



The Gen. Gordon Dispatch

The Gen. John B. Gordon Memorial Camp #1449
P. O. Box 6003 . Thomaston, Georgia 30286
Web site: www.johnbgordon.com



August 2011

Welcome Our New Member



We welcome Rod Wilson as a new member. Rod joined under his 2nd Great-Grandfather, Samuel Wilson. Sam Wilson was born January 30, 1824 in Crawford County, Georgia. He enlisted as a Private in Company B, Stephens Battalion of Cavalry

State Guards. Private Wilson was discharged from this unit in January 1864 and served in Company A, 8th Georgia Militia the remainder of the War. Samuel Wilson died in 1910 and is buried in the Roberta City Cemetery.

Reminder: Dues are due. They are \$50.00 and can be brought to the meeting or mailed to:

SCV
P.O. Box 6003
Thomaston, Ga. 30286

Confederate Flag Protest

Westview Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in Atlanta, and filled with history. But a group of protestors is calling for some of that history to be removed.

"I want an explanation," says Rev. Benford Stellmacher. "But most of all, it's offensive and I would like to see it come down."

Wednesday, Rev. Stellmacher led a group to the southwest Atlanta cemetery to protest the flying of several Confederate flags. The flags are part of a memorial, erected years ago by a Confederate veterans group to honor their soldiers. More than 400 of those veterans are buried on the plot. Cemetery vice-president Charles Bowen, Jr. says the land was sold to the Sons of Confederate

Upcoming Events

Regular Monthly Meeting

Date: August 23th

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Thomaston - Upson Archives

Program: Compatriot Jack Grubb will speak "Wilson's Raid Part 1"

Veterans and is on private property. "It's not a racial issue anymore," Bowen says. "It's a part of our history, sure. But these are deceased veterans and, as such, they should be respected."

Stellmacher says the issue came to light following the funeral of SCLC President Rev. Howard Creecy, Jr. Rev. Creecy is buried in Westview, along with several former Atlanta mayors and the founder of Coca-Cola.

Meanwhile, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference itself says they do not have a problem with the flag because it is not flying over the cemetery. "Unfortunately, the confederate flag was a part of American history," said SCLC interim president Isaac Newton Farris, Jr. "So I don't think you can ever have a scenario where you blot it from history."

He added: "The cemetery is the proper place for the dead. And since the Confederacy is dead, thank God, it belongs there."

Thursday, Rev. Stellmacher and several more supporters met with Bowen for almost an hour. The group says they no longer find fault with the cemetery, but will take their complaints to Sons of Confederate Veterans and plan to seek legal action in hopes of getting the flag removed.