENT**



BY ART YEAMAN - HERITAGE GUIDES



LEST WE FORGET

Freedom Is Not Free - It Has A Cost - Same With This Project

This a first ever for Clay County, Florida.

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In the event, you received this from a friend or associate your comments and support is also appreciated.

REFLECT, RESPECT, REMEMBER

The goal of this - JANUARY 2019 - ECHO (5th) EDITION is to publish our findings and discoveries from a more than yearlong study.

DISCLAIMER: This e-book is designed for the above purpose. We do not intend to have mistakes.

You will notice the writing style varies from bulleted facts to a narrative - so be it.

The goal here is to cover the facts - we are simply publishing this PDF while we continue to seek more information.

This is NOT a polished product! This a Tool. A polished edition comes later!

Anyone who pays for this e-book will receive future editions at no cost for the calendar year 2020 and special offers for future editions.

Thank You!



U.S. Army: *"This We'll Defend"* **U.S. Marines:** *"Semper Fidelis"* (Always Faithful)

U.S. Navy: *"Honor, Courage, Commitment"* **U.S. Air Force:** *Integrity First*

US Coast Guard: *"Semper Paratus"* (Always Ready)

Table of Contents

Preface –Note to the Readers.....	4
Background.....	4
Introduction.....	5
Dedications.....	6
Acknowledgments.....	7
Resources/References/Credits.....	7
Disclaimer.....	7
List of All Clay County Fallen Warriors.....	8
Section 1: Civil War.....	10
Section 2: WWI.....	15
Section 3: WWII.....	17
Section 4: Korean War.....	22
Section 5: Vietnam War.....	23
Section 6: War On Radical Islamic Terror.....	30
Special Tribute POW-MIA Flag.....	35
Clay County Traveling Parade of Flags.....	36
It is up to YOU: Action Items.....	39



My definition, the definition that I've always believed in, is that esprit de corps means love for one's own military legion - in my case, the United States Marine Corps. It means more than self-preservation, religion, or patriotism. I've also learned that this loyalty to one's corps travels both ways: up and down.

Lt General Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller, USMC (1898 –1971)

PREFACE –Note to the Readers - The primary goal of this edition is to simply publish our basic findings and discoveries. We aim to maintain an INCLUSIVE and CONCLUSIVE list of ALL Clay County Fallen Warriors. A list that is accurately VERIFIED AND ARCHIVED.

BACKGROUND HIGHLIGHTS (Full history starts on page 35): In 1997 Johna Hayes Jr. (Vietnam Veteran and local business owner) launched an initiative to create the Clay County Parade of Flags. The concept was simple - commission a flag and a wooden cross bearing the name of our local Fallen Warriors (FW) - in theater casualties of war. The original set of names were obtained via the Clay County Archives (CCA) and the Clay County Veteran Services Office (CCVSO). The Parade of Flags started in the County Seat, Green Cove Springs (GCS), Spring Park.

Over the years, Mr. Hayes raised private sector funds and recruited others to help. By 1999 Art Yeaman became involved. The display honoring our FW was only in one location for a couple weeks during Memorial Day. Over the years, the idea of a more honorable permanent memorial was discussed.

By 2011 Heritage Guides (Art & Jenny Yeaman) were in a position to become the sole custodians of the Parade of Flags. During 2013 Heritage Guides (HG) became solely responsible for display - things started to change and they changed fast. It started to travel and became known as the Clay County Traveling Parade of Flags. The first place to travel beyond Spring Park was the Military Museum of North Florida (MMNF) followed by the Clay County Historical Triangle.

By 2014 we became more aware of the fact that FW "Wall of Honor" outside the (new) County Courthouse was outdated and at various locations around the county others have made great efforts to honor military Veterans. We were also fully aware of the "official" Veterans Memorial at the old Courthouse (Historical Triangle - 915 Walnut St. GCS). However, no one place in the County had an inclusive and conclusive tribute.

Early on in 2015 we met MMNF docent Chris Mayer (by way of the CCA). Chris told us the MMNF had a desire to publish a book to honor our FW. We liked the idea because it was in line with our interests. Their interest was to publish a hard copy book about our fallen warriors; ours is to create an e-book. Soon after that we learned that Vietnam Veterans of America Clay County Chapter #1059 (VVACC) President Gary Newman had an interest in building a Fallen Warriors Monument.



When we realized the joint effort and that EACH NAME is now going to be etched into the stone it became very apparent to us that we need to get to work. We need an INCLUSIVE and CONCLUSIVE list of Clay County FWs. We learned that the original 1997 was not accurately vetted nor VERIFIED and ARCHIVED. The wow factor kicked in.... we have a lot of work to do.

Reflect, Respect, RE.... MEMBER.... Lest-We-Forget.

Good day,
Art & Jenny Yeaman
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Your Key to Applied Heritage: Showcasing our Clay County, our St Johns River, our Florida, and our American Heritage --- One-Tribute-At-A-Time

INTRODUCTION: This has never been done before - a first ever - for Clay County, Florida.

FOURTH EDITION! This, private sector initiative is the result of more than a yearlong joint effort.

AGAIN: The primary goal of the - 2017 - CHARLIE EDITION was to publish our findings and discoveries. Now the 2019 "Echo" Edition is another improvement

It was vital that before the names are etched in stone, that citizens all across Clay County be informed. We continue to make a great effort to have an inclusive and conclusive listing, while we remain focused on verifying and archiving information related to the cause.

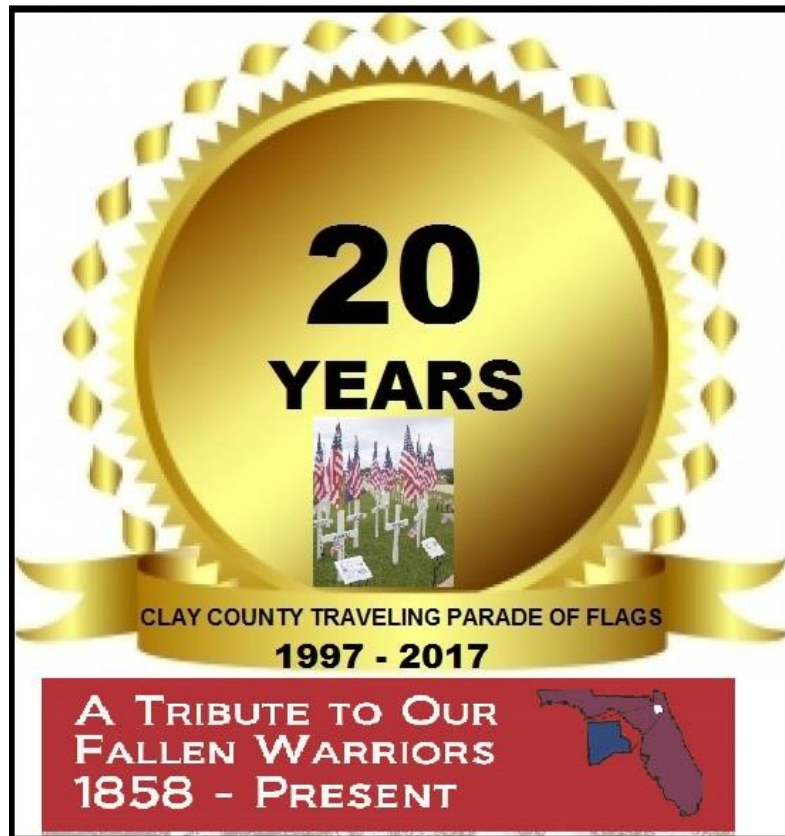
CALL TO ACTION: Thank You for making time learn about this project. We are counting on you and others to be aware of this project, tell a friend, talk it up, request a speaker for your organization.

We want to reach out to the families and friends of our Clay County Fallen Warriors to let them know that on behalf of a grateful County. **We'll Never Forget.** We want all interested parties to know how to become involved.

If you are able to read through this tribute with dry eyes and are not moved by our Clay County heritage then this is a one and done. However, if you are moved and perhaps you have tears streaming down your face as you read... As you look into the faces.... As you learn about our local fallen who paid the ultimate - the supreme sacrifice - then we hope to count on you to remember.

***Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends.***

John 15:13



Dedication 1 of 3:



Johna Hayes, Jr.

(1944 - 2008)

For the concept and work
to create the
Clay County Parade of Flags.



**Now known
as the:**



Dedication 2 of 3:

TO ALL MEMBERS OF OUR ARMED FORCES

THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED, THOSE MISSING IN ACTION,
THOSE SEEKING CARE, TO THOSE WHO ARE SERVING, AND
TO THOSE WHO WILL SERVE.

Dedication 3 of 3:

TO MILITARY SERVICE FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES.

THOSE WHO WORK AND PRAY FOR A SAFE HOMECOMING.
LONGING TO SAY

WELCOME HOME!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Vishi Garig (Clay County Archives) for her realization and vision to see that this -- very worthy - project simply needs to be completed. She spent many hours and great effort to help verify and archive the data. We appreciate her work to remain on target - aiming for an inclusive and conclusive listing, with vital background information.

John Bowles and Gayward Hendry for their continuous support of the Clay County Traveling Parade of Flags and for partnering with us to research and review our discoveries and findings.

For hosting and supporting the Clay County Traveling Parade of Flags: AA Propane, Dorothy Alexander, George Alexander, Jr., K.J. Barnett, Dr. Stephen Bateh, Bruce Booker, Leslie Boston, Don Bowles, John Bowles, Shannon Breen, Calvary Baptist Church and School, Brenda Carroll, Charles Crews, Clay County Archives - Clerk of Clay County Court, Clay County Historical Society, Sandy Coffee, Diane Crowe, Pete Douglas, Nora Davie, Claire Duskin, Joe & Norma Elliott, Lynn Esposito, Elaine Farley, First Atlantic Bank, Fleming Island Business Park, Fleming Island United Methodist Church, Florida Fallen Heroes, Garden Club of Green Cove Springs, Garden Club of Orange Park, Brian Graham, Donna Grasso, Green Cove Springs Post Office, Hamilton Family (Richards, Shelly), Linda Harrison, Richard Hicks, Historical Society of Orange Park, Barbara Hull, Russ Kamradt, Nathan Kelley, David Kersey, Kindred Hospital North Florida, Kathy Lancaster, D.W. Lee, Molly Mason, Marine Corps League Gen. Geiger Detachment, Logan Meeks, Military Museum of North Florida, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Rico & Merry Massi, Chris and Dot Mayer, Orange Park Performing Arts Academy, Audrey Penney, Penney Retirement Community, Cindy Pontrelli, Harold Rager, Beth and Margie Robertson, Brian Robinson, Ronnie Robinson's Easy Automotive, Shepherd Center of Orange Park, Shaping Clay, Gwen Sharp, JoAnn Simmer, Sara Spurrier, Mellissa Stephens, Herb Steigelman, South Middleburg Baptist Church, Jere Thomas, Becky Turner, Village Improvement Association, The Way Clinic, Jeri S. Waugh-Chesser, Art & Jenny Yeaman, Carrie Yeaman

RESOURCES / REFERENCES / CREDITS: ancestry.com, fold3.com, findagrave.com, National Archives and Records Administration, Library of Congress, wikipedia.com, florida.memory.com, VirtualWall.org, icasualties.org, fas.org, washingtonpost.com, vetfriends.com, fl-genweb.org, oaklandcemetery.com, mabryhazen.com, hhknoxville.org, Florida Archives, vvmf.org, togetherweserved.com, military.com, genealogybank.com, Irrprangers.com, Remembering An American Hero, P.O.W. Network, National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, Families of POW*MIA, Florida Times Union, My Clay Sun, Clay County Line, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, cbi-history.com, armyhistoryjournal.com, Army Historical Foundation, 34infdiv.org, tarheel3gun.com, legacy.com, IraqWarHeroes.org, militarytimes.com, arlingtoncemetery.net, forcerecon.com, Clay Today, pensacolanewsjournal.com, war-on-terror-casualties.mooseroots.com, American-Eropeon Cemeteries, jehayes.htm, forcerecon.com, afsoc.af.mil, militarytimes.com, forcerecon.com, navytimes.com, pensacolanewsjournal.com, war-on-terror-casualties.com, jehayes.htm, afsoc.af.mil, amytimes.com, airforcetimes.com, army.mil, navy.mil, marines.mil, airforce.mil.

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 1858 - 2016



DISCLAIMER: This e-book is designed to provide information. The author/publisher is not rendering; accounting, administrative, or legal professional services. We do not intend to have mistakes, E&OE applies. You will notice the writing style varies from bulleted facts to a narrative. The goal here is to cover the facts and make a clear - documented - CLAY COUNTY CONNECTION for each Fallen Warrior while we seek to learn more from others. Please direct your questions or comments to

Art Yeaman, 904-449-4607 HeritageGuides.org info@heritageguides.org

CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA, U.S.A.

FALLEN WARRIORS - IN THEATER CASUALTIES - KIA/MIA/POW/DIED

CIVIL WAR: THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES: 1861-1865

**CSA - Confederate States Army
DEFENDING STATES RIGHTS**

JOHN W CLARKE ELIAS R BENNET HENRY KNOWLES CLAIBORN GNANN
JAMES A THOMAS JOSEPH LANG ELISHA W CARTER HENRY E DICKERSON
BRAXTON BENNETT CHARLES S FLEMING SAMUEL GREEN
ABRAM D ROBERTS JOHN PEACOCK

WORLD WAR I 1914 - 1918 USA 1917 - 1918 THE WAR TO END ALL WARS

EUROPE: Geo-Political war with Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turks Bulgaria)

MOSES S KNIGHT USA JAMES EDWARD USA
JAMES HESTER USA BENJAMIN LEE USNR

WORLD WAR II 1939-1945

AXIS OF EVIL (Japan, Germany, and Italy)

PACIFIC THEATER (1941-1945) to combat the Empire of Japan invasion of China, Burma, Philippines, U.S.A...
EUROPE and NORTH AFRICA THEATER (1942-1945) to combat German and Italian invasion of Poland, England, France...

JOHN J MASTERS JR USN AUSTIN W KELLY JR USN LESLIE W PRINGLE USN
AARON COLEMAN USA THOMAS W RICH USAAC JOHNNY A MARTON USAAC
RAY L GEIGER JR USA FLOYD DANIELS USA JAMES C STRICKLAND USA
HAROLD PADGETT USA ALLEN TAYLOR USAAC
EDWARD LYTLE USA WILLIAM I PRIEST USA

KOREAN WAR 1950 - 1953

Communist North Korea invaded South Korea

Cold War 1945-1989: War Against COMMUNISM - Democratic Socialism

DOYLE B WALL USA JOSEPH T ROWAN USA

VIETNAM WAR 1957-1975 USA 1959-1975

Communist North Vietnam Invaded The Republic of Vietnam

Cold War 1945-1991: Defending Human Freedom, On Duty To Combat COMMUNISM - Democratic Socialism

CLAUDE D WILSON JR USN RAY F WILLIAMS USA HERMAN L GURR USA

PAUL L CARTER USMC DAVID B TUCKER USA DOUGLAS A LENTZ USMC

JAMES G BLACKSHEAR USA LARRY B JENKINS USA WAYNE C KURLIN USMC

MICHAEL B KOPETSKI USMC PAUL J CUMMINGS JR USA ARTHUR J ROSS JR USA

GARY R COOPER USA QUINCY H TRUETT USN MICHAEL G HOFF SR USN

RALPH N BRIGHT USA DON R SCOTT USN OTIS PARKER USA

RADICAL ISLAMIC TERROR 1801-1805 GLOBAL 1979 - _____ DEFENDING HUMAN FREEDOM

GULF WAR 1990 - 1991: Operation Desert Storm: Liberating Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's government.

AFGHANISTAN 2001 - _____: Operation Enduring FREEDOM. al-Qaeda attacks U.S.A.

IRAQ 2003 - 2011, 2014 - _____: Operation Iraqi FREEDOM: Topple Saddam Hussein's government .

FREE THE REGION OF GLOBAL RADICAL ISLAMIC TERROR.

M SCOTT SPEICHER USN BRADLEY S CROSE USA JONATHAN N HARTMAN USA

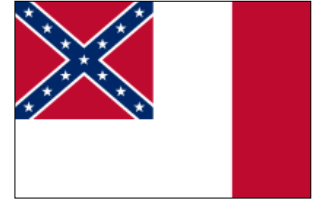
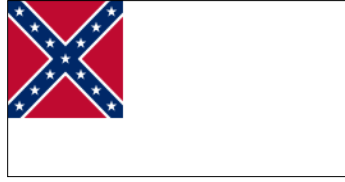
IAN D MANUEL USA KEVIN J ELLENBURG USA LAQUITA P JAMES , USN

DONALD E VALENTINE III USA QUINCY J GREEN USA JOHN E HAYES USMC

JAMES B LACKEY USAF DICK A LEE JR USA MICHAEL S DUSKIN USA

*“...It is a proud privilege to be a soldier – a good soldier ...
discipline, self-respect, pride in his unit and his country, a high
sense of duty and obligation to comrades and to his superiors,
and a self confidence born of demonstrated ability.”*

General George S. Patton Jr.



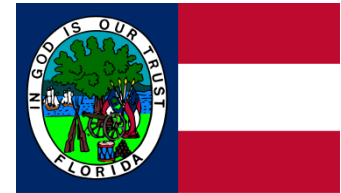
Civil War: The War Between The States 1861-1865

Making a stand to *Defend States Rights* eleven southern states seceded from the Union to form the **Confederate States of America (CSA)**. The secession started with South Carolina on 20 Dec 1860. Then joined by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee on 8 Jun 1861. Twenty-two million people lived in the North and nine million in the South.



The highest casualty rate in American History -- 620,000.

Clay County was new, created in 1858. Our seat of government was in Middleburg. Many local men answered the call to defend States Rights. Ten men who served in the Confederate States Army never came home.



FLORIDA ORDINANCE OF SECESSION: We, the people of the State of Florida, in convention assembled, do solemnly ordain, publish, and declare, That the State of Florida hereby withdraws herself from the confederacy of States existing under the name of the United States of America and from the existing Government of the said States; and that all political connection between her and the Government of said States ought to be, and the same is hereby, totally annulled, and said Union of States dissolved; and the State of Florida is hereby declared a sovereign and independent nation; and that all ordinances heretofore adopted, in so far as they create or recognize said Union, are rescinded; and all laws or parts of laws in force in this State, in so far as they recognize or assent to said Union, be, and they are hereby, repealed.

Passed 10 Jan 1861

JOHN W CLARKE Age 48

Died of disease 2 JUN 1862: Chattanooga Hospital, TN 2 JUN 1862
Private, , First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



From Cumberland, Maryland, born in 1814. He first enlisted for on 19 Jan 1836 at Lancaster, MD, under Capt Boyce for 3 years, 2nd Dragoons, Co D. As we know it he served in the Florida Indian Wars when he was 21, discharge 1839. Married, Clay County Farmer, Magnolia resident 1860 census. He enlisted 7 Nov 1861 under Capt Summerlin at Magnolia. Dismounted 13 May 1862, along with Claiborn Gnann and Henry E Dickerson in effect became infantry. His net worth was \$50, he had a wife and a 63 old mother in law, and a 12-year-old child of some unknown family living in the home. He had hazel eyes, brown hair and a dark complexion; stood 5' 9" tall. We tend to think he sign up to go to war because he was a poor, this was a way to earn a living at that time.

ELIAS R BENNET Age Unknown KIA

Killed In Action 17 SEP 1862: Sharpsburg, MD - Battle of Antietam*
2nd Corporal, Confederate States Army, Co. I 8th Florida Infantry



Date of birth not known. He's listed as living in the Clay Hill area on the 1850 census. Son of son of Henry and Maria Bennett. The 1860 Clay census shows his mother and siblings but not him or his father. He first enlisted into the 1st Florida Infantry, Co. C. at Micanopy on 1 April 1861. January 1862 he transferred to Co. H, then mustered out 4 April 1862. He reenlisted at Camp Hunt 14 May 1862 into the 8th Florida Infantry Co I. The 1870 Clay census lists his mother and two siblings.

**The Battle of Antietam - bloodiest single day in our American history: Combined dead, wounded, or missing - 22,717. In the South it is more commonly known as the Battle of Sharpsburg. That single day battle - 17 September 1862 was the first field army-level engagement of the Eastern Theater on Union soil. Sharpsburg, Maryland and Antietam Creek were part of the Maryland Campaign.*

Note: Parade of Memories and 1861 CSA records have his first named misspelled as Eliza

HENRY KNOWLES Age 18 perhaps

Died 29 DEC 1862: Knoxville, TN. 29 DEC 1862
Private, Confederate States Army, First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



Born in 1846 to his parents, Bird Knowles and Charity Jackson, Telfair Co. Georgia. In 1860 the family Henry, older brother Emanuel, brother Thomas and sisters Angeline and Fanny were living Magnolia, Clay County. He was 14 in the August 1860 census. Apparently he "stated" he was of age (19) to enlist. Even though he was actually 15 years old, perhaps 16 when he enlisted on 17 Oct 1861 under Captains Summerlin and Stockton. His horse was valued at \$125.00. He dismounted 13 May 1862 in effect became infantry. The Knowles family still have descendants in Clay County today. We have confirmed (Apr 2015) he is buried at the Bethel Cemetery Knoxville, TN.

CLAIBORN GNANN Age 20

Died 4 APR 1863: in Knoxville, TN Hospital
Private, Confederate States Army, First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



Born 1843. Clay County 1860 census shows several Gnann children living with Frederick and Elizabeth Alvarez Gnann Barthlow. Enlisted 17 Oct 1861 in Middleburg, under Capt. Summerlin and Capt. Stockton. His horse was worth \$140.00. He dismounted on 13 May 1862 along with Henry Dickerson and John W Clarke, in effect became infantry. Captured in Kentucky in late 1862. His POW record is vague - *"captured and paroled by union forces in Kentucky in Sept, October, November last, who have reported to Gen. Bragg and were placed in Camp at Chattanooga, Tenn. Declared exchanged by Col. Robt. Ould by telegram to Maj Fairbanks A.A.I.G., 11 Jan 1863."* We know him to be paroled in January 1863. At the time of his death his final effects were \$13.75. His mother Elizabeth filed a claim on 16 July 1864. The blended Gnann, Barthlow (Bartholomew), Thigpin, and Alvarez families are Clay County pioneer families with military service heritage and connection to constructing the Middleburg Methodist Church in 1828, the oldest church in Clay County and first Methodist Church in the Florida territory. We believe he is buried at the Bethel Cemetery Knoxville, TN.

NOTE: Numerous name spellings: Claburn Guinan, Claburn Guinnan, Claborn Guinann... Military records show Claiborn Ginan, The family surname is correctly spelled Gnann in most Clay County records.

JAMES A THOMAS Age Unknown

Died 15 APR 1863: Measles at Lake City Hospital, FL.
Private, Confederate States Army, CO B 2 Battalion Florida Infantry



James Andrew Thomas was the son of William H and Mary Thomas of Thomasville, Florida (near Kingsley Lake). On the 1860 Clay census he's listed with his wife Nancy and four children - Cristina "Criss Ann," Mary, Druscilla, and William. He enlisted at Lake City 14 Aug 1862. According to his widow's pension request; while he was at Camp Finnegan (west Jacksonville), James became stricken with measles. He was taken to hospital in Lake City where died. Two friends William Register and William Conway, both Clay County residents, were with him when he died. To our knowledge his coffin was built the same day. According to the 1870 census wife Nancy is listed as a widow, living with her children. By 1900 she was living near James A Thomas who was born the eight month of 1862. We tend to believe that's their son.

JOSEPH LANG Age 23 perhaps POW

Died 28 APR 1863: Disease at Loudon Hospital, TN
Private, Confederate States Army, First Florida Cavalry, Company C.
Military records show the last name as LONG



Born 1839. Joseph had a wife named Mary, age 20 per the 1860 census. Cannot find certain proof that he was William Lang's son but based on the circumstantial evidence, we are fairly certain he was. We know William Lang to be a large slaveholder on Clay County. He enlisted under Capt Summerlin and Stockton on 17 Oct 1861 in Middleburg; dismounted 7 Jun 1862, in effect became infantry. During his service, Joseph was placed on extra duty as a teamster starting 13 Aug 1862. He was given a \$12 allowance for use of and risk of his horse. At some point, we believe he was captured. As we know it, after he died of disease in a Loudon TN hospital records show he was buried in the prison cemetery.

Military records show his name to be Long, local records show Lang.

ELISHA W CARTER Age 30 KIA

Killed In Action 25 OCT 1863: Missionary Ridge at the Battle of Missionary Ridge
(near Lookout Mountain) Chattanooga
1st Sgt. Confederate States Army First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



He was the son of Levi Cater and Saloma Rowe, born about 1833 in South Carolina. On 3 Feb 1859, he married Sarah C. Harris at Thomasville (Camp Blanding) Clay County. Before the war, he was a local farmer. He enlisted in Middleburg - as a Farrier - under Captains Summerlin and Stockton on 17 Oct 1861, he stood 5' 4" tall. On 13 May 1864 he dismounted, then on 20 June 1862, he was promoted to 1st Sgt. His wife received his back pay of \$156.58. They had two sons William Caleb Carter and Henry Levi Carter.

*I think it better to do right, even if we suffer in so doing,
than to incur the reproach of our consciences and posterity.*

CSA General Robert E. Lee

HENRY E DICKERSON Age 23

Died of disease 30 OCT 1863: Asylum Hospital, Dalton, GA
5th Sgt., Confederate States Army, First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



His family was from South Carolina, however, he was born in Dooly County Georgia in 1840 while the family was on their way to Florida. Clay County census 1860, shows him to be the son of William N and Martha Dickerson; brother William J, sisters Mary, Jane, Sarah, and Elizabeth. He enlisted 17 Oct 1861 in Middleburg under Capt. Summerlin's Co. Davis Regiment as a private at age 21. He disembarked 13 May 1862, along with Claiborn Gmann and John W. Clarke in effect became infantry; promoted 5th Sgt. 15 Aug 1862. Starting 24 Oct 1863 he was absent for sickness in the hospital. His horse was valued at \$125, personal effects included \$5.00, a watch, plus \$30 owed to him.

His brother William J Dickerson. also enlisted (same time and place) assigned to the same company. As we know it, the brothers stuck together until William got sick 7 Sep 1862 in Kentucky, he remained sick through November. William was captured in East Florida on 16 Aug 1864, then sent to Hilton Head. He was in a prisoner exchange 15 Mar 1865. By 1870 William was the man of the house, their father was dead; their Mother and sister Elizabeth lived with him here in Clay Co.

BRAXTON BENNETT Age 23

Died 27 NOV 1863 : Savannah, GA Gastritis fever "gathering of throat" or Pneumonia.
Private, Confederate States Army, Tenth Florida Infantry, Company A



Most likely he was not born here, he lived in Ware County Georgia during the 1850s. He was living in Clay County in 1860 with his parents Richard Hiram Bennett and Rebecca Boatwright Bennett. Enlisted 3 Sep 1861, during April 1862 he is on furlough out sick. Sept 1863 his name is on the roll for the hospital at Guyton Georgia, a PVT in Co B, 1st Regiment Florida. Buried the next day in Laurel Grove Cemetery Lot #850 Grave #4. The Savannah board of health minute books and grave diggers notes say he died of gastritis fever and wrote "warning" next to his name. There were 25 burials that month in Laurel Grove. Fifteen were civilians, typhoid was going around.

CHARLES S FLEMING Age 24 KIA

Killed in Action 3 JUN 1864: One of 7,000 killed at "Wilderness" Cold Harbor, VA.
Captain, Confederate States Army, Second Florida Infantry, Co. H
(St. Augustine Rifle - Jacksonville)



Charles Seton Fleming is a member of the legendary Fleming Family. Hibernia Fleming Plantation (Fleming Island) Mother: Margaret; Father: Lewis. Born at Panama Mills 9 Feb 1839; a childhood survivor of the Florida Indian Wars. Educated in Jefferson Co. and worked in Chicago; returning to Florida in 1857. He wanted to attend the U.S. Military Academy but instead enrolled in Kings Mountain Military School at Yorkville, S.C. After one year he returned to Florida where he served as a purser on the Steamer St. Mary's from 1859-1860. He then studied law at his brother Louis's office in Jacksonville. Joined the Jacksonville militia company on 9 May 1861; promoted Adjutant in October 1861. Severely wounded 5 May 1862 while retrieving Col Ward's body from the battlefield at Williamsburg, VA. He remained at the local Baptist Church Hospital and was captured. Exchanged at Aiken's Landing. VA Aug 1862/ Appointed Captain of Company G, 2nd Florida Infantry 8 Oct 1862; commanded the 2nd Florida Infantry at Gettysburg.



His final letter to his wife dated 23 May 1864, he ominously wrote: *"I hope that God will continue to protect me as He has heretofore done; but if it is His will that I be killed, we must bow to it. He does everything for the best."*

On 3 Jun 1864, he was one of 7,000 killed at "Wilderness" Cold Harbor, VA. He was mortally wounded during the charge and was shot down about thirty yards from the US lines. His body was found two days later by some Alabama soldiers and was buried on the field at McGehee farm, later moved to Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond and buried near Adjutant Reid. He was described as "strikingly handsome with a fair and ruddy complexion, brown hair and clear, bluish- gray eye."

SAMUEL GREEN Age 23 or 24 KIA

Killed in Action 18 JUN 1864 Wounded 3 Jun at "Wilderness" Cold Harbor, VA
Private, Confederate States Army, 2nd Battalion Florida Infantry, Company B



Date of birth unknown. Son of Samuel and Eliza Green, this Green family is known to have moved from Georgia to the Black Creek area prior to the 1850 census; he's 13 at census time. Also listed on the 1850 census an Isaac Green, age 40, perhaps his uncle. The 1860 census show an Isaac Green age 76, Benjamin Green age 45, and W.T Green age 33. He was a free white male who first enlisted on 15 August 1861 into the 10th Florida Infantry - to our knowledge at Fernandina. He mustered in Co. A during Sept of the same year at Fernandina and later transferred to Co G. It gets somewhat sketchy after that. Records indicate he was at Camp Finnegan (west Jacksonville) August 1863, sick on furlough until September. Then we know him to be at Wilderness, Cold Harbor, VA on 3 June 1864. From there he's reported as sick/wounded at the Winder Hospital in Richmond Virginia (Camp Jackson) due to a gunshot wound to the eye; 18 June he dies from his injuries.

Note: There is some confusion for the 2nd and 10th muster rolls - he's listed on both. Further research shows the 2nd Florida, the 10th Florida, and the 11th Florida were merged 8 June 1864.

ABRAM D ROBERTS Age 22 KIA

Killed in Action 20 JUN 1864: Heavy artillery bombardment near
Kennesaw Mountain, Atlanta, GA
Private, Confederate States Army, First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



Born 1843, Abram David Roberts was the son of William A.D. Roberts and Nancy Johnson. The family had come to Florida from Camden Co Georgia. The 1850 Duval County census shows the family was living in Black Creek district. Enlisted 17 Oct 1861 in Middleburg and was dismounted 13 May 1862, in effect became infantry. He left sick in Kentucky in late 1862 but returned in early 1863. Killed by heavy artillery bombardment near Kennesaw Mountain, Atlanta, GA. Burial unknown.

JOHN PEACOCK Age 37 - perhaps Former POW

Died 4 JUL 1864: at Fairgrounds #2 Hospital, Atlanta, Ga.
Private, Confederate States Army, First Florida Cavalry, Company C.



Born *cir* 1827. The Peacock's are known to be from Georgia. However, John, age 25 was living with the Broadnax family in the Black Creek District (Duval Co) in 1850. (Clay Hill census shows a Madison Peacock age 24, perhaps related. Enlisted 17 Oct 1861 in Middleburg; dismounted 13 May 1862, in effect became infantry. Sick 7 Sep 1862 and capture 8 Oct 1862 in Danville Ky. Paroled in early 1863 at the Alton, IL Military Prison and exchanged 1 Apr 1863 at City Point, VA. Perhaps he never fully recovered after the notorious harsh conditions at the Alton, IL Military Prison. Via the Historic Oakland Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia we have confirmed (Apr 2015) he is buried at Oakland Cemetery. Perhaps he died on 2 Jul 1864, personal effects sundries.

WILLIAM THOMAS Age unknown

Died from wounds 30 SEP 1864 Camp Winder Hospital in Richmond VA
Private, Confederate States Army, 2nd Florida Battalion, Company B.



A member of the pioneering Thomas family of Clay County, on the 1850 and 1860 census. His widow reported he enlisted in Mays Company (Lake City). Wounded in the thigh at the battle of Cold Harbor June 3 1864. Family reports, he was furloughed, on the way home, developed lockjaw as a result of the wound; he died on the train. Buried in Hollywood Cemetery

WWI - World War One

The War To End All Wars

1914-1918

USA (48 States) 1917-1918

EUROPE: Geo-Political war with Central

Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turks Bulgaria)



WWI Victory Medal

United States of America Stats:

Total Mobilized: 4,355,000 Total KIA: 116,516 Wounded: 204,002

POWs: 4,500 US involvement: 7.1% of all Forces

2 APR 1917: President Woodrow Wilson had asked a special joint session of Congress to address a Declaration of War.

6 APR 1917: Congress of these United States declared war upon the German Empire.

WHEREAS, The Imperial German Government has committed repeated acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America; therefore, be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government, which has thus been thrust upon the United States, is hereby formally declared; and that the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial German Government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

MOSES S KNIGHT Age 23

Died 25 SEP 1918: Lobar Pneumonia in France

Private, U.S. Army, Company L 807th Pioneer Infantry

Service # 4185617

Born in Hibernia on 4 Aug 1895. Single, Black Male. He was living in Green Cove Springs at the time of his induction. Aug 4, 1918. He served in the 61 Co 13 Training Battalion Brigade prior to going overseas. Upon his death, his Mother, Emma F Knight, of Hibernia was notified. We believe he is buried in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Fere-en-Tardenois, Departement de l'Aisne, Picardie, France.



JAMES EDWARD Age 16

Died 7 OCT 1918: Pneumonia in France 7 Oct 1918

Private, US Army Corps of Engineer Company D 546th Engineers

Service Battalion Service # 4185597

Born 7 Feb 1892 in Talatha, Aiken, South Carolina, he lived in Charleston South, prior to coming to Clay County. He was living in Green Cove Springs when he registered for the draft. Inducted at Green Cove Springs on 4 Aug 1918. A Black, Male, Divorced. He served overseas 26 Sept 1918, to death, he died in theater. Miss Elizabeth Howard (friend) in Green Cove Springs was notified. Apparently, the military considered her next of kin, so she was notified. Records indicate he is buried at Suresnes American Cemetery, des Hauts-de-Seine, Ille-de-Fance, France. His name is in the "Action or buried at sea" section on the Tablets of the Missing.



JAMES HESTER Age Unknown**Date of death not known. Unknown rank and branch of service**

Single, Black Male. His draft card, date 5 Jun 1917 lists him as a resident of Leno, (south of Green Cove) Clay County Florida. He was working at a turpentine camp. The Florida WWI Fatal Casualties List, created by the FI National Guard it appears lists him as being from GCS. The local draft board listing from National Archives (dated 4 Aug 1918) has him as from being from GCS.



We are rather confident he's a Clay County Fallen Warrior, however, we sure would like to find more information. Please Help. Call 904-449-4607.

BENJAMIN LEE* Age 24 KIA, VALOR

Killed in Action 28 OCT 1918: ENGLAND. Plane crash during a North Sea mission. Ensign, Navy Reserve Forces, Naval Aviation Pilot, Curtiss Sea Planes. Awarded Navy Cross, Posthumously.



Born in Philadelphia in 1895. By 1904 the family moved to Jacksonville, a local so to speak. His mother and stepfather, Mary Cook Justice Lee and Joshua Coffin Chase owned a beautiful home in Riverside. His stepfather was a wealthy fruit merchant and horticulturist. He wanted to be an Army or Navy aviator. The family wealth enabled him to pursue his flying dreams despite having rather poor eyesight. He started flight training in Miami, Florida on 1 May 1917. With twelve days of training, Ben passed all the tests to obtain an Aero Club license and a diploma from the Curtiss School. He was accepted into the Navy as an aviator, with a waiver because of his eyesight and being underweight. Finally, he was commissioned at Norfolk, VA. Assigned to U. S. Naval Air Station, Killingholme, England. He was dispatched for an important mission to escort and protect troop and cargo ships. After take-off his aircraft went into a slide and spin, crashing into the Humber River. In 1941 LEE AIR FIELD in Green Cove Springs was named in his honor.

* Today, we (HG) acknowledge him as an Honorary Clay County Resident. His name will not appear on the TAPS Fallen Warrior Monument.

**In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place;** and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short day ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

by John McCrae, May 1915



WWII: World War Two

1939-1945 Axis of Evil



U.S. Involvement

PACIFIC THEATER (1941-1945) to combat the Empire of Japan invasion of China, Burma, Philippines, U.S.A...



EUROPE / NORTH AFRICA THEATER (1942-1945) to combat - *democratic socialism* - German and Italian invasion of Poland, England, France...



WWII Victory Medal

USA Stats: Mobilized: 16,354,000, KIA/Deaths: 407,316, Wounded: 672,000

Average time for U.S. military serviceman served overseas: 16 months

World Stats: Served 1.9 billion, KIA/Deaths 72 million

8 DEC 1941 JOINT RESOLUTION Declaring that a state of war exists between the Imperial Government of Japan and the Government and the people of the United States and making provisions to prosecute the same.

Whereas the Imperial Government of Japan has committed unprovoked acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial Government of Japan which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and the President is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial Government of Japan; and, to bring the conflict to a successful termination, all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

Just a few day later 11 DEC 1941, due to a series of provocations these United States of America decide to not remain neutral in Europe. We declare war against the Nazi Germany and Italy.

JOHN J MASTERS JR Age 32 MIA, KIA VALOR

Missing In Action 18 JAN 1943: PACIFIC - South China Sea

Chief Motor Machinist Mate, US Navy, Motor Torpedo Boat

Squadron 4 and 5. Service # 2679387.

Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry.



Born in 1911, he's on the 1940 Jacksonville census. Even though his next of kin was listed as Duval Co, his parents lived in Clay County for many years and were still here at his time of death. Enlisted 31 Dec 1941. Missing at sea following the enemy attack on PT-120 at Douglas Harbor, New Guinea. Commemorated at the Honolulu Memorial Cemetery (Hawaii) "The Punchbowl."

AUSTIN W KELLY JR Age 21 MIA, KIA
Missing In Action 21 MAY 1943: PACIFIC - Solomon Islands.
 Ensign, U.S. Navy Reserve, Torpedo Squadron 27 (VT-27)
 USS Suwannee.



Home of record Westfield, NJ. Born in 1921, attended St Peter's College, NJ. Prior to going overseas he trained at Jacksonville, Florida, was commissioned and received his wings 22 Dec 1942. Assigned to the Southwest Pacific in early April 1943, VT-27 aboard the USS Suwannee in the Pacific area. He was killed when his TBF-Avenger crashed into the sea during glide bombing practice. He was one of four brothers in the U.S. Armed Forces. The casualty report shows "Dead, Plane Crash, Non-Battle Line of Duty." To our knowledge the aircraft nor his body were recovered. His wife, Helen Duggan Kelly was notified of his death. She lived at 315 Magnolia, Green Cove Springs while he was overseas. She was pregnant with twins, a boy, and girl at the time. On 7 Sep 1943, she delivered twins, a boy, and a girl. They were christened Austin West Kelly III and Helen Duggan Kelly.

LESLIE W PRINGLE: Age 20 MIA, KIA
Missing in Action: 23 AUG 1943 EUROPE, Escort duty, North Atlantic.
 Seaman 2nd Class, U S Navy, USS Ingraham DD-444. Service # 2687249.

Born 30 Dec 1921, Leslie Ward Pringle was the son of Lacey Ardel "Bud" Pringle and Bertha Mae Sikes of Green Cove Springs, Florida. They were off the coast of Nova Scotia, in heavy fog, sunk in a collision with USS Chemung AO-30. Depth charges on her stern exploded. He died when the ship sunk off the coast of Nova Scotia. They were on escort duty in route to the British Isles for the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign. Only 11 men survived the collision. Body not recovered, missing at sea, commemorated at the East Coast Memorial Battery Park, Manhattan, New York County, New York along with 4,609 others missing in the waters of the Atlantic.



"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks."

James Allen

AARON COLEMAN: Age 21 KIA
Killed In Action 15 JAN 1944: BURMA
 Tech 5th Class 45th Engineer General Services Regiment
 Service # 34052428.



He was born in Florida 26 Apr 1922. According to the 1940 census, he was living in Green Cove Springs with his brother Eddie Coleman. Aaron was a black male, with dependents who worked as a yard man for a private family and also as a farm hand. He enlisted at Camp Blanding 14 May 1941, recorded as Ht 66", Wt 145#. His body was recovered, first buried at the Kalaikunda Cemetery, India. Then reinterred 27 Jan 1949 to the Honolulu (Hawaii) Memorial Cemetery aka The Punchbowl: Plot B Row 0 Grave 998. His brother Eddie and his sister Daisy, remained in Green Cove Springs. To our knowledge, Eddie died in 2002. We recently (Sept 2017) established contact with other kin folks - hope to have more information soon.

The patriot's blood is the seed of Freedom's tree.

Thomas Campbell

Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.

THOMAS W RICH Age 19 MIA, KIA

Missing In Action 16 JAN 1944: EUROPE over Venice, Italy. Staff Sergeant, U S Army Air Corps 719th Bomber Squadron, 449th Group. Service # 14085929



Born in Georgia 22 Jun 1924, son of Patrick Tuner Rich and Mary Elizabeth Rich. His father worked at the local brickyard in Green Cove Springs. By 1930 his family was living in Clay County. Four years of high school, white male, single, without dependents. Skilled welder and flame cutter. Enlisted 14 Dec 1942 at Camp Blanding. A tail gunner on a B-24 "Liberator." The unit report indicates that his body was not recovered.

FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE

Author Unknown

JOHNNY A MARTON Age 23 KIA

Killed In Action 27 JAN 1944: ITALY Staff Sergeant U S Army Air Corps 95th Bombardment Squadron, 17th Group Service # 14082924



Born 21 Oct 1921 the son of Alexander and Julia Marton. Both his parents were Hungarian immigrants. Johnny and all his siblings were born in Connecticut. By 1930 the entire family was living and farming in Clay County. A high school graduate, white single male without dependents. Enlisted 13 Aug 1942 at Camp Blanding. Burial: Naples Allied Cemetery, Naples Italy, reinterred to St. Augustine National Cemetery 2 Mar 1949. Section D lot 122.

RAY L GEIGER, JR Age 22 KIA

Killed In Action 3 MAY 1944: ITALY Private, U S Army 135th Infantry Regiment, 34th Division Service # 1411836



Born in Green Cove Springs, 1922. Ray Leicester Geiger, Jr. was the son of Ray L. Geiger, Sr. and Bessie Geiger. His father and grandfather Allen Geiger ran a general store in Green Cove Springs. Two years of college, white, without dependents. Enlisted 16 Nov 1942 at Gainesville Florida. Civil Occupation: Semiskilled occupations in manufacture of electrical machinery and accessories. Casualty Nettuno, Provincia di Roma Lazio, Italy. Buried Sicily-Rome, American Cemetery, Nettuno, Italy Plot G Row 5 Grave 37.

FLOYD DANIELS, Age 22 KIA

Killed In Action 12 MAY 1944: ITALY Private, U.S. Army, 339th Infantry Regiment, 85th Division



Born in 1922, son of Eugene E. Daniels and Jane Daniels. His grandparents were Isaac Thomas Jefferson Daniels and Florida C. Varnes Daniels, two pioneer Clay County families. In 1940 Floyd worked at the local hosiery mill as a machine operator. A white, single, male. Enlisted at Camp Blanding 17 Nov 1942. Buried: Formia Provincia di Roma, Lazio, Italy. Reinterred - to St Augustine National Cemetery 7 Mar 1949 Sec E, Grave 29.

JAMES C STRICKLAND Age 31 KIA

Killed In Action 23 MAY 1944: NORTH AFRICA, Tunisia.
Private First Class, U.S. Army, Co. B, 6th Armored Infantry Regiment,
1st Armored Division. Service # 34536924



Born 10 Apr 1913, son of James Levi and Hettie Taylor Strickland. The Strickland's are a pioneer family of Clay County. He had six siblings. In 1940 he was working as a truck driver. He went by "Caleb". He had one year of high school, a white, citizen, with dependents, Ht 68" Wt 139#. Enlisted 21 Dec 1942 at Camp Blanding. Buried Long Branch Cemetery, Clay County, Florida. The Reverend J.L. Strickland ordered the stone in 1948.

**HAROLD PADGETT** Age 20 KIA

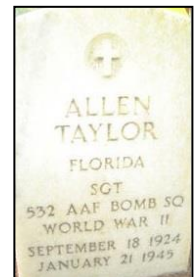
Killed In Action 30 JUL 1944: EUROPE - Percy, France.
Private First Class, U S Army, Co. F, 2nd Battalion, 175th infantry
Regiment, 29th Infantry Division. Service # 34543644



Born in the Highlands (Clay Hill), Clay County, Florida on 8 Dec 1923. He was the only son of Dawson and Ida Mosley Padgett. The Padgett and Mosley families are pioneers of Clay County. Many descendants are living in Clay County today. He attended one year of High School, single, white male. Ht 66" Wt 140#. Enlisted at Camp Blanding. Commemorated "Buried" Padgett Cemetery (Clay Hill), Middleburg, Florida.

ALLEN TAYLOR Age 19 KIA

Killed In Action 21 JAN 1945: EUROPE - Holland, Mid-air
collision (Battle of the Bulge). Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps,
532nd Bomb Squadron, 381st Bomb Group, 8th Air Corps.



Born 18 Sept 1924, son of Hiram and Cassie Taylor; they lived along the Middleburg-Doctors Lake Road. They were farmers, he had two siblings. Four years of high school, white, male, single, without dependents, Wt 116#. Enlisted 31 Dec 1943 at Camp Blanding. Buried, Black Pond Baptist Church Cemetery, Middleburg Florida. His father ordered his gravestone in 1948. He still has descendants living in Clay County, currently his great nephew Scotty Taylor gathering further information.

Where liberty dwells,
there is my country.

Doctor Benjamin Franklin

EDWARD LYTLE* Age 24 KIA**Killed In Action 2 MAR 1945:** ITALY

Private First Class, U.S. Army Co. B, 302 Infantry Regiment, 94th Division.



Born 27 Nov 1920, Son of Leslie L and Mae Underhill Lytle. Mae was a widow early on. She raised Edward, her only child, as a single mother. At different times, she lived with her family (1930s and 1940s) in Clay County. Edward "Bill" Lytle was listed as "Army". Mae was a welder, aka "Rosie the Riveter". He was a white, male, enlisted at Camp Blanding 27 Oct 1942. Initially buried in St. Avold Cemetery, France. Moved and reinterred to St. Augustine National Cemetery 21 Jan 1949 Sec D Grave 161.

*15 Mar 2016 : *"He was a true hero: Arrived in France Sept 1944... During that time his company B, 302 infantry of the 94th infantry division had taken over many cities in France running the Nazis out. He had crossed the Saar River before his death... Battle of the Bulge as it was called."* **Deborah Wilson, 2nd cousin, the family knew him as Bill --- William Edward Lytle.**

In war, there are no unwounded soldiers.

José Narosky

WILLIAM I PRIEST Age 19 KIA**Killed In Action 13 APR 1945:** EUROPE - Holland.Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company A, 23 Infantry Regiment, 2nd Division
Service # 34543515

Born 17 May 1924, son of Charley Russell Priest and Idell Cornelia Sapp; one of 6 children. Both the Priest's and the Sapp's were pioneer families of Clay County - farmers - in the Rivers Mill area. He was known as "Ira", a skilled Lumberman and Raftsman. He attended grammar school, white male, single without dependents. Enlisted 13 Feb 1943 at Camp Blanding. Body recovered, initially buried in Margraten Aachen, Limburg Provence, Holland. On 3 Aug 1949 reinterred to Arlington National Cemetery Sec: 34 Lot: 3064.

Lord, bid war's trumpet cease;
Fold the whole earth in peace.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.

Korean War 1950-1953:

Communist North Korea invaded South Korea



The U.S.A did NOT issue a Victory Medal

Total U.S. Casualties:

3,811 Killed In Action, 12,086 wounded in action.

Medal of Honor recipients: 8

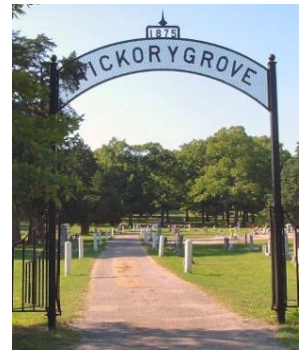
Cold War 1945-1989:

War Against COMMUNISM - Democratic Socialism

DOYLE B WALL Age 21 KIA

Killed In Action 18 AUG 1950: KOREA

Corporal, U.S. Army Corporal, assigned to the 5th Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Service #14238515



Doyle Belton Wall was born 7 Jun 1929, son of Rianza T & Ida Wall. The Wall's were Clay County pioneers. White, single, male. Enlisted 13 Dec 1943 at Camp Blanding. His body was recovered, burial at Hickory Grove Cemetery, Green Cove Springs. His father ordered his stone on 5 Jun 1951.

The headstone show him as a Sergeant, perhaps he was posthumously promoted, however the National Archive records show him as a Corporal.

JOSEPH T ROWAN Age 19 KIA

Killed In Action 4 NOV 1952: KOREA

Private First Class, US Army Co. G, 2nd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Division. Service # 14427888



Joseph Thomas Rowan was born 13 Oct 1933, son of Ernest A & Francis Rowan; named after his grandfather Joseph Rowan. During the 1930's they lived in Clay County with the Otis Mosely Family (a blood relative). During the 1940s the family resided in Jacksonville and Dallas, Texas; returning to the area in 1950. His home of record is Clay County, Florida. He enlisted 15 Oct 1951, white, male. A Light Weapons Assault Crewman who was Killed in Action while fighting the enemy in North Korea. His body was recovered - Joseph is buried at Peoria Cemetery, Doctors Lake, Clay County Florida. His father ordered his gravestone on 16 Feb 1953 to be delivered to Doctors Inlet.

“Bravery is being the only one who knows you’re afraid.”

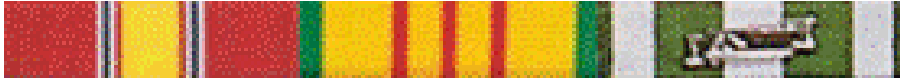
Colonel David Hackworth

Vietnam War 1957-1975:

USA 1959-1975: North Vietnam, supported by Communist (Soviet Union & China) Invades The Republic of Vietnam



Cold War 1945-1991: *Defending Human Freedom, On Duty To Combat COMMUNISM - Democratic Socialism*



AGAIN: *The U.S.A did NOT issue a Victory Medal*

"No event in American history is more misunderstood than the Vietnam War. It was misreported then, and it is misremembered now. Rarely have so many people been so wrong about so much. Never have the consequences of their misunderstanding been so tragic."

President Richard Nixon

2,709,918 Americans served in Vietnam - 9.7% of that generation.

7,484 were women (6,250 or 83.5% were nurses) serving in Vietnam.

543,482 (April 30, 1968) peak troop strength

Enlisted: 50,274; Warrants: 1,276; Officers: 6,598

CASUALTIES: Total: 58,315 Missing in Action: 2,338 POWs: 766 (114 died in captivity)

Total FLORIDA CASUALTIES 1,954; CLAY COUNTY 18

CLAUDE D WILSON JR Age 31 KIA

Killed In Action 14 DEC 1966: Flying over North Vietnam.

Hostile, shot down, died outright. Body Not Recovered.

Repatriated 15 Dec 1988 - returned to U.S. soil, Identified. On

the Wall: Panel E13, Line 46

Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy, Attack Squadron 72, USS ROOSEVELT (CVA 42), Unrestricted Line Officer (Pilot) Naval Aviator, A-4 SkyHawk.

Service #:553464123. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross 11 Nov 1966 for an independent run on an anti-aircraft battery; he destroyed the target with a direct hit.



Claude David Wilson, Jr. was born 14 Aug 1935, a native of Stockton, Oregon. He was previously stationed at Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Jacksonville, Florida, a resident of Orange Park. Clay County businessman, Jerry Agresti was on the same combat mission - he saw "Chuck's" A-4 SkyHawk go down in flames. *"It looked like a burning leaf falling from the sky...That'll stay in my mind for as long as I live."* Chuck was killed instantly - two weeks prior to his date to rotate home to his wife and three children in Orange Park, Clay County, Florida.

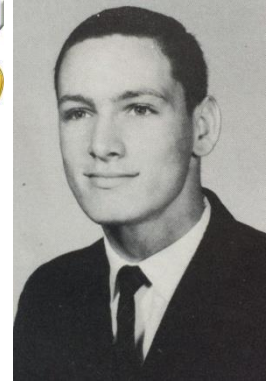
***Then join hand in hand, brave Americans all!
By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall.***

John Dickinson

RAY F WILLIAMS Age 20 KIA

Killed In Action 27 DEC 1966: Quang Tri Province, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, explosive device. On the Wall: Panel E13, Line 88. 2nd Lieutenant, U.S. Army B Co, 39th Engineering Battalion, 18th Engineering Brigade, 45th Engineering Group, Corps of Engineers. MOS 1331-Combat Engineer Unit Commander

Ray Francis Williams was born 7 Feb 1946, he grew up in Green Cove Springs and had family ties to Clay County. He played Little League Baseball in Green Cove Springs with John Bowles. Ray's family moved to Lake City sometime in 1963 or 1964. Married, tour started 10 Dec 1966; casualty 17 days in country. Body recovered buried Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens Lake City Columbia County Florida.

**HERMAN L GURR** Age 23 KIA

Killed In Action 15 JAN 1967: Phong Dinh Province, Republic South Vietnam. Helicopter Aircrew, aircraft mishap, Non-Hostile casualty. On the Wall: Panel W14, Line 34. Specialist Sixth Class, U.S. Army, 147th Assault Support Helicopter Company, 222nd Combat Support Aviation Battalion, 12th Aviation Group, 1st Aviation Brigade. MOS 67U20 Multi-Engine Tandem-Rotor Helicopter Mechanic. Service # 14699898.

Herman "Leroy" Gurr was born 9 Jan 1944, son of Julian Moses Gurr (WWII Navy Veteran) and Henrietta Gurr. By at least 1952 the Gurr family was living in Clay County. In 1970, Leroy's brother Patrick Gurr was killed in a water-skiing accident in Clay County. Patrick was also a Vietnam veteran, having served in the Army. Other siblings: Pamela Sue Gurr, Linda Lee Gurr, and Randall Paul Gurr. John Bowles said they were in Boy Scouts together. Leroy was married at the time of his death. His tour in country started 8 Mar 1966, his body was recovered, "Leroy" is buried at Arlington National Cemetery Section 12 Site 4833. Today, his son Terrance lives in Jacksonville, he says *"I know he lettered in something in high school, but have never been able to find out what. He was in the Photography Club, in high school..."*

**PAUL L CARTER** Age 19 KIA

Killed In Action 2 MAR 1967: Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, small arms fire. On the Wall: Panel 16E, Line 1. Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, I Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. Service # 2273435, MOS 0311 Rifleman

Paul Lamar Carter was born 19 Nov 1947, home of record is Maxville, Florida. He grew up in Clay Hill area. Body recovered, buried at Long Branch Cemetery, Clay County, Florida.



Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.

"What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight – it's the size of the fight in the dog." President Dwight D. Eisenhower

DAVID B TUCKER Age 28 KIA

Killed In Action 1 OCT 1967: Province not reported, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, helicopter shot down (non-aircrew) died out right.
On the Wall: Panel E27, Line 38. Major, U.S. Army, E Company, 52nd Infantry Long Range Patrol , 1st Cavalry Division Service # O5310699.



David Bruce Tucker was born 15 Feb 1939, son of Major General R.H. Tucker who was the Citadel Commandant and a WWII Army 82nd Infantry Veteran. His wife Gwynne and two daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth were living in Clay County at the time of his death. Tour started 6 Feb 1967. Body recovered, he's buried near his father at Beaufort National Cemetery Beaufort, South Carolina Plot: Sec 16 Site 62.

DOUGLAS A LENTZ Age 18 KIA

Killed In Action 29 FEB 1968: Quang Tri Province (near DMZ) Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, small arms fire. On the Wall: Panel E42, Line 07
Private First Class, United States Marine Corps, M Co, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines Regiment, 1st Marine Division. Service # 2366663 MOS 0311 Rifleman



Douglas Alan Lentz was born 6 May 1949, son of Monte Gaylord Watson Lentz and Margaret Fern Voise Lentz. The family was originally from Montana, then moved to Orange Park, FL. He married Candice Laureen O'Neil on 11 Sep 1967, he was 18; she was 17 - with child. His tour in country started 20 Oct 1967. According to Brian (Snooks) Strasser (his squad leader) Liberty Township, Ohio - just days before he was killed Douglas received a photo of his newborn son - proudly showing him off. *"Shortly before sunset Doug stood up in his foxhole to stretch your legs. A single shot rang out - killed instantly by a NVA sniper's bullet."* His body was recovered, interment 13 Mar 1968 at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, Section 51 Site 2407. Candice O'Neil Lentz died 21 Jun 2001.

No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks. James Allen

JAMES G BLACKSHEAR Age 19 KIA

Killed In Action 17 MAR 1968: Kontum Province, Republic South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, small arms fire.
On the Wall: Panel W45, Line 8 . Specialist 4, U.S. Army, A Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne. MOS 11B2P: Infantryman



James Guy Blackshear was born in Gainesville 7 Sept 1948. Home of record is Bradford County (Starke) however, his family lived at Kingsley Lake, Clay County. He's remembered by some as being a lifeguard at Strickland's Landing (Kingsley Lake). His tour in country started 15 Aug 1967. Parents Mr. and Mrs. James M Blackshear and brother Tommy were presented his Silver Star for exceptional gallantry. While serving as squad leader he personally led the maneuver element to destroy the enemy bunker with hand grenades and even though he was seriously wounded he continued to give covering fire for his squad until he was killed. His body recovered, "Jimmy" is buried at Kingsley Lake Cemetery, Clay County, Florida.

LARRY B JENKINS Age 20 KIA

Killed In Action 9 APR 1968: Binh Duong Province, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, burns. On the Wall: Panel W49, Line 2. Private First Class, U.S. Army, 526th Collection, Classification, and Salvage Company, 5th Maintenance Battalion, 593rd General Support Group, 1st Logistics Command, Army Support Command.



Larry Barney Jenkins was born on July 17, 1947, son of Barney Jenkins (1917 - 1999) Lula Bell Jenkins (1920 - 1984). The family lived in Middleburg Florida. Drafted, his tour in country started 10 Dec 1967. Body recovered, Larry is buried at Fowler Cemetery, Middleburg, Clay County, Florida. Survived by son Darryl, and sisters, Betty Battle and _____.

WAYNE C KURLIN Age 18 KIA

Killed In Action 5 MAY 1968: Quang Nam Province, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, explosive. On the Wall: Panel E55, Line 20 Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, G Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Marines Regiment, 1st Marine Division Service # 2334141, MOS 0311 Rifleman



Wayne Carlton Kurlin was born 28 Nov 1949, son of Doyle Carlton Kurlin, Sr. thought to be (not sure) the father. Perhaps a sibling - Doyle C Kurlin, Jr. (living in Jax area). Tour Date 16 Feb 1968. Body recovered, buried at Jacksonville Memory Gardens, Orange Park, Clay, Florida.

MICHAEL B KOPETSKI Age 19

Died of Malaria (Blackwater Fever*) 20 JUN 1968: Quang Tri Province, Republic of South Vietnam. Non-Hostile casualty. On the Wall: Panel W55, Line 7 Corporal, U S Marine Corps, G Battery, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division Service #:2221374 MOS 0341 Mortarman



Michael Benjamin Kopetski was born 1 Mar 1949**, son of Benjamin and Jeanette Kopetski of Rockland, Massachusetts, and Orange Park Florida. His father died in 1997. Michael Kopetski's mother, Jeanette resides in Elkton, Florida and sister Bunny Rogers married to David Rogers, all of Atlanta, GA. His tour started 11 Nov 1967. His body was recovered, buried Jacksonville Memory Gardens Orange Park, Clay County, Florida.

* 5 Sept 2015, his fiancée, Jeri S. Waugh-Chesser informed us that he died of Blackwater Fever is a result of chronic cases of malaria. The red blood cells burst in the bloodstream, that leads to kidney failure. First detected in 1884, most cases are in Africa and Southeast Asia. It is known to appear after at least four attacks of malaria within a range of six months.

* 20 June 2017, his fiancée, Jeri S. Waugh-Chesser informed us that he was born on 3 March 1949.

REMINDER: The goal of the - JANUARY 2017 - **CHARLIE (3rd) EDITION** was to publish our findings and discoveries from a more than yearlong study. This Delta, 4th edition is more inclusive. **DISCLAIMER:** This e-book is designed for the above purpose. We do not intend to have mistakes. You will notice the writing style varies from bulleted facts to a narrative - so be it. The goal here is to cover the facts - we are simply publishing this PDF while we continue to seek more information. **This is NOT a polished product! This a Tool. A polished edition comes later!**

PAUL J CUMMINGS JR Age 19 KIA

Killed In Action 13 OCT 1968: Bien Hoa Province, Republic South Vietnam.
Vehicle mishap, Non-Hostile casualty.

On the Wall: Panel W41, Line 57

Specialist 4th Class U.S. Army, 4512th Quartermaster Company, 64th Quartermaster Battalion, 1st Logistical Command.

MOS 76W20: Petroleum Supply Specialist.



Paul Joseph Cummings, Jr. was born 5 May 1949, son of was Paul Joseph Cummings, Sr. (1922-1963). Home of record, Doctors Inlet, Florida. Tour in country started 13 Oct 1967. Body recovered, buried at Jacksonville Memory Gardens Orange Park, Clay County, Florida. Since then his brother Matthew J. Cummings (1961-1979) has been buried alongside him.

NOTE: We are looking a photo of Paul. To our knowledge he attended Orange Park High School, if you are able to help - please call 904-449-4607.

ARTHUR J ROSS JR Age 22

Died In Action 4 NOV 1968: Province not reported, Republic of South Vietnam.
Non-Hostile, died of a Stroke (Cerebrovascular Accident).

On the Wall: Panel 39W, Line 18.

Specialist Fourth Class, U S Army B Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 198th Infantry Brigade. Service #11758528. MOS 11B20 Light Weapons Infantry.

Arthur James Ross, Jr was born 19 Oct 1946, son of Arthur J Ross, Sr, and Selma Ross. His siblings: Carrie, Joyce, Evelyn, Linda, Albert, Lawrence, David, Charlie, and Carl. The family has resided in Green Cove Springs since 1945. He attended Dunbar High School. Single, tour started 5 Dec 1967. Body recovered, burial unknown.



***“No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless
he be vigilant in its preservation.”***

General Douglas MacArthur

GARY R COOPER Age 21 KIA

Killed In Action 8 NOV 1968: Quang Ngai Province, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, small arms fire.

On the Wall: Panel W39, Line 36. Corporal, U.S. Army, A Company, 3rd Platoon, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, 11th Light Infantry Brigade, 23rd Division. Service # 53703769. MOS 11B10 Light Weapons Infantry.



Gary Ray Cooper was born in Indiana 23 Jul 1947, son of Kenneth Dee Cooper (1922 - 1993) Joanna May Coplen Cooper (1923 - 2013). He had two siblings: Larry Frank Cooper (1941-2005) and a sister who died at age 7 in 1951, Marianne Kay Cooper. He grew up in Keystone Heights. Tour in country started 6 May 1968. Bronze Star, posthumously promoted. Body recovered - "Coop" is buried at Keystone Heights Cemetery, Clay County, Florida. The football field at Keystone Heights High School is named in his honor.

QUINCY H TRUETT Age 36 KIA VALOR

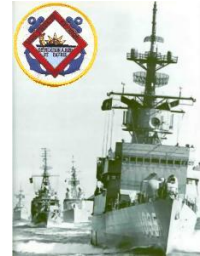
Killed In Action 20 JAN 1969: Kinh Dong Tien Canal, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, River Boat casualty (mortar/artillery). On the Wall: Panel W34, Line 46.

Chief Boatswain's Mate, US Navy, River Division 551, River Patrol Flotilla FIVE, Task Force 116 (TF-116), 7th Fleet. Posthumous awarded Navy Cross for incredible courage and extraordinary heroism.



Quincy "Cotton" Hightower Truett was born 3 Apr 1932, son of Quincy Truett and Fleeder Hampton, both of Georgia. Quincy lived in Clay County about 1958, perhaps earlier. He is survived by his wife, six children along with numerous other relatives and friends. Nicknamed "Cotton" because by the age of 30 his hair had turned white. Body recovered, Cotton is buried at Hickory Grove Cemetery, Green Cove Springs, Clay County, Florida.

On 3 Feb 1973, his wife Geri Truett attended the commissioning of the USS Truett (DE-1095) a Knox Class Destroyer Escort named in his honor. She christened the ship saying he believed ---- *"That's where the war is; that's where I belong."*



The USS Truett christening bottle is on display at the Military Museum of North Florida.

MICHAEL G HOFF SR Age 33 MIA, POW, KIA

Shot Down 7 Jan 1970: Reconnaissance over Laos, aircraft fire, bail-out. Laos did not report him as a Prisoner. Missing In Action until 16 Nov 1978 - KIA- age 42. He's on the Wall: Panel W14, Line 8.

Commander, U.S. Navy, Attack Squadron 86, Carrier Air Wing 15, 7th Fleet, Pilot A-7A Vought Corsair II, USS Coral Sea CVA-43



Michael George Hoff, Sr. was born 11 Sep 1936, son of Michael G. Hoff, III and Joan Pidcock Hoff Colwell of Baker, Oregon. Prior to deployment, he was stationed at NAS Cecil Field. His wife, Mary Hoff, and children Charlie, Suzanne, and Michael Jr. were living in Orange Park when he became MIA; they attended St. Catherine's Catholic Church on Kingsley Ave. In 1971, Mary, a member of the National League of Families, recognized the need for a symbol of our POW/MIAs -(see Special Tribute for more information).

**RALPH N BRIGHT** Age 22 KIA

Killed In Action 21 APR 1970: Binh Dinh Province, Republic South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, explosive. On the Wall: Panel W11, Line 30. Corporal, U S Army, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade. MOS 11B2P: Infantryman



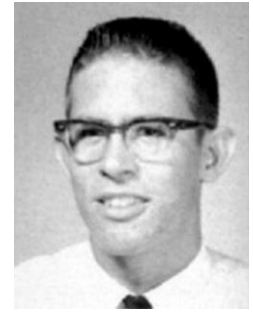
Ralph North Bright was born 21 Apr 1948, son of Harold R Bright and Caroline Agnes Chadwick of Doctors Inlet, Clay County, Florida. Ralph was married with a child when he was killed. Ralph had two siblings John Chadwick and Kimberly Dawn Bright. Tour in country stated 28 Feb 1970, Posthumous promotion to Corporal. KIA on his 22nd birthday. Buried in Peoria Cemetery, Doctors Inlet, Clay County, Florida.

Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.

DON R SCOTT Age 22 KIA

Killed In Action 22 APR 1970: Quang Nam Province, Republic of South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, explosive device.

On the Wall: Panel W11, Line 38. Hospital Corpsman Petty Officer Third Class, U.S. Navy, assigned to Marine H&S Company M, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein) Fleet Marine Forces.



Don Russell Scott was born Great Lakes, Illinois on 14 Jun 1947, son of Burton E. and Geraldine Biggs Scott. Married, wife Carol Ann, and daughter Nancy Elizabeth Scott of Green Cove Spring. John Bowles described him as "very studious" in high school and the kind of person who would put his own life in jeopardy to help another. Enlisted 22 Aug 1968 in Jacksonville Florida. His tour in country started 28 Nov 1969. "Doc" had been wounded, while he was waiting for medivac when a booby trap was tripped. The explosion caused his death, body recovered. Don is buried at Hickory Grove Cemetery, Green Cove Springs, Clay County, Florida. Plot: Section D, Lot 11, Grave 3. Both of his parents passed away in Clay County - father in 2007 and mother in 2012.



Don's father was a career Navy man who was captured by the Japanese. He was a POW from 1942 to 1945 at the Fukuoka POW Camp #1, Kashii, Kyushu Island (WWII - Southwest Pacific Theater: Philippine Islands).

"My heroes are those who risk their lives every day to protect our world and make it a better place - police, firefighters and members of our armed forces." Sidney Sheldon

OTIS PARKER Age 27 KIA VALOR

Killed In Action 18 JUL 1970: Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam. Hostile, died outright, ground casualty, small arms fire. On the Wall: Panel W08, Line 30 Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, Airborne Ranger, Special Forces, "Green Berets" Unit A-503, Detachment B-55, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces. MOS 11F -Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist Awards: Bronze star medal & 3 Oak Leaf Clusters. Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry in action. Posthumous decoration - Army Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism.



Otis "Bucky" Parker was born 4 Nov 1940 son of Otis Parker and Mary Keen Otis. Married, his wife Lucia M. Parker and daughter Susan were living in Fayetteville, NC at the time of his death. Home of record Green Cove Springs, Florida. Body recovered, buried at Hickory Grove Cemetery, Green Cove Springs, Florida.

NOTE: During the Vietnam War, members of his unit earned 16 Medals of Honor - the most prominently decorated unit - for its size in that era. The unit continued intelligence operations in Southeast Asia until the 29 Apr 1975 collapse of the South Vietnamese government. Many know of them because the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) was featured in the movie "The Green Berets", starring John Wayne, released on 4 Jul 1968.

"American soldiers in battle don't fight for what some president says on T.V., they don't fight for mom, apple pie, the American flag...they fight for one another."

Lt. Col. Hal Moore

Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.

War of Radical Islamic Terror

1801-1805

GLOBAL 1979 - _____

DEFENDING HUMAN FREEDOM



PERSIAN GULF WAR 1990-1991: *Operation Desert Storm* - Liberating Kuwait from the government of Saddam Hussein.



AFGHANISTAN 2001 - present: *Operation Enduring FREEDOM* - A Radical Islamic terrorist group, al-Qaeda attacks these United States of America.



IRAQ 2003 - 2011, 2014 - present: *Operation Iraqi Freedom* - Topple the government of Saddam Hussein; locate and destroy their widespread arsenal - *Weapons of Mass Destruction*.



FREE THE REGION OF RADICAL ISLAMIC TERROR.

Militant - RADICAL - Islamic Muslims have been waging "Holy Wars" (jihad) since 1095. These United States of America have been dealing with the militant elements of Islam (Radical Islam) since the founding of our nation. Pirates from the North Africa Muslim Barbary States were capturing American merchant ships -- holding the crews for ransom -- then demanding the U.S. pay tribute to the Barbary rulers. By 1801 President Thomas Jefferson refused to pay them. Defending human freedom the First Barbary War was from 1801 to 1805. A partial listing of recent - JIHAD - is as follows.

- 5 JUN 1968: U.S. presidential candidate Robert Kennedy murdered by Palestinian Sirhan Sirhan, Islamic terrorist.
- 11 FEB 1969 - Boeing 707 attacked at Zurich, Switzerland, killing the pilot and 3 passengers.
- 5 SEP 1972 - Palestinian terrorists seize 11 athletes at Olympic Village -Munich, Germany. 9 hostages and 5 terrorists killed, plus David Berger from Cleveland.
- 1973 - 1998 - Terrorist attacks, bombing, and aircraft hijacking, are commonplace in the news
- 4 NOV 1979 - Terrorists seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, taking 66 American diplomats hostage. Later 13 were freed, the remaining 53 were held 444 days until their release on January 20, 1981, the day of President Ronald Reagan's inauguration.
- 30 APR 1980 - Terrorists took over the Iranian Embassy in London, holding 26 hostages, 2 of whom died on May 5th after being tortured. Much of the embassy was destroyed by fire.
- 1982 Beginning of the 8 years of terrorism in Lebanon.
- 23 OCT 1983 - Two suicide truck bombs in Lebanon: 1st crashed into the US Marine Corps Headquarters, 241 Marines dead, 82 seriously injured, the other at the French compounds killing 58 paratroopers.
- 21 DEC 1988 - Pan Am Flight 103 - Boeing 747 from London to New York, blown up over Lockerbie, Scotland, by a bomb. All 259 passengers and 11 on the ground were killed, including 35 Syracuse University students and many U.S. military personnel.
- During the 1990 - Numerous terrorist encounters at the World Trade Center in New York City

11 SEP 2001: TERRORIST ATTACK THE U.S.A. Four U.S. commercial jetliners are hijacked, two are flown into the World Trade Center; one flown into the Pentagon and one - on the way to the Capital Building or Whitehouse in Washington D.C. crashes in Pennsylvania. All, 266 people on the four planes die. 2,602 people were killed on the ground, plus 343 firefighters, and 184 people at the Pentagon. Nearly 5,000 injured, Seven buildings collapsed in New York City. Other damages include 23 other buildings and 4 subway stations.

M SCOTT SPEICHER Age 33 MIA, POW, KIA**Missing In Action: 17 JAN 1991 - PERSIAN GULF**

First casualty in Operation Desert Storm. Al Anbar Governorate, Iraq, Air Loss, Crash - Land. Mar 2009 remains site was located. Repatriated 2 Aug 2009. Captain, F/A-18 Hornet Pilot - call sign "SPIKE" - assigned fixed wing Fighter Attack Squadron VFA-81 "Sunliners" on board the U.S.S. Saratoga (CV-60). Promoted twice after his disappearance, first to Commander and then to Captain. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross.



Michael Scott Speicher was born 12 Jul 1957 in Kansas City, Missouri, when he was 15 the family moved to Jacksonville, Florida. He's an alumni of Nathan Bedford Forrest High School and Florida State University. He married his college sweetheart, Joanne. Scott's family, wife, Daughter - Meghan (3), and Son - Michael (1) were residents of Orange Park at the time he was MIA. During the mid-1990s aircraft wreckage was located. In 2009 an Iraqi man led US Marines to Scott's burial site. His remains were positively identified in August 2009. Buried at the Jacksonville Memory Gardens, Orange Park, Clay County, Florida.



"Our Navy will never give up looking for a shipmate, regardless of how long or how difficult that search may be," Admiral Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations.

Scott's father was a World War II fighter pilot. Scott had his first airplane flight at the age of five; as a teenager, he was a cadet in the Civil Air Patrol. After graduation from FSU, he joined the Navy's Aviation Officer Candidate School at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida; followed by flight training to become a Naval Aviator. He started off flying the A-7 Corsair II and later the new F/A-18 Hornet.

*Better than honor and glory, and History's iron pen,
Was the thought of duty done and the love of his fellow-men.*

Richard Watson Gilder

BRADLEY S CROSE Age 23 KIA VALOR**Killed In Action: 4 Mar 2002 AFGHANISTAN, Shahikot mountain area.**

He was a passenger on an MH-47 Chinook helicopter that was hit by enemy fire. Hostile, died outright. He was one of 7 killed on the mission. The Battle of Takur Ghar 4-5 Mar 2002 was a Coalition Victory. Sergeant, U.S. Army 1st Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. The first Rangers to deploy after 9/11.



Bradley S Crose was born 4 Aug 1979 at the Naval Hospital in Orlando into a Navy family and tradition. Son of Rick Crose and Sheila Maguhn; sister Hannah, brother Aaron, and stepmother Diana. He graduated from Orange Park High School in 1998 and two weeks later he joined the Army. A Tae Kwon Do black belt and medalist, a Gator fan, and reader of classical literature. Burial: Jacksonville Memory Gardens Orange Park, Clay County, Florida.

ARMY RANGERS MISSION: Plan and conduct special military operations such as raids and reconnaissance, recovery of people and equipment and seizing airfields in strategic combat. Airborne Rangers, an elite group, are capable of arriving into battle by land, sea and air.

"The patriot's blood is the seed of freedom's tree."

Thomas Campbell

JOHNATHAN N HARTMAN Age 27 KIA

Killed In Action 17 APR 2004: IRAQ, Dwaniyan. Tank convoy ambush, hostile, died outright. Sergeant U.S. Army 2nd Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, M1 Armor Crewman.



Jonathan Nicholas Hartman was born in Portsmouth City Virginia on 24 Nov 1976, son of Judy Hartman. In 1996, he moved to Orange Park with his mother; enlisted in October 1999. We have reason to believe he may have been engaged to be married. Family and friends remember him to be a young redhead who liked to sing and play his guitar. He loved to read, to help promote reading a *Take Stock in Children* memorial fund has been established in his honor. The day before he was killed he talked with his mother to say - just been extended for 90 days. Body recovered, buried next to his uncle at his Mother's hometown, Miami Cemetery, Waynesville, Ohio.

IAN D MANUAL Age 23 KIA

Killed In Action 8 JAN 2004: Fallujah, Iraq, shot down during a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter Medevac mission. Hostile died outright. Chief Warrant Officer 2, U.S. Army, 571st Medical Company (Air Ambulance) UH-60 pilot



Ian Desmond Manuel was born in Honolulu, 1 Nov 1980, son of Brice Manuel and Tita Derrow. Son of a Navy man and grandson of a World War II pilot (also buried at Arlington). Ian moved to Green Cove Springs with his mother. A 1998 Clay High School graduate, worked at the Magnolia Point golf course and then at a mortgage bank. "Ian was what we affectionately refer to as a gym rat," said Clay Principal Pete McCabe. He told his friends he joined the Army because he wanted to make a difference. He was one of nine soldiers killed during the mission. He was engaged to marry Jill Payton who was also serving in Iraq; they were planning a small and simple wedding upon return. Body recovered, buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. Section 60 Site 7968.

KEVIN J ELLENBURG Age 20 KIA

Killed In Action: 1 Nov 2006 Baghdad, Iraq, improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near his Bradley Fighting Vehicle. Hostile, died outright, small arms casualty. Private First Class, U S Army, Company B, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized).



Kevin J. Ellenburg was born 14 Nov 1985, son of a Navy veteran. They lived in Clay County prior to moving to Pensacola. After high school, and after he - came of age - he moved back to Middleburg to live with his older brother. He was a gifted athlete, with a desire to be a sports trainer. He enlisted in September 2005. While in country, he longed to be back in Florida with his brother. His family expected him to be home in December. He planned to re-enlist after his tour was complete. His body was recovered, Kevin is buried at Southern Heritage Cemetery, Pelham, Shelby County, Alabama.

**It is easy to take liberty for granted,
when you have never had it taken from you.**

Author unknown, sometimes attributed to M. Grundler

LAQUITA P JAMES Age 33

Died In Action 12 FEB 2007: Apparent natural causes, while in theater, Indian Ocean off the coast of Somalia. Petty Officer 2nd Class, U.S. Navy, Master At Arms, USS Bataan (LHD 5) Amphibious Ready Group, 5th Fleet.



LaQuita Pate James was born 17 Jun 1973, daughter of Cecil Pate. 1991 graduated from Ribault Sr. High School who became a resident of Orange Park. She enlisted in 2003. She is survived by her pride and joys - two sons, Stephen & Di'Jimon along with numerous other family and friends. Member of Truth for Living Ministries of Jacksonville. Burial: Edgewood Cemetery Jacksonville, Florida.

DONALD E VALENTINE III Age 21 KIA

Killed In Action 18 SEP 2007: Muqadiyah, Iraq, Improvised Explosive Device (IED) detonated near their unit. Hostile died outright. Corporal, U.S. Army, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division.



Donald Eugene Valentine III was born 5 Mar 1986 in Houston, Texas, son of Donald II. and Anna Valentine of Orange Park. His military family moved around a lot. He lived in Florida most of his life but spent a lot of time growing up with his Houston, Texas grandparents. He enlisted 2004 - because of 9/11 - months after graduating from Robert E. Lee High School. He was in country about a year, scheduled be home in November. He is survived by his wife Lucia Valentine, parents, grandparents, numerous other relatives, and friends. He wanted to be buried in Houston; body recovered, buried near his birthplace at the Houston National Cemetery, Texas. Plot: Sec S1 Site 2592.

***"The brave die never, though they sleep in dust:
Their courage nerves a thousand living men."***

Minot J. Savage

QUINCY J GREEN Age 26

Died In Action 2 Jun 2008: Tikrit, Iraq, non-combat injuries, wounds caused by small-arms fire * Specialist, U.S. Army 601st Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.



Quincy Jermel Green was born 13 Apr 1982, son of Jimmie L. Green, Sr., a retired Navy veteran and Mary Ann Jasper. An NJROTC student and the football team's mascot, "Raider Man". A 2001 Orange Park High School graduate. Prior to enlisting he worked at the Texas Prison system in Huntsville, Texas. He enlisted May 2003, this was his first deployment to the region. While in Iraq he was a Chaplain's Assistant. He is survived by his wife, Lori M. Green and two girls, 2 and 8 months; they live in Arizona. Memorialized by Cremation. Capt. John Fitzpatrick, an NJROTC officer, recalls his enthusiastic and optimistic.

* Incident was under investigation, officials say the small arms fire was not combat related. His father, Jimmie Green, said his son died from sniper fire.

Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.

JOHN E HAYES Age 36 KIA

Killed In Action: 8 Jul 2009 Helmand Province, Afghanistan during his 4th tour in the region. Hostile, died outright, improvised explosive device (IED) casualty. Master Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps, Company Gunny - Alpha Company, 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force. Motto "Swift, Silent, Deadly"



John Eric Hayes was born 22 Mar 1973, son of Frank Hayes of Middleburg. He was a member of the JROTC at Middleburg High School 1991 grad; enlisted a month after graduation. He met his wife Shannon Irene Hall in high school; they have three children - two daughters and a son. He was previously deployed to Kuwait in 1991; Kosovo and Albania in 1998; Iraq in 2003 and 2007. On 8 Jul 2012, he was returning from a patrol when his Humvee tripped an improvised explosive device killing him instantly. John is buried at Arlington National Cemetery Section 60 Site 8849. The Main Street park in Middleburg at the Black Creek boat ramp is named in his honor.

JAMES B LACKEY Age 45 KIA

Killed In Action: 9 Apr 2010 Qalat, Zabul Province, Afghanistan. CV-22 Aircraft mishap, non-hostile, died outright. Senior Master Sergeant, U S Air Force, CV-22 Osprey, 8th Special Operations Squadron. A former A-10 and F-15 crew chief, MH-53 flight engineer. 2002: Distinguished Flying Cross acts of heroism in combat during Operation Enduring Freedom.



James Bertrand Lackey was born 3 Dec 1964, son of James and Kathleen Jones Lackey. Hometown Vincennes, IN, home of record Green Cove Springs, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Cassie; and sons, Brandon, Alex, and Nick. His mother, sister, Dorinda, uncles, Ralph (Betty) Jones, Harold (Sharon) Jones, and cousins, Ralph (Leann) Jones reside in Green Cove Springs. He joined the Air Force in 1986. Body recovered, buried at the Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia Sec 60 Site 9079.

DICK A LEE JR Age 31 KIA

Killed In Action 26 Apr 2012: His working dog Fibi also KIA. Ghazni province, Afghanistan. Hostile, improvised explosive device (IED) casualty. Staff Sergeant, U S Army, 95th Military Police Battalion, 18th Military Police (K-9 Handler) He was on his 4th tour in the region.



Dick Alson Lee, Jr. was born 23 Jul 1980, son of Brenda Carroll of Lake Asbury and Dick Lee Sr., of Newcastle, Oklahoma. He leaves behind his wife Katherine, sons Joshua 2 and David 4, his mother and her husband Larry Carroll, father, sister Army Specialist Vanessa Compton, and brother Michael Carroll. Keystone Heights Coach Chuck Dickinson said he was an outstanding linebacker - reliable and determined. He joined the Army to become a military police K-9 handler. He really loved being a dog handler; turning down promotions to keep doing it. His fourth deployment in a 12-year military career. Buried at Jacksonville Memory Gardens, Orange Park, Florida.

MICHAEL S DUSKIN Age 42 KIA VALOR

Killed In Action: 23 Oct 2012: Chak District, Wardak Province, Afghanistan - 5th tour in the region. Hostile, died outright, small arms casualty. Chief Warrant Officer 2, U.S. Army, Assistant Detachment Commander, Company A, 1st Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) "Green Berets." Three Bronze Star Medals, one posthumously.



Michael Stephen Duskin, son of George Duskin, a decorated Vietnam - Navy pilot. Home of record Orange Park. Enlisted in 1993, prior duty as a forward observer, 75th Rangers, and Florida National Guard. He is survived by a sister, parents, along with his wife, Maggie, and three children. He stood 6' 5" tall and was notorious for NOT being Politically Correct. Mike's remains were cremated.

Special Forces Motto: "From the Rest Comes the Best" "We Do Bad Things to Bad People" "Hard Times Don't Last, Hard Men Do"

SPECIAL TRIBUTE

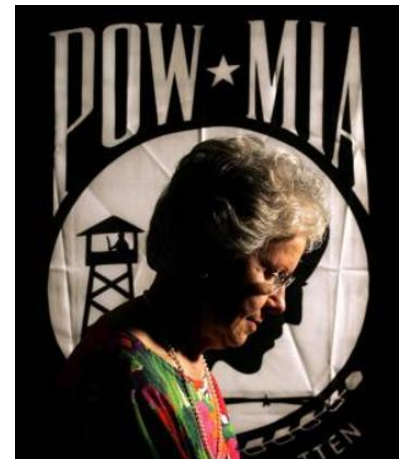
Created by: National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, Families of POW*MIA

(Prisoner of War * Missing In Action)

1971: After Mary Helen Hoff (Orange Park, FL) learned that her husband was a POW*MIA she became involved with other families... Saying we need a flag...

"I don't want a lot of colors... I saw a picture of one of those POWs wearing black pajamas... we need a basic black and white flag."

1988: For the first time, the POW/MIA flag flew over the White House on National POW/MIA Recognition Day; during the 100th Congress (9 March 1989) the flag was placed in the Rotunda at the U.S. Capital. Here At Home Clay County, Florida - we do not forget. Godspeed. Thank You Families of our POW*MIA.



A Times-Union photo of Mary Helen Hoff ref/credit to Mark Wood, Florida Times Union (Full TU article by Mark Woods available online).

We are concerned that in this - FREE SOCIETY - a growing number of folks forget. Here at HOME - Clay County, Florida - We Do Not Forget.

Heritage
Guides.org

**The primary goal of this special - 2017 -
CHARLIE (3RD) EDITION is to publish
our findings and discoveries.**

Again this is not a polished product - please help

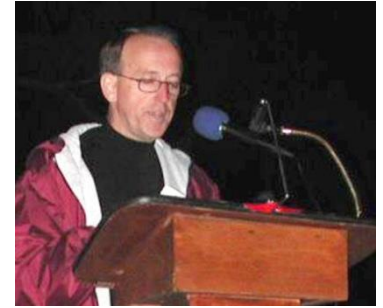
Note: We continue to look for more information if you're able to help please do so.



HISTORY AND FUTURE



BACKGROUND: Lest-We-Forget! The private sector concept of the Parade of Flags came to Clay County in 1997 from Johna Hayes, Jr. (Vietnam Vet / local business owner). He had seen the main street of Duluth, Georgia lined with flags, placed on a cross bearing the name of a local fallen warriors. Johna presented the concept to the Green Cove Springs city officials and business associates. The initial proposal was to line our downtown sidewalks (high visibility) with American Flags to honor them. The concept is simple - commission a flag and cross bearing the name and the period they lost their life defending our U.S. Constitution, or in the case of the Civil War (war between the State) defending the Confederate South.



The idea was a big hit with the City Council. However, the city wanted the display to be in Spring Park. The Clay County Archives had a list of military casualties dating back to the 2nd Seminole War (1835-1842). Civic leader Johna Hayes recruited sponsors and the first annual (Clay County Tribute from 1835 to present) Parade of Flags was on display in Spring Park May 1997.

Fallen Warriors (FW) - In Theater - military casualties: Each white (2'X3') wooden cross, topped with a 2'X3' American Flag creates the annual Parade of Flags in Spring Park from mid-May to early June. The private sector project was set in motion so that any Clay County resident may nominate a service member – the Fallen Warrior (FW) does not have to be from Clay County. The Parade of Flags team verifies to determine that the nominee is a military casualty/Killed-In-Action. Applicants may assist in the process by providing detail information and supporting documents. Historically, there was no cost to nominate a service member, donations and volunteers are greatly appreciated.



By 2004 the Green Cove Springs Merchant Association (GCSMA) commenced supporting the project. There was considerable discussion about placing a permanent - fallen warriors - monument and/or veterans' display "WALL" at the site of Parade of Flags (west side of Spring Park). In 2009 GCSMA meet its demise, however, "concerned parties" maintaining a seamless display for the good of the cause.



In 2010 a core group of civic-minded people imagined a new group; the Greater Green Cove Civic Association (GGCCA) host of two flagship events - the Parade of Trees® and the Parade of Flags® both recognize and remember others, particularly military service personnel. These events also offer opportunities to cooperate with community leaders and encourage people to work together for the betterment of the community. Even though the families of our local Fallen Warriors are not recognized during the -one day - annual Memorial Day activities ever since 1997 the privately funded annual Parade of Flags had been a must see activity. Thousands of people visiting Spring Park view the display. Families often walk through the display leaving mementos and share stories of friends and loved ones and departed veterans. The message is the same “Let Us Not Forget” those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country.



During 2011 Heritage Flags on Parade® was created. The GGCCA collaborated with Tobacco Free Clay (TFC) and Heritage Guides (HG) to create a new - separate - civic educational Flag element to showcase our America Heritage by displaying flag sign boards from the 1400's to the present day. In 2013 Heritage Flags on Parade® operated on the success and concept of the Parade of Trees (Christmas Tree) our team created an "Adopt a Flag" civic education program to involve others and cover expenses.

SITUATION 2012 - 2013:

1.) Local (city and business) leaders have demonstrated no desire to follow through with the idea and hopes for a permanent memorial "WALL" to honor our local FALLEN Warriors in Spring Park, it appears to be forgotten.

2.) During May 2013 the Green Cove Spring Junior High School, BETA Club hosted the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall. "The Wall". Great Work – hats off to the students, parents, and staff! The GGCCA and HG supported their cause during the fall of 2012 and continued to support the students and the event by placing flags – with the names - for many of Clay County fallen at the base of The Wall. To gain a greater understanding of the concept and value of the TRAVELING WALL, the Parade of Flags team met with The Wall managers Greg and Mariam Walsh. From their insight a renewed focus was noted – return to the original (1997) plan for the Parade of Flags (A Clay County Event) – seek a location for more people to see.

MAY 2013 TEST RUN: While GGCCA was merging its projects with HG. Our display of Clay County Fallen (92) was set up at the Military Museum of North Florida (MMNF) May 7, 2013 in preparation for "The Traveling WALL" event and to be on display for their Armed Forces Day (May 18, 2013) event. Our team received numerous positive comments. Many folks stated it gets much higher visibility at the MMNF. More than 70% of the guests had no knowledge of the Spring Park Memorial Day Riverfest event. More than 90% of the people surveyed agreed, if the display includes all Clay County Fallen Warriors, then it's a County event. Therefore, it needs to be where it can be seen (experience) by people all over Clay County.



On Sunday, May 19, 2013 (in preparation for Memorial Day) for the 17th consecutive year, the flags and crosses were placed at the west end of Spring Park and the Heritage Flags on Parade displays were placed around the Spring. Our Team became more aware that the lower west end of Spring Park - often wet - is more of a play area and is less likely to be visited by folks who need assistance walking; the display was tampered with that year more than another year - requiring more maintenance than any other year. On Saturday, June, 1st the Crosses, Flags, and signs were placed back in private storage and the free-standing educational flag displays were placed on loan to the MMNF.



2014: GGCCA had merged with HG - a greater vision was realized. We came to believe it's time for more people experience the display at more highly visible locations and events vice a secluded area. Additionally, the team investigated the idea that the display needs to be seen more often than just two to three weeks in May. Therefore, the word "Traveling" has been added to the Parade of Flags name. A hosting program has been developed for various groups, individuals and or business to request the display at their location. From May - November the Traveling Display was on location at ten separate locations for more than 120 days.

HeritageGuides.org



2015: Commences the 18th year for the display and the 2nd year for the traveling aspect. We have secured a 10' enclosed trailer devoted entirely to this project. Early in the year, we commenced in depth Clay County FWs research project. We were working in collaboration with three partners: Vietnam Veterans of America Clay County Chapter #1059 (VVACC), MMNF, and Clay County



Archives to create an INCLUSIVE and CONCLUSIVE list of Clay County FWs.

LESSONS LEARNED: The original 1997 was not accurately VERIFIED AND ARCHIVED; the list is now a "work in progress" with specific plans to render it to an honorable inclusive and conclusive list of names.

Due to popular demand, we have NOT been able to meet all requests for services. Therefore, we have created additional displays:

- 1.) Parade of Wreaths was created in 2014
- 2.) A "Table Top" display suitable for inside or at an event booth space - completed May 2015.
- 3.) An additional full size traveling display was created - Complete Nov 2015.



Your Key to Applied Heritage: Showcasing our Clay County, our St Johns River, our Florida, and our American Heritage --- One-Tribute-At-A-Time



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: CLAY COUNTY FALLEN WARRIORS MONUMENT WAS BUILT

It's Called TAPS - We know that to be the name for the bugle musical played when our flag is retired at the end of the day or to pay tribute to a departed. We do hope you'll make a point to learn more about the private sector plan for **TAPS located at the Clay County Historical Triangle (900 block of Walnut St. Green Cove Springs, FL**

**2019 WILL BE THE LAST YEAR FOR THE
CLAY COUNTY TRAVELING PARADE OF FLAGS
LEST-WE-FORGET**

Freedom Is Not Free - It Has A Cost - Same With This Project

NOW THE COST IS ON YOU!

CALL TO ACTION:

Thank You for making time learn about this project.

We are counting on you and others to be aware of this project, tell a friend, talk it up, request a speaker for your organization.

We do want to reach out to the families and friends of our Clay County Fallen Warriors to let them know that on behalf of a grateful County. **We'll Never Forget.**

We want all interested parties to know how to become involved.

If you were are able to read through this tribute with dry eyes and are not moved by our Clay County heritage then this is a one and done.

Otherwise, now you know, what you do with what your know is up to you.

We do hope to count on you to

Reflect, Respect, RE.... MEMBER.... Lest-We-Forget.

Again, thank you!

Good day,

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