

THE HOWLING DAWG

FEBRUARY 2015



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

PRE-OLUSTEE ISSUE

TO HONOR THEIR MEMORY ...



The Georgia Line at Ocean Pond

Each February the 16th Georgia, Company G, heads south to the relatively obscure woodlands near Olustee, Florida. About the only variation from year to year is what weather we will endure; wet, cold, very cold, wet and cold or near tropical weather conditions ... the decades have brought it all. Battle scenarios are historically identical, sutler prices higher and a face is missing here and there as our numbers dwindle. What is the draw? Why do we go again and again and again and again...?

Olustee was the first "large" battle I ever fought. I recall, the first time, being drawn up in line of battle at the rear of the Confederate assault and seeing pyrotechnic activity throwing small trees quite skyward. This was some kind of theatre - indeed, this was an adventure, and it was just the beginning! My mind trails back to early February 1990. Joining on October 21, 1989, at an age many select to retire from re-enacting, I had been a member of the unit for only a few months at my first Ocean Pond event. Naturally, I was not yet the jaunty Southern infantryman that the "Jackson Rifles" typically breed. My main mentor, Corporal Ricky "Coonpossum Smith called that Thursday evening before to announce that *"the Yanks had landed at Jacksonville and trains would soon be departing southward for Ocean Pond."* Sure enough, we left out early the next morning - Friday - under-prepared and unaware of the splendid adventure that awaited. I have returned to the pines and palmettos of Olustee more than twenty times and, sure, portions of it get mundane because we have "been there and done that" - a lot. But, the majority of my friends are normally present as well as a good segment of my family. I have the honor of representing one of the greatest patriot warriors in the history of mankind - the private Confederate soldier (no officer blood in my lineage - some teamsters). Truly, ours (the Southern people) was one the most valiant struggles against tyranny in all the annals of history and our ancestry was in the thick of it. Thus, it is for the dead, for all are now gone. We honor that memory - it is what we do.

We keep history alive for them, for those who will come after, and a little for ourselves, too. Lord willing, I will do it once more in 2015; to teach the living - to be both proud and glad that I did. All of our 16th Georgia reasons are similar, so we return to Olustee, where:

On February 20, 1864, two armies clashed in the virgin pine flat woods of north-central Florida, near a railroad station named Olustee about 15 miles east of Lake City. The battle raged for 4 hours. When it ended, the Union Army had suffered a stinging defeat. Of the more than 5,000 Federals that had entered the battle, nearly 2,000 were killed, wounded, or captured. The Confederate forces, which also numbered just over 5,000, suffered less than 1,000 casualties. The Battle of Olustee, known also as Ocean Pond, was the largest battle fought in Florida during the War. Today the site of the battlefield is preserved as a State park, and it is the scene of one of the largest annual battle reenactments in the southeastern United States.

Yes, we dutifully return to Olustee and look forward to it, yet, I have never, not in 25 years, heard such a cry from the rank and file for NEW EVENTS. I think that was a large part of the charm of the Sandersville event, last November. Saturday's battle, the invasion of the town, was all a impressive escapade where we had no idea what lay around the next turn; compared to the tightly scripted scenarios we are used to. Yet, "scripted" work is WHAT WE DO. Even battles we have done for decades will have a new wrinkle in them once in a while but our role as re-enactors is to faithfully re-create the various moments 1861-1865 as accurately as possible. I have seen times that commanders were relived because they chose to "do their own thing" rather than follow orders of authenticity. So, what is the solution? We used to have "tactical battles" in which one side simply tried to out maneuver the other. Those are not very common now. I have done those as well as campaign events, but at the core I was always a mainstreamer, and have tremendous disdain for the term "hardcore". I always aimed at being much better than all that drivel. In 2015, it seems we will have a new event here and there and that is both good and thrilling. What lies beyond the realm of the 150th anniversary is anyone's guess.

- jwd



"and 'tho we weep, 'tis for those braves who stood in proud array, beneath our flag and nobly died while wearin' of the gray..."

“Olustee”

*The mist hung low o'er Ocean Pond
That frosty winter's morn;
Many hopeful hearts at dawns light,
By night would be forlorn.
The Northern tide, was rolling
Across Florida's sandy shore,
But General Finegan had ordered
That tide should roll no more.
From Georgia and Carolina,
From the Apalachee bend;
They joined the sons of Florida
The Yankee host to rend.
The Southern ranks were drawn up
In palmetto, scrub, and pine;
They vowed the blue invaders
Would ne'er cross this gray-clad line.
Seymour marched from Jacksonville,
To Barber's, and then west...
In the pine woods out from Sanderson,
There he failed the gory test.
The cannon roared and thundered
O'er the muskets' crashing din;
Their flanks were decimated
And their center driven in.
The Massachusetts ebon fifty-fourth,
Brave as any in the land;
They had their glory once before,
But not on Florida sand.
A wreath of steel and fire
Fringed the tattered Rebel fine;
The Yankee onslaught wavered...
And then withered on the vine.
Sundown brought the battle's end,
The Northern tide was stemmed;
No more was Florida trampled—
The invaders' hopes were dimmed.
Olustee's woods are silent now,
The battle smoke has fled.
A century and a quarter past –
Only memories... and the dead.*



Written for the 125th Anniversary of the Battle of Olustee by Sgt. Benjamin R. Gormley. Taken from his book “Haunted Fields: A Collection of Poems from Battlefields and Broken Hearts”

EVENTS

FEBRUARY 13-15 - BATTLE OF OLUSTEE (FL)
FEBRUARY 21-22 - AKIN (SC)
FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1 - 150TH BROXTON'S BRIDGE (SC)
MARCH 21-22 - BATTLES AT MANASSAS (GA) -POC Tommy Wallace 912-293-7174.
MARCH 21-22 - 150TH BENTONVILLE (SC)
APRIL 18 - WORK DAY @ OLD CLINTON (GA)
APRIL 23-25 - 150TH ANNIVERSARY BATTLE OF SELMA (AL)
APRIL 25 - CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY- attend services near you
MAY 1-3 - WAR DAYS - BATTLES OF SUNSHINE CHURCH & GRISWOLDVILLE (GA)
MAY 15-17 - BATTLE OF RESACA (GA)
MAY 23 - OLD SOLDIER'S DAY AT ERVIN GARNTO'S NEAR SCOTT (GA)
SEPTEMBER 18-20 - HURRICANE SHOALS (GA)
SEPTEMBER 19 - SCV SALUTE TO VETERANS IN DUBLIN (GA)
OCTOBER 2-4 - ANDERSONVILLE (GA)
OCTOBER 23-25 - SANDERSVILLE (GA)
NOVEMBER 14-15 NASH FARMS (GA) - Battles of Jonesboro and Nash Farm
NOVEMBER 14-15 SECESSIONVILLE (SC)
NOVEMBER 21- GRISWOLDVILLE MEMORIAL (GA) POC Wayne Dobson 478-731-5531.
NOVEMBER - CANNONBALL HOUSE APPARITIONS - Macon (GA)
DECEMBER - RICHLAND CHURCH (GA)
DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS AT THE CANNONBALL HOUSE - Macon (GA)

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
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. 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 – 478-808-8848
Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878
Musician - Landon Allen - 478-294-9870
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 its 3rd annual Lee-Jackson Banquet on Thursday evening, January 15, 2015 at the 1st Baptist Church in Gray, GA 31032. Our excellent guest speaker was Georgia Division SCV Commander Ray McBerry. A group of more than 60 attendees, which included representatives of The Lt. James T. Woodward SCV Camp #1399, The Logan E. Bleckley SCV Camp #1998, The Camp of the Unknown Soldier SCV Camp #2218, The General John B. Gordon SCV Camp, The 3rd Battalion, Co. B Georgia Mechanized Cavalry, The

Sidney Lanier UDC Chapter #25, and The Colonel Thomas Hardeman, Jr. UDC Chapter 2170, enjoyed a sumptuous meal provided by Scott Jackson (Chevy's - Hwy. 49) and much warm fellowship. Camp 2218 has been able to humbly host a Lee-Jackson Banquet every year of their existence and we are grateful for each instance of tremendous support. Special thanks goes out to Camp 2218 Treasurer Al McGalliard for his devoted efforts.

As previously announced the camp is no longer meeting at FIREFLYS Restaurant, due to it closing at the end of 2014. Arrangements have been made with the AGAVE AZUL Mexican Restaurant, 106 Bill Conn Parkway, in Gray, GA. It is next to the Fred's store. The first meeting will be on Thursday, February 19, 2015 and we will continue meeting there on the 3rd Thursday of each month, eating at 6PM and meeting at 7pm. We will be ordering off the menu. Contact Al McGalliard with any questions. Our speaker for the February 19th meeting will be Chris Faulkner (Camp 2218) whose interesting subject will be the portrayal of the Confederate soldier in movies and television.

Members of Camp 2218 (all of which were also 16th GA members) marched in the parade and served as an Honor Guard during the January 17th Robert E. Lee birthday celebration at the old Georgia Capitol in Milledgeville. Pictures of both events are below:



NOTE: On Saturday, February 14, 2015 - Camp 2218 with members of the Woodward and Logan Bleckley Camp will take part in a memorial service for the Confederate dead of the Battle of Ocean Pond - February 20, 1864.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION NOW A SMITHSONIAN AFFILIATE

On January 9th it was announced that The Old Governor's Mansion at Georgia College in Milledgeville has been named a Smithsonian affiliate, becoming the 9th in the state and the 1st in central Georgia to receive this recognition. *"We are delighted to welcome the Old Governor's Mansion into the Smithsonian Affiliations program. The museum is not only a singular example of Greek Revival architecture, but it is also the place where all Americans can relive a long stretch of our nation's history,"* said Harold Closter, director of Smithsonian Affiliations. *"The Smithsonian looks forward to working in collaboration with the expert staff of the Old Governor's Mansion and the faculty and students of Georgia College to help visitors and learners gain further insight from the stories and lessons so diligently preserved here."* The Old Governor's Mansion will be part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. *"The opportunity to be an affiliate of the Smithsonian is a great honor for the Old Governor's Mansion and Georgia College,"* said Director Matt Davis. *"We look forward to building partnerships for exhibitions, loans and the development of programming. This partnership will be a huge benefit to the Mansion as we continue to build our national profile within the museum field."*

RE: CLINTON PICTURE:



In our January issue we published this picture (circa 1900) of Old Clinton, Georgia and asked if anyone could tell what point it was taken from. Beth Colvin kindly responded, writing: "It looks like the picture was taken at the corner of Hawkins St. and Madison St. That looks like the courthouse roof to the far right. The house on the right could be where Tim & Kim Fowler live."

RIDE TO OLUSTEE

We are getting closer to the Olustee event in Lake City Florida and time to start planning our ride. I plan on rallying the Middle GA Troops on Friday, February 13th at the Perry Cracker Barrel around 11:00AM for lunch with kick stands up (KSU) at 12:00 Noon, sharp. It is about a 2 ½ hours nonstop and close to 4 hours with a couple of gas and leg stretching stops along the way. No big hurry to get there. If possible, I would like a large group of Georgia Mechanized Cavalry to roll in Lake City together. For those north of Macon we are pulling out of Perry late enough that you can meet us at the Cracker Barrel for the ride down. Hope you can make it to this event, it is always a good time supporting our Florida Brothers. If you plan on meeting up in Perry please let me know so I can be looking for you. We will have a blessing of the bikes and a ride briefing before pulling out of Perry. See you there, *Captain Tim "Trigger" Hawkins, 3rd Bat. Co. B, GA Mech. Cavalry* 478-951-2628 / thawkins427@gmail.com



CONVOYS TO OLUSTEE: A detail of the 16th Georgia, Co. G with be journeying to Olustee on Thursday, February 12th (contact 2nd Sgt. Nathan Sprague or Lt. Noah Sprague) and another group will be leaving early on Friday, the 13th, rendezvousing at Shoney's at Ashburn, GA for breakfast and journeying on (contact Duke or Cookie). If you want to be part of either of these convoys, let someone know.

Black Soldiers on Both Sides



The War wasn't entirely a white man's fight. Negroes served in both the Federal and Confederate forces. Soon after Edmund Ruffin pulled the trigger at Charleston, Negroes tried to enlist in both the Northern and Southern armies but their services, as was the case in the Revolution, were at first declined. This attitude changed rather quickly in the North. The Federal Congress, in July of 1862, passed a law permitting the

enlistment of Negro troops. Their pay at first was fixed at \$10 a month compared to \$16.50 for white troops. Fred Douglas protested to Lincoln and Old Abe told him that if he were a Negro he'd be glad to fight for his freedom free of charge. Douglas and the other Negro leaders continued to protest and the pay differential was wiped out.

Negro troops were used in the main by the North for garrison duty and labor forces and, after Appomattox, for occupation duty in the South; but they saw action in 250 battles and skirmishes, including the Battle of the Crater at Petersburg in which Negro troops were scheduled to have led the charge after that mine was exploded. They missed the assignment due to a foul-up in orders.

Northern governors sent 1,405 agents into captured areas of the South in an attempt to recruit Negro slaves to help fill their State draft quotas but business was mighty poor. They worked for several months but got only 5,052 recruits. When the war ended there were 178,975 Negroes in the Yankee armies, comprising 116 regiments.

In the South, free Negroes came forward at first in large numbers to offer their services to the Confederacy. Richard Kennard of Petersburg gave \$100. Jordan Chase, of Vicksburg, gave a horse and authorized the government to draw on him for \$500. Down in New Orleans, Thomy Lafon gave \$500. An Alabama Negro gave 100 bushels of sweet potatoes. At Charleston a little Negro girl gave twenty-five cents. Confederate war bonds found many Negro subscribers (The Negro in the Civil War, Quarles). Negroes by the thousands were employed in Southern war factories. Free Negroes were paid the prevailing wage. Slaves impressed into service were given food, shelter and clothing and their owners paid \$25 a month. If a slave ran away or died, the owner was paid \$354. Negroes in the South rendered their greatest service to the Confederacy by tilling the farms and taking care of the folks at home while the white men were at the front. The slaves could have ended the War overnight had they chosen to rise in rebellion. Southern armies would have headed back home en masse at even the rumor of such a development.

As the War dragged on, the need for men became finally so desperate the Confederate Congress, acting on the recommendation of General Lee and the governors of North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi, passed a law in March of 1865 authorizing enlistment of Negroes, both slave and free. They were to be paid the same as white troops; and slaves, if they remained loyal through the War, were to be set free. President Davis signed the law on March 13, less than a month before Lee's surrender."

(Then My Old Kentucky Home, Good Night!, W.E. Debnam, The Graphic Press, 1955, pp. 49-50)

QUOTES THAT COME RIGHT TO THE POINT
or how to make people mad by telling them the truth

"Do we operate under a system of equal justice under law? Or is there one system for the average citizen and another for the high and mighty?" - Senator Ted Kennedy, 1973

(Mary Jo Kopechne was unavailable for comment.)



Even Northerners saw the ill-effects of a vindictive postwar Reconstruction which reduced a free people to bondage and political despotism. It appears that Northern army commanders also felt remorse at what they had wrought in the destruction of the American South. A minority report of a Congressional committee declared that "History, till now, gives no account of a conqueror so cruel as to place his vanquished foes under the domination of their former slaves. That was reserved for the radical Republican rulers in this great Republic."

Psychologically and in every other respect Negroes were fearfully unprepared to occupy positions of ruler-ship. Race and color came to mean more to than any other consideration, whether of honest government, of justice to the individual, or even of ultimate protection of their own rights.

Scalawags and Carpetbaggers, objected to Negroes holding any offices. Both were quite desirous that Negroes vote – but not for other Negroes.

The South was defeated but it was never deceived nor was it blind to the domineering nature of the Yankee race.

"Every man knows that the Republican party, under the leadership of God, President Lincoln and General Grant, freed the whole colored race from slavery; and every man that knows anything, believes that the Democratic party will, if they can, make them slaves again."

- The Dalton Georgia Citizen September 10, 1868

The Washington Redskins football team has been under a lot of pressure to drop that part of their name that so many people despise - now they will just be known as the Redskins.

"America is an insane asylum run by the inmates" - Bro. Lester Roloff

"The Devil is God's Devil." (to summarize Martin Luther)

AMERICA'S DISREGARD FOR SOUTHERN RIGHTS

As we have just passed another Martin Luther King day, I can say with clear conscience that I do not try to disparage black heritage and likely know more about it than many of that race. They should be proud and if they are not something is indubitably wrong with them. I, however, ask one question: Why should my heritage to be destroyed to promote theirs.?



"Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" are three rights given by our Creator and protected by government. They seemingly have lost their meaning or been amended until almost every ethnic, political, and social group claims exclusive ownership.

Americans of Southern ancestry are commonly treated as if they should be ashamed of their heritage and that rights extend to them only within the boundary of political correctness. Our museums are not supplemented by taxes, our history has vanished from textbooks, our anthems cannot be sung nor our flags flown. No other

culture must exist within these restraints of unwritten "law." Civil rights and equality are constantly championed but promoters do not mean one syllable of their words. Southerners seem mandated to yield our sacred birthright while others get a free pass. In today's America, any mention of the Confederacy is dishonored, rejected, slandered, restricted, and turned into a tourist side show.

Such inequality is rampant and you may think that is right. Anyone may freely lie about racism, sling snide remarks deemed clever or contemplate legislation making allegiance to Southern heritage a crime. To them I earnestly contend: If you are gullible enough to think I care about the names you call me or criticism you send, be assured, you are just not worth me being offended. God helping me, I will not deviate from the stand I take, the values I emulate or the beliefs I hold. Today ignorance holds full sway but time's pendulum swings both ways. Deo

Vindice. John Wayne Dobson / Southern Heritage News & Views

<http://shnv.blogspot.com/2014/05/americas-disregard-for-southern-rights.html>

THE LEGACY OF HENRY MCNEAL TURNER

Henry M. Turner (1833-1915) was born a free black man in Newberry Courthouse, South Carolina, and raised by his teenage mother and grandmother. As his father was not known, he was sent to a white Quaker family who taught him to read and write. Licensed to preach in 1853, he travelled the South as an evangelist, begat 14 known children and became a Bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1880.

During the War Between the States, Turner committed treason against his native State by adhering to its enemies, encouraging slaves to flee to Northern lines, and was appointed chaplain to black troops by Abraham Lincoln in 1863. He later worked in the Freedman's Bureau in Georgia as an appointee of Andrew Johnson and was active in the Union League which fomented racial hatred in recently freed slaves against their white neighbors. Turner was instrumental in founding the Republican party in postwar Georgia by herding illiterate former slaves to the polls, and in 1868 used their votes to be elected Georgia legislator. A political opportunist, with the Northern party behind him, Turner also held the positions of Postmaster of Macon and Customs Agent in Savannah, both patronage payoffs for delivering the freedman vote to the Republicans.



The Macon (Georgia) American Union commented on Turner's political reputation on December 29, 1870: *"Most Negro officeholders were more to be pitied than blamed, but a few blatant, dishonest, insolent megalomaniacs discredited all. A carpetbagger characterized Henry M. Turner, preacher, politician and who presided at many Negro conventions, as a "licentious robber and counterfeiter, a vulgar blackguard, a sacrilegious profaner of God's name, and a most consummate hypocrite. Yet the Negroes elected him to the Georgia legislature - "if he had received his deserts, he would have gone to the penitentiary; he was "a thief and a scoundrel, and yet they voted for him."*

The same newspaper said of him on June 15, 1871: *"If the colored people have not the elements of morality among them sufficiently to cry down on such shameless characters, they should not expect to command the respect of decent people anywhere."*



Macon Post Office

Reverend Turner was tainted by charges of sexual promiscuity, had publicly proclaimed that God has black skin, and was a vocal proponent of the "Back to Africa" and colonization movements. Despite these personal flaws and public characterizations of Turner, the University of Pennsylvania awarded Turner the title of Doctor of Literature in 1872; and Wilberforce University gave him the title of Doctor of

Divinity in 1873. He died in Windsor, Ontario in 1915 while visiting friends.

In September of 2000 in "the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, *H.R. 3454, was introduced by ... the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Chambliss). All Members of the House delegation from Georgia cosponsored (the) Bill" and it was decided that 451 College Street in Macon, " would henceforth be known as "The Henry McNeal Turner Post Office."*



Our Deepest Sympathy

We were so saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Allen Williams (January 28, 1944 - January 6, 2015) of Hawkinsville, GA), the father of Corporal Dan Williams and Private Frank Williams of the 16th GA, Co. G. Mr. Williams was a retiree from Opelika Manufacturing Company and a deacon at Riverside Baptist Church in Hawkinsville. His memory will forever be treasured by his loving wife of



52 years, Cornelia Williams; children, Frank (Toni), Guy, Dan (Sheri) and Ted (Lynn) Williams, all of Hawkinsville; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at Riverside Baptist Church and a private burial followed. www.mcculloughfh.com

PRAYERS SURE NEEDED:

"My sister, Elizabeth N. Mays, has suffered for several years with COPD, and is in the final stages a particularly nasty version that was caused by exposure to farm chemicals and DDT during the late 1940's and 1950's. As we of those generations age, there will be more and more people that this affects. There is no cure but God's Grace. Treatments are limited to assisted breathing apparatus. Ironically, some of the medications that she has been on for the last few years have aggravated the problem instead of helping. Our prayer is that She makes a merciful passage across the River to join our parents with the blessing of Jesus Christ. For those that don't believe in the power of prayer, I have a testimony for them. Recently, when Liz was coding out at the hospital, they didn't think she would make it thru the next 24-48 hours, our brothers and sisters were asked for their prayers. Within just a few hours, she seemed to come back, (with no further actions from the doctors). As of now, we have her back home, resting easier, alert and coherent to the ones around her. This may be temporary, but we will take what HE gives us. My sincere thanks to all who have prayed for and with us during this time."
J.C Nobles, Colonel



GET WELL WISHES - We just learned at the GVB meeting on Saturday, January 24th that GV Battalion Sgt. Major Jim Boone had recently been hospitalized for 12 days and undergone a rather serious surgery. We were glad to learn that he was home and recovering but may not be able to return to full duty for several weeks yet.



A GREAT WINTER MUSTER - 2015

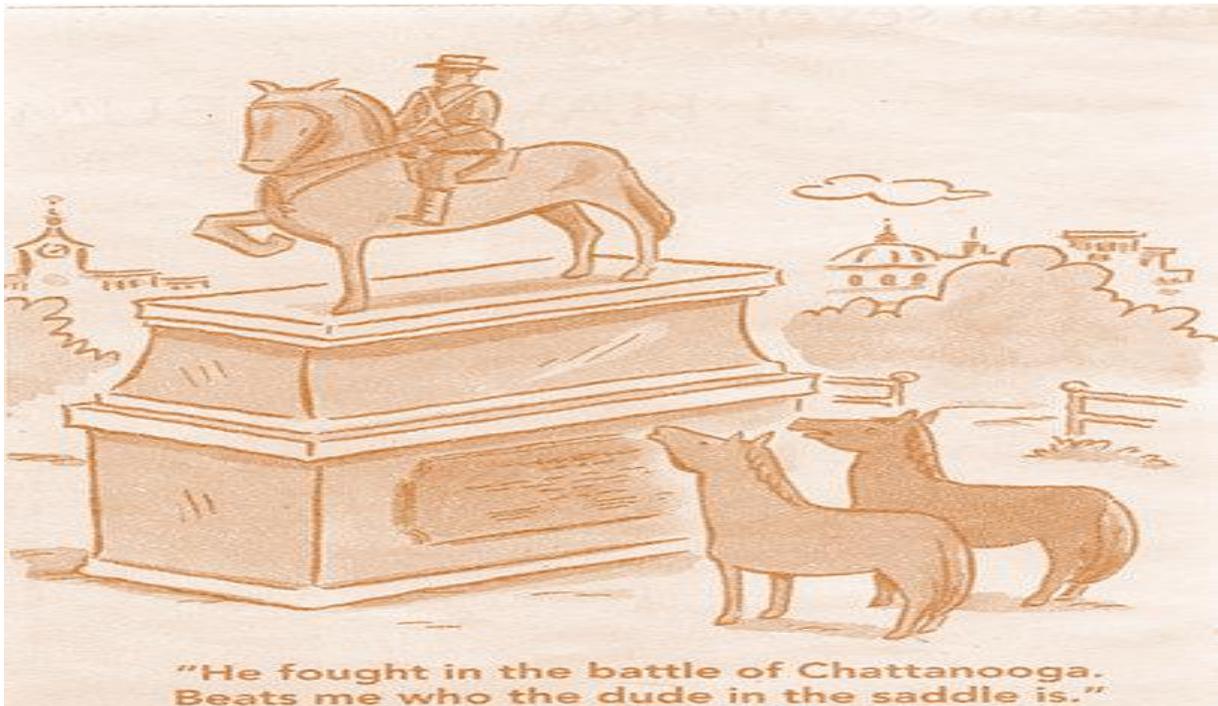


The annual Winter Muster of the 16th GA, Co. G, "The Jackson Rifles", was held at our HQ in Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia on the cool and sunny Saturday of January 24th. Attendance was good with about 26 members present for duty and more than 20 rifles in the line as 2nd Lt. Kevin Sark commanded an excellent series of spirited drills and maneuvers, including skirmish order. The Saturday activities concluded with a brief tactical battle. It was sure good to see "Col. Coon Possum" (Ricky Smith) there and we were glad that "Watch Dog" (Mark Thompson) was up to being with us, after some recent

medical issues. He was a tremendous help in the training of new recruits as well as purchasing and cooking an ample supply of hot dogs (with chips) for everyone's lunch. Some of our number stayed from Friday evening through Sunday and attended to some various work projects. Voted into our membership on for the standard one-year probation period was Anthony Odum of Warner Robins. We are glad to have both him, and his grandfather, Clarence Berry among our fellowship. Thanks to Kenny and Cathy Stancil for the photos.

In conjunction with the drill was a meeting of The Georgia Volunteer Battalion at "Ms. Annie's Store" which included commanders of more than 17 companies. Larry Bacon officially assumed command of the Battalion, as Colonel with Lt. Steve Walczak moving up to Lt. Colonel. David Young (a former Battalion commander) was elected Major. Maximum effort events set by the membership were: Olustee, Broxton's Bridge, Manassas, Hurricane Shoals, Sandersville and Nash Farm. We look forward to 2015.





Contributed By: *Sherrie' Raleigh*

THE DEATH OF THE AUTHENTICITY CONTEST

Most of the re-enactors I know give a good honest effort to crafting their impression. The majority of those who have been involved for several years have meticulously molded a decent generic look and pretty much sat on it. Did they get tired or did they just get lazy - hard to tell? In any case, they have given it their best and they are done. Pious hard cores have utterly disgusted the rank and file (and everyone else) and it is nearly impossible for aging fellows to keep up with youngsters who can buy \$200.00+ pants and expensive headgear while living at home with no kids, mortgage, and utility bills and having the leeway to devote nearly every dime of their burger flippin' check to their own indulgence.



You don't need me to tell you that the authenticity contest has all but vanished from re-enacting - it has slipped away without fanfare or notice. Last year, at Old Clinton War Days, the 16th GA tried to resurrect the institution and the results were decent in a competition that centered more on performance than looks - long-nosed hard cores can't stand that format, no sir! I always wanted to see a contest based on the period preparation of issued rations - how about that for a twist! I fondly recall the days at the old Jonesboro and Stone Mountain events when judges would have 25 soldiers to inspect - winning meant something then (cash money, not plaques or powder), but the number of contestants has dropped off to about nothing. Of the last contests that I have won, I can recall only one with ANY opposition at all! If the judges had given me time to change I could have won both the Union and Confederate prizes by default - no fun, no point, no challenge there. It is puzzling that at every re-enactment, there are dozens of guys with lots better impressions than I will ever have but they seem to have no inclination to compete.

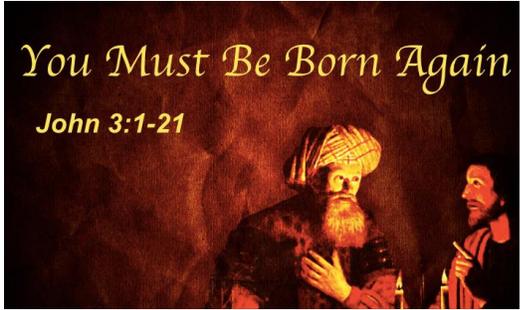
I noticed at the January GVB meeting in Clinton that there was a good deal of discussion about personal impressions and authentically maintained campsites. This is a good area for focus but a somewhat futile one, I think - any time you hint at trying to legislate authenticity (and the GVB wisely did not) people get their back up and will stubbornly not comply. In the worse case scenarios you can lose an entire organization through such ill feelings.

For years, I kept competing, hoping to encourage others but I just don't think my involvement did. I hope I am wrong but the authenticity contest seems to have one foot in the grave as it drags the rapid fire contest in for company.

-jwd

You Must Be Born Again

John 3:1-21



"There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his

mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." (John 3:1-8). In this scripture passage a Pharisee named Nicodemus sought out Jesus to learn and understand about God's kingdom. He who knew the law forwards and backwards but did not know he spoke with God. He did not know how to be born again. In order to be born again you must be saved. This salvation comes from believing that Jesus came, lived, and died and was resurrected to save us from our sins. Once this salvation is given you can be born again. As with a natural birth, the baby has nothing to do with being born. In spiritual birth we as believers have no control over it. For God is the one who controls who is - and who is not born again. That being said, God is no respecter of persons. It does not matter if you are rich or poor, smart or dumb, old or young. God sees us and loves us. If God did not love us He would not have sent Jesus Christ. Thank You God for that Gift. Are you born Again?

- Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr. / "Jackson Rifles"

DID YOU EVER LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT AND WONDER WHY...

Why is verse, below, left completely out of all (as far as I can tell) modern versions of the Bible? The words are not obscure and familiar to most folks and most certainly in the King James Bible:

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - 1 Timothy 2:15

Looking at another verse, below, most versions change "THE root of ALL evil" to something like a root of all kinds of evil (it varies from one to another):

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." - 1 Timothy 6:10

Does someone, somewhere not want you to "study" the Word of God - wonder why ... hmmmmm. I had a fellow tell me to my face, once, that he simply did not believe that "*the love of money was the root of all evil.*" Apparently, others do not believe it either, so they change it to suit themselves.

Also, I cannot find the word "*sodomy*" in the NIV (New International Version) and, as often as not, the word "*hell*" shows up in many versions disguised as the less-abrasive word "Hades."

The precious and familiar passage of 1 John 5:7-8 is often massacred beyond all recognition in current editions; so much is altered and left out, including "*blood*" which is blatantly omitted in other scriptures, too - so many times, it is hard to count them all: "*For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.*"

It appears that someone did not like these words and got rid of them. God's Word warns about changing it in at least three places, around the beginning, middle and end - Deuteronomy 4:2, Proverbs 30:6 and revelation 22:18) - *John Wayne Dobson*

