

April 13, 2006

NEWSLETTER - APRIL, 2006

Past Newsletters

Some of our members were not aware of the Newsletter feature being added to the website. If you are one of those and want to catch up on events, our Webmaster ,Don Bulloch , has performed his magic to make past issues accessible. Go to the home page at www.generalbartonandstovall.com and go to the top right column. The first issue was October, 2005. Those that want to refresh themselves on book titles, lodging phone numbers or other details may find the old issues helpful.

Camp Van Dorn Meeting

Founder and Historian Emeritus Gary Ray Goodson, Sr. has scheduled a meeting for April 20 at 1:00 P.M. at Malcombe Martin Park/Camp Van Dorn site in Knoxville. He will meet with Tennessee Director of Archaeology Nick Fielder and his assistant, Sam Smith of Nashville. They will walk and probe the area where some 200 graves have been located, but not confirmed. This is part of a series of steps to confirm where men of the 40th, 42nd, 43rd and 52nd Georgia camped and where some were buried.

Tax Rules for Donations

Examination of rules and documents concerning our IRS 501 (c) (7) status as a non-profit organization show that donations are not deductible on the donor's tax returns. Donations up to \$11,000 can be made as a gift without paying gift tax on it. Donations to our group are always welcome, but they have to be used by the organization and can not go to an individual, according to IRS rules. So, if you would like to help Gary on his upcoming Knoxville trip expenses, please make the donation directly to him. He will use the donations to defray his trip expenses.

Franklin Congress Developments

Vice President Harris Griggs has used personal diplomacy to secure a favorable time for us to tour Carnton Plantation in Franklin. After discovering that the Sunday tours did not start until the afternoon, Harris contacted the Executive Director and asked that an exception be made to allow us to tour on Sunday morning. It appears that this request will be granted. The intent is to see the locations in order as they happened. We will see the approach to Franklin, Franklin, Nashville and the rear guard actions after Nashville and then tour Carnton and the adjacent cemetery.

Harris has also arranged for a lunch at Thompson's Station where General Forrest's cavalry burned the train depot and captured some rail cars and contents during a night raid while the Yankees were trying to get to Franklin.

The Confederacy's Last Hurrah Spring Hill, Franklin & Nashville

For those that would like more detail on the battles of Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville before our Congress, I recommend *The Confederacy's Last Hurrah Spring Hill, Franklin & Nashville* by Wiley Sword. I have read and studied three other books on these battles and this book is by far the best. It comes in paperback and it has sketch maps, Order of Battle, extensive notes and an index. The author has a writing style that makes many details from reports, letters, diary accounts and other sources flow into a "story" of what happened. Even when one knows the outcome, he explains how it all happened. If your local bookstore does not have it, you can get a copy from The Carter House Bookstore, 1140 Columbia Avenue, Franklin, TN 37064.

General Van Dorn

CSA Major General Earl Van Dorn , who had the encampment in Knoxville named for him, had a tie to Spring Hill, Tennessee, which we will visit in September. A Doctor George Peters and his beautiful 25 year old wife, Jessie, lived in Spring Hill. He was a member of the state legislature. The doctor found out that there was evidence that the general was having an affair with his wife. In May, 1863, the enraged doctor shot the general in the back of the head-- which ended the affair, the general's career, and his life.

Paid Members

As of April 13 there are a total of 25 members who have paid their 2006 dues. Thank you. I hope that there are at least 10 more who will pay their 2006 dues.

