



The Gen. Gordon Dispatch

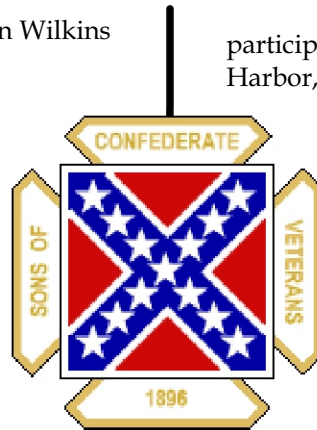
Official Newsletter of The Gen. John B. Gordon Memorial Camp #1449
P. O. Box 6003 . Thomaston, Georgia 30286
www.johnbgordon.com

August 2008

Welcome Our New Members!

We welcome Sam Powell and Jonathan Wilkins as new members this month.

Sam joined under his 2nd Great-Uncle, Richard Holmes Powell. Richard Holmes Powell was born in Crawford County, Georgia on October 21, 1841. He enlisted as a Private in Company C, 6th Georgia Infantry Regiment on May 27, 1861. He was appointed 4th Corporal and then promoted to 3rd Sergeant. Sgt. Powell was wounded in the leg resulting in amputation at Ft. Harrison, Virginia on September 29, 1864. After the war, Sgt. Powell was an attorney. He died on December 30, 1899 and is buried in the Blakely Cemetery in Early County, Georgia. The 6th Georgia Infantry was organized at Macon, Georgia, in April, 1861, and soon moved to Virginia. Its companies were recruited in the counties of Bibb, Crawford, Butts, Baker, Twiggs, Gilmer, Taylor and Mitchell. Assigned to General Rains' Brigade, the regiment totaled 703 men in April, 1862, and was active at Williamsburg and Seven Pines. Later it transferred to General Colquitt's Brigade and remained under his command the balance of the war. The 6th served with the Army of Northern Virginia from the Seven Days' Battles to Chancellorsville, then was ordered to North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida where it fought at Olustee. During the spring of 1864 it returned to Virginia,



participated in the conflicts at Drewry's Bluff and Cold Harbor, and endured the battles and hardships of the trenches of Petersburg. Sent to North Carolina the unit saw action at Bentonville and surrendered with the Army of Tennessee.

Jonathan joined under his 4th Great-Grandfather, Lewis T. Steed. Lewis Steed was from Autauga County, Alabama. He enlisted in Company G, which later became Company H in May of 1861. His service records show that he was taken prisoner on September 17, 1862. He was exchanged and spent most of that fall sick in the hospital in Richmond, Virginia. He was 3rd Corporal, promoted to Corporal on February 1, 1864 by order of Col. Lightfoot. The 6th Alabama Infantry, about 1,400 strong, was organized at Montgomery, Alabama, in May, 1861. Its twelve companies were recruited in the counties of Montgomery, Jackson, Autauga, Lowndes, Russell, Macon, Henry and Wilson. Ordered to Virginia, the unit was assigned to Rhodes', O'Neal's and Battles' Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia. It was engaged in many conflicts from Williamsburg to Cold Harbor, moved with Early to the Shenandoah Valley, and ended the war at Appomattox. At one time, Col. John B. Gordon served as its commander.

Support Needed for Jefferson Davis



At our last meeting the camp decided to support the effort for the Jefferson Davis statue by asking our members to contribute any amount they wish toward this project. Please send your donations to Adjutant Hugh Shepard, Sons of

Confederate Veterans, P.O. Box 6003, Thomaston, GA 30286. Checks should be made out to our camp and marked "Statue Donation". This donation is tax deductible. More information regarding this project is in the May-June issue of the *Confederate Veteran* on page 16. Our camp's goal is \$500.00. Submitted by Compatriot Jack Grubb.


Word of Appreciation!

CEMETERY CLEANUP

On July 25th, we held a cemetery cleanup workday at Old Good Hope Baptist Church Cemetery and Rocky Mount Cemetery. Compatriot Erwin Bryan and his sons Luke and Logan cut the grass and weeds earlier in the day. Since the Bryans took care of that, the rest of us were able to straighten leaning headstones and repair broken and overturned headstones. Other members at the workday were Cmdr. Al Medcalf, 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Felton Lewis, Chaplain Eddie Rainey, Compatriots Grady Kelley, Donald Stagg, Jonathan Wilkins and his son Nathan, and Milo Wimberly.

BOOK SIGNING

On August 8th, The Upson Historical Society and The Gen. John B. Gordon Memorial Camp cosponsored a book signing at the Hightower Library in Thomaston. James Stallings, the author of Georgia's Confederate Soldiers who Died as Prisoners of War was present from 10:00 AM until noon. Compatriot Ed Cunningham, Mrs. Lynn Cunningham and Jonathan Wilkins represented our Camp.



"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, August 26th

Regular Monthly Meeting

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Thomaston Upson Archives Building

Speaker: Compatriot Harvey Ellington will speak on Reconstruction.

Friday, September 12th

Workday Cemetery Cleanup

Time: 5:00 PM or when you can get there.

Place: Collier Family Cemetery Upson County

Tools Needed: Chainsaws, weed eaters, lawn mower, rakes.

Directions: From Thomaston, take Ga.74 West, at milepost 8 turn left on Old Alabama Rd.(This is the road to Sprewell Bluff State Park). Go 2.9 miles; turn right into driveway at 4242 Old Alabama Rd. (Green Mailbox). The Cemetery is on the left side of driveway.

Note: Please do not block driveway as this is the landowner's driveway to his home. We will need to use our trucks to remove the debris from the cleanup. We do not want to leave it on the man's land.

Saturday, September 13th

Headstone Dedication

Time: 2:00 PM

Place: Old Good Hope Baptist Church Cemetery on John B. Gordon Rd. in Upson County.

Program: The DAR will dedicate a headstone to War of 1812 Veteran, John Gresham.

Since we are the ones who maintain this cemetery, it would be good to have some of our members present.

Remember--CAMP DUES

As of August 1st, dues are due. Dues are now \$50.00 per year due to an increase at the National level. Please get them paid soon. If you have a question concerning dues, please contact Adjutant Hugh Shepard at 706-647-8979 or at shepjh@yahoo.com.