



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 2010

Welcome Our New Members



We welcome three new members this month, Sam Franklin, Larry McDaniel and Jacob Stansell.

Sam joined under his 3rd Great-Grandfather, John Franklin. John Franklin was from East

Fork, Haywood County, North Carolina. He enlisted as a Private in Company C, 62nd North Carolina Infantry. Private Franklin is buried in Greenhill Cemetery, Haywood County, North Carolina. The 62nd Infantry Regiment was formed at Waynesville, North Carolina, in July, 1862. Its members were raised in the counties of Haywood, Clay, Macon, Rutherford, Henderson, and Transylvania. The unit served in North Carolina, then in July, 1863, was assigned to General Gracie's Brigade and stationed at Cumberland Gap. Here many were surrendered in September, but a number escaped from being captured. They returned to the Asheville area and in April, 1864 had 178 men present. The records show 443 men of the 62nd were prisoners at Camp Douglas. It continued the fight under Generals Breckinridge, Vaughn, and Williams in East Tennessee, then became a part of Colonel J.B. Palmer's command at Asheville in March, 1865. Later it disbanded near the French Broad River.

Larry joined under his 2nd Great-Grandfather, John Ferrell Alford. John Ferrell Alford enlisted as a Private in Company B, 55th Georgia Infantry on Feb. 1, 1862. Pvt. Alford was a guard at camp Sumter when the War ended as was his brother, James Alford. They simply left and returned home after the War, They never took the Oath nor were they paroled. Private Alford is buried in the Alford Family Cemetery, The Cove, Meriwether County, Georgia.

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Upcoming Events

Regular Monthly Meeting

Date: August 24th

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Thomaston - Upson Archives

Program: Dylan Franklin will give a report on The Sam Davis Youth Camp

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

Word of Appreciation

On July 17th, Chaplain Eddie Rainey, Color Sgt. Ed Cunningham, Compatriots Felton Lewis and Grady Kelly participated in a Camp Workday. They cleaned the Collier Family Cemetery and installed a military headstone in the Waymanville Cemetery in Upson County. Thank men, hopefully you will have more help in the future.



On July 24th, Compatriot Felton Lewis represented out Camp and the National SCV reunion that was held in Anderson, SC. I understand that "Big Bubba" had quite a time!

The 55th Infantry Regiment completed its organization at Camp Randolph, Georgia, in July, 1862. Many of the men were raised in Hall, Walker, and Jackson counties. Sent to East Tennessee, more than 540 officers and men were captured on September 10, 1863, at Cumberland Gap. After being exchanged, it was placed on detached duty guarding prisoners at Camp Sumter, Georgia and later at Florence, South Carolina and Salisbury, North Carolina. During January, 1865, there were 90 men at Florence, but the records do not give the number at Salisbury.

Jacob joined under his 5th Great-Grandfather, Chris C. Goodman. Christopher C. (Jim) Goodman enlisted as a Private on May 6, 1862 in Company G, 44th Georgia Infantry. He was appointed 2nd Sergeant on May 6, 1863. He was wounded and captured at Spotsylvania, Virginia on May 10, 1864. Sergeant Goodman died of typhoid pneumonia at Elmira, N.Y. on Oct. 2, 1864 and is buried in Grave # 633, Woodlawn National Cemetery. The 44th Infantry Regiment completed its organization at Camp Stephens, near Griffin, Georgia, in March, 1862. Its companies were drawn from the counties of Henry, Jasper, Clarke, Clayton, Spalding, Putnam, Fayette, Pike, Morgan, and Greene. The regiment moved to Goldsboro, North Carolina, then arrived in Virginia just after the Battle of Seven Pines. It served in General Ripley's, Doles', and Cook's Brigade, and fought with the Army of Northern Virginia from the Seven Days' Battles to Cold Harbor. The 44th continued the fight in the Shenandoah Valley and ended the war at Appomattox. It lost sixty-four percent of the 524 engaged at Mechanicsville and forty-six percent of the 142 at Malvern Hill. The regiment reported 17 killed and 65 wounded during the Maryland Campaign, sustained 121 casualties at Chancellorsville,, and of the 364 at Gettysburg, twenty percent were disabled. It surrendered with 4 officers and 73 men.

Gen. Benning: The Old Rock from Georgia

Henry L. Benning served as a brigadier general for the Confederacy. After graduating from Georgia's Franklin College in 1834, he moved to Columbus, Georgia, where he excelled in law and in politics, rising to associate justice of the Georgia supreme court and serving as a delegate in the 1860 Democratic conventions. A vocal secessionist, he argued vigorously for the state's supremacy in almost all government matters, and while on the state bench he endorsed that court's authority over federal court decisions and claimed the state and federal judiciary were "co-equals." He served as a delegate in the Georgia state secession convention and as a Georgia delegate in the Virginia convention that followed. But he preferred military service to politics and was commissioned Colonel of the 17th Georgia Infantry in August of 1861.



After service with his regiment in the Seven Days' Campaign and Second Manassas, he distinguished himself at Sharpsburg, where he fought a holding action at Burnside Bridge.

When General Robert A. Toombs was badly wounded the brigade command fell to him. He led it through the rest of the battle and was successful in driving the federals from the town of Sharpsburg.

He led Toombs's brigade again at Fredricksburg; and when Toombs resigned his commission in March 1863 and he was appointed Brigadier General. Attached to Major General John Bell Hood's division, he fought with it through Gettysburg. He then saw action at Chickamauga, where he and his men were sent into a large gap that had developed in the federal line, and fell into fierce fighting. He was wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness and unable to rejoin his command until the Siege of Petersburg. He sat out the siege with his men until Appomattox. His tough war service won him his troops' esteem and the nickname "Old Rock."

Benning would be all but forgotten today, except for Fort Benning at Columbus Georgia, where the U.S. Army maintains the "world's largest training program for infantrymen."