

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER, 2008

Correction

In the last Newsletter I was trying to explain how to get to the National Infantry Museum and I stated I-20 instead of I-85. The correct highway to take from Atlanta is I-85. Both Don Bulloch and David Richardson were alerted and they made the correction in the electronic Newsletter. If you saw an earlier version, please note that I-85 is correct.

Rebel Private - Future Movie

David Richardson reports that there will be a new motion picture named *Rebel Private*. It will be filmed in Texas, Louisiana, and Virginia. Advance information says that it will contain, "intimate combat intensity of the D-Day invasion in *Saving Private Ryan*, and the poignant relationships of *Cold Mountain*, he will create a visceral and riveting film."

Also, "*Rebel Private* will be deeply Southern, highly aesthetic, historically accurate, non-commercial portrayal of the period."

For more information go to www.RebelPrivate.com. The reason for calling this to your attention is because movies, when done with correct detail, can be informative of what certain scenes must have looked like. It helps us look beyond the modern clutter to visualize the historical events that unfolded on the ground we came to visit. Movies can be very powerful but they do not emit the smell of gunpowder, the itch of bug bites, various unpleasant and vile smells, the mental history of what went on before, or the ache of going without sleep. We have to add those in our mind the best we can.

There most likely will never be a movie made about Stovall's brigade, so we have to learn from the movies that are made and apply that to known history.

Experts in our Membership

We have many experts on our roster, in various fields, and they bring their knowledge to help others. An example of this is that **Dan Crone** of Dayton, Ohio has been helping potential member **Sandra Bagley**, 52nd Georgia descendant, in her efforts to preserve an old cemetery in DeKalb Co. His focus is not the preservation of cemeteries, but years

of work in finding graves of men of Barton's and Stovall's brigade has developed a large "tool box" on how to seek and use cemetery information.

His searches and suggestions have helped Sandra.

Atlas of the Civil War

Jerry Morris, 40th Georgia descendant from Jekyll Island, GA, sent me a color brochure advertising *National Geographic's* book titled, *Atlas of the Civil War*. This volume includes 320 photographs, paintings and battle sketches, 11 Orders of Battle and 88 full-color rare archival maps and 33 specially created maps. All this is packed into 240 pages.

But that is not all. Sharp-eyed Jerry noticed a postage stamp sized picture on the brochure that showed two Fincher brothers of the 43rd Georgia. Jerry noted that there were five Fincher's listed on the roster of the 43rd Georgia Infantry, Company, I, that came from Forsyth County. This is another example of one never knows where some information will show up. In this instance the editors of the book found and selected the photo for their brochure. They also identified the unit of the men. But, it took some careful reading by Jerry to find it among all the other description of the book.

***Battle Maps of the Civil War* by Harold J. Holmquest**

Yucca Tree Press, 2130 Hixon Drive, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005, first printed this book in November 2000. I came across it in a military book catalog and since it was on sale for \$10.00, I went on and ordered it.

The maps show 131 fights between Union and Confederate troops and many were minor engagements not usually found in the usual Civil War books. The maps are arranged in chronological order. Brief text describes the tactical action and the result.

The maps are drawn in black and white and show the main movements. I think they give a quick overview of the battle. That is not bad, it is just limited in what can be shown. Usually the smallest unit shown is a division. The maps look like they were drawn out on a piece of paper using a rifle stock for a desk. Again, that is not bad, but it is not a map that will help one find where Stovall's brigade was positioned.

I think this book is a reference to the big picture of each battle with the text explaining the events of the battle and the commanders. The

location of brigades and regiments will have to come from other maps and other sources.

.....
I look forward to seeing you again next year in Tupelo, Mississippi at our next Congress. In the meantime, I hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and a safe trip if you are traveling.

Mike Griggs
President
41st Georgia Descendant