

## NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER, 2008

As each month goes by I jot down items that I come across and then comment on them in the Newsletter. They are presented in no particular order, so please read to the end. The subjects come from members, articles, book reviews, former guides, and research sources. I do try to keep the subjects focused on the battles and marches made by the Barton or Stovall Brigade or other subjects associated with the history of the unit.

Don Bulloch has made the reading of older Newsletters easy to find and read. Just go to the website at [www.generalbartonandstovall.com](http://www.generalbartonandstovall.com) and click on the month and year that you want to read.

### **Support Civil War Preservation Act 2007**

The Civil War Preservation Act of 2007 reauthorizes the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program. This program provides Federal matching grants that have saved over 14,000 acres of battlefields.

Our ancestors fought on some of these battlefields to include Champion Hill, Perryville and Franklin.

You can help secure future funding by contacting your Representative and Senators. Legislators won't cosponsor a bill unless they hear from their constituents. If HR 2933 and S 1921 pass, funding will be secured through 2013.

The Civil War Preservation Trust has a website [www.battlefieldactivist.com](http://www.battlefieldactivist.com) that has sample phone calls, sample letters and other information. They also have a list of the 22 Senators and 61 Representatives that support the bills. Should you need additional information or have questions call 1-800-298-7878, Ext 220. You can help by calling or writing to support this bill.

### **CSI Knoxville 1863**

Gary Goodson sends information from his contacts in Knoxville concerning a surveying course at the University of Tennessee. The students in a class called CSI Knoxville 1863 used ground penetrating radar and metal detectors to investigate the mass grave at Bethel Cemetery where 1,600 Confederate soldiers are buried. Bethel Cemetery was a tour stop during our Second Congress in 2003.

The mass grave was known but the edges and what might be in the mass grave were not known.

This is interesting, but the reason it is important to us is that they may need a new area to practice their skills in the future. Maybe the lead professor can be interested in doing a "CSI Knoxville 1862" at Camp Van Dorn. Gary has found the camp and graves are believed to be in the area so maybe the students can map the graves and locate previously unknown graves.

### **Harris Griggs Project**

Speaking of projects, Harris Griggs has volunteered his time and effort to produce a product from our files. Currently, ancestor information is safely filed, by year, in our files. Since 2002 there has accumulated quite a stack of New Member Profiles, in various forms, which contain information on the ancestors which we remember and honor.

This information will be extracted and put into a spreadsheet which can then be printed or sent to interested members. Some of the details supplied by the families are not found in other sources. For example: "Wounded in left hip at Resaca". Another fact that comes out is that the families had many members in other units as well as our five regiments. Some of the families knew each other as they came from the same area.

The overall idea is to take interesting information that is in our files and get it out to the members. Once developed it can be added to as more information comes in.

There is no time table for the completion of this project but it is hoped to be ready at least by Marietta 2008 Congress.

### **Outreach Effort**

I have been thinking that we should attempt to make an Outreach Effort when we have a Congress in a certain area.

The idea would be to let other interested groups know about us and what we do. Perhaps we can find other descendants or interested parties if they knew what we were doing.

“They” would be organizations such as SCV, UDC, local historical societies, and groups like the Civil War Roundtable and Friends of Civil War Paulding County. I am sure there are others that you know about in your area.

After bouncing this idea off Kay Borden, who will be a presenter at next year’s Congress in Marietta, a trial effort has been launched. The Friends of Civil War Paulding County has a newsletter and they announced that they were looking for items to put into their newsletter. Kay worked up a news release about our association and how it will meet next Labor Day Weekend and that we will see battlefields in Paulding County. Some companies of the 40th Georgia and 41st Georgia came from Paulding County. This announcement was accepted and it will be sent out soon.

If this development gives you ideas among your contact list, please let me know. We could get a like message out to that group too. This effort is part of “networking” or what I call expanding your web of contacts. An example of the value of this is : Our member, Dr. David Wiggins , knew two local experts who could be our guides in the Marietta area. Through his contacts I was able to make rapid contact and start developing the details of who will be assisting us next year.

### **Nominations and Elections**

During the Sixth Congress at Danville, Kentucky we were able to develop a slate of nominations for the officers and historians for the next three year period. One of the nominees had not confirmed if he would accept the nomination. Since that time, I have not received any additional nominations.

I have asked Founder and Historian Emeritus Gary Goodson if he would conduct the actual election. He has accepted this task and will receive the votes and count the votes. In a number of cases there is only one person running for the office, so the count will be a formality.

According to my notes , the following nominations have been received :

President Michael Griggs Bremerton, WA

Vice President Harris Griggs Franklin, TN

Secretary David Richardson Haworth, OK

40th Georgia Historian Kay Borden Marietta, GA

41st Georgia Historian David Richardson Haworth, OK

42nd Georgia Historian Fran Wagner Canton, GA

43rd Georgia Historian Greg Land Jasper, GA

52nd Georgia Historian Ben Jackson Tidwell Douglasville, GA

If I have omitted any nomination it is my error. Please let me know and I will send out an additional notice to all on our list of e-mail addresses.

**Please vote** to accept this slate of officers and historians by contacting Gary R. Goodson at P.O. Box 128, Shawnee, CO 80475 or (303) 838-1357 or garygoodson@hotmail.com

Please send in your vote by **December 15, 2007**. Try to do it now before getting into the busy Holiday Season.

The Webmaster and Archivist positions are filled by qualified volunteers who are then appointed to serve in that position.

**Membership Dues**

Membership Dues are due on January 1, 2008 for next year. The dues are now \$40.00 per family unit for one year. The dues allow us to operate as a non-profit organization and to conduct our business.

An example of the use of the money is that to hold the reservation at the Marietta Conference Center and Resort for next year, \$200 had to be paid on November 1, 2007. Other amounts will be due at other times as we get closer to the Congress.

Please make the checks to General Barton and Stovall History/Heritage Association and mail to Michael Griggs, 4110 Holly Beach Court, Bremerton, WA 98312.

That is about it for this month. Be alert to locate potential new members.

Mike Griggs  
President

## NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER, 2008

Greetings from Palm Desert, CA. Palm Desert is my new winter home until about the first of April. This is a long-awaited goal to get out of the rain and gloom of the Pacific Northwest in the winter months. I am working on a new laptop computer and I am not used to all its features and exactly how to do certain things. During the process of the move and getting settled in, I had to establish a new e-mail account with Time Warner as they service this area.

That took 11 days to get it installed and another three hours to hook it up with the help of a computer expert.

I couldn't help but think about how this internet technology holds our organization together between yearly meetings on a battlefield and how this message can be sent and read from so many different places. During the time of our ancestors, they would march 20 miles in a day and then have to worry about building a cooking fire with wet wood and how to sleep in the rain without tents. Keeping paper cartridges dry during wet weather was another problem they faced. The technology changes have been vast between 1865 and now.

This move has put me into a new comfort zone that is not too comfortable yet. My reference books are in Washington as is the historical files of GBSHHA since its formation. I brought some files with me in order to operate, but I may not have what I will need. There have been some developments since mid-October and I will try to communicate the key elements.

### **National Infantry Museum Fort Benning, GA**

In October I was able to attend an Army unit reunion at Fort Benning. During that time I was able to see the progress being made on the new National Infantry Museum. It is a \$150 million project and will be opened on March 20,

2009. Retired General Colin Powell will be the featured speaker.

It is located on the old entrance to Fort Benning along a serene parkway among tall pine trees. There is an extensive section that has displays for the 1861-1865 periods for both Union and Confederate armies.

To get to Fort Benning, just take I-185 off of I-20. Follow it to the end and that will take you to the Main Gate. There is a brick building where Visitors get a free pass for themselves and their car. Once a pass is issued, just follow the signs to the Museum. There is an extensive parking lot that has many sections and some are not very close to the museum building.

When I was a new Second Lieutenant in 1962 at Fort Benning, the Infantry Museum was in a World War II wooden barracks with peeling paint. It was not air-conditioned and I recall lots of dust in the building. It was more a collection of "stuff" than a museum of top quality exhibits and artifacts. Later, it was moved to the "Old Hospital", a brick building built in 1932 and that building was air-conditioned but it was cramped. The new museum will be state of the art.

40<sup>th</sup> Georgia Historian Kay Borden is working with a client who will be building a hotel just off the entrance of the Old Entrance to Fort Benning. Earlier in the year she was given a guided tour of the museum and briefed on a number of details

For those of you who live in the Atlanta area, you can figure about 1 ½ hours driving time to the museum.

**Potential New Member Mike Moss**

Mike Moss of Mineral Bluff, GA contacted us after he found our Website. He explained that General Stovall is his great, great, great grandfather. I sent him a letter, new member form, agenda for 2009, suggested reading list and a reference page. Hopefully, Mike will join our group of descendants. Because of new technology, he was able to learn about our organization.

### **Membership Dues for 2009**

Annual dues for 2009 will be due on January 1, 2009. Annual dues are \$40.00 per family unit. Some of you have already paid early and that is appreciated. In a few instances you paid twice, so I just applied the last payment to 2009.

Please send your dues to me at either 4110 Holly Beach Court, Bremerton, WA 98312 or to 78892 Canyon Vista, Palm Desert, CA 92211. The mail is being forwarded from Bremerton and later will be forwarded from Palm Desert.

If your e-mail address has changed, please let me know the new address.

### **Suggested Books to Read**

43<sup>rd</sup> Georgia descendant and new member, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey Stowe, USA (Ret), of Gig Harbor, WA kindly took the time and effort to send me two book reports on two books that have information on Stovall's Brigade during the Atlanta Campaign.

Rather than rewriting and missing some details, I want to share his report in total. Colonel Stowe writes :

" First , there is a very good book, *The Campaign for Atlanta* by William Safe. The book has 24 excellent battle maps from Rocky Face Ridge to Dug Gap to the battle of Jonesboro. Eight of the maps show the battle location and position of Stovall's brigade. The book also has a complete Order of

Battle for the Atlanta campaign; the map of the Battle of Atlanta on page 103 is somewhat misleading. The map shows Stovall's brigade north of the Decatur road and railroad attacking to the northeast. They did start to the north of the railroad but ended up fighting to the south of the railroad where they were , "assailed on both flanks, likewise scurries rearward". " Clayton's Division with Stovall's and Bushrod Jones's brigades, the only ones heavily engaged, lost 298 and 129 respectively."

As I am sure you know, the Cyclorama in Atlanta depicts the 22 July, 1864 Battle of Atlanta. The attached link is part of that painting and shows, although it is hard to see, Stovall's brigade engaged in fighting with Martin's brigade just south of the Troup House, where some of the heaviest fighting occurred. This is the battle where my grandfather was wounded.

The second book of interest is *Decisions in the West, The Atlanta Campaign of 1864* by Albert Castel. There are several notations of Stovall's brigade and a very good description of their actions on 22 July. "

Colonel Stowe has suggested that these books be added to the Suggested Reading and I have done that. I have also ordered the first book. From experience I can comment that order of battle and battle maps to the brigade level are rather rare. These books will help us piece together what happened at each battle.

Thank you, Colonel Stowe, for sharing your reference information. Without this organization, we would not have found each other, and without the Website run by Don Bulloch, we would not have found each other.

### **Battle Mug**

As Christmas approaches, I want to remind all members about our Battle Mug that can be purchased online. See the

Website for details. The mug lists the names and dates of the major battles that were fought by Barton's and later Stovall's brigade. Your ancestors were there. Those names and dates record where your ancestors were killed, wounded, captured, suffered and fought on. Those names and dates evoke memories of past Congresses we have attended and enjoyed as we retraced the steps as best we could do so.

Even if you do not drink coffee, please consider getting some mugs to hold your pens and to be a ready reference.

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That is what I have for this month. I will try to have the next Newsletter out by December 15.

Mike Griggs  
President

