

THE HOWLING DAWG

JANUARY 2016



"Deliver me; for thou art MY GOD." - Isaiah 44:17

16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G

"The Jackson Rifles"

***WE DID NOT RE-SURRENDER IN
2015!***



To many Americans the word Appomattox is synonymous with the end of the War Between the States although was not until 16 months later that the President formally declared an end to the War. This past year marked the 150th anniversary of that heartrending April 9, 1865 when Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to U.S. Grant at a tiny village west of Petersburg, Virginia. Relatively, few commemorations marked the occasion but most rightly honored the memory of those who served.

Re-enacted as it was, **WE DID NOT RE-SURRENDER IN 2015** - at times it felt like, but we are **STILLSTANDING** in ranks, awaiting orders. The Southern people, as a whole, remain unbowed, unrepentant, and unashamed of a Cause remembered as a righteous fight for states' rights

and sovereignty - NOT AS ONE OF TREASON AGAINST A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NOR THE ENSLAVEMENT OF ANY !

-1-

Our proud stance of resistance to Federal encroachment is, yet, without apology, and STILL the cornerstone of Southern existence. Largely, America deserves the fate she has carved out for herself – it has been bought and paid for, in blood AND UNFAITHFULNESS TO God Almighty!

Chris Trejbal is a freelance writer for American Blog, based in Portland, Oregon. In April he expressed that the states of Confederate lineage are often, and correctly, accused of dragging down the rest of the country for economic and cultural reasons. Thus the U.S.A. would be better off if the



11 states that formally seceded – plus Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma which were territories with pro-Confederacy leanings at the time; include Missouri and Kentucky (which had dual governments) – and kick them out of the Union! I suppose they would expect us to move, too.

That idea suits me just fine, I am ready to go at a moment's notice. If we could just find a way to saw off the southeastern quadrant of America, let it float out to sea and allow all the others to stew in their own juices, we would, at last, have our coveted independence. If the U.S.A. could really survive without the Southern states' resources, prayers and soldier hood, then they would have likely have just let us go in peace in 1861 – no questions asked. Ah, but Abe needed revenues and wouldn't allow such.

As we plunge into 2016 and look back at all the heritage attacks we sustained, countered and endured in 2015, some of our folks seem to have surrendered, AGAIN. Among them, men and women, I thought, would have taken a stand until death – guess not. I assure you, I am still as unbowed, unrepentant and unreconstructed as ever! How, in the name of good sense could I be anything else? A man can change his appearance,

temper his words and leave and diverse impressions you make but you cannot and you dare not change who you are 'cause all you will lose is you.

-2-

Having said that, what are the prospects of future historical endeavors? Will re-enactments cease altogether, or will there be only small ones, with no national events (I know some are being planned, still)? Will there be only living history programs and perhaps not even that? I have long been soured on the idea of going into public schools that do not really want us, anyway. I asked this question to a lot of people and I deeply appreciate the very, very few who took time to reply:

"Re-enactments will be generally limited to the smaller ones with limited living history programs being the likely norm. With no truly notable anniversary (like the 150th) to commemorate, promoters will be unlikely to host the large scale events. "

- J.C. Nobles

"I feel that the events that we usually support will continue as long as there are enough troops to make a showing. We are blessed with a number of youth in the 16th but not everyone is so fortunate. The major events such as Olustee and Gettysburg will continue, again as long as troops turn out. I don't think we will ever see turnouts like Shiloh again. The negative publicity may have hurt those fair weather re-enactors but like gun control I think there is a large number that pay little attention to that pressure and will continue to do what they have done as long as they are able."

- Earl Colvin

"I believe that the re-enacting season for next year may be very difficult.



With the 150th gone and the milestone passed, the re-enactments might be the size of Old Clinton War Days. However, we as young people are the future of this endeavor. We have the power to influence others to join in the fight. I go to school every day with young men that want to take part in the unit. By doing living histories at schools it keeps the drive alive to fight for our heritage. One way or the other, we young people are the future. One day we won't have J.C. to lead the Confederate charge at Griswoldville. One day we won't have Coonpossum to help us remember those who fought at Olustee. One

day we won't have all of our Ol' Dawgs to be our "Weird Wolves of Clinton", It is up to us to grasp the passed torch of the teachings of our mentors to the next generation of 16th GA "Dawgs". The future does look dim, but with God's help, we will continue."

- Brick Lee Nelson

"Living history, heritage events and reenactments are the best way for our children and others to really feel what it was like back in history.

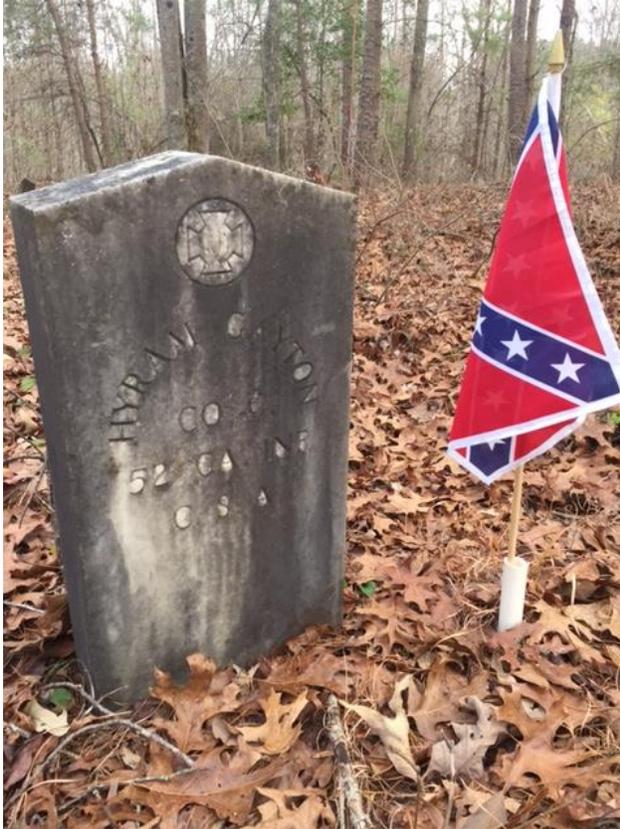
Those things would be missed by all who attend and bring their children to keep history alive. No one wants it taught in schools anymore and children do not read like we did in the past. So I believe we should keep it alive for

future generations to know how it was and we should be proud of our Southern Heritage."

- Peggy Rigby

-3-

REMEMBERING EVEN ONE



In early December 2015 1Lt. Noah Sprague recently wrote that while he and nephew Cody Sprague were walking through the woods in our neighborhood we came across this veteran from the 52nd Georgia. We placed a flag and so far he is the only veteran we can see in this cemetery. All the other stones are unmarked. From now on Hiram Gayton, Co. C, 52nd GA will not be forgotten.

Gayton, Hiram- private March 4, 1862. Captured at Vicksburg, Miss. July 4, 1863. Exchanged October 8, 1863. Roll dated December 31, 1863, last on file, shows him absent without leave since November 29, 1863. Buried in family cemetery at Dahlonega, Ga.

This may be his brother:

Gayton, William-Enlisted as a private in Co. I 52nd Regiment Ga. Inf. October 10, 1861. Discharged, disability, at Camp Blanchard, Va., March 13, 1862. Enlisted as a private in Co. C 52nd

Regiment Ga. Inf. March 1862. Captured near Nashville, Tenn. December 1864. Released at Camp Chase, Ohio. May 15, 1865. (Born in Ga. In 1835 or 1836. Died in Walker County, GA October 30, 1912)

The 52nd Infantry Regiment served entirely in the west. They would be an interesting regiment to research since they followed an unusual path through the war. A book, "The Boys of the Fifth" shows some of the same battles at Vicksburg, Tennessee, etc., but like most regiments, the "Fifth" participated in Chickamauga, and the Atlanta campaign. The 52nd was organized on 16 MAY 1862. It surrendered at Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi on 4 JUL 1863 and was paroled at Vicksburg later that same month. Declared exchanged on 12 SEP 1863. They were surrendered by General Joseph E. Johnston at Durham Station, Orange county, North Carolina on 26 APR 1865, but some sources (Crute) state that they were detailed to protect a wagon train at Columbus, Mississippi on 23 FEB 1865 and were surrendered on 4 MAY 1865. Actually, both sources are correct. The majority of the 52nd was with Johnston in the Carolinas, and they were surrendered by him on April 26th. However, a significant number were detached to guard the wagon train in Columbus, Mississippi after the battle of Nashville. They remained separated from the rest of the regiment for the duration of the war. Apparently these were volunteers for this duty, because nearly every company was represented in this detachment. Or maybe the company commanders selected the men to serve.

KARSTEN & DENSON HARDWARE STORE

Johnny Davis
Owner/Manager
karstendenson@yahoo.com

Phone (478) 745-3306 2323 Ingleside Avenue
Fax (478) 743-7555 Macon, GA 31204
Monday-Friday 8:30am-6:00pm Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm



RUM CREEK SUTLER



ART, MUSIC, BOOKS, VIDEOS, CLOTHING, JEWELRY AND MORE

CHUCK JOHNSON 2695 EMERALD DRIVE, JONESBORO, GA 30236 770-471-3691 RUMCREEKSUTLER.COM

OUR 2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- JANUARY 16 – GEN. LEE BIRTHDAY PARADE IN MILLEGEVILLE
- JANUARY 21 – CAMP 2218 LEE-JACKSON BANQUET – 6PM @ CHEVY'S PIZZA
- JANUARY 23 – WINTER DRILL – SATURDAY ONLY- CAMPING OKAY- SGT. COOKIE
- FEBRUARY 11-14 – OLUSTEE, FL.
- FEBRUARY 18 – SCV CAMP 2218 MONTHLY MEETING
- MARCH 4-6 – BROXTON'S BRIDGE, SC
- MARCH 17 – SCV CAMP 2218 MONTHLY MEETING
- MARCH 19-21 – MANASSAS, GA
- MARCH 27 – **RESURRECTION DAY - EASTER SUNDAY**
- APRIL 21 – SCV CAMP 2218 MONTHLY MEETING
- APRIL 23 – CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY
- APRIL 30 – MAY 1 – OLD CLINTON WAR DAYS

- Brig. Gen. Herbert Burns - 478-668-3598 Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201
- Capt. Wm."Rebel" Bradberry, Cmding.-404-242-7213 Rev. Joey Young - Honorary Life Member
- 1 Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755 2nd Lt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796
- Adjutant: 5th Corp. John Wayne "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531
- Treasurer: 6th Corp. Earl Colvin – 478-214-0687
- 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. Dan Williams - 478-230-7189
- 3rd Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151
- Lead Chaplain – Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798
- Honorary Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal – 478-808-8848
- Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878
- Musician – Chance Sprague – 706-491-9755
- Musician - Aaron Bradford – 302-668-8029
- Musician - Oliver Lummus – 302-668-8029
- Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-318-7266

ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". And @ scv2218.com, thanks to Al McGalliard.

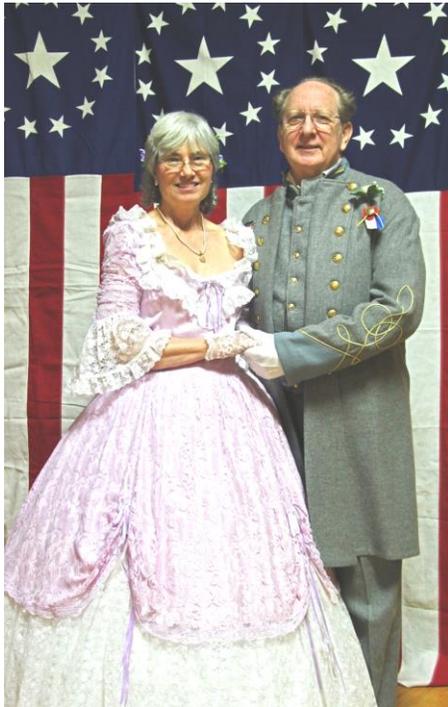


THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

(2218) of Old Clinton, Jones County, GA is pleased to announce that our January 21, 2016 meeting will be our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet, featuring Mark Pollard of Nash Farm as our featured speaker. We will gather at our usual meeting place of Chevy's Pizza on the Gray Hwy. to eat at 6pm. Program will begin at 7pm. A buffet will be provided for \$10 person (tip included).

A new slate of Camp officers will be sworn on this occasion.

They are as follows: *Commander Charles Whitehead, 1st Lt. Commander Brick Lee*



Nelson, 2nd Lt. Commander J.C. Nobles, Color Sgt. Earl Colvin, Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr., Adjutant - John Wayne Dobson Treasurer/Quartermaster Al McGalliard, Judge Advocate Ethan Bloodworth, Surgeon Bryant Knight & Historian Ethan Bockholt.

NOTE: Guest speaker openings for Camp 2218 meeting programs – February-October 2016 are currently available. Traditionally, they fill up fast.

The picture (left) is of Gale Red and his wife, Sharon. Gale is a friend of our Camp (2218), and is the Illinois Division Commander and Adjutant of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962 of Belleville, Illinois. Sharon is the Editor of the Camp's excellent newsletter, The Dixon Blue Light News. Gale is also the Genealogist-n-Chief of the SCV.

Gen. Lee Birthday Celebration - January 16

The use of the Old Capitol Legislative Chambers and the March are secured. Pastor John Weaver will speak on the Religious Aspects of General Lee. The Legislative Chambers will be opened at 10:00 AM for non-marchers. Marchers will assemble at the Old Governor's Mansion at 10:30 AM and the march

begins promptly at 10:45. The meeting will begin when everyone is seated-usually a few minutes after 11. All who wish to participate in the military salute, muskets and cannons, are welcome. Period dress is welcome. We will have the military salute @ 12:00 immediately after the program and just prior to the EC meeting. With the exception of our annual convention, this is the biggest Division event of the year. Let's try to have a large turnout. Please call me at 770-265-7910 with any questions. ~ Dan

Coleman, JA NOTE: Early registration is available for the GA Division Reunion in June. Go to this link: <http://lm.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.confederatememorial.org%2F2016-convention.html&h=2AQGDTvEm&s=1> . A block of 25 rooms has been secured at the Hawthorn Suites Motel at the Horse Park for the Reunion. Those planning to attend should make their reservations AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, there may not be any additional rooms once these are gone. Be sure to mention SCV Reunion when making reservations for our price. This is really a nice resort, indoor pool, breakfast is included with stay, (not a sweet roll and coffee.) The BBQ Friday night will be some of the best you have had. Contact the motel directly at 770-761-9155 for reservations. Any questions contact Steve at 770-480-3879 or confederatesteve1861@yahoo.com or Richard at scvbear@bellsouth.net

IN DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Mary Alice Howard Haralson, 83 September 11, 1932 - December 22, 2015
Macon, Georgia, went to be with her Lord and Savior Tuesday, December
22, 2015. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 24, 2015 at



11:00am in the Chapel of Macon Memorial Park
Funeral Home with Rev. Andy Oxford officiating.
Burial followed in Macon Memorial Park Cemetery.
Mrs. Haralson was born in LaGrange, Georgia to the
late Clayton Howard and Laura Janney Howard and
was preceded in death by her siblings, Thomas
Howard, Louise Fambro and Jean Lisenby. She was
retired as a Paraprofessional from the Bibb County
Board of Education and was a member of Mount Zion

Baptist Church. She was the grandmother of of 16th Georgia members Joel,
Charles and Matthew Whitehead and the mother-in-law of Joel Bruce
Whitehead, Sr.

Carl Vester Dixon (March 4, 1941 – December 27, 2015) 74, of Companion
Dr., passed away in Macon. Services were held Wednesday December 30,
2015 at 2:00PM in the Chapel of Reece Funeral Home, in Jeffersonville,
Georgia. Burial was in Prospect United Methodist Church Cemetery; Rev.
Franklin Etheridge officiating. Mr. Dixon was born in Waycross, GA, the
son of the late Sylvester and Ozelle Dorminey Dixon. He was preceded in
death by his son David Dixon and his Grandmother Lydia Dorminey. Carl
was a member of Wheeler Heights Baptist Church for 67 years, where he
served as a Deacon and Sunday School Superintendent. He was a member
of the Sons of Confederate Veterans – General Edward Dorr Tracy Camp,
and served in the 10th GA Infantry CSA. Carl enjoyed flying airplanes and
building and flying model airplanes. Survivors include his Wife, Faye F.
Dixon. Sons, Randy (Brenda) Dixon, Jeff (Pam) Dixon. Daughters, Lori
(Ken) Miller, Lisa (Bruce) Hutchison. Brothers, Coby (Teresa) Dixon, Jimmy
Dixon. Eleven Grandchildren

LETTERS



"I visited the Andersonville Historic Site the day after Christmas with my family. I had not been there in a year or so – maybe longer but I was saddened by the changes I saw. The gift shop no longer stocked several books that gave the Southern side of the tragic story. I asked about these volumes but the clerk said he had never seen them – I had. However, there was an ample supply of volumes dedicated to Lincoln, Harriett Tubman, Frederick Douglas and others who were only peripherally related to that particular location. I had viewed the visitor's center film before and was never enthralled with it. Again, I winced at the acute Northern slant. I think the ending credits revealed it to be a Boston-based production. Even quotes that Colonel Heinrich Hartmann Wirz - better known as Henry Wirz - (November 25, 1823 – November 10, 1865) had made in his defense were skewed and delivered by an Yankee actor with an unfeigned sneer. I believe more than 100 Confederate guards – like the prisoners, merely soldiers doing their duty - perished there, but their graves had long since been removed – not even allowed the dignity to be buried at the post upon which they served. Heartrending as my trip was, I am not surprised. Political correctness never takes the moral high road. It slithers along the lower dominions of life. The War did not really end in 1865. Yes, the South laid down their arms like the ladies and gentlemen they were but the North relentlessly extinguished the people, heritage, the very culture of all that once thrived below the Mason-Dixon Line." – *John Wayne Dobson*

~

"Saddened is a good term for it. Five of us in the 43rd GA made a road trip in November to North Carolina and Virginia battlefields and historic places. Had a great time, but ran into exactly the same thing.... everywhere. There was more signage at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello about life as a slave than interpretive about the great man. We visited Fortress Monroe where Jefferson Davis was imprisoned for two years, and the prominent display was about the Tuskegee Airmen who have nothing to do with Fort Monroe. (by the way, 66 Tuskegee airmen died in combat in WWII, 51,000 other US Airmen died in combat in WWII, can you name one unit other than the Tuskegee Airmen?). We went to Jamestown, settled in 1607. The interpretive sign where they first landed, built the church and fort etc. couldn't talk about slaves (there were none there at the time), so they pictured prominently what a black person looked like in Europe circa 1600. Really? I understand the park services have been directed to have something about slavery posted nearly everywhere, but this is such a distraction and distortion. We went to Washington's birthplace, same thing, Lee's birthplace.... yep. We toured Yorktown where Cornwallis was forced to surrender. Each interpretive sign had a black Rev War soldier on it. Yes, there were black Rev War soldiers, but way over represented. There is a value in preserving real history, and there are actually many real and valuable black stories to be told without making things up, they just are way over stressed and over represented today." – *Mike McAlpin*

WHAT DID YOU DO DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS?



J.C. - one of THE Original Howlin' Dawgs (left)

150 Years Ago - By Larry Upthegrove

December 28, 1865: In Atlanta, GA: We have a tidbit of postwar news of the "Gray Ghost" in this short article from the "Daily Intelligencer": "*Col. Jno. S. Mosby who was "killed" on so many occasions during the war by the paper bulletin of the North, was recently in Richmond looking as hale and vigorous as ever. He will assist the Prosecuting Attorney in the trial of Mr. Styles, the Internal Revenue Collector, lately indicted by the Grand Jury of Prince William County for mule stealing.*".....

December 29, 1865: In St. Louis. Missouri: born today is August Anheuser Busch, Sr., the Grandson of Eberhard Anheuser, the founder of the worldwide beer company and the son of Adolphus Busch who merged efforts with his father-in-law to grow the company with his role in sales and opening new markets. It will be August who will take the reins of the company in 1913, shortly after his father's death, leading it through World War I, Prohibition, and the Great Depression by innovation and diversifying. During prohibition the company will produce corn products, baker's yeast, ice cream, soft drinks, and commercial refrigeration units, including refrigerated railroad cars. After prohibition the company will return to producing beer, being the first to pasteurize its product. By 1957, by then under the control of August A. Jr., it will be the largest brewing company in the world. In his later life August A. Sr. will suffer heart disease, dropsy, and gout. At age 69 he will commit suicide with a gunshot to the abdomen on February 10, 1934 at the Busch mansion at Grant's Farm (former home of Ulysses S Grant).

January 2, 1866: In Atlanta, GA: A Boston paper writer is touring the South. Here is part of what he wrote, but always keep in mind where the writing is originating: "*The former residents are returning and re-establishing themselves, re-furnishing their houses and getting things in order again. Sherman did not destroy all the city. He spared the City Hall, the Medical College, all churches, many of the handsomer and more stylish dwellings, and nearly all the houses of the middling and poorer classes...But the entire business section of the city was destroyed, together with some of the larger dwellings.*" (There was not one church that could hold services when Sherman left, and most were totally destroyed. The Medical College was saved by tricking the assigned Yankees into thinking it was still occupied by wounded, and most of the houses left standing were barely habitable).

January 7, 1866: "Arlington Heights still remains in the possession of the Government, but it is said that the wife of Robert E. Lee has recently written to a friend that she intends to return there, even if she is "*obliged to live in the black quarters.*" This is indicative of the strength of her determination to re-assert what she considers the rights of herself and husband to this historic property; but among the other obstacles she will probably encounter, is the fact that 12,000 Union soldiers have been buried in its soil." (The Lee home just outside Washington City has become Arlington National Cemetery.)

Valentine Bake Sale Auction

A Fundraiser to benefit The Daily Bread Drama Team
Saturday February 6, 2016
5-8 p.m.

In the fellowship hall at Macon "E" Church

There will be hot dogs and chili for sale
from 5-6:30

AUCTION STARTS at 7p.m.

And, as always, the Drama Team has a few
surprises in store.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

*Donate homemade goodies for auction or
come and purchase sweets for your "sweetie"
Invite friends to join in the fun.*

MOVING THE "TEXAS"



Recently, a truck took the "Texas" to North Carolina for a meticulous restoration. The Civil War era train will come back to the center's Buckhead campus (as part of a multimillion-dollar expansion of the Atlanta History Center) where it will be displayed in a glass-enclosed breezeway. At night, it will be lit up like a gem in a jeweler's display case, visible from West Paces Ferry Road. Workers are shown (left) hauling the 53,000-pound engine out of the Cyclorama building where it had been housed since 1927. The panoramic painting "The Battle of Atlanta" is also headed to the history center, where a building is being constructed to house it. BEN GRAY / BGRAY@AJC.COM



Brothers and Sisters of the 16th Georgia, Greetings from Kuwait! I trust that you all are well and that you had wonderful Christmas and New Year's celebrations. The season is always busy for me, and we have seen much fruit in the ministry here. Dana delivered the flag you presented to her at Griswoldville. We are very grateful for the kindness and love extended to us by our Georgia family. Thank you for the gift! I will keep it in a place of honor. I am now about

halfway through my tour here. We have covered a lot of ground in the past months. I have a great team, and they have made me proud. One of my favorite parts of deployment is serving at the holiday meals. Yes, the meals usually offer good food. However, in this case I'm talking about a tradition we have in the Army. Senior leaders give time to go and actually serve holiday meals. I count it a tremendous privilege to have been able to join my Commander and Command Sergeant Major serving meals on both Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. It was a joy to be able to give just a little bit back to our heroes, who have volunteered to make the sacrifice and serve. I suppose that is why your service to Dana and I means so much to me. You have given care and solace to us, through your gifts of time and friendship. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and/or prayers. There is much to be done, and just a few to do it. Praying God's richest blessing on each of you! Your Humble Servant, *Roy M. Myers*



Hearing From HK: Feeling somewhat despondent over a broken heart, I decided on Sunday, January 3, 2016 to uplift my spirits by posting the Southern Cross. I would don the uniform of the Southern soldier, and upon arriving to my car, find the door on the passenger side open and the ten Historical March Across Dixie Pictorial Journals gone, the some forty DVD documentary discs gone. and all the buttons on my radio gone as well. I would post the Colors over the overpass of Interstate 240/ 26 and find relief for my troubled heart from all the folks blowing their car horns, waving, and stopping for a photograph by my side. After 2 hours of this and thinking it about time to go, a young White man with his 2 young daughters would pull up to where I stood. He would give me a speech about our shared heritage and thank me profusely for defending the Confederate soldier's good name and tell me that he loved me. Shortly thereafter, a car that had the windows taped with plastic on the passenger side would pull up to the red light at the end of the bridge. A man would beckon to me and began his dialogue by telling me just how much he hated that rag in my hand, and that he wished he could have been a Union soldier, and that he would have killed as many of the red neck trash that he could find. And that he hoped that I would die a slow and agonizing death. I couldn't tell if he was White or Latino. However, he made it clear that he was a Yankee. After holding up the traffic on the bridge with his diatribe, he sped away. After several cars had passed, a young Black man pulled up next to me, saying, "*Mr. Edgerton, you have been coming to this bridge with the Flag ever since I was a little boy. And I remember the day my father and I stopped here to say hello to you. My dad would tell me that he was so proud of you and the courage you displayed in representing Black people and the truth for what they did for the South. I wish you a Happy New Year, and can I shake your hand?*" I reached through his window, shook his hand and thanked him. An hour later as I furled my Flag; 3 young White girls & 1 Black girl would pass by shouting out my name, and singing out the Rebel Yell. We

love you HK! By God, there is no way to express the euphoria that I felt. After all was said and done, it had been a great day in Dixie. God bless you! Your brother, HK

-11-

The CSS Georgia

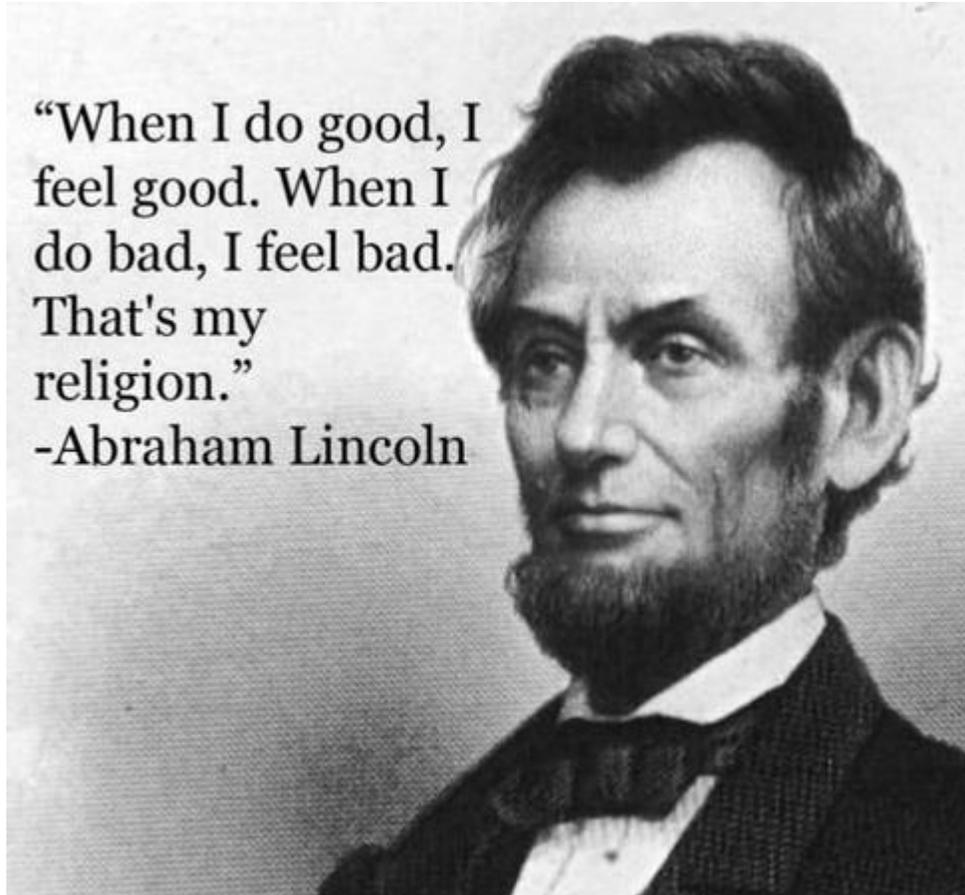
SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP) — Leather boots, the hilts of swords — even a stray earring — were



among the nearly 30,000 artifacts recovered this fall from the wreckage of the sunken ironclad Confederate gunship CSS Georgia. More than half of the haul retrieved during the \$14 million government project, however, was of a much more mundane nature: nuts, bolts, washers, bent iron rails and other material that did not shed any new light on the lives of sailors serving aboard the vessel. Altogether, 16,697 artifacts weighing a total of 135 tons were returned to a watery grave at the bottom of

the Savannah River, said Jim Jobling, project manager for the Conservation Research Laboratory at Texas A&M University, which is tasked with cataloging, cleaning and preserving artifacts from the Civil War shipwreck. *"Anything I considered to be unique, I would say, 'I want this, I want this,'"* Jobling said. *"I picked through everything. No unique stuff went back in the river."* The CSS Georgia was scuttled by its own crew to prevent Sherman from capturing the massive gunship when his Union troops took Savannah in December 1864. Remains from the Confederate ironclad were salvaged during the summer and fall as part of a \$703 million deepening of the Savannah harbor for cargo ships. *"We got four cannons, some large pieces of machinery,"* said Julie Morgan, the Army Corps of Engineers archaeologist overseeing the project. *"But those were just the things we were able to ID on the sonar. That whole site was just covered."* What they hadn't expected were the loads of small artifacts their cranes scooped up: Small buttons, hilts of knives and swords, an intact glass bottle, leather boots, and an earring among them. *"Returning artifacts deemed redundant or damaged to the Savannah River was part of the plan all along,"* Morgan said. That still left a sizable amount to study: More than 13,000 pieces weighing a total of 142 tons were sent to the lab at Texas A&M. Jobling, who went in prepared to spend two or three years on the CSS Georgia project, said the final haul could keep the lab's staff busy for a decade. The more than 16,600 relics they decided not to hang onto were placed in 10 storage containers, buried underwater, and covered with mud. The containers were moved to a part of the river outside Savannah's busy shipping channel. The relics and their location were documented so they can be retrieved in the future if needed. *"Storing them in water will help preserve them,"* Morgan said, *"while exposing them to dry air would accelerate their deterioration."* Morgan said she is not concerned that private treasure hunters will go after any of the artifacts. Experienced Navy divers who helped raised the wreckage struggled with extremely low visibility as well as powerful tides that limited diving time to about three hours each day, she noted. *"What we reburied, we made sure it was completely covered and sunk down in the mud,"* Morgan said. *"Somebody would have to work pretty hard to get in there."*

DID HE REALLY SAY IT? – HONESTLY?



Often we read things that are cleverly said. We agree with their viewpoint and just plain like them. But, if they are just not true and you cannot cite a source then they are not worth much. When I came across this Lincoln quote, I had to check it out and here is what I found: The source is William Herndon, Lincoln's long time law partner. According to Herndon, Lincoln was once asked about his religion and he remarked that it was very much like that of an old man named Glenn in Indiana whom he had heard speak at a church meeting and who said, *"When I do good I feel good; when I do bad I feel bad; and that's my religion."* SOURCE: p. 245 of "Recollected Words of Abraham Lincoln" compiled and edited by Don E. Fehrenbacher and Virginia Fehrenbacher. Among most Lincoln scholars, the book by the Fehrenbachers has a good reputation as being one of the more reliable compilations of Lincoln quotes.

"Prove all things....." - 1 Thessalonians 5:21

-13-

An Unlikely Southern Lady:

Madam Chiang Kai-shek, née Soong Mei-ling

~ by Sherrié Raleigh

This autumn, I wrote a research paper for a Modern China history course. When I presented the paper to my classmates at the end of the semester in a powerpoint presentation, they told me it didn't even *sound* like a history paper. They said it sounded more like a fairytale story, because it was too fascinating to be real. But it is a true story, and I hope you all enjoy it as much as they did.....

Our tale begins in the year 1878, when a 15-year-old Chinese boy named Soon Yao-ju (born ca. February 1863 - died 3 May 1918) sailed from China to the United States. During this time period, most of the young Chinese men who came to America were wealthy and prominent citizens who desired a Western university education. But this was not Yao-ju's case. His family was not wealthy, and he wasn't sent to America for an education. His maternal uncle was a tea and silk merchant in Boston, and the man had no children of his own. He had agreed to adopt Yao-ju, in hopes that Yao-ju would one day take over his business.

There was one small, unforeseen snag in this plan. When Yao-ju arrived in Boston, he soon befriended several other Chinese boys, most of whom were attending school. Yao-ju was absolutely fascinated with the idea of going to school, and he asked his uncle for permission to do so. But his uncle immediately refused the request. Yao-ju was in Boston for one reason: to learn the tea and silk trade. He was an adopted apprentice, and school was out of the question.

Yao-ju then did something that was truly shocking: he ran away from his uncle's home. During the Victorian era, the Chinese people put a huge stress on *filial duty* - basically, the duty of children to their parents. Very little was more important to the Chinese than obeying one's parents or guardian, following their orders, and taking care of them in old age. There was no emphasis on individuality whatsoever. Yao-ju was going against *all* traditional conventions by defying his guardian so openly. If he was caught, the punishment would be severe. Yao-ju didn't care, though. He stowed away on a ship in hopes of leaving Boston for good, determined to make his fortune elsewhere.

After the ship left port, Yao-ju was eventually discovered and taken to the ship's captain: Mr. Charles Jones. But after hearing the boy's story, Captain Jones decided not to turn him over to the authorities. Instead, he agreed that Yao-ju could serve as a cabin boy. Yao-ju readily agreed to this proposition.

A few months later, Captain Jones struck on a new idea. With Yao-ju's permission, he took the boy to North Carolina. Captain Jones had several Methodist missionary friends there, and they agreed to adopt Yao-ju and give him a Christian education. In gratitude, Yao-ju changed his name to Soong Charles "Charlie" Jones (adding a "G" to the end of his Chinese surname) in honor of the



captain who had give him a chance at becoming more than just a mere tea and silk apprentice.

-14-

With the help of the missionaries, Charlie attended a Methodist school, became a Christian, and graduated from Trinity College (which later became Duke University). He then returned to Shanghai to teach at a Methodist missionary school. He married a young Protestant Chinese woman named Kwei Tseng, who was very strict in her faith, and they had three girls (Ei-ling, Ching-ling, and Mei-ling) and three boys (T.V., T.L., and T.A.).

Charlie was anything BUT a typical Chinese man of the time. He was thoroughly Americanized and loved it. His children received a Western education and the



Soong house was quite Westernized. Christian faith was at the core of the family's life. By the time his daughter Ei-ling was 14 years old, Charlie had decided she would have go college in America, just as he had. He thoroughly shocked the elite Chinese society of Shanghai when he arranged for her American college education through Methodist missionaries. On the eve of her departure, he threw her a huge dinner party as a send-off. Shanghai society was horrified! Many felt that Charlie had thrown away his daughter's dowry on something ridiculous: an American education. And worse, he had given her a lavish dinner that would amount to nothing. She would never marry a proper Chinese man without a dowry! But Charlie ignored his critics. He believed her education was far more important than marriage.

Ei-ling left for Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia in 1904, where she was something of a true novelty amongst Macon society, and especially to her classmates. None of the Southern girls had ever seen a Chinese girl before. Ei-ling was quick to make friends, and was a studious young lady. Charlie was pleased with her education, and in 1909, he arranged for Ching-ling to join her older sister at Wesleyan. Mei-ling was too young to attend college (she was only 9 years old in 1909), but to her parents' surprise, she insisted that she be allowed to travel to the States, too. In fact, she told her parents that the previous year when she had been sick, they had told her they would give her a big favor if she took her medicine. She claimed she had never properly demanded the favor be returned, and was now doing so: She wanted to go to school with Ei-ling and Ching-ling in America. Charlie, always the eccentric, agreed to let Mei-ling go to America five years early. Fortunately, Wesleyan's Bishop's daughter was also 9 years old, and the two girls were tutored privately together. The Bishop's wife recollected that Mei-ling would often sit in a wheelbarrow and let the boys race her around the deep Southern verandas, her black Chinese braids whipping behind her in the wind. Like her sisters, she was a novelty amongst her classmates.

Mei-ling stayed in the States far longer than Ei-ling and Ching-ling. As a result, she was the most Westernized of the three. By the time she graduated, she was dressing in a thoroughly American style, and it was even difficult to tell her nationality in school photographs. She developed a strong Southern accent, and by the time she was a young teenager, she was a self-described "hot Confederate". While attending a summer semester at a northern school one year, a history professor asked Mei-ling to describe Sherman's March through Georgia in 1864. Mei-ling's very Southern, prim response was, "Pardon me, I am a Southerner, and that subject is very painful to me. May I omit it?"

At the age of 16, she transferred Wellesley College in Boston. Her first impression of the Northern school was not *remotely* favorable; she was overheard

to say in a drawling Southern accent, "Well, I reckon I shan't be staying *here* for long!" Fortunately, her brother T.V. was at Harvard, and she was able to visit him regularly during her final year of college.

-15-

After graduation, Mei-ling returned to China, only to discover (like her sisters had before her) that Shanghai was drastically backwards compared to Macon and Boston. Her sister Ei-ling had already married Mr. H. H. Kung: banker, politician, and a direct descendant of Confucius. For some time, he was the richest man in China. Her sister Ching-ling married Dr. Sun Yat-sen, their father's revolutionary friend (who was old enough to be her own father!), against her parents wishes. Dr. Sun Yat-sen was the leader behind the Chinese Revolution of 1912, and Ching-ling was his private secretary. But Mei-ling did not fit in well after being so Americanized. She did not marry right away, and after her father's death in 1918, she worked with her mother and the Methodist Church, and focused heavily on education in Chinese orphanages.

In 1922, Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Ching-ling hosted a party at their home, and it



was at this party that Chiang Kai-shek (the future leader of Nationalist China) met Mei-ling. Chiang was divorced and was well known for spending ample amounts of time in local whorehouses. In fact, Ching-ling was absolutely furious at his petition to marry her little sister. Her dislike of Chiang was so intense that she was overheard to say, "I'd rather see her *dead* than married to him!"

Despite Ching-ling's distaste in Chiang, it was Ei-ling who was instrumental in Mei-ling's marriage. Chiang, as leader of the Nationalist Party, needed financial backing against the Communist Party in order to unify the nation. Ei-ling, being married to the richest man in the country, could help with that. It is unknown if Kai-shek and Mei-ling's marriage in 1927 was strictly political, or if they had affection for each other. Mei-ling was a person driven by ambition, and by marrying Chiang, she would eventually become known as the "First Lady of China".

Mei-ling's mother put a strict condition on the marriage: Chiang Kai-shek would have to convert to Christianity, because Mrs. Soong would not have her daughter marry a non-believer. He refused, stating he would not convert just to satisfy Mrs. Soong, but he did agree to read the Bible daily. Mrs. Soong agreed to his terms.

There was a big problem with the marriage, however. Methodists of the time did not believe in divorce, and no Methodist preacher in all of China would marry the couple due to Chiang's divorce record. Mrs. Soong insisted that Chiang's first marriage didn't actually qualify because it had been between practicing Buddhists and not Christians. She *finally* found a lay-preacher who agreed to perform the ceremony. Still, the union was highly unpopular in China: many Chinese felt that Chiang and Mei-ling were bending the rules of Methodism and Christianity to suit their own purposes, and were thus extremely hypocritical. As a result, many developed an unfavorable view of Christianity.

At their wedding, Mei-ling and Chiang received thousands of Buddha figurines for good luck; Mei-ling's mother smashed all of them with a hammer on the premise that they were pagan. Somehow, one lone jade Buddha escaped her wrath, and Chiang hid it in their attic.

For the next three years, Chiang read his Bible daily as he promised, and spoke often with the local Methodist Bishop on spiritual matters. The Bishop answered his questions on the Bible and Christ, but did not press Chiang to convert prematurely.

Three years after their marriage, General Chiang was involved in a difficult battle against the Chinese Communist Party. Things were going poorly for the Nationalists. Desperate, Chiang went into a small church and prayed for help, insisting he would convert to Christianity if he won the battle. Help came in

-16-

the form of a snowstorm, which delayed the Communists long enough for Chiang's reinforcements to arrive from Nanjing, and the Nationalists claimed the victory. True to his word, Chiang returned home, requested to be baptized, and converted. His conversion caused a wave of negativity throughout China. Some Chinese felt that Chiang had converted for political reasons, possibly hoping for additional financial backing from the United States. Others said Chiang saw himself as a Christ figure, out to save all of China from the Communists. As for himself, Chiang insisted his conversion was sincere.

Unlike the Chinese, most Americans were ecstatic about Chiang's conversion, and hoped it would mean a mass conversion for the entirety of China. This never happened. Today, roughly 4% of China practices Christianity.

Some months after Chiang's conversion, Mei-ling had a series of terrifying nightmares. For three nights in a row, she woke up screaming in fear (and woke her husband up in the process). On the third night, right after she woke up from the reoccurring nightmare, several Nationalist guards came in to alert Chiang and Mei-ling of a discovered assassination plot against both of them. The perpetrators were captured, but Mei-ling felt something was dreadfully wrong and that God must be angry with them for some reason. Determined to find the source, she had the house searched from top to bottom. The little jade Buddha figure that Chiang had kept was discovered in the attic. Mei-ling was certain this was the cause of the problems, and she and Chiang destroyed the figure together, hoping to appease the Lord.



Throughout her entire life, Mei-ling remained a strong Christian woman and credited her mother with her faith. She was highly popular in America due to the fact that she remained Westernized after her marriage, and because her English was flawless. During World War II, she became a spokesperson to the United States for the plight of China, demanding support and help against the invading Japanese. After World War II, when China fell into Civil War (the Nationalist Party vs. the Communist Party), Mei-ling continued to petition the United States for help. In 1949, General Chiang Kai-shek lost all of his ground and was forced to flee into exile to Taiwan with Mei-ling, and Mao Zedong and the Communists took over the country. Interestingly, over the next few decades, Taiwan flourished due to Western influence, while China struggled under Communist rule.

After 1949, Mei-ling's old Wesleyan classmates remembered her fondly. One lady in particular spoke of Madam Chiang Kai-shek's famous Christmas fruitcakes and desserts, which she had learned to cook during her time in Georgia. Classmates also spoke of her Southern grace and manners, and how she never really changed from the schoolgirl they remembered at Wesleyan. Mei-ling never lost her slight Southern accent, and she is one of the very few people in the world to live through three centuries: she was born ca. 1898, and died in 2001.

(Sources: Available upon request, but most of the information came from the book *The Soong Sisters* by Emily Hahn, as well as resources in the Wesleyan Female College's library archives. If you'd like a list of all of the sources, please email sherrie.raleigh@gmail.com.)

-17-

Program on The 16th Georgia Planned

For any who may be interested, I just wanted to let you guys know that Mark Pentecost and I will be doing a program on the 16th Georgia for the Jackson County Historical Society on Sunday January 17th at 2:30 pm at the Jackson County Historic Courthouse located at 85 Washington Street, Jefferson GA 30549. We would love to see some of you there!

Sincerely,

Laura Elliott

356 Creek Haven Road
Rainbow City, AL 35906
(205)229-1236 cell

(Note: Mark is a long time member of the 16th GA and many of us enjoyed meeting Laura Elliott when she spoke at an SCV Camp 2218 meeting.)

HERE COMES THE 155th !

In Commemoration of the 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run – Manassas, originally fought on July 21st, 1861, the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation will host the reenactment event on the Battle of Cedar Creek Battlefield in Middletown, Virginia. Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of the Battlefield and the education of scholars and the general public. All proceeds go towards this mission. Registration fees are listed below for adults and teens 12 years of age and older. Children 8 to 11 years of age are 1/2 price. Children 7 and under are free. All minors must have a parental release form signed and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Early Registration – \$15: Register by January 31st and take advantage of the early registration pricing. Regular Registration – \$25: February 1st to May 31st Late Registration – \$35: June 1st – July 8th Walk-ons – \$40: After July 8th, 2016 only Walk-ons will be accepted. Please register early! Substitution requests must be in writing with confirmation of all parties involved and must be submitted by July 8th, or a walk-on fee will be charged.

“Also, let's start discussing (at Olustee) possibly going to the 155th Manassas July 22. ccbf.us is the website. We need to decide because the

**fee goes up for registration the later you register." – 1st Lt. Noah Sprague
-18-**



"And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." - Mark 8:34

In our world when a fight is coming, a powerful image is that of a General. The one who commands the battle. The one who says "go and do", but also "follow me".

As Christians our General is Jesus (Joshua 5:13-15). He has shown us what to do and where to go. He has said also "follow me". He has said we can't save ourselves if we try. We are a lost people. But if we go with Jesus all things possible!

Is the Christian life hard? YES and NO! Yes, because our earthly flesh and carnal selves rebel at the thought of denial (Roman 8:5-7). But also NO because Jesus is with us. He never leaves us nor forsakes us

(Hebrews 13:5).

**Through Him we have victory! (1 Corinthians 15:57)
Will you follow Jesus to victory?**

Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr.

-19-

REAL, HEARTFELT PRAYERS ARE NEEDED



Folks, we list prayer requests in each issue and for those who take time to pray – to really pray – well, the results are quite evident and people are so grateful. I cannot recall when I have seen such a rash of illnesses and deaths affect the re-enactment community - they really came the last half of 2015. Some of the names on this list will likely be gone before 2016 ends and there are, of course, those we cannot foresee at this time. I hear people say, sometimes, "I will pray for you" and you know they do not mean it or else they mean to and just forget. We cannot afford to do that. People depend on your prayers. Don't let them down. Don't let each other down. Some real prayer is needed. May God Bless.

John and Linda Tucker

Linda's (FL) "health has taken a turn for the worse. The Chemo has had no effect on her and the cancer has gotten bigger. It is ALL in GODS hands. She is ready for anything; not afraid."

John Hoffman

Ron Haskins

Mark Thompson

(Mr. Tommy is doing better after a long hospital stay)

Tom and Ruth Stevens

Roy and Dana Myers

Mr. Perry Haralson

The Whitehead family

Colonel Bowman's family

Diane Beck's family

James Boyd and family

Rev. Joey and Amanda Young

Tommy and Elaine Wallace

Mrs. & Mrs. Herbert Burns

Ervin and Barbara Garnto

Carl Dixon's family

Charles and Marie Hill

Me & You

And let me know of others

(For privacy, in some cases, I do not publish the details of these requests except in certain instances, but will share them if you contact me.)