

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY, 2010

Last week I had three-quarters of this Newsletter edition typed and, I thought, saved. When I went to add the remaining topics yesterday I discovered that I had the title saved but not the text. The title and number of kilobytes were listed in several places, but I could not find the text. So, I must have erased it somehow. Typing drains my patience so this will be a shortened version of the original text. This report is written from the same notes.

Louis Wagner

It is my sad duty to report that **Louis Wagner** passed away on January 20. in Canton, GA. His wife **Fran** wrote that he was “her sweetheart”. He was also a stalwart member of this organization and a Navy veteran. A Memorial service was held in Canton on January 24. On behalf of the membership, I extend our sincere condolences to Fran and the family.

Senior Recruiting Officer Announced

On a happier note, it is my pleasure to announce that **Robert Elliott** has volunteered to serve in the position of Senior Recruiting Officer. He has proposed how he would expand and improve our recruiting efforts . His outline will serve as his job description to start and I am sure other details will be filled in as more experience is gained.

Robert comes into contact with potential members when he attends Civil War artifact sales and fairs. He may need help from time to time and other volunteers will work under his direction as “ Recruiting Officers”. This is a non-elected position with a particular focus. We have others giving their time and skills such as: **Chip Barron**, Archivist; **Don Bulloch**, Webmaster, **Janie Crowe** as embedded EMT and a host of skilled photographers who record our activities.

Robert is well positioned for his efforts. I have a map with pins for each member or contact. The map pins are clustered around Atlanta with the next highest concentrations in NE Alabama and Nashville, Tennessee. Florida also has quite a few pins.

Robert will be coordinating with **Kay Borden and Jon Perryman** who have developed pictures, comments, handouts and a speaking format on earlier recruiting opportunities .He will also be in contact with Secretary **David Richardson** so that the roster stays current.

A typical situation might be that a table is staffed at a Civil War artifact sale. While Robert is searching for letters from our brigade, a Recruiting Officer will be present at the table. They would trade off on talking with people, giving handouts and showing what we do. Another event might be as a guest speaker at a UDC or SCV meeting. Everyone should be alert to opportunities and pass them on to Robert for possible action.

Please consider giving your help to Robert if it fits your schedule.

Civil War 150th Anniversary

The Civil War 150th National Leadership Convention has decided which re-enactment armies will support which battles.

2011 Manassas Shiloh
2012 Second Manassas Vicksburg
2013 Chickamauga Gettysburg
2014 The Wilderness Atlanta
2015 Bentonville Appomattox

I am sure there will be more details as the date draws closer. Stay tuned.

Texas Civil War Museum

40th Georgia descendant **Jon Perryman** of Marietta, GA sent me information on the Texas Civil War Museum located in Fort Worth, TX. It is the largest Civil War museum west of the Mississippi River. He rates it as “fantastic ”It is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

The address is 760 Jim Wright Freeway N., Fort Worth , Texas 76108 (817) 246 – 2323 FAX (817) 246 – 3951 It is in the NW part of Fort Worth. On I – 820 going south, take Exit 5A. On I – 820 going north, take Exit 5B.

Even though this museum is in Texas, it has items just like what our ancestors wore, used and touched. So, we see what has been saved wherever we can.

Columbia’s Longest Days

The Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance, based in Columbia, SC, has announced its annual event “ Columbia’s Longest Days : February, 1865 “. This year the event will be held on February 13, 2010. You may want to consider this for 2011.

Activities include cannon firing at the west end of the Gervais Street bridge ; a Civil War Expo ; two bus tours and lectures.

Member **Jim Hopkins and his wife Donna** will attend. They will act as scouts to find more information on the defense of the bridges in town and other sites. This will be in preparation of our 2011 Congress in Columbia.

Previous research has found that at least three of Stovall’s brigade were captured during fighting in Columbia. We know that Stovall’s brigade was there for a time. At the time the brigade was reduced to about 600 men.

Notes from the 43rd Georgia

43rd Georgia Regimental Historian **Gregg Land** will submit his monthly comments in the form of an attachment to this report. This allows you to read it without me having to re-type it.

William Griggs West Monroe, Louisiana

Word has been received from **William Griggs** that he has additional health problems. He has to go for kidney dialysis (sp) three times a week for three hours each time. The extended period in one position makes his back hurt and that makes it painful to walk.

For these reason he thinks he will be unable to attend the Congress this year. He will probably have to miss the Griggs Family Reunion at Redtop Mountain State Park in north Georgia .Bill will be 86 on March 1.

If you would like to contact him his mailing address is 1512 Bailey Street, West Monroe, LA 71292 (318) 325 – 6036

Bill fondly remembers sleeping with his grandfather when he was about five year of age. His grandfather, William Green Berry Griggs, PVT Co. B, 41st Georgia Infantry , was captured on July 4, 1864 on Nickajack Creek near Smyrna, GA. He survived the POW camp at Camp Morton, Indiana and returned to Georgia. In 1871 he moved to Chatham, LA.A brother, Benjamin, was also captured at the same time and also survived to return to Georgia.

Membership Dues

Please send the membership dues for 2010 to my winter address at 78892 Canyon Vista, Palm Desert , CA 92211. That is the fastest way to get them to me. I will deposit in our Bank of 'America account here.

Wet Snow

I see from the weather reports that Atlanta is to have snow sticking to the ground today. The snowstorm will hit other cities in the South. That wet snow will turn to ice and driving on it will be very dangerous. The best defense is to stay off of it if you possibly can.

If you want to have a Civil War experience that our ancestors endured, you might try sleeping in the snow without a tent. Just use your coat and maybe one blanket .If you are simulating a march, you might try to build a fire with wet wood and no fire starter fluid. Just to get the real feel of it, go to sleep without supper and use your hat for a pillow.

You can get the general idea by just standing in the snow for about five minutes, without a coat, and just think about what they endured. They had to be the toughest of tough infantry to survive those conditions. Some did not. Those that did got up before dawn and marched another 10 or 15 miles that day and did it all over again. Incredible.

We descend from those men and are proud of it.

I expect the next Newsletter will be out about the middle of March.

Mike Griggs President