

THE HOWLING DAWG

DECEMBER 2014



16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G
"The Jackson Rifles"



A GEORGIA-PENNSYLVANIA CHRISTMAS

It was Christmas day, near Fredericksburg and after a sumptuous dinner of salt pork and hard tack, our attention was attracted by a rebel picket who hailed us from the opposite side of the river.

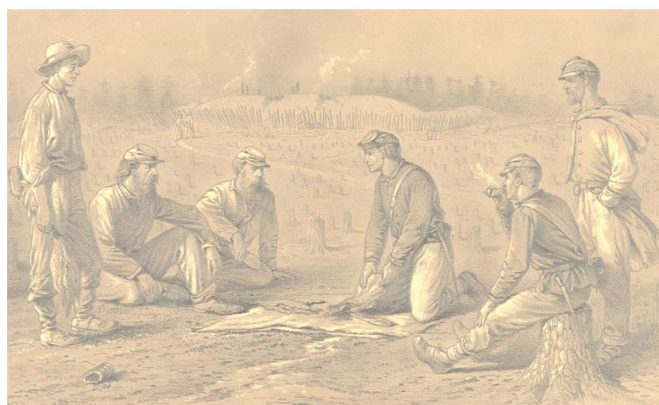
"I say, Yank, if a fellow goes over there, will you let him come back again?"

Receiving an affirmative answer, the Confederate soldier proceeded to test the truth of it by paddling himself across the river. To the Yankees, he was decidedly the cleanest specimen of a rebel they had seen. In answer to a question, he said he belonged to the Georgia Legion. One the Pennsylvania boys remarked,

"I met quite a number of your boys at South Mountain."

"Yes, I expect so – if you were there," said the rebel, while his face grew very sad. "We left many of our boys there. My brother, poor Will, was killed there. It was a hot place for a while, and we had to leave it in a hurry."

"That's so, Georgia; your fellows fought well there, and had all the advantage, but the old Keystone boys were pressing you hard. By the way, I have a likeness here (taking it out of his pocket), that I picked up on the battle-field the next morning, and I have carried it ever since." He handed it to the



Georgian, who, on looking at it pressed it to his lips exclaiming, "*My mother! My mother,*" and exhibited considerable emotion at the recovery of the picture. Recovering his composure he added that his brother had it in his possession, and must have lost it in the fight. He then asked the name of the one to whom he was indebted for the lost likeness of his mother, remarking,

"There may be better times soon, and we may know each other better." He had taken from his pocket a small Bible in which to write the address, when Alex, who had taken no part in the conversation, fairly yelled,

"I know that book; I lost it at Bull Bun!"

"That's whar I got it, Mr. Yank," said the rebel, and he handed it to Alex.

"I am much obliged to you, Georgia; I would not part with it for all the Southern Confederacy."

The Georgian was a curious to know something further of the book, so he asked Alex to let me see it and it was passed over and opened. On the flyleaf was written in a neat hand, "*My Christmas Gift, to Alex , Dec. 25th, 1860. Ella.*"

"Well, Alex," another Pennsylvanian added , "it is not often one has the same gift presented to him a second time."

"True, but even if I could see the first giver on this day, there's one other gift I would want." "What's that, Alex?"

"This War played out, and my discharge in my pocket."

The Pennsylvania boys had all been so busy talking to their new Georgia friend, that they hardly noticed a horseman approaching. Farewells were instantly bid and a quick return made across the Rappahannock. As night came on, men in both armies lay down on the frozen ground to dream of other Christmas nights, when we knew not of war." Adapted from *The Civil War in Song and Story: 1860-65* by Frank Moore, (New York: P. F. Collier, 1889), page 161.

A BIG FINISH TO A BUSY YEAR

THE OCUPATION OF SANDERSVILLE - November 7-9



Thanks to all of the 16th GA members who came out to support our event. It will be a treasured memory for me and I hope for everyone else, as well. - Glenda Ruth

MONROE COUNTY STUDENTS AT GRISWOLDVILLE - NOVEMBER 11



Earl Colvin, Wayne Dobson and Jim Thompson with the class and teachers

"What a wonderful experience it was for our fifth grade Project SOAR students to hear your presentation on the Battle at Griswoldville! You described the background, events, and importance of the battle in such a way that the students could understand and appreciate its significance. Of course, the children always like to see the uniforms and weapons, especially when the rifle is fired.

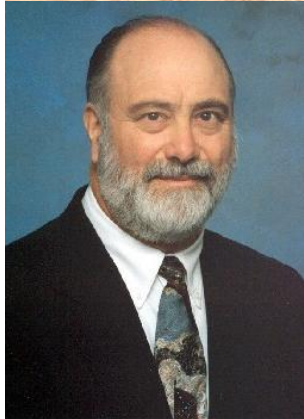
Thank you for sharing your time and expertise and for providing this valuable learning opportunity. Please extend our appreciation to the other gentlemen. It is obvious that all of you are dedicated to educating others about Middle Georgia's involvement in the War." Wanda.Pope@monroe.k12.ga.us

Be ready for our call next Fall as we take you up on your offer to do the presentation again. We will also alert the students of opportunities to see Civil War re-enactments that will be held in the area. You might even have inspired some future re-enactors. Heidi (Edge) will be a good resource to keep me informed of your activities. Best wishes for continued success in your reenactment activities and educational efforts. Sincerely, Wanda Pope (Monroe Co. K12)

December 17, 1864

Near Savannah, Union General Sherman sends a letter to Confederate General Hardee, making the following demand, "I have already received guns that can cast heavy and destructive shot as far as the heart of your city; also, I have for some days held and controlled every avenue by which the people and garrison of Savannah can be supplied, and I am therefore justified in demanding the surrender of the city of Savannah, and its dependent forts, and shall wait a reasonable time for your answer, before opening with heavy ordnance. Should you entertain the proposition, I am prepared to grant liberal terms to the inhabitants and garrison; but should I be forced to resort to assault, or the slower and surer process of starvation, I shall then feel justified in resorting to the harshest measures, and shall make little effort to restrain my army.

150TH GRISWOLDVILLE COMMEMORATION - NOVEMBER 22



RICHLAND CHURCH - DECEMBER 5-6



Washington's Remains Removed from Harms Way

"[Diary entry] May 21, 1861: Removal of the Remains of Washington – A correspondent of the Lynchburg "Republican" says: "I was told today that a report having reached . . . Virginia that the tomb of Gen. Washington was going to be violated by the Republicans, his remains and those of his family were promptly removed to a more central spot in the State, where they will be out of harm's way. If this is true, what a commentary on the North! How strange that coming events should prompt such a move! Surely we live in a singular age." From: bernhard1848@gmail.com (Diary of Ada Amelia Costin, Wilmington, North Carolina, Tuesday, May 21, 1861. Special Collections, Randall Library, UNC-Wilmington)

JARRELL PLANTATION CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 6



CANNONBALL HOUSE CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 12



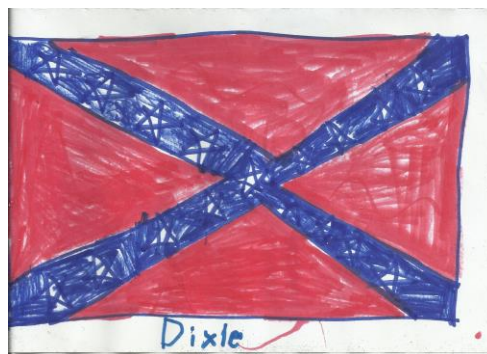
FT. MCALLISTER - DECEMBER 13



Thanks for defending
georgia from the
yankees!

Eli

Traveler



SHERMAN'S HELPERS

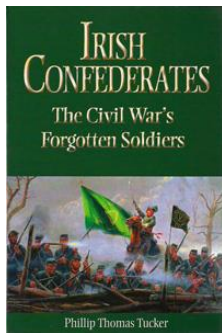
Southern freedmen unwittingly welcomed the Northern invaders of 1864 and aided them against their white neighbors as Sherman's "soldiers" routinely robbed and assaulted both black and white. The information willingly supplied to Sherman's minions made utter vanity



of Wheeler and Beauregard's assurances of preventing Yankees from reaching Southern hearths. When the devastation reached Columbia, Sherman's soldiers proceeded knowingly to the homes of "prominent Rebels" guided by local ex-slaves. The eagerness by which these creatures, who called themselves soldiers was astonishing, indicating that they had been advised of their exact civilian targets. The incendiaries succeeded so well in their sanctioned work of destruction that they had hardly passed out of sight when columns of smoke and flames arose to bring the sad news that another home had been sacrificed to the Northern demon of malice and arrogance. The locations of fine Southern

homes were now marked by elegant rosewood and mahogany furniture, broken into a thousand fragments and covering the face of the ground as far as the eye could see; broken china and glass looked as if it had been sown. Sometimes not even a chimney stood to mark a home place. Meanwhile, slave cabins stood intact, showing that while the conflagration was going on, they had been guarded. These cabins were the homes of the former plantation slaves plantation who stalked about in restless uncertainty, and in surly indifference. The Yankees had led them to believe that the country would be apportioned to them, but these newly-freed people had sense enough to know that such a vast revolution meant trouble and delay amid a climate of mutual distrust and avoidance. (The Women of the South in War Times, Matthew Page Andrews, editor, Norman, Remington Company, 1920, pp. 259-260, 318-319) From: bernhard1848@gmail.com

GOOD BOOKS ARE GOOD FRIENDS

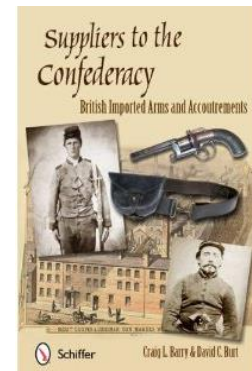


Irish Confederates - Contemporary Civil War scholarship has brought to light the important roles certain ethnic groups played during that tumultuous time in our nation's history. The axiom that the winners of wars write the histories is especially valid in regard to the story of the Irish who fought for the Confederacy from 1861-1865. Throughout the course of the Civil War, Irish Confederates made invaluable contributions to all aspects of the war effort. Yet, the Irish have largely been the forgotten soldiers of the South. In *Irish Confederates: The Civil War's Forgotten Soldiers*, Tucker illuminates these overlooked participants.

Suppliers to the Confederacy: British

Imported Arms and Accoutrements - In

this book researchers Craig Barry and David Burt provide a fresh look at the incredible impact the English had on supplying the Confederacy and its effect on the U.S. Civil War. New research includes the discovery of lost information on many of the commercial gun makers. The book also looks at all the implements and accoutrements issued with the Enfield rifle musket, including the cap pocket, pouch, ball bags and knapsacks; right down to the muzzle stopper. Each piece of equipment is examined in great detail and is accompanied by detailed photographs and discusses most of the patterns of British equipment carried by Confederate soldiers and how they were supposed to be used. The book also looks at how this equipment was purchased, from where and by whom, and how it was shipped over to the Confederate States.



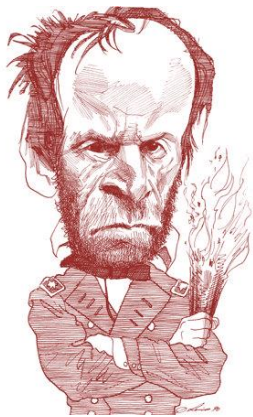
AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANGER TOWARD SHERMAN

This year, the Georgia Historical Society and the Georgia Battlefields Association nonchalantly erected a plaque to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Sherman's "March to the Sea" informing us that "Uncle Billy" did nothing wrong, that all his actions are legal under the rules of war and that Southerners fabricated tales of Sherman's soldiers burning civilian property. The text on the plaque explains that Sherman's minions, who attacked both the ability and the will of the Southern people to wage war,



"demoralized Confederates, hastening the end of slavery and the reunification of the nation." Such details are coming under the scrutiny of Southern communities as well as the scurrilous claims that Sherman's army "only destroyed property used for waging war," and that they did not target residential areas. Such fabrications fly in the face of the collective Southern memory of the past 150 years, of "Billy the Torch" ravaging the South, destroying house and home.

Recent scholarship has been more favorable to Sherman with modern historians even defending his actions against the public memory which has prevailed for generations. While some seek to justify Sherman's actions, others criticize such efforts as attempts to



whitewash history. Stephen Davis, author of *What the Yankees Did to Us: Sherman's Bombardment and Wrecking of Atlanta*, claimed that such men and women were "bending over backward to give Sherman a whitewash that he simply does not and never will deserve."

On Wednesday, October 22, Historian Anne Sarah Rubin (an Associate Professor of History and Director of the Center for Digital History and Education at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County) gave a talk at Villanova on the historical African American memory of Sherman's March to the Sea. Her talk stemmed from a chapter in her new book, *Through the Heart of Dixie: Sherman's March and American Memory*, which coincides with the upcoming 150th anniversary of the March. In her talk, Rubin focused on the memories African Americans held of the invasion. Indeed, they are a group often left out of the legacy of the momentous event which hastened the end of the War at the expense of tremendous destruction to their own

Southern communities. Rubin used records of the African American experiences tangent to Sherman's March (derived notably from the WPA or Works Progress Administration interviews of former slaves conducted in the 1930s) through the Confederate States. To be sure, Sherman's Army was a catalyst for the destruction of slavery in the areas through which it traveled but it tended to tolerate emancipation more than to embrace it. While some memories of the WPA interviewees tie Sherman to freedom, many more detailed his cruelty. Much like the memories of Southern whites, African American men and women remembered Sherman destroying property, and, more importantly, confiscating food that could have gone to their families. Rubin also described Sherman's disdain for any African American families who sought to follow the occupying army. One striking instance of Sherman's disregard for fleeing African Americans was a December 1864 incident at Ebenezer Creek in Georgia. Seeking to escape approaching Confederate cavalry, one of Sherman's officers ordered the construction of pontoon bridges across the water. After they crossed, the Union soldiers disassembled the bridges, condemning hundreds of African American families to possible death by drowning. While Sherman did not give the order personally, he did not condemn it either. Indeed, Sherman's now-famous order of "40 acres and a mule," Rubin argued, was not an humane action, but rather a useful move as a response to outrage over the Ebenezer Creek incident and a means to prevent more African Americans from following the Army in the future. The failed implementation of this order ("40 acres and a mule") only added to the anger of African Americans during Reconstruction and beyond. Much of this rage was directed at Sherman and his legacy is irrevocably tied to the destruction he wrought in the South. (concluded on page 11)

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANGER TOWARD SHERMAN (concluded) One more story: Near the end of the War Sherman's "soldiers " were approaching the North Carolina border, having burned Columbia and leaving a path of destruction behind them across South Carolina. One of Sherman's soldiers left camp to do some more looting. He went to the house of a well-to-do citizen, roughed up the family and loaded up several sacks of their valuables. Being greedy, he couldn't carry all the loot himself. So he impressed a slave named Peter to help carry it. On the way back to the camp the Ohio "soldier" became tired and stopped to take a nap. The slave, Peter, had been outraged at the Yankee's treatment of his master, his master's family and the theft of their property. While the soldier slept, Peter looked around and found a piece of firewood. He bashed out the soldier's brains, killing him, then returned to his master with the stolen property. The soldier's body was discovered, Sherman was furious; and had made it a practice to kill prisoners of War and civilians as a punishment to anyone resisting his looters. In fact, at this point armed Confederate resistance was so



weak and the possibility of the Confederates being able to retaliate upon Federal prisoners was so remote, that Sherman had announced his intention of killing prisoners of War and civilians not only if civilians resisted but even if armed units of the Confederate Army continued to resist. So, Sherman, not knowing that a black slave had killed the felonious Yankee, decreed that someone had to die. He made a group of Confederate prisoners draw lots to determine who would be his victim. The unlucky draw fell to a cavalryman named James Miller. The Yankee soldiers - even the degraded ilk commanded

by Sherman (who were bottom drawer compared to Grant's soldiers) were sick of the killing. They knew the War was essentially over and that the last Confederate Army was in the process of surrendering. When Sherman couldn't get any soldiers to volunteer for the job of killing James Miller, he ordered his unwilling men to commit the murder. Miller died bravely and is buried in a cemetery outside Pageland, South Carolina. His marker is in the shape of a fire log and SCV Camp 2116 is named in his honor.

NEW SHERMAN'S MARCH MARKER - LIES !

The Georgia Historical Society dedicated a historical marker on November 11, 2014 pertaining to Sherman's March to the Sea, placed on the grounds of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum: "This marker is part of the GHS Civil War 150 Historical Marker Project, telling stories around the State that hadn't been told or that shed new light on familiar stories," said W. Todd Groce, President and CEO of the Georgia Historical Society. "There are a lot of misconceptions about General Sherman and the March to the Sea that aren't based on historical evidence, and we've tried to correct some of those in this marker, to see a familiar event in a new light." In part the marker reads: *"Contrary to popular myth, Sherman's troops primarily destroyed only property used for waging war..."*

I am appalled, sickened and saddened that an organization that is supposed to be the guardian and promoter of Georgia history is now nothing more than a base propaganda machine that dispenses lies for truth. The idea that Sherman destroyed only military objectives in Georgia is a blatant, crafted and willful lie unsupported by a multitude of surviving accounts of Northern atrocities in Georgia. These are verifiable accounts, not myths, some preserved in Sherman's own recollections. The new marker contains the only myths. - **Brenda Dobson**

GHOSTS of War

The people of Masonboro Sound southeast of Wilmington could hear the thundering cannon of Fort Fisher under siege by an enemy fleet in January 1865. After taking the fort, "Federal troops began to move inland, looting farms and houses as they went" as they reasserted the political supremacy of the Northern government in Washington.

"With the fall of Fort Fisher, the Confederacy's days were numbered. By late spring the four years of struggle were over. Gradually Masonboro men found their way home. Some were badly wounded, but all came back to do what John Hewlett had said he wished them to do – assist in building up the Kingdom of God at Masonboro. It was late for plowing and planting, but there was no choice but to begin. Pine seedlings, briars, and honeysuckles had taken over the fields. Fish nets had rotted or disappeared altogether, and new



ones had to be fashioned. Food everywhere was scarce, but persons on the Sound fared better than most since they could find oysters, fish and shrimp at their doorstep. Some ex-slaves had stayed to help them while others had left plantations all over the Southland to follow Yankee soldiers because they didn't know what else to do. These followers became a burden to Northern armies, which could not care for them and feed them. Jim Irving, a South Carolina slave, followed Yankee soldiers to Wilmington, but soon found himself stranded in the city with nothing to eat and no way to earn anything. He met up with Elijah Hewlett, who told him to go with him down to the Sound and he would give him work.

Sometime after the War, a soldier friend came to visit Dr. Anderson. He had been wounded in the war, had lost a leg, and had been fitted with a wooden leg. He was disturbed emotionally by his War experiences; would lapse into long silences and walk out on the pier and stand for hours, not moving, just gazing at the water. The old pier was rotten and listing at a dangerous angle, but it was the habitual roosting place of a sad old egret, which, dull and gray like the weather at times, sat hunched over even in a blowing misty rain. The old soldier often stood there looking just as forlorn and dejected as the sad old bird, and almost in the same spot. One morning the old soldier rose early and went out before the family was up. Hours later, they found him, lying face down in the water. After that, members of the household thought they could sometimes hear the old soldier with his wooden leg thumping across the floor upstairs." (Between the Creeks, Croquette W. Hewlett and Mona Smalley, New Hanover Printing Company, 1971, pp. 41-42) From: bernhard1848@gmail.com

THE REAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANDERSONVILLE

"I am certainly no admirer of Jefferson Davis or the late Confederacy, but in justice to him and that the truth may be known, I would state that I was a prisoner of war for twelve months, and was in Andersonville when the delegation of prisoners spoken of by Jefferson Davis left there to plead our cause to with the authorities at Washington; and nobody can tell, unless it be a shipwrecked and famished mariner, who sees a vessel approaching and then passing on without rendering aid, what fond hopes were raised, and how hope sickened into despair waiting for the answer that never came. In my opinion, and that of a good many others, a good part of the responsibility for the horrors of Anderson rests with General U.S. Grant, who refused to make a fair exchange of prisoners."

Henry M. Brennan, Late Private, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry" (Southern Historical Society Papers, Volume I, page 318).



MARKING GRAVES OF AMERICA'S VETERANS

The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its regulations regarding applications for headstones or markers. The VA is proposing to amend the definition of "applicant," set forth in 38 CFR 38.632, as it pertains to individuals requesting VA headstones or markers. In 2009, VA implemented the existing definition of applicant to include the decedent's next of kin (NOK), a person the VA has received a number of requests from individuals

who did not meet the current definition of applicant for headstones or markers. The VA has acknowledged concerns that the current regulatory definition of applicant was too restrictive and resulted in identified Veteran gravesites going unmarked. The VA shares the goal to ensure appropriate recognition of Veterans who served the United States and proposes to revise the definition of applicant to ease the restrictive aspects of the definition and allow more individuals to apply for headstones or markers, including memorial headstones or markers.

On October 1, 2014, the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) published in the Federal Register, a proposed rule to amend the existing definition of eligible applicants by expanding the types of individuals who may request headstones or markers on behalf of decedents. The VA recently sought input from Veterans, family members and other stakeholders regarding a proposed change to its definition of who may apply for a headstone or marker. Those wishing to review and comment on the proposed changes were encouraged to do so by searching for "National Cemetery Administration" or "2900-AO95" at www.regulations.gov. Comments had to be received on or before December 1, 2014. **NOTE:** By Public Law 85-425, May 23, 1958 (H.R. 358) 72 Statute 133 states – "(3) (e) for the purpose of this section, and section 433, the term 'veteran' includes a person who served in the military or naval forces of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War, and the term 'active, military or naval service' includes active service in such forces." As a result of this law the last surviving Confederate Veteran received a U.S. Military pension until his death in 1959, and from that day until present, descendants of Confederate veterans have been able to receive military monuments to place on graves from the Veteran's Administration for their ancestors.



JANUARY 23-25 - WINTER DRILL AT OLD CLINTON - GVB Elections

JANUARY 26 - CAMP 2218 LEE-JACKSON BANQUET - Location/date may change

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2015 - BATTLE OF OLUSTEE

MARCH 13-15, 2015 - BATTLES AT MANASSAS,GA-POC Tommy Wallace 912-557-6649

APRIL 25, 2015 - CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY- attend services near you

APRIL - OLD CLINTON WORK DAYS - To be announced

MAY 1-3 - WAR DAYS- BATTLES OF SUNSHINE CHURCH & GRISWOLDVILLE

MAY 15-17 - BATTLE OF RESACA, GA

MAY 23 - OLD SOLDIER'S DAY AT ERVIN GARNTON'S

SEPTEMBER - SCV SALUTE TO VETERANS IN DUBLIN, GA

OCTOBER 2-4 - ANDERSONVILLE

NOVEMBER 21- GRISWOLDVILLE MEMORIAL -

NOVEMBER CANNONBALL HOUSE APPARITIONS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER- CHRISTMAS @ RICHLAND CHURCH (Rehearsals and Performances)

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS AT THE CANNONBALL HOUSE

16TH GA Co. G. "Jackson Rifles"

Brig. Gen. Herbert Burns - 478-668-3598

Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201

Capt. Wm. "Rebel" Bradberry - 404-242-7213

1 Lt. Noah Sprague - 706-491-9755

2nd Lt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796

Adjutant: 5th Corp. John Wayne "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531

1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739

2nd Sgt. Nathan Sprague - 478-320-8748

1st Corp. Chas. "Goodtime" Whitehead 478-986-8943

2nd Corp. Lee "Pappy" Curtis - 478-365-6785

3rd Corp. Dan Williams - 478-230-7189

Lead Chaplain - Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798

Honorary Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal - 478-994-0958

Assistant Chaplain - Charles Hill - 770-845-6878

Treasurer: 6th Corp. Earl Colvin - 478-214-0687

Musician - Landon Allen - 478-294-9870

Musician - Jacob Thompson - 478-214-0687

Musician - Aaron Bradford - 302-668-8029

Musician - Oliver Lummus - 302-668-8029

Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-986-4827

Rev. Joey Young - Honorary Life Member

ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". All issues (2011-present) of The Howling Dawg are available @ scvcamp1399.org & some @ scv2218.com, thanks to Steve Scroggins and Al McGalliard.



THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER 2218 of Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia, held their October 27, 2014 meeting at *FIREFLYS* Restaurant, on the Gray Hwy. It, apparently, was our last meeting at that location as we learned in December that the restaurant was closing at the end of 2014. We enjoyed our stay there and appreciated all that the owner and staff did for us. Our final meeting of 2014 was held on the Griswoldville Battlefield after the 150th Commemoration. It was a perfect day, with public attendance around 200 and participants numbering around 50. We were particularly honored to have Pastor John Weaver as our guest speaker. Special thanks goes out to Gary Thomas,

Bretta Perkins of Jarrell Plantation Judd Smith of DNR for allowing us this opportunity for ten consecutive years.

We still plan to host a Lee-Jackson Banquet on Monday, January 26, 2015 but as of this writing the location is uncertain and the date may be changed. You may call Adjutant Wayne Dobson at 478-731-5531 for updates.

For most of 2014 our meetings were held on the 4th Monday of each month, but that may change with our new location. For more information call Commander J.C. Nobles 478-718-3201.

The Logan E. Bleckley Camp # 1998

One of our closest brother SCV Camps is The Logan E. Bleckley Camp #1998 of Cochran, GA. A number of 16th GA members are also members of that SCV Camp including 1st Sgt. Alan Richards, 3rd Corporal Dan Williams, Pvts. Frank Williams, Tommy Shover and Jeff White and Associate member Bobby Duskin. Recently Dan Williams was elected Commander of Camp 1998, making the second SCV Commander within the ranks of the 16th Georgia, Company G (J.C. Nobles, Camp 2218). Pictured below is part of a recent Camp 1998 induction ceremony in which Bobby Duskin swore in Dan as commander, Dan inducted Tommy into the Camp, and Dan gave the oath to Logan E. Bleckley Camp 1998 officers Alan Richards,

10000134514326

Bobby Duskin and

10000444652207

Frank Williams.



Speaking of outstanding "brother SCV Camps", we recently heard from Steve Scroggins of The Lt. James Woodward Camp #1399 of Warner Robins, concerning some plans by the Old Capitol Camp of Milledgeville. Steve writes: *"I have it on good authority that the annual Lee celebration in Milledgeville is on for Sat. Jan. 17th. The event will be as usual with the march from the Old Governor's Mansion to the Old Capitol - Assembly for the march at 10:30 A.M. and the program to begin at 11:00 A.M. All cannonade and musketeer participation is welcome and encouraged. They're lining a speaker now, so that will be announced soon. Wanted to get word out ASAP so we have an many members a possible planning on attending."*

REINFORCEMENTS NEEDED ON THE FIRING LINE

I started writing letters to the editors of various newspapers around 1973 and I doubt there has been a month since then that I have not sent something in. The subjects vary but many of the letters deal with our Southern heritage. Those seem to draw the most flak but I do not mind. That is a sure sign someone is reading them. There are a couple of local fellows who seem to oppose every opinion I express, no matter what, but I never take the time to reply - if I did, that would be all I would ever get done and it is just not worth it. I say my piece and they say theirs and it is over. However, lately, I have noticed that is harder to get my letters printed and when they are, sometimes they have been edited. Mine are always limited to 250 words but my detractors are afforded larger sections of feature newsprint by decidedly liberal editors. My point is this - will some of you out there write as well? Occasionally, people say they like what I write or support my position and I am grateful for the encouragement. However, if you feel that way, why not write a letter, too? Maybe, just maybe if several of us took a stand for our heritage we could see a turn in the tide. I know, you are thinking, I can't write a letter - really? I am of the opinion if you got a high school diploma, you should have the ability to write a simple letter expressing your opinion. If you need help getting it submitted, get in touch with me. Sure could use the help - the reinforcements. Let's give 'em a volley from time to time instead of these scattered, single shots. Think about it, won't you. - Duke



COLD WEATHER TIPS: For me there is nothing that ruins camping more than being "too cold". It's not so bad during the day but if it is too cold to sleep well, if you've ever been there then you would know what I am talking about.



Over the years, this helped me:

A poncho/ground-cloth is one of the best pieces of equipment you can own. If you can obtain any dry straw, hay, or pine needles do so. Lay out the straw as long and as wide as your bedding. Lay your poncho black side down on the straw. Lay your (5 lb.) blanket down on top of the poncho. Now when you get into "bed" lay on one 1/2 and fold the other 1/2 over you. The poncho will keep the ground moisture from rising into your bed and the fact that

the other 1/2 of your poncho is on top will keep the dew from making your blanket damp. Used correctly, the rubber poncho will trap your body heat better than 2 or 3 blankets. Remember your poncho is a moisture barrier, not a heating pad. If you lay it on the bare ground, especially slick side up, it will turn into a sheet of ice about 2 AM. There are times when it is just too cold to stay in a tent. If you have great coat, put it on, gather your firewood and *"dawg it off by the fire."* If you have a good wool sweater, wear it at night. Don't sleep in the same sweaty socks you have worn all day if you can help it - better off barefoot. Put on a clean dry pair of wool ones to sleep in - get out of those brogans if you can - let your feet air. Some guys don't wear their outer clothes to bed. They take them off, fold them up and use them for a pillow. And for goodness sake, cover your punkin' head! Most of your body heat is lost through your head and the back of your neck. Wear a night cap or some kind and a scarf...if it is extremely cold, some kind of cloth gloves might be good, too - anything to limit heat loss. If you are using a shelter 1/2 and you are not combining it with someone else's, make a lean to with the open side toward the fire. The shelter will radiate the heat back toward the fire and your back side. The last time I heard of anyone freezing to death at a re-enactment, it was Stanley Kahrl at Franklin in 1989. You don't want to be the next, do you?

LICE COMBS PREDATE THE 1860'S

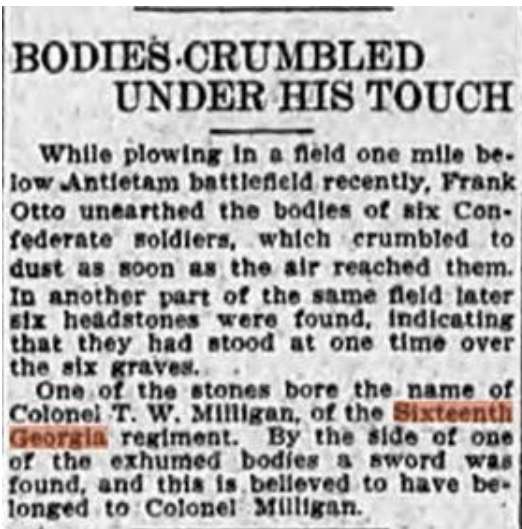


Many re-enactors include a lice comb as part of their kit, at least for living history programs. However, it seems the item existed and was in use long before the time of the War: In December 2014, six alleged looters were apprehended as they tried to flee Israel's famed "Cave of Skulls" with a very unusual object, a 2,000-year-old lice comb. Head lice has been mentioned in the documents that date back to early Egypt, China, and India. Lice have been identified in mummy hair from ancient Egypt and hundreds of lice were found on two mummy heads dating back from the ancient Chiribaya cultures.

MARKER DEDICATION AT OAKLAND - JANUARY 17

The marker is in place and the dedication will be on January 17, 2015 at 2 pm at Oakland. The SCV boys from Cave Springs, GA have asked me to invite all like-minded folks that I know to come and share it with them. Today, Max Van Den Corput rests beneath the sweet soil of Historic Oakland Cemetery, about 50 yards from his business partner Calvin Fay. Max's grave had gone unmarked for 103 years until Saturday, October 18, 2014. The Sons of Confederate Veterans Capt. Max Van Den Corput's Battery Camp #669 had a headstone carved and installed to remember their namesake.





This clipping came my way recently, however, I cannot find any records of a Col. T.W. Milligan of the 16th GA. Can anyone help? *Duke*

Atlanta Georgian and News, May 28, 1907 -- page 3

NO PLANNED PARENTHOOD IN BETHLEHEM

I was reading a very heart wrenching story this week that I wanted to share with you. She's a single teenager, engaged to a nice guy with a steady professional job. They're both very religious and their families have high expectations of them. One night she received the most unexpected and shocking news of her entire life: she's

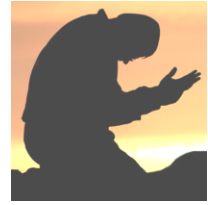


pregnant. Her fiancée doesn't know yet and she knows that he will have a very hard time with the news. Her mind is spinning! She has the rest of her life ahead of her. Her family, church, and community will certainly shun her - especially if her husband-to-

be decides to dump her. What is a girl to do? This young lady would have been a prime target for the abortion industry. Planned Parenthood preys on uncertainty, fear, and the looming responsibility of parenthood to increase their abortion numbers and boost their bottom line. As for her story, she recognized that the life inside of her was ordained by God and was valuable despite her circumstances. Her name was Mary, and she and her husband Joseph chose life for their unexpected little boy, Jesus. And He was the greatest gift in all of human history. Thank God there was no Planned Parenthood in Bethlehem.

EARNEST PRAYERS NEEDED

* "I wanted to give you all an up-date. During a bi-annual C-scan in November they discovered a mass in my liver, after a MRI they determined it was a cancerous and scheduled a surgery to get it removed immediately. I had the surgery this past Thursday, the surgery was successful they removed the section of the liver that had the tumor without any complications. The Surgeon indicated that it appeared that the tumor was contained and there was no signs of it spreading. They are certain I'll have to start chemo treatments again once I recover from the surgery and I'll be on a more aggressive monitoring program. So I'm home now recovering, other than feeling like I have been thrown out of a pick-up truck at 80 mph with a chain tied around my ankles and being dragged a couple of miles down an old gravel road with cactus plants every 5ft. in my path, I'm doing okay getting better every day. I can't tell you how much I appreciate all of your thoughts and prayers. Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas."- Timothy F. Pilgrim



- * John Tucker in Florida continues his chemo - broke a rib recently.
- * There are some private, physical needs among members of the 16th GA
- * Commander Thomas Tyson's father, Mr. Charles Tyson has passed away this Month Thomas is commander of Major Mark Newman Camp #1602, Sandersville.

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS GIFTS



Here are three last minute gifts that might be found under your tree. May God give the grace to accept them in the Spirit they were given:

The gift of being humbled. Wisdom is gained through humility "... with the lowly is wisdom." - Proverbs 11:2

The gift of being lonely. It can be painful to be by yourself, but we are never really alone. When we are set apart from people, we are set unto God who is always with us. It is also a chance to pray for those who are truly unaccompanied much of their lives. "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. " - Hebrews 13:5

The gift of silence. God has a lot to say to each of us - most of all that He loves us. When we are surrounded by people, we may miss the voice of God. Try to weave some silence into the rhythm of daily life and "be still, and know that I am God." - Psalm 46:10

Dear Lord, help us see the gifts hidden in **humility, loneliness and silence.**

In *Jesus'* Name, Amen.

CRAWFORD COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVE DESECRATED



Someone in Crawford County dug up a gravesite and possibly stole items from the grave. Sheriff Lewis Walker said on December 16, that the grave that was dug up belonged to a Confederate soldier. He's still seeking family members and descendants to come forward. He says one possible motive is for artifacts. The GBI is assisting in the investigation. According to a release from the Crawford County Sheriff's Department, at around 8:56 a.m. on Saturday, December 13, deputies responded to a theft call at the Old Bethel Methodist Church Cemetery on Causey Road. When deputies arrived at the scene, they found someone had dug up a grave site, and possibly removed its contents. Sheriff Lewis Walker would not release the name of the person buried at the spot or when they were buried. But he said it was an "old, old grave." He added, "It's going to be hard to determine if any of the remains are left there or not." He also said they're not sure why someone would dig up the grave. He said he's hoping family members of the deceased might have ideas. According to online records, the cemetery was started in 1849. Anyone with any information on the case can call the Crawford County Sheriff's Office at (478) 836-3116. (WMAZ NEWS)



As 2014 began to draw to a close a lot was happening to those of the historical community. The Jones County News Reader's Choice Awards (left) were announced and the MEDICAP PHARMACY was named "Best". Al McGalliard, member of the Jones County SCV Camp #2218 and the 16th GA works there as a pharmacist and, no doubt has a lot to do with this success. Also, most of you will remember Mia McKie (right) from the Cannonball House and Richland Church. Mia is probably in Ol' Virginia where she reports: "I'm currently in a recording studio, performing 'Amazing Grace' as a lead singer for the ABC TV pilot I worked on this season and production offered me voice talent work!"

FROM THE MANGER TO THE CROSS



"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." - Luke 2:8-12

How many times do people go around in search of a sign? Many people don't know what sign they are looking for. Most probably don't even know what a sign is. What is a Sign? A Sign is a notice, bearing a name, direction, warning, or advertisement, that is displayed or posted for public view. The sign was the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Savior, the one foretold to save the world. The one who is for ALL people; from the high and powerful leader to the lowest common person. The shepherds in the field were common people. The sign, told by the angels to the shepherds, declared that Jesus was born!

When Jesus was born the road to the cross began. At the cross Jesus was lifted up for all to see- like the sign He is. When He arose three days later, He was not only the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, but the Savior of the world. People who seek a sign need only to look to the Lord Jesus to save them. He is the only way.

In this season when we remember Jesus' birth may God's peace and joy be with us all. Merry Christmas! Chaplain Joel Whitehead, Jr.