

THE HOWLING DAWG



16th Georgia Vol. Inf. Co. G
April 2011 Newsletter

THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE CLINTON



Courtesy of: Val Elliott

WAR DAYS 2011

Most editions of this newsletter report on events that have already happened but this one is a preview - it is that time of year again - the most important occasion for the 16th GA. This is our home event and we give more than a MAX EFFORT. The battlefield and camp sites are looking better than ever, we have hopes of gaining some exciting new vendors, weather should be right for a hot fight or two and this is traditionally our prime recruiting season. The last few years have seen many of our

recruits come from our War Days event, and right out of the Clinton, (Jones County), GA area. The excitement and anticipation has truly started to build and we know we will have plenty of good times to report on in the May issue. This year has the added importance of NCO elections. These men will have a great deal to do with the type unit the 16th Georgia, Co. G will be:

UNIT ELECTIONS

The following letters of intent were received by the Adjutant as of the midnight, April 1:

Kevin Sark - 1st Sgt.

Nathan Sprague - 1st Corp.,

Alan Richards - 2nd Corp.

Matthew Whitehead - 2nd Corp.

As decided by the unit at Olustee 2011, nominations will not be taken from the floor, unless no letters are received. So, the slate of candidates is considered closed and the ballot will be prepared accordingly. Ballots will be given to each member, present at the War Days 2011 unit meeting if their name appears on any 2011 version of the 16th GA Roster. Ballots will be marked privately, collected and tallied by the Company Officers or whosoever they may appoint. Results will be announced and duties assumed immediately.

SUMMER DRILL 2011

As previously announced, Earl Colvin has graciously offered his very suitable property in Jones County, GA for this purpose. It is not far from Clinton, GA and we have been extended an opportunity to view it on Friday afternoon, April 29. The proposed date is for the entire weekend of July 15-17 (or less, depending on what is decided). We need to confirm as to date, site, duration, agenda and instructor arrangement at Clinton, so further preparations can be made.

MAY 28 - OLD SOLIDER DAY



Hosted by Ervin & Barbara Garnto, near Scott, GA This Memorial Service is for all soldiers that have passed on. Special honor is paid to our re-enactor brothers and sisters who have departed this life.

The Garntos would like very much for anyone that can and will to come and help with this awesome event. Food will be furnished for all that attend. There will be signs at each turn from the caution light in Scott, Ga by the big white church {SCOTT BAPTIST CHURCH} come and get a blessing. Those wishing to stay over Saturday night are welcome to do so. For more information phone 1-478-290-6945 or e-mail at: bjarnto@hotmail.com. Directions from the point of Scott Baptist Church: 2 1/2 miles to Glen Donaldson Rd turn left go 1/2 mile to Bill Garnto Rd. turn left go 1/4 mile to Dogwood Ln. turn on Dogwood follow road around to pond follow arrows there will be signs @ each turn.

(Painting of John Wilber Dobson 1919-1995; courtesy of Val Elliott)

THE FATE OF THE "DAWG"

The 16th Georgia newsletter, THE HOWLING DAWG, became available on line in February. This move both broadened our subscription list and made an expanded, full color publication possible while cutting our cost more than half. Some liked this and some did not. Many responded, saying that the on line version is sufficient and that you no longer required a paper copy. Others indicated they still wanted to get the paper edition, so we mailed those copies and hand-delivered some. We are aware that some members do not use e-mail and never will - that should never mean that they do not get a newsletter. We have greatly appreciated the steady flow of money, supplies, articles, pictures and services that have helped to grow the newsletter over the years. Most of all we appreciate our faithful readers. *Duke*

16TH GA Co. G. "Jackson Rifles"

Capt. William "Rebel" Bradberry – 404-242-7213

1 Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755

1st Sgt.. James "Cowpattie" Cleveland – 678-972-2368

1st Corp. Nathan Sprague – 478-320-8748

2nd Corp. Kevin Sark – 478-731-8796

3rd Corp. / Adj. John Wayne "Duke" Dobson – 478-731-5531

waynedobson51@yahoo.com or waynedobson@cox.net

4th Corp. (Brevet) Alan Richards – 478-308-9739

Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal – 478-994-0958

Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878

Treasurer Ricky "Coonpossum" Smith – 478-956-2840

Musician Cody Sprague – 478-320-8748

(copies of the 2011 roster are now available upon request by e-mail or regular mail)

ABOUT 600 FRIENDS ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES" NOT SURE HOW MANY ENEMIES

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 16 - CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY

APRIL 17 - PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 24 - EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 30 - MAY 1 - OLD CLINTON WAR DAYS (16th GA members come real early)

MAY 20-22 - 147TH ANNIVERSARY BATTLE OF RESACA, GA

MAY 28 - OLD SOLIDER DAY - Hosted by Ervin & Barbara Garnto, near Scott, GA

SEPTEMBER 23-25, - NASH FARM

OCTOBER 1-2 - ANDERSONVILLE, GA

NOVEMBER 19 - GRISWOLDVILLE MEMORIAL SER./NOV. 20-21 - "Burning of Clinton"

RAPID FIRE AND AUTHENTICITY CONTESTS TO BE HELD AT WAR DAYS 2011

Contests for most authentic Federal Soldier, most authentic Confederate soldier, and a rapid fire competition will, again, be held at Clinton on Saturday, April 30th. Prizes are to be awarded. Ask for details at registration or see Lt. Noah Sprague. I wonder why they don't have authenticity contests for the ladies. Maybe next year, maybe we should, maybe we could. See Brenda about it.

"OLD FASHIONED FAIR" AT RIDDLEVILLE, GA



On April 2, several members of the 16th GA (Thomas, Charles, Rodney, Matt, Ben, Duke, Brenda, Jessie, J.C. & Ms. Cathy. Also Cleotis, his wife, Kimberley Ann and daughters 3 & 4, Chloe Rose and Mary Peyton) journeyed about 9 miles from Sandersville, GA to the 2nd Annual "Old Fashioned Fair" at Riddleville, GA It was sure good to visit with ol' friends Joe, Jolene and Glenda Ruth Johnson (49th GA), who organized this event. The 16th participated in a living history and performed a memorial service for three veterans buried on the premises. It was a fine time and we hope to return next year. Shown in the left side photo (by Brenda Dobson) is Joe Johnson (extreme left of right photo) and new acquaintance, Warren Brown.

The Origin of Memorial Day

Mrs. Chas. J. Williams, of Columbus, Ga., instituted the beautiful custom of decorating soldiers' graves with flowers, a custom which has been adopted throughout the United States. She was the daughter of Maj. John Howard, of Milledgeville, Ga. and married Maj. C. J. Williams, who, as Col. of the 1st GA Regulars, contracted disease, died in 1862, and was buried in Columbus, Ga. Mrs. Williams and her little girl visited his grave every day, and often comforted themselves by wreathing it with flowers. After a short time while the dear little girl was summoned by the angels to join her father. The sorely bereaved mother then took charge of the thousands of patriot graves throughout the South, far away from home and kindred, and in this way the plan was suggested to her of setting apart one day in each year, that tribute might be paid to valor throughout the Southern States. In March, 1868, she addressed a communication to the Columbus Times and wrote to the Soldiers' Aid Societies in every Southern State. They readily responded and reorganized under the name of Memorial Associations. Mrs. Williams lived long enough to see her plan adopted all over the South, and in 1868 throughout the United States. She died April 15, 1874, and was buried with military honors. The Legislature of Georgia, in 1866, set apart the 26th day of April as a legal holiday in obedience to her request.

From: "The Confederate Veteran," May, 1893

Photo by: Brenda Dobson



Lest They Be Forgotten ...

SUPPOSE

(Many sincere thanks to Dennis Lord for sending this our way)

Editor's Note: A few days before Memorial Day in 2002, a Sons of Confederate Veterans' camp received the following e-mail from a lady who apparently had been receiving the camp's newsletters. Her post was eventually forwarded to Roger McCredie, who had not yet joined the staff of the Southern Legal Resource Center but was the SCV's immediate past Chief of Heritage Defense, and McCredie answered on his own initiative. His reply is particularly relevant now, almost a decade later, as the runaway train of political correctness that already characterizes the Nation's sesquicentennial observance of the War Between the States threatens to overrun Confederate history and heritage. Here is the lady's original e-mail ...

I am on your mailing list by default I think, but read with interest the various letters that cross my desk from you who love the South and all it stood for, and still does in your hearts. As a fellow American, I am saddened by the loss of each and every life that was lost fighting for their beliefs during the civil war, regardless of the side they fought on.

Each soldier, parent and child who gave so much for this country is saluted and prayed for. I never know whether you folks are really talking like this because it keeps the fervor going for your re-enactments or because you actually are still so angry, after all these years. Whichever way you feel, my prayer is that you will come together this memorial Day and give honor to each and every life that was lost for US, no matter the side, color or creed in the fights that have and are still taking place so that we may live in this glorious UNITED STATES of AMERICA ! My great grandfather was one who was held prisoner in your Andersonville prison. He died a terrible death at the hand of the enemy of that time. I feel no bitterness or anger towards anyone from the South because of this. It was WAR. It was part of the terrible cost of WAR. He's buried now and rests in peace. It's over in my heart and mind. May you all find peace and live in peace in this great country. God Bless America, and all it's children. With love, Prudence Kinley-Ruth

... and here is McCredie's reply:

Dear Ms. Kinley-Ruth:

You appear to be a genuinely decent and thoughtful person, and your post is doubtless well intentioned. One of your remarks deserves to be addressed in some detail. You say, "I never know whether you folks are really talking like this because it keeps the fervor going for your re-enactments or because you are still so angry, after all these years." Because you do seem to be an empathetic person, let me try a little role-reversal on you.

Suppose that you had been born and raised in a place whose history, culture, traditions, mindset and values set it as much apart from the rest of the "United States" as Switzerland is from France, or Ireland from England.

SUPPOSE (concluded)

Suppose you loved this place, its people and your own place in it very deeply; suppose, in fact, that you were so much a part of it that it was hard to tell where you stopped and it started.

Suppose this place you cherished had once found itself at odds with other members of the Union it had helped to found; had attempted peaceably and in good faith to leave that Union, in accordance with the provisions of that Union's very own constitution; and had instead been invaded and obliged to fight a horrific war against overwhelming odds, during which its cities were looted and destroyed, its countryside ravaged, and its civilian population robbed and brutalized. Suppose that having lost that war, your homeland was further crippled by a dozen years of corrupt and vindictive military occupation called, with supreme irony, "Reconstruction."

Suppose that this place you love subsequently became the repository for all of America's frustrations, the object of its ridicule and cynical exploitation, and the whipping boy for its national racial guilt trip.

Suppose you had to listen to a daily litany of how your homeland was a dark and backward place populated by incestuous mongoloids. Suppose you were ridiculed for your accent, and for your unabashed love of God, place and family.

Suppose you found your history turned inside out and your heroes vilified in order to appease the professionally offended. Suppose your children were expelled from school, ostracized and even beaten for displaying the symbol their great-great-grandfathers fought under. Suppose that some municipalities where your brave dead were buried, far from home, refused to allow their graves to be decorated, even for a few hours, with the flag they died for. And suppose that when, as an American, you objected to this very un-American treatment, you were told to sit down and shut up, or be branded a racist, a white supremacist, or even un-American yourself.

That's a great deal of supposing, I know, but try to manage it, if only for a second. Now consider your original remark in light of it. Our experience as Americans has been painfully different from yours in some respects. On the day known as Memorial Day, this difference is particularly poignant for us, when our Confederate dead are systematically excluded from national mourning. We have -- or try to have -- our own Confederate Memorial Days, state by state, but often these are given no official sanction. And you ask if we are angry. Suppose you were us.

Roger McCredie

Past Chief of Heritage Defense, SCV





Come Share the History WARDAYS

APRIL 30 & MAY 1, 2011
Old Clinton, GA.

Old Clinton Located
11 miles N.E. of Macon Ga.
and 1 1/2 miles S.W. of
Gray just off Hwy. 129
For more information:
Call Earlene Hamilton
at 478-986-6383

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011

- 9:05... Call to Colors (Mandatory Troops Assembly)
- 10:05... Authentic Camps Open to the Public
- 1:35... Narration of Battle History Begins
- 2:05... Battle of Sunshine Church
- 5:05... Camp Closes to the Public
- 8:05... Memorial Service at Old Clinton Cemetery

SUNDAY MAY 1, 2011

- 9:05... Call to Colors (Mandatory Troops Assembly)
- 10:05... Authentic Camps Open to the Public
- 11:05... Church Service at the McCarthy Pope House
- 1:35... Narration of Battle History Begins
- 2:05... Battle of Griswoldville
- 4:05... Camp Closes

Admission/Contribution

Adults... \$5.00 Children... Ages 18 & younger... \$3.00
(under age 6... Free)

Features: Crafts of Period Demonstrators
Period Areas Display
Walking Tours (TBA)
Food & Crafted Items
to be available for
purchase

Old Clinton Historical Society
154 Randolph Street
Gray, Georgia
31032



WALKING AMONG THE DEAD

"A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle." - Proverbs 18:19

Going among the dead after the Battle of 1st Manassas, a soldier from the 8th Geo. Regiment wrote:

The day after the battle I walked over the battlefield and stopped a few minutes at a hospital. The surgeons were still busy amputating legs and arms. I saw a squad of soldiers burying the dead, and there were other squads with wagons gathering up guns and cartridge boxes. I went among the saplings in the thicket where we had fought. I saw trees not more than eight inches in diameter that had been struck by at least twenty balls, and I wondered how any of us escaped. I shall never forget the feeling that came over me that afternoon as I walked among the dead. "Surely, surely", I said, "there will never be another battle." It seemed to me barbarous for men to try to settle any dispute or controversy by shooting one another, and now that it had been realized what a battle meant, I felt sure there would never be another. But not so, thought those both North and South who had not taken part in this battle. And so there was no trouble in getting volunteers by the thousands from both sections to take the places of those who had been killed ...

This War was proof of the devastation of unresolved conflict. Brother was often pitted against brother. Many were not aware they were fighting their own relative until they discovered their lifeless bodies on the battlefield. When conflict, bitterness, and disputes are allowed to fester and take root, they result in misunderstanding and even violence. As Christians, our real fight is not with each other but with Satan and demonic powers.

(From: Battlefields & Blessings by Terry Tuley)

