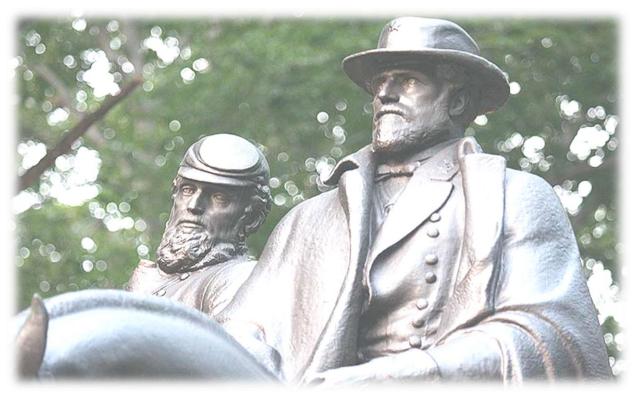
THE HOWLING DAWG

JANUARY 2015



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



Lee-Jackson Double Equestrian statue - Baltimore

Humility - The Path to Greatness

"All I ever wanted was a Virginia farm, no end of cream and fresh butter and fried chicken-not one fried chicken, or two, but unlimited fried chicken."

- General Robert E. Lee

New Yorker Charles Mason became the first Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court. Notable, but if he is remembered at all today, it is as the cadet who graduated first in the 1829 West Point class, ahead of Robert E. Lee. These two also finished first and second in the entire history of the school, and are still the best to this day with the third best being Douglas MacArthur.

Theodore Roosevelt described General Lee as: "the very greatest of all the great captains that the English-speaking peoples have brought forth." Winston Churchill echoed: "His noble presence and gentle, kindly manner were sustained by religious faith and an exalted character." War-era Georgia Senator Benjamin Harvey Hill said just four years after Lee's death: "... He was a foe without hate,

a friend without treachery, a soldier without cruelty, a victor without oppression, and a victim without murmuring ... a public officer without vices, a private citizen without wrong, a neighbor without reproach, a Christian without hypocrisy, and a man without guile ... He was as obedient to authority as a servant, and as loyal in authority as a true king." Indeed, Lee was a man's man, the idol of his people, men and women alike. Mary Chestnut, described him as "the portrait of a soldier." A British journalist penned he was "the handsomest man I ever saw." Confederate General Clement Evans said Lee was "...nearest approaching the character of the great and good George Washington of any living man." This the same man who said, "my chief concern is to try to be an humble, earnest Christian."

Huge portraits of Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson hung in the auditorium of the elementary school I attended, along with an image of Mary and the baby Jesus. At one time you would have thought any of these would hold the highest degree of legacy as long as this world would stand but times have changed. By July 9, 2014 Confederate flags had been removed from Lee Chapel. As President and instructor of that very school, Lee had declared: "we have only one rule here to act like a gentleman at all times." Believing that that God judged men for their actions here and in eternity, Lee also told one of the local pastors: "I shall be disappointed, sir; if I shall fail in the leading object that brought me here ... (for) these young men (to) become real Christians..."

Robert Edward Lee was born January 19, 1807 in Stratford, Virginia, and died October 12, 1870 in Lexington. He stood 5' 10" tall and weighed about 170 lbs.

"I tremble for my country
when I hear of
confidence expressed in
me. I know too well my
weakness, that our only
hope is in God."

Robert E. Lee

The son of Revolutionary War hero Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee, he married the granddaughter of President George Washington. An impeccably clean-living man, Lee was once asked by a soldier if there were any ladies present before starting a dirty, off-color joke. Lee said, "There are no ladies present, but one gentleman is." Needless to say, the joke was never

told. At the behest of President Lincoln, Lee's former commanding officer, General Winfield Scott, asked then Colonel Robert E. Lee to take command of the United States Army to put down "the rebellion" in the South. General Lee declined. At War's conclusion, he urged: "Abandon your animosities, and make your sons Americans." He never felt hatred for, "those people," his enemies, and exhorted the South to forgive and go on. Lee applied to be reinstated as a U.S. citizen, but his paperwork was "lost" by a federal bureaucrat and was not "found" until over one hundred years after his death - reinstated by President Gerald Ford in 1974. Lee's last words, when he knew his time on earth was short, were: "Strike my tent; call for Hill." (General A.P. Hill) before he calmly expired, as a weary child falls asleep, knowing that its <u>Father</u> is near. "How Firm a Foundation" was sung at his modest funeral. Biographer John Cooke wrote: "He had lived, as he died, with this supreme trust in an overruling and merciful Providence. His faith and humble trust sustained after War, as woes of the South well nigh broke his great spirit."

Chief among the many outstanding qualities of Lee's character, was his humility and Christian faith. Indeed, our Confederate ancestors, regardless of their church affiliations, were uncompromising defenders of Christianity. To leave the Christian element out of the Southern drive for independence would be like trying to describe Switzerland without mentioning the Alps. Not for one moment did our ancestors think their own unaided efforts could achieve victory - their reliance and

faith was forever anchored in God Almighty. General Lee was a God-fearing Man. II Samuel 23:3 says: "He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God." Due to the General's influence, an Army chaplain wrote: "The work of grace among the troops widened and deepened and went gloriously on until there had been thousands of professions of faith in Christ as a personal Savior." General Lee was a born again man. The Bible teaches that we must be saved and born again through faith and trust in Christ and His shed blood on the Cross of Calvary. There just is NO OTHER WAY! Salvation is by grace, not by works of righteousness which we have done. (Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:8,9; John 3:7) "I can only say that I am nothing but a poor sinner, trusting in Christ alone for salvation." This was Lee's consideration himself: a sinner who had been saved, not by church attendance nor by good works nor by any other human endeavor, but solely by the grace of God and the blood of Christ. General Lee was a church-going man, an Episcopalian by denomination - but a saved, Bible-believing member of that church in the South of his day. (I seriously doubt he would be one today!) He was a most regular attendant upon all the services of his own church." Lee took heed to Hebrews 10:25 - "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." He always seemed to prefer a seat near the preacher's stand and while at Washington College, his seat in the chapel was never empty when services were being held. His habit was to attend church wherever he was stationed. He would stop along the roadside to join his troops in prayer services. Once he was came upon a group of soldiers kneeling in prayer on the eve of a battle. He rode up, dismounted from his horse, Traveler, uncovered his head, and knelt in reverence to engage in prayer with them and their chaplain. General Lee was a Bible-believing man. The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:16 -17 "ALL scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: THAT the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." General Lee accepted all of the Bible without claiming to understand all of it. He once remarked to Chaplain William Jones: "There are things in the Old Book which I may not be able to explain, but I fully accept it as the infallible Word of God, and receive its teachings as inspired by the Holy Spirit." He was a constant reader and a diligent student of the Word, obeying the command of 2 Timothy 2:15 to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God..." He believed what the Bible said in Revelation 1:3, "Blessed is the that readeth the words" of God. He practiced what it spoke of in Psalm 1:2, and he meditated upon the Scriptures. Those who knew him well said, even in the midst of his most active campaigns he made time to read a portion of God's Word every day. He was actively engaged in promoting the Word of God. The Bible says in Psalm 68:11 - "The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." General Lee was in that company. He paid for and bought Bibles and was actively engaged in distributing the Word of God to the world. During the War he helped to provide Bibles and prayer-books to the men at his own expense. After the War, as President of the Rockbridge Bible Society of Lexington, Virginia, his goal was to place a Bible in every home in the South. Most important of all General Lee was a lowly-minded man. The Bible says in Philippians 2:5-8 - "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: WHO, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: BUT made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: AND being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Jesus was a servant who ministered to others. "Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your

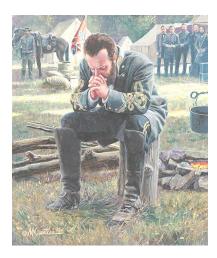
minister." - Matthew 20:26. "He that is greatest among you shall be your servant." Matthew 23:11. General Lee had this mindset. He was a man of great humility, who cared NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING, of rank, firmly attesting that he "would serve under a corporal if necessary!" His ONLY true ambition in life was to be the best Christian he could be. Again, he is quoted as saying: "My chief concern is to try to be a humble, earnest Christian..." Again, from the works of John Cooke, who, in his Life of General Robert E. Lee, wrote: "The crowning grace of this man, who was thus not only great but good, was the humility and trust in God, which lay at the foundation of his character." The specific source has been lost to history over the years, but it is often reported that soon after the end of the War, the former Southern general visited a church in Washington, D.C. and during the communion service knelt beside a black man. An onlooker later asked, "How could you do that?" Lee quietly replied, "My friend, all ground is level beneath the cross." As for engaging in a war to perpetuate slavery, Lee said that he "rejoiced that slavery was abolished. I believe it will be greatly for the interest of the South. So fully am I satisfied of this that I would have cheerfully lost all that I have lost by the war, and have suffered all that I have suffered to have this object attained." I presume, today, that I salute the stars and stripes as much as any reason because General Robert E. Lee urged those of his day and those to follow to become good Americans. He maintained, after all, that "obedience to lawful authority is the foundation of manly character." General Lee knew then, as we know now, that the South "made a great mistake in the beginning of our struggle, and I fear, in spite of all we could do, it proved to be a fatal mistake. We appointed all our worst generals to command our armies, and all our best generals to edit the newspapers. We may be annihilated, but we cannot be conquered..." because ... we have "sacred principles to maintain and rights to defend, for which we are in duty bound to do our best, even if we perish in the endeavor."

General Robert E. Lee was a Christian man, and not ashamed of his Savior or the Bible. If I had to pick one American to represent the best values of our Nation, that man would be Robert Edward Lee. He stands taller than anyone else. But to see him you must lift your eyes 'high toward heaven.'

A Life of Unconditional Faith

"Duty is ours: consequences are God's."

- Stonewall Jackson



What motivates great people? General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, second in command to Robert E. Lee was considered to be one of the supreme American military leaders of all time and by some, a religious nut? Without any shadow of doubt, Jackson deeply believed in a personal relationship with God and prayed quite often - sometimes too often for some of his staff - yet, he was not a man to force private beliefs on others. He believed a person should live the life rather than just talk about it. His search for spiritual truth, kindled in him by his mother, led him to try several denominations before accepting Christianity, which became the center of his life. He had been born to a humble beginning on January 21, 1824 in Clarksburg, Virginia (now West Virginia). His

stern and serious personality evolved from a childhood that included the death of both parents and a sister when he was very young. Before graduating from West Point in June of 1846 and entering the Mexican War, Tom Jackson had little education and even less religious background. However, in Mexico he developed a deep interest in Christianity which had somewhat consumed his life by 1851 when he began teaching at the Virginia Military Institute. In the autumn of 1855, slaves and free black men, women, and children made their way to the Lexington Presbyterian Church to attend Sunday school. Jackson was the superintendent of this school. Although it was illegal under Virginia law to teach blacks to read and write, Jackson believed all men, regardless of race, should have the opportunity to receive an education. To these students, Professor Jackson was a leader and mentor who taught them more than just reading and writing. He instilled in them the Word of God. He once wrote: "In my tent last night, after a fatiguing day's service, I remembered that I failed to send a contribution for our colored Sunday school. Enclosed you will find a check for that object, which please acknowledge at your earliest convenience and oblige yours faithfully." (Lt. General Thomas Jackson, in a letter to his Pastor) At the outset of the war, Jackson rejected secession and believed the South should fight for their rights within the Union. However, in the end, he sided with Virginia when the State seceded from the Union and soon departed to become a drillmaster. When war did come, he seemed to draw the sword and throw away the scabbard. During the War, Jackson's abilities allowed Lee to utilize a wide variety of military tactics leading to Confederate success on the battlefield. Jackson's death likely changed Lee's tactics. For example, Lee did not initiate any more wide sweeping marches. Many who applaud Jackson for his military exploits have little understanding of his rich spiritual life. Jackson's role in the military was secondary to his position as Deacon in his home church, and being a faithful Christian husband to his wife. His spirituality was inseparable from his character. Certainly, many have classified him as a religious fanatic. He always prayed - always. It was said that he would

not even put a glass of water to his lips without asking for God's blessing. As a teacher, he prayed quietly after class for his student's success. Secular topics were not discussed by him on Sundays. The Virginian would only mail a letter early during the week because he was afraid that it would still be in the process of delivery on Sunday. As a Confederate general he rejected all battlefield glory attributed to him, insisting God be given the credit for any success. In late March 1863, before his death on May 10th, (3:15pm) Jackson moved his headquarters from Moss Neck, ten miles



below Fredericksburg to Thomas Yerby's "Belvoir" plantation (where Brigadier General Maxcy Gregg had died at 5 a.m. on December 15, 1862 and R.E. Lee fell ill March 30, 1863 with a respiratory infection) on the banks of the Massaponax Creek southwest of Hamilton's Crossing. Soon, an outdoor chapel was prepared nearby, and services were held in the open air. Trees were felled and used for benches. There, Chaplain Tucker Lacy led the Sunday morning and evening services as well as Wednesday prayer meetings. Hymn sings were also held there on Sunday afternoons. Often General Lee and other officers would worship there with men of Jackson's Second Corps. One April Sunday there were at least one

thousand present. Reverend Lacy had never addressed such an imposing and respectful audience: "It was a noble sight to see those, who led our armies to victory and upon whom the eyes of the nation are turned with admiration and gratitude, melted in tears at the story of the cross and the exhibition of the love of God to the repenting and returning sinner." Sandie Pendleton, one of General Jackson's aides, wrote his mother that Reverend Lacy was very effective in energizing the chaplains. He was an eloquent preacher as well as a charming companion at the staff mess. A great teller of stories, he was always full of witticisms that enlivened conversation. During that April of 1863, Jackson's wife Anna and baby Julia were able to come and spend some time with General Jackson at the Yerby's house. Jackson had not yet seen his little daughter and was the most doting of fathers when she came. On April 23, Reverend Lacy baptized little five-month-old Julia. The following Sunday, the open air chapel was crowded with soldiers. An hour before the service was to begin, all the seats were occupied, and the soldiers were reading religious materials and Bibles that had been distributed to them. General Jackson and Anna later arrived, as did Generals Lee, Early, and Kershaw. In a strong voice, Reverend Lacy preached to the large congregation a powerful sermon on the rich man and Lazarus, contrasting this world and the next. It was the last sermon General Jackson ever heard, for he was wounded six days later and was only 39 years old. He had in a single lifetime been all soldier and all Christian. His belief and devotion to duty were completely intertwined: "War means fighting. The business of the soldier is to fight. Armies are not called out to dig trenches, to throw up breastworks, to live in camps, but to find the enemy and



strike him; to invade his country, and do him all possible damage in the shortest possible time. This will involve great destruction of life and property while it lasts; but such a war will of necessity be of brief continuance, and so would be an economy of life and property in the end." Without God's blessing General Jackson looked for no success, and for every success his prayer was, that all glory be given unto Him, to whom it is properly due. Among the many lessons that can be learned from studying the life of "Stonewall" Jackson, one of the

most important is to, live each day boldly, without fear, loving and serving the Lord our God in all things, and be prepared to leave this earth for our Heavenly home at any time. "You may be whatever you resolve to be..." (Jackson's Journal)

Coinciding with the month of their birth, local historic organizations will honor the memory of Lee and Jackson. The National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. has memorial stained-glass niches and inscriptions, honoring these men. Jackson is described therein as walking "humbly before his Creator, whose Word was his guide" and Lee as a "servant of God, leader of men, general-in-chief of Confederate Armies, whose compelling sense of duty, serene faith and unfailing courtesy mark him for all ages as a Christian soldier without fear or reproach." Absent are hints that they fought for a controversial Cause. The window honoring Stonewall Jackson depicts him reading the Bible under the Confederate battle flag. The niches were proposed in 1931 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy and dedicated in 1953, when Americans had almost stopped thinking of these men as Southerners. Lee and Jackson seemed absolved of sectional politics, ensconced into the of the American political landscape and wrapped in a spiritual mantle. They were honored in the cathedral not because they were soldiers, but because they were Christian soldiers. Today, it's easy to pass judgment on the past. That is not constructive, fair to historical personages, nor useful to us. History should include all.

THE PROPER PLACE

The Twiggs County Confederate Monument is Relocated



<u>Editor Note:</u> We learned of this developpment just after we relased the December 2014 issue - therefore, we cover it now:

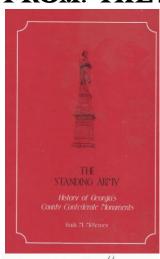
In the photo above, Jeff Ellis, coowner of Clark Memorials, helps place a soldier atop the Confederate memorial in Twiggs County on Thursday, December 18, 2014. The memorial was moved from its location at the corner of Ash Street and U.S. 80 (PHOTO LEFT: JASON VORHEES — jvorhees@macon.com) across the highway out in front of the

county's courthouse in Jeffersonville, Georgia. It is comprised of 15 pieces of granite and a Confederate soldier statue made of Italian marble. Judy Smith with the Sidney Lanier Chapter United Daughters of the **Confederacy approached Twiggs County** commissioners in early November to have the memorial moved. The commissioners passed proposal with a 3-2 vote. The \$8,600 cost was paid from revenue obtained from the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans specialty tag funds. Smith was hoping funds could be raised to repair the soldiers rifle that is missing most of the stock. Hopefully a dedication ceremony will be held in later this year. Kim Beck (former GA SCV 4th Brigade Commander) had the opportunity to go to Jeffersonville not long after the monument was set in place and take the



photo to the right. He thanks "Clark memorials, the Sidney Lanier Chapter and Georgia UDC, Brig. Gen. Edward Dorr Tracey Camp, The Camp of the Unknown Soldier and GA Division SCV and many others for making this happen."

FROM: "THE STANDING ARMY"



Frank M M. Kenney

The Twiggs County Confederate monument does not stand on the courthouse lawn in Jeffersonville, Georgian (until December 18, 2014), although a brick and concrete foundation had been prepared for it there in 1911. Before the monument could be erected, a dispute broke out concerning the names of people and military units to be carved on he memorial. The dispute grew into an acrimonious discussion of who had, and who had not, actually gone to war. A lawsuit followed.

Fifty years after the war, feelings were bitter enough to keep the memorial off the courthouse square. The sponsoring UDC placed the statue and shaft at a site called Shannon's Meadow. No account of the dedication ceremonies, if any, can be found, but it must have been an interesting occasion, given the rancor prevailing. Fifty years and more after the dispute, the local people will not freely discuss the matter.

The meadow is now a road intersection (off U.S. 80) and building sites. The monument, appearing corroded and derelict, look(ed) northward across two roads and a railroad track at the courthouse. The unused foundation remained visible on the lawn until landscaping in the 1950's.



JANUARY 15 - CAMP 2218 LEE-JACKSON BANQUET - 1st Baptist Church in Gray, GA. Head count to Wayne by Jan. 8th. Eat at 6PM. POC - Al McGalliard 478-318-7266
JANUARY 17 - LEE BIRTHDAY CLELBRATION IN MILLEDGEVILLE - POC Dan Coleman JANUARY 23-25 - WINTER DRILL AT OLD CLINTON - GVB Elections
FEBRUARY 13-15, 2015 - BATTLE OF OLUSTEE
MARCH 13-15, 2015 - BATTLES AT MANASSAS, GA-POC Tommy Wallace 912-557-6649
APRIL 25, 2015 - CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY- attend services near you APRIL - OLD CLINTON WORK DAYS - To be announced
MAY 1-3 - WAR DAYS- BATTLES OF SUNSHINE CHURCH & GRISWOLDVILLE
MAY 15-17 - BATTLE OF RESACA, GA
MAY 23 - OLD SOLDIER'S DAY AT ERVIN GARNTO'S
SEPTEMBER - SCV SALUTE TO VETERANS IN DUBLIN, GA
OCTOBER 2-4 - ANDERSONVILLE
NOVEMBER 21- GRISWOLDVILLE MEMORIAL NOVEMBER - CANNONBALL HOUSE APPARITIONS

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

DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS AT THE CANNONBALL HOUSE

16TH GA Co. G. "Jackson Rifles"

Brig. Gen. Herbert Burns - 478-668-3598
Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201
Capt. Wm. "Rebel" Bradberry-404-242-7213
1 Lt. Noah Sprague - 706-491-9755
2nd Lt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796
Adjutant: 5th Corp. John Wayne "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531
1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739
2nd Sgt. Nathan Sprague - 478-320-8748
1st Corp. Chas. "Goodtime" Whitehead 478-986-8943

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

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

Lead Chaplain – Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798 Honorary Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal – 478-808-8848

Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878

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

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, will hold its 2nd annual Lee-Jackson Banquet on Thursday evening, January 15, 2015 at the 1st Baptist Church 134 West Clinton Street, Gray, GA 31032. Guest speaker: GA Div. Cmdr. Ray McBerry. We will eat promptly at 6PM. Meals are \$10.00, pay upon arrival. The remainder of the agenda will commence at 7PM. It would be of great help if you could advise Wayne Dobson of your attendance by January 8 so preparations can be made. We will no longer be meeting at *FIREFLYS* Restaurant, on the Gray Hwy. due to it closing at the end of 2014. We appreciate all that Scott Jackson (owner) has done

for us in hosting our meetings originally at CHEVY'S then at FIREFLYS and offering to help us with future endeavors. Hopefully, 1st Baptist will become our regular meeting location but that remains to be seen. We thank Treasurer Al McGalliard (478-986-4827) for all his tireless efforts in making these arrangements.

Dan Coleman, Division JA in SCV is looking for an Honor Guard for the Lee Birthday Celebration at the old Georgia Capitol on January 17th. For more information call Commander J.C. Nobles @ 478-718-3201.

GENERAL FRANK BENSON

Sympathy

January 2, 1919 - December 23, 2014

On Christmas Day we were sorry to learn, from General Tom Jessee that General Frank Benson had passed away the day before Christmas Eve. He was always a



vital part of the Georgia Division and a father figure to so many. He used to always call me "Sonny" but I guess he called a lot of folks that, often reminding me that he was "still mad at me." I wish I could find it, but somewhere in my files I have a faded clipping of him as a Corporal. His obituary reads: Mr. Frank L. Benson, age 95 of Loganville, passed away on Tuesday, December 23, 2014. A Funeral Service was held at 2 PM on Tuesday, December 30, 2014 at the Loganville First United Methodist Church. Pastor David Gravitt and Pastor Rodney Hall officiated. Burial took place at Georgia National Cemetery in Canton. Mr. Benson was a United States

Army Veteran, where by Congressional Appointment he obtained the rank of Command Sgt. Major, and the National Guard, where he served 4 full terms in both. He was a member of the American Legion Post 140 in Atlanta, and was General Joe Johnston in Cyclorama. He was a graduate of Atlanta Law School where he was the President of his class. Mr. Benson was most known for his job as Greeter at Bass Pro Shops, where he had worked for 20 years. His hobbies included reenacting and genealogy, but he most enjoyed spending time with his family. Mr. Benson was preceded in death by his daughter, Trudy L. Benson George, and is survived by his wife of 72 years, Edith H. Benson, Loganville; Children: Catherine & Ronald Bossany, Wisconsin; Frank & Laura George Benson, Loganville; Grandchildren: John, Susan, & Sarah Bossany, and Zachary & Madison George Benson. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Children's and Youth Ministries of Loganville First United Methodist Church, 221 Main Street, Loganville, GA 30052. The family will receive friends from 5 - 8 PM on Monday, December 29, 2014 at the Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Road, Loganville, GA 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com

WHOSOEVER IS NOT AGAINST US, IS FOR US

With the all controversy that came with women re-enactors wanting to participate at the December 2014 Fort McAllister event and running afoul of the usual "self-appointed censorship board", I thought a few words of commentary would be appropriate... It is painfully true that we see women re-enactors all the time who do not even attempt to disguise their gender and we see guys, as well, who obviously know nothing about authenticity and could not care less. You know the type - these are the fellows who will tell you that they bought the hat they are wearing because their girl friend liked it - never mind



it being historically correct or any such nonsense as that. As far as women in the ranks, the plain fact is women have likely served, in combat, to some degree in every American conflict, so you cannot make a case for there just not being any. Their ingrained presence is apparently just as much of an assured fact in the reenactment world of today. Consider this - the number of reenactors, nation-wide do not seem to be rising (well maybe in the 16th). Overall, there just may not be as many folks re-enacting as there were 20 years ago (compare the number, for instance, at the solitary 135th Gettysburg event with the combined total of both 150th Gettysburg events - see what I mean?). I would think that we need everyone (even women) we can get. The 16th GA has had women in the ranks for so many years that it is hard to recall when they were not a vital, capable and appreciated part of "The

Jackson Rifles." In every case, they have been exemplary soldiers - not re-enactors, I said SOLDIERS - not skanks in the skirmish line! Maybe women in some units do not have the best impression and that certainly needs to be dealt with - but usually the rejection of females is just because some male re-actors feel that this an "old boys club" and they just ain't gonna have no women around, 'cause it just don't seem right - ya hear? If they had wanted women folk with them at an event, they would have just brought their own from home. So have at it, you guys - do what seems right to you. I am sure not trying to sell anyone on the idea of women in the ranks. What you do with your unit is your business. However, the 16th GA / 51st PVV has women in our ranks and we will not tolerate anyone messin' with them in any way. Most know that we just don't much care what others think.

Enough of my opinion, let's speak factually. Even though women weren't legally allowed to fight in the Civil War, it is estimated that somewhere around 400 women (I guess that is a total of both sides) disguised themselves as men and went to war, sometimes without anyone ever discovering their true identities. Women were not sanctioned to fight in the War primarily because they were not perceived as equals by any stretch of the imagination. It was the Victorian era and women were mostly confined to the domestic sphere. Both the Union and Confederate armies actually forbade the enlistment of women. I think it was during the Revolutionary War that they established women as nurses because they needed help on the front when soldiers were injured. But women weren't allowed to serve in combat. Of course, women did disguise themselves and enlist as men. There is evidence that they also did so during the Revolutionary War. They likely got away with it primarily because physical exams were not rigorous at all. If you had enough teeth in your head and could hold a musket, you passed. Too, some women didn't seem any less manly than the teenage boys who were enlisting. I think the Union had an official cutoff age of 18 for soldiers, but that was sometimes ignored and people often lied. The voices of many young recruits hadn't changed and their faces were still smooth. The Confederacy never actually established an age requirement. So women bound their chests if they had to, layered on clothes, or wore loose garments, cut their hair and grimed their faces - probably kept to themselves, too. The evidence that survived often describes them as aloof. Keeping to themselves certainly helped maintain the secret. These song lyrics deal with this subject:

The cruel war is raging, Johnny has to fight I want to be with him from morning til night I want to be with him, it grieves my heart so Won't you let me go with you?

No, my love, no

I'll tie back my hair, men's clothing I'll put on
I'll pass as your comrade, as we march along
I'll pass as your comrade, no one will ever
know

Won't you let me go with you? No, my love, no

NO WAY TO EARN A LIVING

After the War, the South went through a period called Reconstruction in which the political systems, economies, and areas damaged by the War were rebuilt. Before the War, landowners had a ready source of labor for their crops with slaves. Southern landowners faced a dilemma in the form of how to keep their plantations (if they still existed) productive after the War ended. In order to receive a pardon from the President of the United States, they had to agree that they would not utilize slave labor for their crops any longer. Over the next decade, a system where former slaves provided the labor required for a successful plantation emerged. Freed former slaves did not see an end to their circumstance when they were granted emancipation, or even when the War finally ended. With the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments, slaves were given freedom, made citizens of the United States, and, for men, given the right to vote. The Reconstruction plans

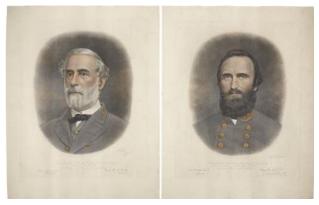
pursued by different groups in power allowed for constitutional and legal rights of

the former slaves, but did nothing to provide a way for those people to make a living. The freedmen no longer had to work on the plantations, but they were not given an alternative way to earn a living. In 1865, General Sherman tried to give emancipated slaves land in the coastal areas and islands of Georgia and South Carolina by promising "forty acres and a mule". "As one black man in Mississippi put it: "Give us our own land and we'll take care ourselves; but without land, the ol' Masters can hire us or starve us, as they please." Surprisingly, President Johnson and Congress did not support any plan that effectively confiscated and redistributed land of former Confederates. Congress created the Freedmen's Bureau in March of 1865 in order to help alleviate the problems facing the former slaves. Local sections



provided provisions, clothing, and fuel to the freedmen and their families. The Bureau took over abandoned and confiscated land to rent out in forty-acre plots to freemen who might be able to buy it within three years. Freedmen and women used the Bureau to negotiate labor contracts with planters. Providing medical care and setting up schools were other services offered by local bureaus. Finally, the Bureau had its own court to deal with labor disputes and land titles, as well as supervise trials that involved former slaves in other courts. Congress did not give the Freedmen's Bureau much power and it expired in 1872. Four clear options emerged for the freedmen and women after the War: obtain land, move, work for former masters, or sharecrop. Some freedmen were able to obtain their own personal land to work to support themselves and their families. Others opted to move to the cities in the North to find work that was not agrarian based. Directly after the War, plantation owners established a contract labor system that employed their former slaves. The freedmen and women would commit to work on the plantation for a year in return for fixed wages, which were often paid with part of the harvest but sharecropping eventually extinguished the contract system. Sharecroppers worked a piece of land and received a fixed share of the crop, which was usually one-half. Landowners did not have to invest much at the beginning of the season and the tenant shared the risk of the crop. At first, freedmen saw sharecropping as a step up from wage labor because they felt it was on the way to landowning. Others viewed the system as only another form of servitude because tenants lived on credit from the landowner until the crop sold.

LEE-JACKSON BANQUET



Hosted by The Camp of the Unknown Soldier #2218 Of Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia Sons of Confederate Veterans

WHEN: Thursday, January 15, 2015

WHERE: 1st Baptist Church, 134 West Clinton Street, Gray, GA 31032 (478) 986-3098 (directly across from the Jones County Courthouse

ARRANGEMENTS: MEALS \$10.00 EACH, (please call to reserve) SERVED AT 6PM

DRESS: PERIOD OR CASUAL

GUEST SPEAKER: RAY MCBERRY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

AL MCGALLIARD 478- 318-7266 WAYNE DOBSON - 478-731-5531 or waynedobson51@yahoo.com J.C. NOBLES - 478-718-3201



The Last Blood of War - January 1865

By January 1865 many in the South knew that the Cause was lost, despite the upbeat stance of Jefferson Davis. Weather that continued to hinder the North:

January 3rd: Sherman readied his men to continue their advance north to challenge Lee. January 4th: Union troops started their 2nd assault on Fort Fisher; 8,000 men were involved. January 5th: Many others in the Confederacy were a lot more pessimistic about the South's Both General Lee and Jefferson Davis continued to be upbeat about the South's military situation.chances. Lincoln gave James W. Singleton a Presidential pass to get through Union lines to help facilitate a surrender. January 6th: Davis sent a letter to the Confederacy's Vice-President, Alexander H Stephens, asking for an explanation of Stephens alleged association with Georgia's peace movement. January 9th: The Constitutional Convention of Tennessee voted to abolish slavery there. January 11th: The Constitutional Convention of Missouri voted to abolish slavery in the state. A party of 300 Confederate cavalry riding in very poor weather launched a surprise attack on Union positions in Beverley, West Virginia, and captured 600 Union troops. January 12th: Jefferson Davis wrote in a letter to Lincoln that he willing to discuss an end to hostilities but only on the proviso that the South remained independent. January 13th: The North started a major attack on Fort Fisher. The fort was all that protected the port of Wilmington - the only port that the South still had open that could trade with Europe. Troops landed by the fort as Union navy bombarded it from the sea. January 14th: Union ships continued a non-stop bombardment of the fort, which received heavy damage. Guns in the fort had to be trained on both the approaching infantry on land and the ships out at sea. But all of the guns could not concentrated on one target alone. January 15th: Fort Fisher fell to Union forces. The North lost a total of 1,341 men in the attack (226 killed, 1,018 wounded and 57 missing). The South lost 500 men killed and wounded with over 2,000 taken prisoner. Wilmington was no longer able to operate as an overseas port and the South was effectively cut off with regards to external trade. January 16th: Lincoln was made aware that Davis was willing to discuss peace based around the South's independence. He immediately dismissed the idea. The Confederate Senate appointed General Lee as commander of all the armies of the Confederacy. January 17th: While in Savannah Sherman issued Field Order Number 15. As his successful army advanced in the South, it attracted many former slaves who followed it in the vanguard. Sherman's order handed to them confiscated or abandoned land along the Georgia coast - a maximum of 40 acres per person. This move ensured that those former slaves who were near Sherman's army were more than willing to help and support it. As the news of what Sherman had done spread, so did the hopes of former slaves still in the South. January 19th: General Lee reluctantly accepted the title of commander-in-chief of the South's Armies. Lee was undoubtedly a highly skilled general but he would have been aware that even a man of his abilities would not have the skill to stop the inevitable - a victory for the North. A sense of duty compelled him to accept the promotion. January 20th: Sherman's army headed towards South Carolina. However, its advance was severely hampered by heavy rain that made roads all but unusable. January 21st: Sherman's marched into South Carolina and faced no opposition. January 23rd: The South lost its ironclads 'Virginia' and 'Richmond'. 'Richmond' ran aground on the James River while 'Virginia' was badly damaged by Union artillery in Fort Parsons. January 24th: Grant agreed to an exchange of prisoners. He did not believe that it would make any difference to the campaign as he felt that the exchanged Southern prisoners would be less than keen to fight. South experiencing major problems with desertion. January 25th: Sherman continued his advance through South Carolina. All his men faced were skirmishes with Confederate troops. January 27th: Lee complained to the Confederate government in Richmond that his men were surviving on pitiable rations and that the major cause of desertion was the poor

rations. On the same day he sent a letter to the Governor of South Carolina that "the Confederacy was safe" as long as civilian's supported his troops.

January 28th: Davis appointed Confederate politicians to hold talks with the North.

-13-

WHAT KIND OF FOLKS WOULD DO SUCH?



Crawford County Sheriff Lewis Walker said the Confederate soldier whose grave was dug up by a vandal(s) in a cemetery in December 2014 is James A. Nichols. According to records, Nichols was elected junior 2nd lieutenant of Company F, 2nd Regiment, 1st Brigade, Georgia State Troops, Oct. 14, 1861 mustered out in 1862 and elected 2nd lieutenant of company F's 57th Regiment Georgia Infantry on May 3, 1862. Nichols was captured at Vicksburg, Mississippi on July 4, 1863. He contracted chronic diarrhea while in the service and died Nov. 9, 1866. Anyone with any information is asked to call the Crawford County Sheriff's Office at 478-836-3116 or Macon Regional Crimestoppers @ 478-742-2330 or 1-877-68-CRIME **HISTORY:** According to an online history of the cemetery, Nichols was one of seven children of Vincent (Jack) Nichols and his wife. Elizabeth, who donated the land for the

cemetery. Nichols owned a grist mill and saw mill and was one of Crawford County's most prominent citizens, as justice of the peace and a church leaders. According to the Warner Robins-based Sons of Confederate Veterans website, the 57th Infantry Regiment (also called 54th Regiment) was organized during the spring of 1862. Many of its members were recruited in Troup, Peach, Montgomery, and Oconee counties. The unit served in East Tennessee and Kentucky, then moved to Mississippi. The unit was assigned to T.H. Taylor's Brigade in the Department of Mississippi and East Louisiana and fought at Champion's Hill and was captured in July, 1863, at Vicksburg, according to the website. Exchanged and placed in General Mercer's and J.A. Smith's Brigade, the 57th was active in many conflicts from Resaca to Bentonville. During the Atlanta Campaign, from July 20 to

Sept. 1, it reported 54 casualties and in December, 1864, totaled 120 effectives, the website states. Only a remnant surrendered on April 26, 1865. Col. Wm. Barkuloo, Lt. Col. Cincinnatus S. Guyton, and Maj. John W. Shinholser commanded.

FOLLOW UP: Compatriot Ed Nichols of the Habersham Guard Camp is a descendant. It's unknown (for now) whether Lt. Nichols was buried in uniform (CSA buttons) or with any artifacts that a grave robber might try to sell to collectors and WBTS enthusiasts. He died soon after the war in 1866, so it's more likely (than those who died decades after the war) that he had an intact uniform at that point. Please report any



suspicious persons or artifacts that come to your attention: JASON RESHA, Crawford County Investigator 478-836-3116 <u>JRESHA@crawfordsheriff.net</u>

PRELUDE TO OLUSTEE

Black troops in Northern forces numbered about 186,000 with many attracted by cash bonuses like Canadian blacks. Recruits were conscripted, threatened with bodily harm should they refuse enlistment, or simply impressed. Disease caused the death of some 68,000 black troops; less than 2,800 died in combat.

Confederate Brigadier-General Joseph Finegan's estimate of the 1863 emergency was made clear in a proclamation he circulated throughout East Florida informing the people

that: " . . . our unscrupulous enemy has landed a large force of Negroes, under command of white officers, at Jacksonville, under cover of gunboats. He is attempting to fortify the place as to make it secure against attacks. The purpose of this movement is obvious and need not be mentioned in direct terms. I therefore call on such of the citizens as can possibly leave their homes to arm and organize themselves into companies without delay and to report to me. Ammunition, subsistence, and transportation will be furnished then while they remain in service. With the blessing of the Almighty, the zealous support of the people and the government, I doubt not that the detestable foe will soon be driven from their cover." The burning and looting of Southern towns and cities during the War was not limited to Sherman. The spectacle of Northern soldiers plundering the homes and cities of Americans in the South astonished even news reporters accompanying the invading forces. On March



28, 1863, the Northern commander received orders to evacuate Jacksonville and terminate the East Florida operation. At 8 AM on the morning of March 28, as the troops began boarding their transports smoke rose from the city and some of the troops began rioting, plundering, vandalizing, the town. A New York Tribune correspondent reported: "The beautiful little cottage used as the Catholic parsonage, together with the church, was fired by some of the soldiers, and in a short time burned to the ground." The soldiers had plundered the church of any items of value and destroyed the organ, abandoning the building ahead of the flames. From the ship's deck, the reporter saw the ugly scene before him: "I am writing now from the deck of a fine transport ship, the Boston. From this upper deck the scene presented to the spectator is one of fearful magnificence. On every side, from every quarter of the city, dense clouds of black smoke and flame are bursting through the mansions and warehouses. The whole city, mansions, warehouses, trees, shrubbery, and orange groves; all that refined taste and art through many years have made beautiful and attractive, are being lapped up and devoured by this howling fiery blast . . . Is not this war — vindictive, unrelenting war? Have we not gotten up to the European standard?" Inside the city, Dr. Alfred Walton reported: "Before we were ready to embark the Northern soldiers began to set fire to the city . . . On my way down I ran into . . . a church and groping through the smoke and fire I took from the altar a large gilt-bound prayer book with the inscription on the cover, "St. John's Episcopal Church, Jacksonville." Calvin Rogers recalled: "Down on Market Street I entered a building that appeared to be some kind of office and from a table or desk I took a manuscript map of the city of Jacksonville. Still farther down I saw some Negro soldiers setting fires and from their songs and shouting they appeared to be having a good time." He pinpointed how and where he believed the fires had been started: "One fire was set by soldiers of the 8th Maine . . . Another by the 6th Connecticut . . . a third fire was kindled by a mulatto soldier of Col. Montgomery's Regiment, named Isaac Smith." (Jacksonville's Ordeal by Fire, Martin & Schafer, & Davis) NOTE: The Battle of Olustee or Battle of Ocean Pond was fought in Baker County, Florida on February 20, 1864, during the American Civil War. It was the largest battle fought in Florida during the War.

TRUTHS WORTH REPEATING

WE NEVER NEED MORE THAN THE GOSPEL, BUT WE ALWAYS NEED MORE OF THE GOSPEL. Southern planters wondered at how educated men and women of the North, former slaveholders and slave traders themselves, could believe that they would willingly injure black men and women under their care, or allow them to be beaten. The sheer cruelty of New England's slave trade and its infamous middle passage could never be surpassed by the plantations of the Old South.

- Bernhard Thuersam

Time on the plantation was measured to Christmas, and three weeks before Christmas Day the wagons would go to the nearest city or town to lay in the Christmas supplies. Every Negro man had to have a complete outfit, from hat to shoes; every Negro woman had to have the same from head handkerchief to shoes; each Negro child every article of clothing needed; and warm shawls, and soft shoes, or some special gifts had to be bought for the old Negroes too feeble to work. How happy all were, white and black, as the cry of "Christmas Gif" rang from one end to the other of the plantation, beginning early in the morning at the Big House and reaching every Negro cabin – Christmas can never be the same again." - (The Civilization of the Old South, Mildred Lewis Rutherford; North Carolina Booklet, Vol. XVII, No. 3, January 1918, pp. 142-147)

"I have been the employer of colored labor ever since I became of age. I know them well and I have never received anything but kindness at their hands. I have the kindest feeling for the race and have seen the difficulties which surround their efforts to rise to better things. In my judgment, the best remedy for the situation the colored people find themselves is . . . extending the education as far as possible to all your people, impress upon them sobriety, self-control under what at times may be aggravating circumstances, the acquirement of property by industry and thrift, and the attainment, by their personal conduct, of the respect of white people." - Dr. James E. Shepard, 1919

"I do not believe in battles ending this war. You may plant a fort in every district of the South, you may take possession of her capitals and hold them with your armies, but you have not begun to subdue her people. I know it seems something like absolute barbarian conquest, I allow it, but I do not believe there will be any peace until 347,000 men of the South are either hanged or exiled."

- Facts and Falsehoods, Concerning the War on the South, George Edmonds, Spence Hall Lamb, 1904, pp. 235-236

The Puritan settlements of New England enjoyed, either contemporaneously or separately, the three forms of servitude common in that day, namely; indentured servants, Indian slaves, and Negro slaves. Indentured servants date from the founding of Massachusetts . . . and a new source of servants was soon found, however, when Indian warfare began about 1636, and the captives were promptly sold into slavery. The women and children were usually employed in the colonies; the warriors were carried to the West Indies and there sold as slaves. - Slave

Holding in New England and Its Awakening, Lorenzo J. Greene, Journal of Negro History, Carter G. Woodson, editor, Vol. XIII, No. 4, October, 1928, pp. 492-496)

-16-



DECEMBER 2014 SCHOOL PROGRAM AT WOODFIELD ACADEMY

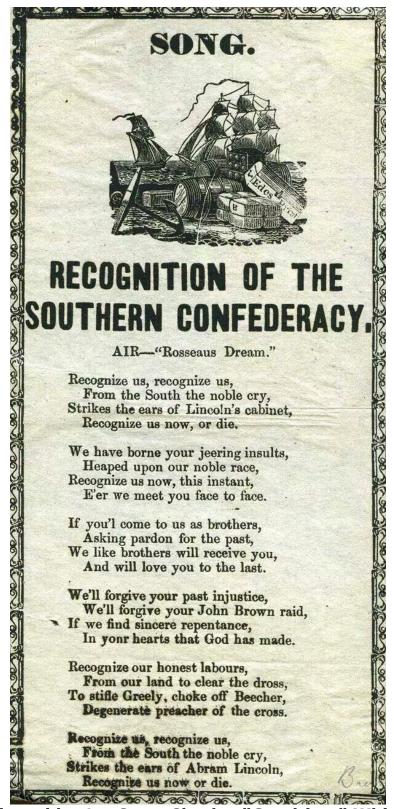
Private Ethan Bloodworth (left) writes: "The program commenced at 1:30 on December 16th at Woodfield Academy in Macon, GA. Corporal Charles Whitehead (right) and I spent about an hour and a half explaining our gear, weapons, etc. to the kids. Also discussed were camp life, battle tactics, diversity amongst the ranks, and causes of the war. We also fielded many questions from the children. They were all very interested and engaged. Overall, the program must be classified as a rousing success."

A SPECIAL GIFT



I am sure many of you got some really nice gifts for Christmas. The one above was given to me (Wayne Dobson) and my two sisters (Diane Beck and Val Elliott). The plaque (accompanying a U.S. flag) reads: "This certifies that the accompanying flag of the United States of America was flown proudly in the eyes of the enemy.....Afghanistan ... 11

September 2014...This flag was flown for John and Vivian Dobson (our late parents) in honor of those who have fallen in the name of freedom." It was given to us by Lisa Ingram, our dear friend who, concluded her deployment just before Christmas. As you can imagine it will always be cherished, as will the one who gave it to us.



THE OFFICE



As a college president after the war, General Robert E. Lee gave no indication of being a scholar, did not begin any research of his own, and showed no interest in collecting material for wartime memoirs. Lee informed Scotch visitor David MacRae that he had not read any accounts of the war or biographies. He said: "My own life has been written, but I have not looked into it. I do not want to awaken memories of the past." "Offices are silent biographers of those who spend much of their lives in them. Beginning as inanimate rooms, offices become organic spaces, with personalities and meaning of their own. Robert E. Lee is gone, but his office is intact. After his death, college officials decided to preserve it exactly as it was when he walked out on a soggy fall day in 1870. No major item has been added or removed. Time has been blocked out and history boxed in. Lee's office is in the basement of [the chapel he insisted be built for Washington College, and authorized by the Trustees on 18 July 1866]. One naked electric light bulb shines at night, placed where an oil lamp hung in Lee's day. The brick floor at the foot of the stairs has been worn and cracked by the feet of many pilgrims. To the modern eye, the fifteen by eighteen foot room seems plain to the point of austerity. There is no rug on the pine floor of random-width boards, no curtains on the two windows, no paintings or prints on the plain white walls. The largest object in the room is a bookcase . . . [with only] Webster's dictionary [being] the largest [book in it]. Most of the others were nineteenth century texts: DeVere's Grammar in French, Brown's English Grammar with Analysis, Morris' Greek Grammar and Downes' Algebra, for example. All are frayed and worn from frequent use. On the mantle stand three faded pictures: George Peabody, a Northern benefactor, an unidentified Confederate family, and George Washington. Underneath the central table is a large wicker waste basket, given General Lee by a Negro woman. This is all one finds in the office of the American who is regarded by many as a sort of A Protestant saint. Across the hall, a few feet from the office, the earthly remains of Lee are sealed in a family mausoleum. Above him rests his wife. To his right is his father, "Light Horse Harry"; to his left his oldest son, Custis. The General is entombed not far from the place where he worked and where he led in peace a whole region which he could not free in war. This was the focus and nerve center of his administration. Here we wrote, planned, conferred and meted out justice. Duty, like marrow, was in his bones. Precisely here the college was transformed into a university. Like his clothes, speech, manners and campaigns, the office, too, was fastidious. A passion for order dominated Lee's whole life. (Lee After the War, The Greatest Period in the Life of a Great American, Marshall W. Fishwick, Dodd, Mead & Company, 1963, excerpts, pp. 128-132)



HOPE

"This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in Him." - Lamentations 3:21-24

As we look to the new year, let us not look to resolutions- our own strength - or

any man, government, or any power of the earth for our hope. These shall surely fail every time. They are the creation of the Creator, not the Creator Himself. The Lord our God does not fail. He is everlasting, faithful, and loves us.

Our faith and hope is manifested in our belief that God is with us. Without this fundamental belief we would be as lost as those who do not believe. But praise the Lord that He reigns forever and will not be over thrown. You can't out live, out love or out give our Heavenly Father.

In this new year let us not forget God's infinite love for us. That was why He sent Jesus. God has compassion for all of us. Because Jesus was raised from the dead to live forever. All glory, honor. and praise is due the Lord God Almighty.

Will you give Him praise in the coming year? - Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr.

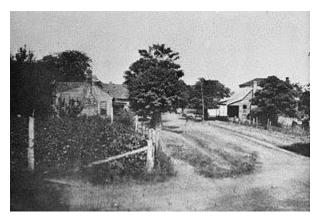
Please pray for the Williams family. Frank and Dan's father (Allen) has been at the Medical Center in Macon for some time. Near Christmas Eve the family was called in as the bi-pap was removed.

Also among the recently sick, injured or in need of some physical touch. They include Brother Joey Young, Ricky and Steve Smith, Skins, Gary Banks, Jenny Banks, Jessie Whitehead and Val and Ed Elliott. If there are some I have not listed, please forgive me and let me know as I am simply unaware of the situation. Remember, too, our good friends John Tucker and Tim Pilgrim as they endure cancer

PRAYER REQUESTS

treatments and the many who are without loved ones this time of year. There are many tears.

"Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."- Ps. 29:2



Old Clinton, Georgia - around 1900 - does anyone know this exact location?

WHAT A LIAR !!!

150 years ago on, December 31, 1864: In Savannah, Union General Sherman is resting his army and today turns out volumes of letters to his wife, brother, and Generals Grant and Halleck, all stating how well behaved his army is and how much he is loved by the citizens of the South.

I BET THE GA HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND HISTORIC MACON BELIEVE THAT

(Thanks to Larry Upthegrove for the info)

