

THE DELTA GENERAL

SCV NEWSLETTER FOR BRIG-GEN BENJAMIN GRUBB HUMPHREYS
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THIS ISSUE IS SPONSORED BY : GARY W. SHELTON

"LETTER FROM THE EDITOR"

Welcome friends! Come on into the parlor; put your feet up and have a loved one bring you a nice cool glass of lemonade, it's time for the camp newsletter.

I hope everyone found the first issue informative and entertaining. "Am I taking this thing in the direction you want it to go?" "Are the articles what you like to read?" "What direction will future issues take?" "Well, I really don't know, but with continued support we can only go forward." the next 2 issues have been graciously sponsored by some of your fellow patriots. This is a fair to middling country; and even with a "BOZO" like Willie running it, the post office still expects stamps on the letters you give it. "So brother, can you spare a stamp or a point of view?" I also want to thank KEN and DAVID for their contributions of words to help fill this sucker up.

GARY W. SHELTON

"ADJUTANT'S REPORT"

Greetings, Fellow Compatriots:

I would like to take this opportunity to give you a few details about our Camp. We now have 35 members. We have had an average attendance of 17 at our regular monthly meetings over the last six months. With Fall here, we hope to see this number increase.

Gary asked me to include a list of all our members. Here are the current members of our Camp:

Charter Members

Commander Ken Payne
1st Lt. Commander Henry McCabe
2nd Lt. Commander Tommy McCaskill
Adjutant/Treasurer David Williford
Color Sergeant Dwayne Fox
Joe Edney
Randle Furr, Sr.
Lee Newman
Capt. S.L. Johnson
Dan McCaskill
Jeffrey McCaskill
Oliver McCaskill
Robert McCaskill
Randy Magee
Rickey Palmertree
Carey Prather
Bryan Prather
Jason Prather

Justin Prather
Steve Prather
Gary Pierce
Gary Shelton
Dennis Smith
James Worbington
Barry Simmons
Rex Shannon, III
Alton Alderman

Members Added After Chartering

Robert L. Tumlin
Steven C. Tumlin
Charles W. Jackson, Jr.
Earl M. McCown, Jr.
Leniol F. Andrews
Hartley T. Sanford
Lewis Germany
Jack Ditto

I would like to encourage everyone who can to attend our next meeting on October 21st at the fellowship hall of the Indianola First Presbyterian Church. Please try to bring all your friends and your family with you. All guests are welcome at our Camp.

Lets all remember our goal of each member passing out at least one SCV recruitment brochure each month. The continued growth of our Camp depends upon each one of us doing our part in getting the word out to the Mid-Delta area.

Deo Vindice...

Respectfully, your Adjutant,
David Williford

"YOUR COMMANDER SPEAKS"

RECONSTRUCTED BUT UNREGENERATE¹
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Simply stated, this is a world view that recognizes that we lost our 2d War for Independence and are loyal citizens of the Federal Union now. It differs from the Unreconstructed, which in a pure sense are only loyal by force of arms, but not of conscience. If carried to its logical conclusion, the Unreconstructed would either denounce his U.S. Citizenship

and leave the country or take up arms against her. As you see, most people who say they are "Unreconstructed" are not truly so, but use this term through ignorance or perhaps because it is shorter, similar to those who incorrectly call the War Between the States a "civil war."

The Reconstructed man is not a true Southerner, but is ashamed of his Confederate ancestors who "*fought for slavery*" and to "*Destroy the Union.*" He has believed the lies taught by the Ignorant and Politically Correct. This new Scalawag quotes dishonest Abe and the Federalist papers as if they were the Bible, agrees with changing (and in the future banning) our Confederate flag and is in league with the Carpetbaggers and Yankees in shameful public policy and legislation. Modern examples include Governor Zell Miller of Georgia, Senator Howell Heflin of Alabama and President William Jefferson Clinton. What would Jefferson have to say about his namesake?

The Reconstructed but Unregenerate Southerner, although his ancestors, and with them he, were defeated, is not dishonored. He admits to his ancestors doing no wrong for which to feel guilty or repent. THE SOUTH WAS RIGHT is his firm belief. Secession was and is not illegal, but rather the course followed by 13 Confederate States was the same as followed by the 13 Colonies some 85 years preceding.

The 2d War for American Independence was not a civil war, as wars are not by any definition civil, much less the interpretation of Grant and Sherman. A "civil war" is according to Webster "a war between people of the same state or city²." It was a political term of Mr. Lincoln who believed all the states are just large counties. Our

ancestors maintained a separate Government for over 4 years and were a new nation; so civil war was by definition impossible. We use the War as an abbreviated name. To call the War for Southern Independence a civil war, is in a strict sense, to admit the South was wrong and a mob and rabble, rather than a separate nation of 13 Independent Republics and 1 Territory (Arizona). Likewise, the War was not a rebellion and our people rebels; they **legally separated** from the Federal government and divorced from the other States. The other States were the wife of the South and the Federal government a child of the Union of these States--not the mother of them.

Had President Jefferson Davis been guilty of a crime, he would certainly have been tried, convicted of treason and hanged, followed by General Robert E. Lee and all other Confederate leaders. However, to try a man known to be innocent was a case no government lawyers would touch. For if he had been tried and found not guilty the authorities would be forced to free him, and with him, the South. President Davis, as the chief authority of Constitutional Law, South or north, looked forward with eagerness to this trial that never came.

A Reconstructed but Unregenerate man defends the cause with literature and logical argument. He would have a Return to Constitutional Government for the South, and if possible for all the States, through peaceful means. Would it not be great to have the parents tell the child what to do rather the vice versa. Ultimately, the Reconstructed but Unregenerate man looks to Him who is the judge of all men and causes and believes DEO VINDICE i. e. God has

Vindicated the Cause of our ancestors. So the cause is not lost after all. GOD SAVE THE SOUTH; GOD SAVE THESE UNITED STATES. The God and hope of our fathers is our only hope for posterity.

Army of volunteers to link Civil War data

by Deb Riechmann, the Associated Press

SHARPSBURG, Md. - An army of volunteers is mustering across the nation to work on a computer project to help Americans answer the question: "Did my great-grandfather fight in the Civil War?"

During the next two years, hundreds of genealogists, history buffs and others will be typing the names of 3.5 million blue and gray soldiers onto computer diskettes.

By early 1996, Americans will be able to find out their ancestors' links to the war by searching their names and regiments on computers at the National Park Service's 28 Civil War sites.

"It's been estimated that up to 100 million people may be descendants from Civil War soldiers," said John F. Peterson, project manager for the Civil War Soldiers System, which was to be formally announced at a news conference at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.

"Once people find out through this database what regiment and battle their ancestors fought in, it will give them a personal connection to a great, historical event like the Battle of Antietam in Sharpsburg."

The project is being guided by the park service and the Civil War Trust, a nonprofit foundation, with help from the National Archives, the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Genealogical

Society of Utah, a corporation of the Mormon Church.

"So many people fought in the war in this country," said Curt B. Witcher of Fort Wayne, Ind., who is helping coordinate the project. "To someone who has relatives living in this country from 1860 to 1870, the likelihood of their involvement in the war is very, very great."

Starting this month, volunteers from Virginia to the West Coast will begin transcribing military information from copies of 5.4 million handwritten records penned after the war.

The original records, on index cards, are stored at the National Archives, which receives nearly 1,500 inquiries each relating to Civil War records.

An estimated 3.5 million soldiers fought in the war, but because some soldiers are listed more than once, there are 5.4 million cards on file. In the interest of accuracy, the information on all the cards will be entered into the computer twice. Each card contains a soldier's name, rank, regiment and sometimes his company's name.

Once the full list is made, it will be easy to spot duplications. Historian James McPherson of Princeton University said the project might actually help determine how many people fought in the war.

"Nobody really knows exactly how many men there were," McPherson said.

Genealogists, amateur and professional historians, Civil War buffs and members of scores of patriotic organizations have volunteered to type the names on personal computers at their homes or offices or at regional branches of the National Archives.

"I'm hoping by the end of the year, we'll have over 1,000

people," said Witcher, who is president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, an umbrella organization for genealogical groups in the United States.

Park service officials estimate that the volunteer work will save at least \$4.5 million.

YE OLD MOVIE TIME

THIS MONTH OUR MOVIE IS REVIEWED BY YOU FEARLESS EDITOR

"GETTYSBURG"
NOW IN THEATERS

Ted Turner has given us four hour plus of fantastic U.S. history, and it's done in a fairly accurate manner. What really sets this movie off is that it is actually filmed on the very Pennsylvania battlefield where units were engaged a little over 130 years ago. Having been to the park really gives me a feel for the movie.

This is the first time I know of that the govt. has allowed the hallowed ground of Gettysburg to be used in this manner. the movie has tremendous large scaled sequences comparable only to "BIRTH OF A NATION"

"Gettysburg" cost about \$30 million to make, and used 5,000 (non-paid) re-enactors.

This is a stunning movie that must be experienced. The movie was written and directed by Ronald Maxwell, based on his book "THE KILLER ANGELS". I won't spoil the movie for you by telling how it ends.

Gettysburg's battlefield is an American treasure

by Patrick A. McGuire
The Baltimore Sun

Battlefields, you say, are for the history majors - the bookish, the dull, the long-winded; especially those

bookish types who cause eyes to glaze over with their long-winded droning about things like muzzle velocity, command and control or the ever-popular "what-if" factor.

What if Jeb Stuart hadn't disappeared on Lee just before Gettysburg? What if Ewell had taken Cemetery Hill the first day? What if Longstreet had hustled? What if Meade blah and blah and blah.

Fair enough. When it comes to visiting a battlefield like Gettysburg, the lines most likely have been long drawn between those who really want to go and those who get dragged along - between those who ask "which one was Meade?" and those who roll their eyes, shake their heads and groan.

Still, if you've never knelt at the low stone wall that hooks around the backside of Little Round Top at Gettysburg and felt the absolute isolation of the position; if you've never wondered what it must have felt like for those men of the 20th Maine, knowing the fate of the entire grand Republic hinged on their capacity for quieting fear and holding that wall; if you've never probed inside and asked, "Had it been me in their place, would I have run?" - then maybe this is your summer to do some exploring.

Battlefields are stories and emotions waiting to be tapped. And if there were only one battlefield in your future it really ought to be Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.

Here is a suggested approach to fully appreciate a tour of Gettysburg.

●Start with the electric map, located in the Visitor Center, for a quick orientation to the main events of the battle. In a darkened auditorium, a narrator draws your attention to a large map of Gettysburg, where colored lights blink on and off showing movements of key military units

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during the battle. Even though it lasted three days, Gettysburg is probably one of the easiest battles for a student of any interest level to get a quick handle on. This display puts everyone in your group on equal footing, and you'll at least start your tour understanding why, in this war of bitter ironies, the North approached Gettysburg from the South and the South from the North.

●Try to make your tour of the battlefield chronological. Detailed maps with 17 numbered stops are available free at the Visitor Center. but following the exact sequence on this circular path around the battlefield will mix in sites of the second day's action with first-day action followed by third-day action. That can easily dilute your appreciation of the crucial strategic decisions made by commanders as the battle unfolded.

Thus, if you think of the battlefield as a story to experience from beginning to end, you'll want to start your tour north of the city - stops 10 through 13 on your visitor's map - where the battle's first day's events took place.

●Take advantage of the free tours and demonstrations given daily during the summer (through Aug. 14) by the National Parks Service. These include guided walks of 45 minutes to two hours explaining the significance of key portions of the battlefield. Information about the times and starting points are available at the main desk in the Visitor Center.

●Stand in the Peach Orchard and understand why politicians should never be allowed to lead troops into battle. On the battle's second day, Union Gen. George Meade ordered Gen. Dan Sickles to place his division in line with the rest of the army along the Taneytown Road

on Cemetery Ridge. But Sickles, a New York congressman with a mind of his own, instead advanced his force west to the Emmitsburg Road, where they deployed in a peach orchard (No. 6 on map).

●End with a visit to the Gettysburg cemetery where Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous 272-word address on Nov. 19, 1863, dedicating "this hallowed ground" to "the proposition that a government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

History repeated as publisher reprints 30th Georgia Regiment account

FAYETTEVILLE, Ga. - It might not have the finesse of Shelby Foote. It doesn't possess the research of Bruce Catton. Nor the sweeping drama of "The Killer Angels." But A.P. Adamson's Civil War book, "A Brief History of the 30th Georgia Regiment," has an angle that none of these other authors or books could ever obtain: Adamson was there.

He was there in the breastworks, in the trenches, in the pickets. He was in the woods during the bite of winter, on the roads when the dry summer turned them to powder, in the thick of the battle's smoke, bullets and death.

The book, of course, is a reprint, originally published in 1912 by Mills Printing Co. of Griffin. It was republished earlier this summer by Americana Historical Books of Fayetteville owned by Bobby Kerlin of Fayette County.

The slim volume combines the reminiscences of Adamson, a Rex, Ga. native, with histories of the officers and companies of the 30th, and is an excellent resource for information about local participants in the War.

Adamson also delves into the

causes of the War Between the States: tariffs, state's rights, slavery. There is a chapter on "After the War" and a description of how prisoners were treated.

Kerlin said he republished the book, now in the public domain, because of recurring interest in it.

"What happened was, seven or eight years ago I bought Freedom Hill Press from a man in Jonesboro (Ga.). One of the books he published at the time was a history of the 30th Georgia Regiment, but it wasn't in stock when I bought him out," said Kerlin.

But repeated requests from fans of the War Between the States for the book eventually led Kerlin to issue a reprint. He did it with a lot of help and cooperation from the State Archives office, which had a copy of the original book.

Kerlin said books written after the war by participants are particularly valuable monetarily as well as historically not only because of their point of view but also because of their scarcity.

The reissued book also has another local connection: three Fayette County High School art students designed the dust jacket. Andy Ford and Miranda Hatcher designed the art work and Carrie Wheeler did the title graphics.

In riveting first person prose Adamson tells of camp life in the opening days of the war, of his first chance at battle, seeing his first Union prisoners and describing his first experience under fire.

In an ironic twist, the 30th Georgia, made up primarily of men from Clayton, Henry and Fayette Counties, found itself defending hearth and home not in the abstract exhortation of war, but in reality. The regiment saw fierce action in the Battle of Jonesboro Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, 1864. When

Confederate forces lost the crucial fight, the Union Gen. William T. Sherman was able to cut supply routes to Atlanta at last and the great city fell shortly thereafter.

Anderson was not kind to Gen. Sherman: "The destruction of Atlanta left thousands of women and children homeless, as was an outrage unprecedented in civilized warfare," he wrote.

An addendum to the book may be in the works to print the locations of the local burial sites of many of the people mentioned in the book as these sites are located, Kerlin said.

In a similar project, Kerlin is himself working on a resource book on a Civil War theme, detailing the burial places of Confederate generals in Georgia. He has located 42 of them.

"I didn't know there were that many," he said. "I thought there were only a dozen or so. They're scattered all over the state, but mostly in Augusta and Savannah."

Hobbyist chronicles blacks' role in Confederate Army

IRON STATION, N.C. - Unlike tombstones for many Civil War veterans, former slave Adam Moore's marker makes no mention of his time helping the Confederate Army.

Just that he died Aug. 25, 1941, at the age of 109 years, 4 months, 10 days; and a brief send-off to eternity: "My work is over. My vacation has begun. The path of glory leads but to the grave."

Amateur historian Rudolph Young knows of events beyond the inscription etched in marble. That's what draws him to the moss-flecked stone in the Mount Vernon Baptist Church cemetery.

Standing there on a late-summer afternoon with a breeze stirring the nearby woods, he imagines Adam Moore roaming the

field at Chancellorsville before the dust of the 1863 battle settled, scrounging meat from freshly killed horses.

Young pictures Moore alongside tattered gray lines during the surrender at Appomattox. He sees him making the trek from Virginia back home to Lincoln County. The images make him even more determined to preserve story fragments he's uncovered about local blacks who helped the Confederate Army. At such moments, a neglected part of African-American history comes alive.

"This grave is a sense of connection with me," says Young, 48, of Stanley, who's written two self-published books on black history. "I connect with a person, a family and the Afro-American community in general. I connect with my heritage."

Young, a retired military man, began by researching black history in the small communities in Gaston and Lincoln counties. Along the way, he encountered a subject he didn't expect: slaves or freed men who aided the Lost Cause.

He became fascinated by the sketchy stories. Sometimes they were clouded by neglect or shame.

Young finally concluded that, good or bad, it was part of his history as a Southerner. He would follow the trail where it took him.

Here are some of the black Confederate names he found:

Frank Hunter, who accompanied the body of his owner from a Virginia battlefield back to Stanley and visited the dead planter's grandson in Charlotte more than a half-century later.

Blair Ramseur returned from the war to co-found Gold Hill Baptist Church near Lowesville.

Shepard Graham of Lincoln County, drowned in a river in

Virginia while working for the Confederate Army.

In the Union Army, blacks served in regular military units. The Confederate Army relegated them to work behind the lines as servants or building railroads.

"By and large, service in the Confederacy wasn't something freed blacks looked back on with a great deal of pride," says UNC-Wilmington history Professor Everard Smith.

Growing up in the Mount Vernon community, about 25 miles northwest of Charlotte, Young heard stories about men like Adam Moore who had taken part in some long ago war.

Growing up, Young embarked on a military career, serving in the Army in Vietnam and the Air Force in Europe. Along the way, he became interested in black history.

"When I came home in 1976, I started researching my roots," says Young, who works a security guard. "That led to my research in the communities."

By 1991 he'd compiled two volumes of "Our Own Story," focusing on black communities throughout Lincoln County. His sources range from family Bibles and courthouse pension records to libraries and state archives.

He's relied mainly on oral traditions, still alive in small country communities but fast waning as old folks die.

"As far as I know, this is stuff you won't find in local history books," Young said. "And there's been some myths and misconceptions about it. My job, I think, is to present it in an unbiased way."

He occasionally talks about people like Adam Moore to groups as diverse as black churches and the local chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

He speaks without rancor.

"This is part of our shared history," he says. "It's not a matter of me being proud. I am a part of that history. I am a Southerner."

Controversy over the Confederate flag strikes him as a misguided debate.

"The Confederate flag per se doesn't offend me," Young says. "It stands for what the person holding it wants it to."

"If I see it at a KKK rally, I know it's a hate flag. If I see it at a Confederate veterans organization, it's a patriotic flag. If it's on the back of a pickup truck, it's being trivialized," Young said.

Of blacks of the Confederate Army, Young knows the most about Adam Moore.

Born into slavery, Moore grew up on a Lincoln County farm with his owner's son - Adam Miller Roberts. When Roberts enlisted, Moore remained on the farm.

Commissioned a lieutenant, Roberts fought with Company M of the 16th N.C. Regiment and came home after recuperating from battle wounds in a Richmond hospital.

When he returned to the fighting in Virginia, Roberts asked Moore to accompany him.

"They were the best of friends," Young guesses. "You wouldn't take anybody along to war with you that you didn't trust."

The men left the Cherryville railroad depot in 1863 and reached Chancellorsville on April 30, the eve of the great battle.

Moore immediately went to work building fortifications and later cared for the unit's horses.

Once the battle began, Roberts gave Moore a pistol that Moore kept under his shirt. It's unclear why, but it was an unusual gesture of trust to arm a slave.

Roberts was killed on first day of the battle.