

September 2020 16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G "<u>The</u> Jackson Rifles["]



Cuban bloodhound "Spot". Served at Andersonville

IN SEPTEMBER



"Lone Star", by Don Troiani, depicting the 1st Texas Infantry in the cornfield near Antietam Creek in the vicinity of Sharpsburg, Maryland. Hood's Texas Brigade angrily charges into Miller's Cornfield having been interrupted from their first breakfast in days by a call to battle. It is September 17, 1862.

IN SEPTEMBER

Most people interested in The War Between the States are able to mentally "walk through", in order, the events of that period of time. It helps us to better understand this subject that interests us so much. In this issue we have not selected a specific historical starting point but used our current month and related to the five Septembers of the War

1860

Like 2020 the September of 1860 saw the approach of a presidential election. November 6, 1860 would decide the four-way contest in favor of Abraham Lincoln. His political platform opposing the expansion of slavery in the territories was the certain springboard for the outbreak of the War. Feeling that their rights were being set aside, the Southern States acted on the precept of the Declaration of Independence "to alter or to abolish" the present Government and establish one more suitable. They did not seek to overthrow the U.S. government but simply separate from it, go their own way and be left alone. For this reason some folks never settled on the term "Rebel.' To some it was a term cast at Southern people with the same venom contained in the word "Yankee." However people on both sides did adopt these labels favorably. After being sworn in as the U.S.

president, Lincoln refused to accept any resolution that would result in Southern secession from the Union. South Carolina seceded on December 20, 1860.



"Never Give Up The Field" – Georgians at 1st Manassas by Don Troiani

1861

By the September of this year the Pony Express had ceased to exist and Benjamin Henry had perfected a repeating rifle which would be used in considerable numbers by certain Union army units. The Confederate States of America were formed by South Carolina, Mississippi,

Georgia, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, and Texas, then joined by Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas and North Carolina. Under the Stars and Bars they responded to Lincoln's support of Fort Sumter on April 12th. War had begun. The first United States income tax was now in effect with 3% of all incomes over 800 dollars being collected for the War effort. The Union Navy maintained blockades on Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports of the Confederate States of America to prevent the passage of trade goods, supplies, and arms. During the Battle of 1st Manassas General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson gained his nickname but his brigade suffered more casualties than any other Southern unit that day.

1862

During this September, Otto von Bismarck was busy in Berlin trying to unite the German states into a single state under Prussia. Meanwhile back in the U.S. the western reaches of Virginia remained in the Union. In the spring, unprecedented casualties resulted at Shiloh

IN SEPTEMBER

and Richard Gatling's Gun began appeared but using a single barrel and a paper cartridge. Union Captain David G. Farragut took New Orleans and Lincoln signed the original Homestead Act. Again the Southern army was victorious at Manassas. Then came September 17th near Sharpsburg, Maryland - the bloodiest single day of the War.



Robert Toomb's Georgians @ Burnside Bridge, 1pm, September 17, 1862 by John Paul Strain

1863

The Battle of Gettysburg resulted in 23,000 Union soldiers and over 20,000 Confederate soldiers being

killed by the end of the third day. By September many wounded had died and some languished behind enemy lines in hospitals or prisons.

General Gordon leads his Georgia Brigade July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg – by Don Troiani

An artillerist who watched John B. Gordon trot forward marveled at the black horse: "I never saw a horse's neck so arched, his eye so fierce, his nostril so dilated." The general's demeanor impressed the same observer: "Gordon was the most glorious and inspiring thing I ever looked upon....Bareheaded, hat in



hand, arms extended, and in a voice like a trumpet, exhorting his men. It was superb; absolutely thrilling." Colonel Clement A. Evans, who eventually would succeed Gordon in brigade command, reported on the same scene: "Gordon rode superbly that day...among and ever near the heroic men in the advancing line, and his bearing was every inch the incarnate spirit of chivalry." Gordon himself recounted the success in a letter to his wife written on July 7: "It surpassed anything I have seen during the War." Six days after the stirring scenes near Rock Creek, a captain in Gordon's Brigade wrote home and described how the general shouted to his victorious men: "'You are the finest Troops that ever were led into a fight.' We replied, 'You are the best General who ever led men into a fight.' "

IN SEPTEMBER

1864

On February 17, the Confederate States Navy submarine, H.L. Hunley sank the U.S.S. Housatonic of Charleston harbor. In March 1864, Lincoln gave Ulysses S. Grant command of all Union armies. On May 31st Lee promptly defeated Grant at Cold Harbor. Nearly 7,000 Union casualties occurred after less than an hour—by some accounts most were lost in as little as 10 minutes in one of American history's bloodiest battles. On September 4th: the Confederate raider, John Hunt Morgan was murdered at Greenville, Tennessee. In Atlanta, Sherman ordered all civilians to leave and on September 23, 1864, Jefferson Davis addressed the Confederate Army of Tennessee at **Macon, Georgia**.



Final Mission of The Hunley by Mort Kunstler

1865

The Appomattox campaign of 1865 took place in March and April in Virginia. Robert E. Lee's surrender of the Confederate army at Appomattox courthouse to Ulysses S. Grant on April 9th was the end of the War. On April 14th Lincoln was mortally wounded. John B. Stetson set up a new factory in Philadelphia to manufacture his Cowboy hats. Ratified, the 13th Amendment officially abolished and prohibited slavery and The New York Stock Exchange opened near Wall Street.

GOOD BYE FOR NOW "WATCH DOG"



William Markus "Watch Dog" Thompson, 51, of Eatonton, Georgia passed away Thursday, August 27, 2020. A memorial service was held by the family, friends and the 16th Georgia Infantry on Saturday September 5, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. at Old Clinton in Gray Georgia. Born in Macon, on Saturday, September 7th, 1968, Mark was the son of Shirley Ann Bell Barlow; Step father, the late Glen Barlow and the father, William Elijah Thompson. Since the early 1990's he was a highly-esteemed member of the 16th Infantry Co. G "The Jackson Rifles" re-enactment company and was a volunteer fireman with the Chester Fire Department in Chester, Georgia. He is survived by his wife, Sheila Thompson, Children, Glen Keith

Thompson and Brittany Marie Thompson; Sister, Tina Louise Thompson White (Keith); Brother in law, Robby Riezinger (Elisa); nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. Father in law and Mother in law; Robert and Marie Riezinger. The family may be contacted at 127 West Bear Creek Road, Eatonton, Ga. 31024 and 305 Dodge Street, Chester, Georgia 31012. Friends may sign the online register at www.fairhavenmacon.com. Fairhaven Funeral Home and Cremation Services had charge of arrangements.

Like all of us Mark sought a place in life where he belonged – a place where it was good enough to just be himself. One of the places he found was with the 16th Georgia. The 16^{th} is a family group of traditional values and a Godly faith. Being with the 16^{th} for the better part



September 5 at the Red Barn – (Kellie Morgan)

of three decades, Mark was there through some of the toughest campaigns, during times that have become sweet memories. We laughed a lot and cried some as those years just passed by too quickly. Sgt. Ronnie "Skin" Neal was once heard to say, regarding his own membership in the 16th -"I finally found a bunch that would have me." So say we all. We are and always have been an odd collection of humanity. As they said about the soldiers we portray, "he (Watch Dog) was as good a man as ever tore a cartridge."

WATCH DOG - Mark forged many true and lasting friendships; he was valued, he was loved, he was important ... he was somebody. Nicknames in the 16th are a mark of honor, not ridicule. It was Steve Smith who gave Mark with the name "Watch Dog." It sure did fit. Private Brian Robbins of Dublin, GA, a long-time member of the 16th Georgia, recalled that when he first got into re-enacting that the first uniform he borrowed was from "Watch Dog." I think the first clothing Mark borrowed was from Corp. Bones. At Mark's service, on September 5th in Clinton, many sweet memories and funny stories were shared. Watch Dog loved to laugh and joke around with his friends. I recalled that once when Mark was staying with me (Duke) in my home in Macon that he had purchased a large Bowie knife at a re-enactment. One evening he said he was going to retire to his room to sharpen it. In a little while Mark came out of his room and asked, "*Uncle Wayne, do you have any band aids?*" Mark was one of the most honest men I ever met. He would never lie even if it meant dire consequences for himself. As far as stealing, well, I suppose Mark would just as soon cut off his arm. Shirley, his mother, taught him well and he grew up to be a man of unquestioned integrity. Years ago a group of his fellow re-enactors assisted Mark in placing a headstone



on the grave of his ancestor, James Bush Howard, who fought in the War Between the States. Corp. James Bush Howard was in Co. K of the 1st South Carolina Cavalry – those "fire eaters" as they were called. Near the time of Gettysburg in July 1863, Corporal Howard was fully discharged from the Confederate service because he had contracted tuberculosis. Later, on April 1, 1865, Howard

Mark (right) helps restore a Confederate Grave (Kim Beck)

had re-entered the service as a member of Holcomb's Legion and was captured at the Battle of Five Forks – likely by Custer and his men. James Bush Howard was sent to Point Lookout, Maryland to miserably sit out the rest of the War. After the War he filled out paperwork for his pension and was asked on the form why he returned to service.



The 16th GA and 51st PA at the Red Barn in Clinton, GA "Watch Dog" among those he served with kneels on the far right under the blue Georgia flag

James Bush Howard's explanation was that he "got to feeling better." That is dedication. He could have honorably sat out the rest of the War after his 1863 discharge, but he did not because he believed in the Southern Cause. Compatriot Kim Beck, 4th Brigade Commander of the Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) and long-time friend of Mark's,

WATCH DOG -writes "When I first learned of the SCV, Mark was already in the Capt. Hardy B.



Smith Camp in Dublin, GA. In 1993 Mark was with the Camp when it petitioned to recharter under the UCV number which was 104. Mark, then living in Dodge County, was a charter member of the Pine Barrens Volunteers

Mark's Masterpiece – He was always at his finest with the kids

Camp #2039 in 2002. He participated in many parades and festivals as Sergeant of the Honor Guard; also many school programs" of which he excelled. Mark had a way of relating to the kids like few others did. It seems that Mark's lineage could be traced back to Horace Lawson Hunley of Confederate submarine fame. Mark inherited a lot of that dedication.

As the years went on he was not as physically able to serve but he was there as much as he could be, faithfully, doing what he could and being with those he loved and who loved him so much. It was duty well done and no person can do more than that! Mark was a proud member of the SCV almost as long as he was a re-enactor.

More than 40 years ago I became Mark's "Uncle Wayne". I must have heard him call me that about a million times. Right now, I sure would like to hear a million and one. Mark and I never talked about GOD or the hereafter much in our lives until the past couple of years. The subject seemed to come up with some regularity. Mark knew, for sure, that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:16-17) Kim Beck and I were talking in the days after Mark passed and he told me that Mark had a "Jesus Tree." Apparently that was the spot they had met and Mark always remembered. The "Watch Dog" will be watching from Heaven's portals and I have every confidence that one day in Heaven I will hear a voice across the way calling. "Uncle Wayne, Uncle Wayne, Uncle Wayne." Until then, I will sure miss him. – John Wayne Dobson 9/13/20

"... as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which GOD hath prepared for them that love him." - 1 Corinthians 2:9

THE 16^{TH} GEORGIA CO. G - "The Jackson Rifles"

Colonel (Ret.)-Steven L. "Red Bone" Smith-478-951-4863 or 478-956-3858 Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201 Rev. Joey Young – Honorary Member - 678-978-7213 Captain Wm. "Rebel" Bradberry, Commanding – 404-242-7213 1st Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755 2nd Lt. Charles Whitehead – 478-986-8943 Color Sqt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796 Adjutant: 5th Corp. "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531 Treasurer: 6th Corp. Earl Colvin – 478-214-0687 1st. Sqt. (RIP) James "Barefoot" Boyd (2019) 1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739 2nd Sat. Nathan Sprague - 478-320-8748 Corp. (Ret.) Mike "Beezer" Banks – 770-467-8123 1st Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151 or 955-2074 2nd Corp. Matthew Whitehead - 478-607-0235 3rd Corp. Cody Sprague - 478-542-1802 4th Corp. Tommy Shover – 478-230-3483 Lead Chaplain–Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798 Hon. Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal - 478-808 8848 Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878 Musician – Drew Edge – 478-365-1897 Musician – Chance Sprague – 706-491-9755 Musician - Aaron Bradford - 302-668-8029 Musician - Al M.cGalliard - 478-259-5786 ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". And @ scv2218.com

The Watch Dog

SCHEDULED & RE-SCHEDULED 2020 EVENTS

October 3-4 – Andersonville (GA) October 10-11- Ft. Clinch Garrison, Fernandina, FL October 10-11 – Cherokee Battlefield Preservation Re-enactment (sponsored by the Hardee Guard battalion on private land in Gaylesville, AL October 17-18 - Manassas (GA) Re-enactment. October 23-25 Palatka, FL (sponsored by The Liberty Guards)

November 21 - Griswoldville Battlefield Commemoration - Canceled

December - Richland Church - Canceled

September - 150 Years Ago by Larry Upthegrove

Friday, September 2, 1870: In Atlanta, as in most Southern cities, vagrancy became quite a problem after the War was over. Jobs were scarce and the freedmen mostly had the idea that "Freedom" meant they no longer had to work. Some of them kept that idea up until the moment they starved to death. However, the city governments passed vagrancy laws and enforcement was strict.

In Atlanta, diarist, Sam Richards, gives us his Sunday report: "This has been the prettiest day of the year, so bright and clear and neither too warm nor too cold. Dr. Brantly preached again in the Central Presbyterian Church.

Saturday, September 10, 1870: In France, the Empirical Armies of Napoleon III have been defeated and German army is pouring into the Country. Paris is under siege and Napoleon is in prison. There is no one in the Government of France that has the authority to negotiate a peace so the war goes on with the major cities under siege, starving out the population. This war began because of a perceived insult of a French Diplomatic envoy by Otto Von Bismarck, Chancellor of Germany. The French were objecting to the marriage of a Prussian Prince to a Spanish Princess, thus making allied Nations on each side of France. France really wanted this war to happen, War with Prussia. They did not think that Bismarck could bring in the other provinces of Germany to an allied force, but he did.

Prussia wanted the war also, in order to bring the provinces of Germany together into a powerful alliance, therefore a powerful Nation would result. Other than some minor victories by the French at first, all the major battles were won by the Germans. The remainder of the conflict will be sieges and diplomacy with little fighting left to do. It will all be over in February of next year, leaving France with 139,000 dead soldiers and Germany with 45,000 of the same.....

Thursday, September 15, 1870: Low river water is always a problem for communities that depend on the river for much of its commerce, as does Rome, Georgia. When the Coosa gets low there are several shoal areas that become impossible for most of the current steamboats. Earlier this week, the "Atlanta Constitution" had this article: "*The Georgia Steamboat Company at Rome has launched a new steamer. Her capacity is about 750 tons, and when rigged she will draw only about five inches of water. As a low water boat, she will be invaluable.*".....

<u>QUOTES</u>

".... love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave." - Song of Solomon 8:6

"The best men are always first discovered by their enemies." - The Philippian

The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those who speak it – George Orwell

The Passing of a Legend: Ed Bearss



We were saddened by the news of the passing of legendary historian Edwin Cole Bearss. He born on June 26 1923 and he died Wednesday, September 16, 2020. Ed Bearss. Ed suffered a heart attack and died surrounded by family. He was 97.

Long before he was the Chief Historian of the National Park Service, before becoming the author of many notable books, before he visited The Battlefield of Sunshine Church as our friend and mentor, he was with the 3rd Marine Raider Battalion in the invasion of Guadalcanal and the Russell Islands. Ed served with the 7th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, in New Britain. On January 2, 1944, Bearss was severely wounded at "Suicide Creek" (Cape Gloucester, New Britain) by Japanese machine gun fire.

"Ed's career is unmatched in the Civil War community—from his discovery of the USS Cairo in the Yazoo River to his role as chief historian emeritus of the National Park Service. For many of us, our love of history



and preservation was nurtured through battlefield tours led by Ed and his knowledge of history was encyclopedic. His ability to convey that knowledge in a relatable way mesmerized his audiences for generations." (American Battlefield Trust President Jim Lighthizer)

Ed Bearss - "My personal acquaintance with Mr. Bearss came in the 90's when I was a struggling writer composing articles for various magazines. Often enough, I had a multitude of questions and sought could expert quidance. Somewhere I found Ed's name and phone number and gave him a call. I had no idea, until much later, who he was. All I knew was that the patient and brilliant voice on the other end of the phone gave me his attention as if I were his private student. This happened on several more occasions until I learned WHO he was – after that I was too embarrassed to call again."(John Wayne Dobson)



Pictured above, March 2019, on The Sunshine Church Battlefield: Ed Bearss, Vince Dooley, J.C. Nobles, Earlene Hamilton, Chuck Johnson, Charles Whitehead, Brick Lee Nelson, Wayne and Brenda Dobson among others.

"Mr. Bearss was conducting one of this famous tours – maybe in March of 2009 – I am not certain. It was cold that day and as we shivered and talked near Stoneman's Hill and my wife snapped a picture of Ed and I. He returned to that same spot in March of 2019 and I got him to sign the photo we had taken about a decade before. It would be our last meeting.. I have few heroes and have never been known to be in awe of celebrities but I do like interesting people who are really good at what they do. Ed was all of that! As a historian, writer, speaker, and tour guide, Ed served as the very model of an exceptional public historian in all ways, including his passion and accessibility. He set a high bar for all of us, and then inspired us to reach it. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family and we are grateful for all he did as a Marine, historian and guide." (John Wayne Dobson) *****

A STERN WARNING AND YET, THERE IS MERCY

"...**Hell hath enlarged herself**, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it. **Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil**; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against HIS people, and HE hath stretched forth HIS hand against them. For all this HIS anger is not turned away, **but HIS hand is stretched out** *still*. – Isaiah 5:14, 20, & 25

JONESBORO, GEORGIA MEMORIAL SERVICE – AUGUST 29TH





THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER #2218 Of Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia

Our Camp (2218) suspended meetings back in March but resumed in August with an excellent second presentation on "Confederate Long Arms" by our own Matt Simms. In September, in-coming UDC #25 President Dr. Renee Sullivan

zero

brought very interesting information on "*Man's Best Friend – Civil War Horses and Mules"*. We look forward to outgoing UDC #25 President, Crystal Jump, coming in October to talk about the fascinating topic of "*Battlefield Ghosts."* As is our custom, we will not meet in November of December. *Jwd*

September got off to a good start for SCV Camp # 104 of Dublin, Georgia who hosted



a cookout at the historic (1873), Hardy Smith House (14th GA Infantry, Co. H – 1841-1912) and a rally at the Confederate Monument. Compatriot John Hall writes "thank you all for a great success. We enjoyed meeting everybody with pork, beans, hot dogs, chips and drinks. A special thanks to Pal for doing the cooking and Jim Bowden for helping out! There was

press coverage even though we had approximately 50 people march to the monument. We never get any press coverage. The powers that be are afraid our ranks will grow if they show us in a positive way....but we are growing anyway!"

From our 4th Brigade Commander came the sad news that former Captain Ruel W. Anderson Camp Commander Sammy Hankey passed away on September 23. He was most recently a member of the Pine Barrens Volunteers SCV. We pray for GOD's comfort to abide upon his family. No further details were available as of this writing.



"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish.

Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

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YOUR PRAYER LIST

We are "persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the LORD JESUS, that the life also of JESUS might be made manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for JESUS' sake, that the life also of JESUS might be made manifest in our mortal flesh." - 2 Corinthians 4:9-11

You may not recognize many of the names on this page, but does that really matter? They represent real people – genuine needs. Just because you do not know them personally nor the nature of their circumstance does not mean that you cannot pray for them. Bow your heart and head for a moment – just a moment - and ask GOD to meet these needs – ALL OF THEM – according to HIS will ...

Family of Mark "Watch Dog" Thompson - Judy and Jett Smith - Dan & Sheri Williams - The Family of Helen DeLoach - Rev. Joey Young and family - J.C. Nobles – Ed Bearss' family Ruth & Tom Stevens & family – Estelle Cheney & family - Brenda Dobson - Madeline Sanders - Rev. Gary Berrier - Voncille Sark - Bob Holloway -- The Stancil family - Steve & Ricky Smith & family -Ben (Cooter) Jones - Cathy Wheeler - Reba Aultman - Kasey Larson - Matt Whitehead - Will Butler - Val & Ed Elliott - Tommy Wright - Gale Red -Ethan & Crystal Bloodworth - Ty & Gina Burnsed - Harold & Toni Buchanan -Jack & Jim Mundey - Dale & Becky Rankin - Kay Busbee - Roy and Dana Myers - Rev. Alan Farley - Mrs. & Mrs. Burns - Richard Durham as well as, those who preach & teach The WORD, our heritage, UDC, C.S.A., U.S.A., Israel, Law Enforcement, Paramedics & Firefighters, Judges Political Leaders, Missionaries, Our Compatriots, Ministers, Travelers, The lonely, bereaved families, For America, Bibb County, Georgia, The Cannonball House Staff, Our enemies, for the unspoken requests and those I forgot to put on this list ... And for Me & You, that we witness boldly, risking awkwardness and seeming to be foolish. Especially those infected with COVID-19 and fighting for their lives and those faithfully ministering help to them. Please, let me know of others that should be on this list. Pray with the confidence that GOD loves you so very much.

"... in all these things we are more than conquerors through HIM that loved us." Romans 8:37

We are still here and still standing. Standing in the need of prayer - MORE THAN EVER!



PAP

3 tbs. flour

2 tbs. sugar

 $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups scalded milk

2 tbs. brown sugar

Mix the flour with a small quantity of the milk. Add the sugar and remaining milk. Place in top of double boiler and cooker over boiling water until the consistency of soft custard. Pour into serving dishes and sprinkle with brown sugar. Chill & serve.

RICE WITH CINNAMON SAUCE

Boil 1/3 cup rice in salted water until tender. Drain and cool. Mix together in a separate bowl 3 tablespoons flour, 3 tablespoons sugar and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cinnamon. Take $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of milk & bring to a boil; gradually add the mixture of dray ingredients, stirring constantly. Boil 5 minutes; then pour, hot, over cold rice. Yum!

CATHY'S CLOWN

The Humor of Kenny Stancil

Two men went bear hunting. While one stayed in the cabin, the other went out looking for a



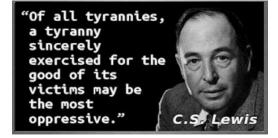
bear. He soon found a huge bear, shot at it but only wounded it. The enraged bear charged toward him, he dropped his rifle and started running for the cabin as fast as he could. He ran pretty fast but the bear was just a little faster and gained on him with every step. Just as he reached the open cabin door, he tripped and fell flat. Too close behind to stop, the bear tripped over him and went rolling into the cabin. The man jumped up, closed the cabin door and yelled to his friend inside, "You skin this one while I go and get another!"

A farmer goes to the market and buys a brown chicken and a brown cow. The guy behind the desk handed him his change and burst out laughing. "What's so funny?" asks the farmer. "Brown-chick-abrown-cow!"

I got gas for \$1.39 today. Unfortunately, it was at Taco Bell.

THE CHURCH OF 2020

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you." - Hebrews 13:12



In 2020 it seemed, at times, as if our whole world had come to an abrupt end. We were locked out of certain facilities due to COVID-19 for much of the year. This was soon coupled with <u>Stay At Home</u> <u>Orders</u>. We shopped only as necessary, had few extracurricular activities and even our churches closed despite our contradictory orders to never cease (Hebrews 10:25). Our world became "online." By summer, some restrictions were lifted and

more business establishments, historic sites and churches began to reopen. Other places had heavy restrictions and the days of the open buffet seemed long gone. Countless voices came through social media and other sources expressed what "they" thought we should be doing about all of this. Everyone comes equipped with an opinion. It was said, for example, that churches, restaurants and all sorts of businesses who did open just did not care about people. Still others applauded pastors or anyone who defied government restrictions.

Business owners faced great pressure to reopen or lose their business. The same was the case for many churches – especially the smaller ones. Ultimately, it all fell on the shop owner, the business director, the pastor to make decisions that would affect so many. "Local pastors, for example, had to reconcile the voices of their congregation, their church leadership, their overseers, social media critiques, government officials, the enemy, and the LORD. The pandemic added extra amount pressures that no one knew how to deal with it.

When it comes to churches, any business or facility reopening, there is no perfect model. Each church, state, county, and denomination will have their own rules. Some churches are not allowed to sing, some Kroger stores will not let you in without a mask, and some individuals refuse to gather in any sizeable group, especially around those they do not know. It could be said that our own (Middle Georgia) area had relatively few cases but we all know of someone who was sick and possibly someone who died. With this being said, it would be unwise to treat all churches the same, when it comes to how to move forward. The various regulations and unique makeup of the church itself must be taken into consideration. The local pastor must balance all of these factors to make wise choices for any given Sunday. Being a pastor is not for the faint of heart. They are called to watch over those in their "flock" and will be held accountable for their actions (Acts 20:28, Hebrews 13:12).

During this pandemic, pastors must seek the LORD for council as they are ultimately accountable to Him. Some would argue, shouldn't GOD be speaking the same to every church? To that, we would argue yes and no. The overall Great Commission remains the same for all. The method of winning souls and making disciples, like in any other season, will be different and unique for each ministry. When pastors seek the LORD, they are to do so in a manner of complete surrender to HIS voice, and not the voice of the parishioners. In other words, pastors must be Spirit-led not swayed by people. This will undoubtedly cause some to be offended as they see the pastor as not doing what they deem is best. However, a praying pastor can remain steady and confident when they have sought the LORD for the wisdom to lead their church during these times. Church leaders must trust that God knows all things, so whether He leads them to be virtual for the next year, close the ministry, or do business as usual, they must trust the LORD.

Ultimately, the church and its people belong to GOD and the pastor should follow HIS lead on all matters, even if it looks different than the church up the street. Jwd - 9/26/20

Recent Book

It Wasn't About Slavery: Exposing the Great Lie of the Civil War

It Wasn't About Slavery Exposing the Great Lie of the Civil War

Samuel W. Mitcham Jr.

by Samuel W. Mitcham Jr. (Author)

If you think the Civil War was fought to end slavery, you've been duped. In fact, as distinguished military historian Samuel Mitcham argues in his provocative new book, *It Wasn't About Slavery*, no political party advocated freeing the slaves in the presidential election of 1860. The Republican Party platform opposed the *expansion* of slavery to the western states, but it did not embrace abolition. The *real* cause of the war was a dispute over money and self-determination. Before the Civil War, the South financed most of the federal government—because the federal government was funded by tariffs, which were paid disproportionately by the agricultural South that imported manufactured goods. Yet, most federal government spending and

subsidies benefited the North. The <u>South wanted a more limited federal</u> <u>government and lower tariffs</u> the ideals of Thomas Jefferson - and <u>when</u> <u>the South could not get that, it opted for independence.</u> <u>Lincoln was unprepared when the Southern states seceded, and force was the only</u> way to bring them—and their tariff money—back.

I'LL REMEMBER

After the guns are silent, After your wounds have healed After all those crosses - are planted in the fields After that long train ride back to Georgia by the sea And after we bury thee.

> *I'll remember you after the War I'll remember forevermore I'll remember after the War Forever, for always and more.*

After your boots dry and the coffee's all but gone. Along with those letters you carried for so long After I remember all the words I couldn't say, And after this night fades away.

After your spirit lifts up from your chest, After your soul takes final rest. I'll remember those who never planned to die Who rest with coins over their closed eyes.

DELAYED BUT NOT DENIED - The Rose Hill Memorial Service of 2020

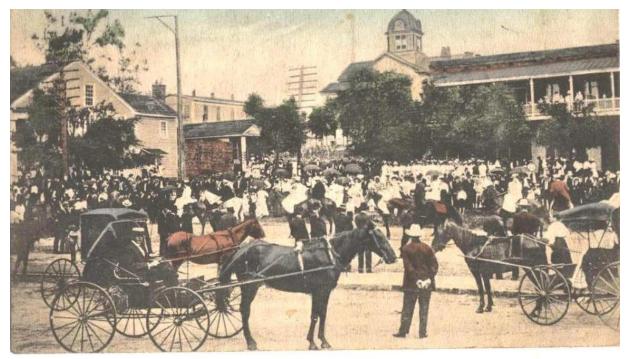
The Sidney Lanier Chapter (#25) United Daughters of the Confederacy annually sponsors a Confederate Memorial Day Service at the Macon, Georgia Cemetery of "Rose Hill". Typically this is done on a Saturday in late April. Due to COVID-19 restrictions this was not possible. However, the abbreviated event was eventually held on the Saturday evening of September 26th. The well-attended service included the presentation of War Service Medals. Also participating were:

The 16th Georgia Infantry, Co. G

The Camp of The Unknown Soldier Sons of Confederate Veterans #2218 The Lt. James T. Woodward Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #1399 The General Edward Dorr Tracy Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp # 18 "Simple Heritage" Traditional Music Ensemble The Staff of The Cannonball House Historic Site



Heroes of the South



July 4th 1908 Reunion in Jefferson, Georgia



Veteran's Reunion in Jackson, Georgia

-19-



43rd Georgia Reunion in Jackson, Georgia

Our long-time friend, Mike Couch, sent the two photographs on page 18 and the one at the top of page 19. He explains that "the first picture is a postcard from 1908 of a veteran's reunion in downtown Jefferson GA. The next picture was received from a school teacher whose family hails from Jackson County. The 3rd picture came with the explanation that these were men of the 43rd GA in Jackson County. I am sure that some of the 16th GA would be in there as well. As we know veterans from many different regiments of a county as well as surrounding counties attended these grand affairs." NOTE – the units listed below were formed in Jackson County, Georgia:

43rd GA Co. G (Rebel Guards)18th GA Co. C - (Jack43rd GA Co. H (Jackson County Blues)16th GA Co. G - (Jack

18th GA Co. C - (Jackson County Volunteers) 16th GA Co. G - (Jackson Rifles)



The above photo by Smith C. Banks was taken on Wednesday, July 19th, 1911. It shows over 100 members of Camp #1227 of the Confederate Veterans of Bulloch County at their annual reunion at the Jaeckel Hotel at 50 East Main Street Statesboro, GA. The Hotel (built in 1905) still stands in Statesboro and is listed on the National Historic Register. More than 2,000 people attended the soldier's reunion to hear speeches and share in the event. (Courtesy of The Cannonball House Collection, Macon, GA)