



# The Gen. Gordon Dispatch

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



May 2009

## Emancipation Day

Each May the city of Thomaston celebrates Lincoln's *Emancipation Proclamation*. President Jefferson Davis called it the "most execrable measure recorded in the history of guilty man." This executive order (bypassing congressional approval) encouraged the insidious assassination of the white folks "in necessary self defense."

Another confederate named R.L. Dabney said: "To the white race it was the most violent, convulsive, reckless and mischievous act ever perpetrated by a civilized government. As a war measure, it was calculated and expected to evoke all the savage horrors of servile war, neighbourhood massacre and butchery of non-combatants."

Southern and Northern men alike repudiated this illegal and hateful measure. Governor Syemour of New York retorted: "The scheme for immediate emancipation and general arming of the slaves throughout the South is a proposal for the butchery of women and children, for scenes of lust and rapine, arson and murder, unparalleled in the history of the world...it is now urged that scenes bloodier than the world has yet witnessed shall be enacted in the name of philanthropy."

Lincoln's Proclamation should solicit thoughts of shame and disgust rather than euphoria. Because racial relations were much better than the Northern abolitionists supposed, the slaves refused to revolt against their often times benevolent masters.

## Thank You!

To the members who painted the Southern Crosses of Honor in April. The names that I have received are: Color Sgt. Ed Cunningham and his daughter Betsy, David Britt, Harvey Ellington, Jack Grubb, Butch Jones and Milo Wimberly. If I have left anyone out, I apologize and assure you that it wasn't intentional.

## Dates to Remember

### Regular Monthly Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Place:** Thomaston Upson Archives

**Program:** We have a lot of business to discuss and may or may not have a speaker. We will be discussing how our delegates will vote at the upcoming Reunion. We will be asking for volunteers to be delegates and alternates. We will vote on a couple of issues concerning spending money on cemetery upkeep. We will discuss a fundraising idea.

### Workday

**Date:** Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Place:** Collier Family Cemetery on Old Alabama Rd, Upson Co.

**Tools needed:** Weedeaters, Lawnmower, Rakes and a Chainsaw.

**Directions:** From Thomaston, take Ga. 74 West, after passing Sunnyside Grocery turn left onto Old Alabama Rd. ( You will see signs saying that this is the way to Spewell Bluff). Go about 3 miles down Old Alabama Rd. to 4242 Old Alabama Rd. The drive way will be on your right. The cemetery is on the left side of the driveway and is not visible from Old Alabama Rd. Please do not block the driveway.

### Georgia Division Reunion

**Date:** Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** Registration begins at 7:30 AM

**Place:** Ferrol A. Sams Auditorium at Lafayette Educational Center in Fayetteville, Ga.