

December 15, 2006

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER, 2006

As 2006 comes to a close, I think we can all reflect on a successful year. This issue of the Newsletter will detail what happened and what it cost. We have increased the membership through the SCV recruiting effort. The Congress in Franklin and Nashville gave us a better understanding of those battles and the rear guard fights after Nashville. Through the Congress we met new members and renewed old friendships. Camp Van Dorn will get a metal sign and ground penetrating radar may be used soon in further investigations. We spoke out against the attempted development of Camp Mc Donald and supported local efforts to prevent that action. Chip Barron has volunteered to be our first Archivist to organize and store what we have learned through the years. Many people were involved in various ways.

Donations

In 2006, several people have joined me in making cash donations to help our association operate. Through these donations the bills have been paid in full. Special thanks goes to Lee Cooper, Willis Haugen, Larry Crowe, Fran Wagner, Johathan Perryman and Ed Combs for their gracious gifts. Thank you to the numerous members who purchased commemorative patches to increase our income. Thank you to those who purchased organization items from the Cafe Press store.

Thank you to those who paid their membership dues even though they were not able to attend the Congress. Their support helps make everything happen.

A series of special cash donations were made on short notice to enable a \$1,400 metal sign to be erected on the Camp Van Dorn historical site in Knoxville. Chip Barron was the first to step forward with a very substantial gift. It was soon followed by individual gifts from Kay Borden, Paige Goodson and Ed Combs. A SCV Camp from Dallas, Georgia heard about the effort and they contributed. Gary Goodson had contributed large amounts of his money to get the project to the stage of finding contributors for the metal sign. Thank you all. Each was required to get the job done. Without each donation it would not have been done.

Additionally, many made other gift donations, that were other than cash, in order to help our organization. These donations cost them time and money and they were all very helpful. Thank you. Specifically

Non-Cash Donations

Chip Barron - Organization and storage of archives and information concerning the five regiments and related subjects.

Kay Borden - Printing of posters, letterheads, business cards, group pictures.

Don Bulloch - Website design and maintenance ; Website registration transfer

Harry Dillinger - Providing portable drill for placing flag staffs and cleaning holders

Charles and Robbie Griggs - Scouting of Nashville battle locations ; making name tags; checking tour route and travel times.

Harris Griggs - Ice and drinking water ; personal diplomacy with local speakers and mansion owners ; obtaining permission to visit *Oaklawn* and *Harrison House*.

Mary Griggs - Nashville and Franklin information packets and official Welcome

Gary Goodson - Providing two sets of *Georgia Confederate 7,000* books at cost

David Richardson - Shipping two flags with staff and base from Oklahoma ; research and mailings plus identification of potential SCV members from their Directory.

Rick Tucker - Flags, door prizes, guest gifts, banners.

E.J. Neeley - Did not charge a speaking fee.

Tom Cartwright - Did not charge a speaking fee.

Brian Allison - Provided new information and details of the rear guard actions.

Margie Theesin - Carnton Plantation manager who agreed to open on Sunday morning just for our group in order to fit our preferred schedule of tour stops.

Ronald Shuff - Owner of *Oaklawn* who allowed us to visit it.

Mrs. Pam Lewis - Owner of *Harrison House* who allowed us to visit it and provided hand written notes on the

history of the house.

Jimmy Campbell - Took his time to show us the inside of *Oaklawn*.

Kay Griggs-Bishop - Brought her scrapbook of past Congress events ,from Louisiana, to show both new and old members.

The non members above have received a personal Thank You letter acknowledging their help.

My sincere thanks to all of you. All of your gifts have helped make a better organization and have reduced our direct expenses. For those of you that I have missed, and those of you that have assisted in countless ways, Thank You! With lots of willing, helpful hands, things can get done.

Financial Report

The 2006 Financial Report will be added as an attachment. I want to call to your attention several areas where the budget estimate was less than the actual cost and discuss the impact.

In May the *Sons of Confederate Veterans 2006 Membership Directory* was published and received. This book contained the names of veterans and their regiment. From that information one could go to the current descendant and look up his address. This fresh address information gave an unusual chance to contact directly the descendants from our regiments. This was done and we did gain new members and contacts through this effort. The copying of letters and postage came to **\$178.18**. This amount had not been budgeted.

At the Marriott the microphone for the meeting rooms was in addition to the meeting room charge. The microphone cost \$35 per night, but the required Audio Mixer was \$40, the Speaker was \$150 per night for a total of \$450 for the three nights. Then, a \$31.50 Service Charge and a \$ 16.79 State Tax was added for a total of \$198.29 per night. The total for the microphones came to an **extra \$594.87**.

A \$100 meeting room had \$21.00 in gratuity added on plus another \$11.19 for the state or a total of \$32.19 extra per room. Both rooms came to an **extra \$64.38**.

At the Traveller's Rest tour and lunch stop the total bill was presented to our Association on September 12, after we had all gone home. We paid for 45 lunches @ \$11 each = \$495 and 36 tours @ \$6 each = \$216 for a total bill of \$711.

What happened ? Harris and I have tried to determine the answer from cash received, notes, recollection and other information at hand. It was probably not clear to all members how the payment would be made, as each stop was done differently, according to the vendor's wishes.

The 45 lunches was an estimate of lunches needed. We actually had 36 counted on the tour so I think 36 ate lunches. That would mean 9 lunches at \$11 were not eaten, so we paid an **extra \$99.00**.

When the smoke cleared, we could only account for \$272 in cash received for the meals and tours. (\$17 X 16 people would equal \$272). If that is accurate, that means we did not receive enough payment and we paid **an extra \$340** to cover the cost of the meals and tours.

To recap these extra expenses we had : Meeting Rooms \$64.38 + Microphones \$594.87 + Uneaten lunches \$ 99.00 + Traveller's Rest \$340 = **\$1,098.25 extra**.

Some of these extra charges were taken care of by other savings in the budget. When I looked at total income and total outgo, there was a **shortage of \$ 865.50**. This shortage was made up by me in what was called a "donation" to balance the books.

Congress Money Shortfall

The shortage of \$865.50 came from the Congress. I have always tried not to whine and I take responsibility for my mistakes. In my After Action Report I have identified several recommendations or measures that will help prevent

future shortfalls. Those will be implemented next year.

However, in the present, absorbing and paying for an extra \$865 has hurt. As most of you know I am retired and on a fixed income plus I have to pay for plane tickets and rental car in order to participate. I do that because I want to. I'll survive. I know that many of you are retired too.

For those of you that were at the Franklin/Nashville Congress, if you would like to contribute extra money to help offset the additional expenses as explained above, I will accept. I will not beg, but I will accept personal donations to help defray the extra costs as explained. If you would like to help please send directly to me. If there are any excess donations, I will put them into the 2007 operations as donations to the GBSHHA account.

I dislike having to even bring up this subject but I have to keep you informed. Money is the "glue" that holds an organization together. One can have all the best intentions, best research, excited members, helpful members, knowledgeable members, published authors and plans, but it still takes money to pay the association business bills.

Annual Dues

Annual Membership dues for 2007 are due January 1, 2007. Please make your check payable to General Barton and Stovall Association. Please send the checks directly to me at 4110 Holly Beach Court, Bremerton, WA 98312. The dues are \$35.00 for each family unit. The thrust of our 2007 activities will be to conduct a Congress at Danville, Kentucky and inform members and potential members through the Website, roster and other communications. We will continue to seek out, store and share new information concerning Barton's and Stovall's brigade.

Christmas Gift Ideas

Please remember that the Cafe Press will rebate to the organization a certain amount of all purchases on their website. If you need a cool custom cotton T-shirt for next year or a coffee mug with the names and dates of all the major battles your ancestor fought in, go to the Cafe Press store. Just go to our website at www.generalbartonandstovall.com and follow the directions. You will be able to see pictures of the various items for sale and directions on how to customize the order.

Friends of Civil War Paulding County

Founder Gary Goodson has been in contact with the Friends of Civil War Paulding County concerning their December, 2006 Newsletter. I was unable to open the Newsletter attachment, but I think he was explaining about the Camp Van Dorn sign and grave investigation efforts. Company A and F, 40th Georgia Volunteer Infantry were from Paulding County. The 40th Georgia was encamped at Camp Van Dorn in the Spring of 1862 and lost men there due to illness.

The contact is Connie Tibbitts at (770) 445-9620. If you are interested she can probably send you their Newsletter.

Carroll County Genealogical Quarterly Magazine

The Fall, 2006 issue of this magazine has an article by Hugh Barrow concerning the death and burial of Colonel Charles A. Mc Daniel of the 41st Georgia. Colonel Mc Daniel died from wounds suffered at Perryville. The article has a transcription of a letter written by Captain George N. Lester (Co B, 41st Georgia) to Major John M. Richardson, who was a friend of Colonel Mc Daniel from Bowdon College. Thank you David Richardson for this information. David was able to read the article through his local library, so you can get at it the same way.

Captain Stalling Letters

Captain Stalling was the Commanding Officer of Co. A, 41st Georgia Infantry. Several of his letters had been found in the Coweta Genealogical Society *Courier*. When I told prospective member and Company A, 41st Georgia descendant Carla Patterson about the letters, she promptly found more letters from him. It turns out that several volumes of past issues have his letters.

Thank you Carla for digging deeper and telling us about your find. The address is : [http://members.tripod.com/cowetags/ Courier.html](http://members.tripod.com/cowetags/Courier.html) This is an outstanding example of how we can help each other.. Carla teaches literature and she knows her way around book lists, authors, letter files, and use of the computer and Internet. Her ancestor was a soldier under Captain Stalling's command.

Captain Stalling wrote detailed letters to his wife. By association we know that what he wrote about also described what was happening in the 40th, 42nd, 43rd and 52nd Georgia because they were brigaded together. For a time, Captain Stalling as senior captain in the regiment , was the Commanding Officer of the 41st Georgia at Nashville and during the rear guard fights.

The doctrine of filling a fallen commander's position continues today. The next in command fills in without being told. When all field grade officers are unable to step up to take the place of a regimental commander, the job goes to the most senior captain in the command. This is done at all levels of command. This is to be sure there is always someone in charge. Promotions and assignments are made later to fill the vacant job positions.

New Members

In 2006 we had 23 family units join our ranks. By family unit I mean that I counted a husband and wife as one, because they only pay one membership fee for the both of them. All of them could not attend the Congress in Franklin, but many did. We look forward to next year's Congress in Danville, KY and hope to meet new members there. Please stay in touch by mail, e-mail, and phone. You are part of our family even if we haven't met physically yet.

I think we really are like family with a bond of past generations who served together. Our ancestors knew each other, lived in the same area and helped each other after the War Between the States. There are several examples that I can cite as to how our ancestors knew each other. It seems like with each Congress more connections are established. When you are involved in one it is really a " Woo - Woo -Woo" type of experience.

For example, when William Green Berry Griggs, Co. B,41st Georgia, was first denied his CSA Pension in 1912, he wrote to several surviving soldiers he knew and asked that they write letters on his behalf to the Louisiana Pension authorities. One of those that responded was the ancestor of H. David Richardson. I was able to supply a transcript of that letter to David. He did not know of that connection between his family and the Griggs family. At Franklin, there were in attendance David Richardson and Green Griggs' grandson, William P. Griggs, and William's niece, Kay Griggs Bishop from West Monroe, LA. Without our organization they would most probably have never met. How did Louisiana get into it, you may wonder ? In 1871 Green moved from Georgia to Louisiana and he was the Wagonmaster of the wagon train because of his CSA Army experience. He knew how to march and protect the travellers if need be.

Newsletter Topics

If you have Newsletter information you would like to share, please let me know. I can put it into the Newsletter in some form or you can write the text and it can be inserted. It can be worked out where your identity will not be lost. If you have something that the other members might like to know about, lets hear about it.

Good News

On December 12 I got a call from Chris Kolakowski. Chris is the Executive Director of the Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association and author of *Saving Kentucky's Largest Battlefield*. Back on November 20 I had written a letter to Kurt Holman, Manager of Perryville Battlefield State Historic Park and asked him if he or someone he could suggest could be a local guide for us next September.

Chris can be our guide for Saturday when we retrace the retreat route from Perryville. The retreat route is pretty well established, but the points of interest along the way, exactly where to turn, travel times between points and what happened enroute can best be described by a local historian. With great relief, in December, I am happy to announce he can be with us.

In our initial conversation Chris told me that BG Seth Barton is buried in City Cemetery in Fredericksburg, WA.

We will be sharing bits of information over the next months and working together on the details of what to see on Saturday, how long to commit to each place , travel times and a workable schedule so that we will get back in time for our Saturday evening meal.

For now, I send sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !

Mike Griggs
President