

DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF TOWNS COUNTY

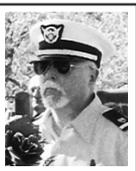
# OPINIONS & COMMENTARY

## A Lifetime of Adventure, an Airman and Christ

Born 1 June 1942, Ron Schott of Cincinnati, OH did not follow in his father, Gene's steps who was the first born and raised Cincinnatian to play for the Cincinnati Reds. (FYI: No kin to Marge Schott) Ron decided to join the USAF after

**The Veterans' Corner**

Scott Drummond  
USCG Veteran



HS in October of 1960. Then Air Traffic Control tech school, Kessler AFB, MS. He was PCS to Hurlburt Field, FL for the startup of AF Special Ops called Operation Jungle Jim in June, 1961. Then on to freefall parachuting with Combat Control Team May 1963. April 1965 finds Ron as instructor for Commando Sport Parachute club.

After serving our nation in the USAF Ron attended Saint Petersburg Junior College and then to the University of South Florida where he received a MA in Rehabilitation Counseling, and went on to serve in and with medical facilities.

In Ron's own words, he later became an "educated drifter working in restaurants and hotel management." During this time he lived in New Mexico, Denver, CO, and the high mountain valleys of California. It was during one of these outings in the mountains Ron discovered the blessings of Jesus Christ in a spectacular sort of way, in May of 1981. He was baptized and began his work and dedication to Veterans upon his return to Florida in 1983.

As Chaplain for Vietnam Veterans of Tampa Bay in 1985 Ron produced and hosted public access TV show "LZ" Victory from 1986-87. As a professional parachutist and instructor Ron formed the Christian Skydivers Association.

In 1994 Ron met and married his adorable wife, Carmen, a retired educational professional for elementary grade children in Tampa. In 2010 Ron began attending Veteran and first responder memorial services with the Patriot Guard Riders. 2012 finds Ron and Carmen buying their vacation home in Hiwassee, which only lasted one year as in 2013, like so many of us, decided that Hiwassee was to be their permanent home. They both attend North Mount Zion Church of God and are very active in the Manna House Food Bank and Young at Heart Seniors. They both also serve as volunteer workers for our Macedonia Precinct polling place.

When his already taxed time allows, Ron serves in the Veterans ministry with VVA Chapter 1101 in Blairsville; the Warriors Veteran Outreach, Murphy, NC; in the Vlaisvares Resource Ministry as an ancillary service to Jim McKeral's Crusade for Christ Ministry as well as PCR Missions.

With lifetime memberships in Air Commando Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Combat Anticommunist Association, finally in 2006 Ron decided to retire from parachuting with 3078 career jumps including 1187 tandem jumps. He was in the top 25 tandem jump instructors to carry 1000 passengers.

Ron wants it known that he would absolutely begin his adult life serving America via his USAF transition to manhood and discipline, if it was to do over. However his love of Christ is most important of all.

*Semper Paratus*

## Our Hopes and Dreams

Are you as weary of politics as I am? If so, the last thing you may want to find in this week's column is another discussion of this remarkably frustrating election. Bear with me one more time, and I promise we will find other topics to examine.

I think it is important that people understand clearly what their choices truly are. While the left/right divide and the two parties that have come to represent this symptom of brain wiring are certainly legitimate reasons for sincere disagreement, this election highlights a separate issue, and one that is independent of political party. As we have pointed out before, this election is a referendum on globalism. The frustration that has been expressed by Bernie Sanders' and to a large degree Donald Trump's supporters is also frustration with the "establishment," with Wall Street, with corporations and with entities that are "too big to fail," but can only succeed by feeding off of millions of people.

While the success or failure of globalism in achieving its own goals is open to debate, the effects on the average citizen are plain to see. There are several charts available, based on data from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, which clearly indicate the cumulative effects of globalist policy on our nation led by democrats and republicans through the Bush, Clinton, Bush and Obama Administrations. Federal debt, student loans, food stamps, money printing (now to the tune of over \$50 billion every month) and health insurance costs have gone up in an almost vertical trajectory, while labor force participation, worker's share of the economy, median family income and home ownership have all gone down.

Hillary Clinton is the candidate chosen by the establishment to continue business as usual. We may not know within our lifetimes why they would pick such an unpopular candidate; one which has been followed by the stink of scandal since the very beginning of her professional career; a candidate who has lied to the public and to Congress with a frequency greater than even most career politicians.

I feel for the millions of Sanders supporters, many of them young and inspired by the ideals of youth, who have just experienced the kind of reality check which requires those of us with a few more elections under our belts to resist cynicism. The collusion between the Clinton campaign, the DNC and corporate media to disenfranchise Sanders voters is astonishing. Yet our attention, so short and so easily led, has already moved on to other things. Never mind, says corporate media, the fact that we conspired to subvert the democratic process. Let's concentrate instead on the possibility that the Russians revealed our crime. I would venture a guess that years from now we will find out that it was not the Russians who hacked the DNC email servers, but someone within the intelligence community in retaliation for Clinton's irresponsible and likely criminal handling of national secrets.

When I criticize Clinton, many people assume that I am a Trump supporter, and vice versa. I support neither candidate, and I'm hard pressed to decide which would be worse for the nation. Let's take another look at Donald Trump. Trump's message resonates with millions of people. He has tapped into the fear and frustration that derives from those very numbers we discussed earlier, numbers which chart the declining prosperity of the middle class and the continuing lack of mobility of the poor. While his personal history shows no sign of racism, his current political rhetoric, wins at those who are racist. His current posture is that of a conservative, which is a departure from a history of progressive and liberal positions. His business dealings are marked by bankruptcies and failures and also by the kind of ruthlessness which we have come to expect from most of the oligarchs. On the surface, his message seems to resist much of the globalist agenda, but make no mistake: Trump is not an outsider. Whatever else he is, he is also an actor, and a very good one.

Clinton is not a very good actor, but she benefits from the support of corporate media which has a tendency to ignore or gloss over her mistakes and misdeeds. If you look at her actions, Hillary Clinton is Richard Nixon in a pants suit, but she talks like a progressive democrat and she is the female face of change that many Americans yearn for. No, she is not the first female to run for president. That honor goes to Victoria Woodhull who ran with Frederick Douglas in 1872, but as the first woman to be nominated by a major party and to have a better than average chance of winning the White House, Clinton will receive many votes for what she represents, if not for who she is.

Eschewing pride, we can take some comfort in the fact that we have matured enough as a society to go, in one generation, from Jim Crow to an African American president, to a Jewish contender with over 13 million supporters for that office, to a female nominee. I would want my own daughter to look at the Clinton nomination with a sense of possibility and hope for the future. I would want her to know that there were no barriers to whatever she might aspire to accomplish in life. I would also want her to be smart enough to realize that the Clinton nomination is a dirty trick that plays on our hopes and aspirations. The establishment, which studies marketing with an intensity equal to their lust for power, knows very well our hopes and dreams.

## The Middle Path

By: Don Perry

## Cucurbit Pests

Right about now, gardens are hopefully laden with plenty of summer squash, melons, cucumbers and other tasty members of the gourd family (also known as cucurbits). However, a bountiful harvest can often mean a big boom in pests that happily enjoy the fruits of your labor before you get to pluck them off the vine! These pests can cause damage to your cucurbit crops and reduce your yield, so it is important to know what you are up against in order to use the correct treatment.

Cucumber beetles: These insects not only cause damage by feeding on gourds, but they also transmit bacterial wilt. The bacteria lives inside of the beetles and is transferred from plant to plant as the beetles search for food. The larvae of these beetles live in the soil and bore into roots and stems where they feed. Plants infected with the bacterial eventually wilt and die. Cucumber beetles are typically very small and have oval shaped bodies and either spots or stripes. Their antennae are long and thin, and their heads are usually darker than the rest of their bodies. The beetles can be controlled by using fabric row covers, handpicking them off, and eliminating weeds to decrease shelter for them.

Two-spotted Spider Mites: Spider mites can be a serious problem during hot, dry weather. They feed on individual cells of the leaves and the damage looks like yellow or brown stippling all over the leaves. Because spider mites are so small, they are hard to detect and can damage plants very quickly. Do not apply insecticides more than necessary in drought conditions because these kill predators of spider mites causing populations and damage to increase.

Squash bugs: These bugs are some of the most common pests in home vegetable gardens. They use their needle-like mouthparts to suck the sap out of leaves. This causes plants to wilt and die very quickly. Squash bugs are between one half and three quarters of an inch long. The young bugs, also called nymphs, are a light gray color, while the adults are brownish black. The adults overwinter in protected places such as dead plants and clumps of weeds. In the spring, they will emerge and mate, laying their eggs on the undersides of cucurbit leaves. The eggs range in color from yellow to red and hatch about ten days after they are laid. Nymphs become adults in four to six weeks, and only one generation of adults occurs each year. Prevent squash bugs from being a problem next year by discarding and destroying all harvested annual plants. This removes available shelter for the adults, which will then die in the winter cold.

Squash vine borer: This moth is found all the way from Canada to Argentina and is the most devastating pest to gourds. Though the adults do not feed on the plants, the larvae bore into stems immediately after hatching and damage plants from the inside. In some cases, they have been known to feed on the fruit. Signs of squash vine borer damage are sudden wilting of a vine and sawdust-like waste coming from holes in vines. The larvae look similar to beetle grubs with white bodies and brownish heads, while the adults are a striking moth with black wings and a reddish-orange body. The larvae overwinter in the soil, so tilling your garden in the winter will kill any borers left by exposing them to the cold temperatures.

For a publication showing pictures of these pests and detailing effective pesticides, contact your extension office.



From the Ground Up  
Melissa Mattee



## Letters to The Editor

**Dear Editor:**  
I concur with the previous writer that Towns County needs an Animal Control unit. Too many times I have seen dogs running wild, chasing cars, and causing drivers to take risky maneuvers in order not to run them over. We see evidence on our roads of animals that are not so lucky. We have dogs in neighborhoods that bark all night long, and sometimes for 20 hours a day. I have called non-emergency 911, and been told there is nothing that can be done and it is "just a dog's nature" to bark and chase cars. I will be asking each candidate running for Towns County Commissioner when they plan to form an Animal Control unit in our county. It must be a priority for our county to enforce a set of basic humane standards for animals we own.

Sincerely,  
Liza Strub

### GUEST COLUMNS

From time to time, people in the community have a grand slant on an issue that would make a great guest editorial. Those who feel they have an issue of great importance should call our editor and talk with him about the idea. Others have a strong opinion after reading one of the many columns that appear throughout the paper. If so, please write. Please remember that publication of submitted editorials is not guaranteed.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD BE E-MAILED OR MAILED TO:** Towns County Herald, Letter to the Editor, PO Box 365, Hiwassee, GA 30546. Our email address: tcherald@windstream.net. Letters should be limited to 200 words or less, signed, dated and include a phone number for verification purposes. This paper reserves the right to edit letters to conform with Editorial page policy or refuse to print letters deemed pointless, potentially defamatory or in poor taste. Letters should address issues of general interest, such as politics, the community, environment, school issues, etc.

Letters opposing the views of previous comments are welcomed; however, letters cannot be directed at, nor name or ridicule previous writers. Letters that recognize good deeds of others will be considered for publication.\*

*Note: All letters must be signed, and contain the first and*

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### Towns County Community Calendar

|                     |                                       |          |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Bridge Players      | Village Condos Clubhouse              | 12:30 pm |
| Bingo               | Brasstown Manor                       | 9:30 am  |
|                     | <b>Every Tuesday:</b>                 |          |
| Free GED prep.      | Old Rec. Center                       | 4 pm     |
|                     | <b>Every Wednesday</b>                |          |
| SMART Recovery      | Red Cross Building                    | 7 pm     |
|                     | <b>Every Thursday:</b>                |          |
| Free GED prep.      | Old Rec. Center                       | 4 pm     |
|                     | <b>Every Friday:</b>                  |          |
| Bridge Players      | Village Condos Clubhouse              | 12:30 pm |
| Alcoholics Anon.    | Red Cross Building                    | 7 pm     |
|                     | <b>Every Sunday:</b>                  |          |
| Alcoholics Anon.    | Red Cross Building                    | 7 pm     |
|                     | <b>First Tuesday of each month:</b>   |          |
| Alzheimer's Supp.   | McConnell Church                      | 1:30 pm  |
| American Legion     | VFW Post 7807                         | 4 pm     |
| Hiaw. City Council  | City Hall                             | 5:30 pm  |
| Young Harris Coun.  | YH City Hall                          | 7 pm     |
|                     | <b>First Wednesday of each month:</b> |          |
| Quilting Bee        | McConnell Church                      | 10 am    |
|                     | <b>First Thursday of each month:</b>  |          |
| Stephens Lodge      | Lodge Hall                            | 7:30 pm  |
|                     | <b>Second Monday of each month:</b>   |          |
| Chamber Board       | 1411 Jack Dayton Cir.                 | 8 am     |
| Historical Society  | Old Rec. Center                       | 5:30 pm  |
| Mtn. Comp. Users    | www.mcug.org                          | 6 pm     |
| Planning Comm.      | Courthouse                            | 7 pm     |
| School Board        | Auditorium                            | 7 pm     |
| Unicoy Masonic      | Lodge Hall                            | 7:30 pm  |
|                     | <b>Second Tuesday of each month:</b>  |          |
| Caregiver support   | Brasstown Manor                       | 3 pm     |
| Arts & Crafts Guild | Calvary Alliance Chapel               | 6 pm     |
| Lions Club          | Daniel's Restaurant                   | 6 pm     |
| Mtn. Coin Club      | N. GA Tech                            | 6 pm     |

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