

NEWSLETTER - AUGUST, 2008

Marietta Congress Registration

It is not too late to register for the 7th Annual Congress to be held in Marietta, GA. As I look at the roster, and recall other Congress attendances, I think there are others that will attend--- but I have not received their advance registration. If you plan to attend, please send in your registration. There are several reasons for this request.

I need to tell the vendors how many lunches we will need, of what type. The Hilton Hotel needs to know the number that will be at the buffet dinner on Saturday night. The bus company needs to know if a second bus will be required to haul all of us on Saturday. The hotel needs to know how many rooms will be needed by our group. All of this coordination and information exchange works much better with some lead time and not at the last moment.

The hotel requirements need special explanation. Our group has contracted to use 60 room nights. We have to pay for those rooms if they are used or not. I think we have barely made our quota as of July 29, our cut off date. If there are cancellations, we could drop under our required 60 room nights.

So, if you need lodging, please stay at the Marietta/Atlanta Hilton in Marietta and tell them you are with the General Barton and Stovall group. Rooms are blocked on a space available basis. If you need rooms, please arrange for them now rather than later. Call the hotel directly at 888-685-2500. Ask for the special group rate. The Deluxe Room rate is 99 plus taxes which comes to 112.86 per night, which is a great rate for a Hilton room in that market area.

A note : The Marietta Conference Center & Resort was bought by the Hilton Hotel chain sometime after October, 2007. You can expect Hilton quality, because it is a Hilton.

Presentations Friday, August 29, 2008

During the Historians time on Friday evening, August 29, 2008, there will be some outstanding presentations. Don't miss it. Judy Rowell will have an interesting talk about General Stovall's sister. Jim Rowell has prepared a reading of an eye witness account of the battle at Pickett's Mill. Jack Bolen will discuss a refugee train that departed from Atlanta ahead of the Yankees.

Robert Elliott will do another " show and tell " of selected artifacts. One is a new 52nd Georgia find and another is so special he will reveal it on Friday night. Kay Borden will give a briefing on Smyrna Line and Ruff's Mill to prepare for what we will see the next day. And, Fran Wagner will discuss CSA cemeteries in Georgia.

All of these subjects are a result of in depth research that you will not find in the ordinary books on the Atlanta Campaign. We have an exciting agenda. Please plan to start on time so we can get it all completed within the time allotted.

Jon Perryman Picnic Sunday Evening, August 31, 2008

Jon reports that plans for his picnic are coming together. The poison ivy has been sprayed to kill it, grass will be cut, sani can has been ordered, cooking arranged and a few surprises planned too.

The picnic will be held on the family farm near Cedartown, GA. There is a new Holiday Inn -

Express in Cedartown, about 3.5 miles from his farm. For those continuing west to Louisiana, Oklahoma, Alabama, Texas the next day, consider staying at the Holiday Inn. You wouldn't have to backtrack to Marietta on Sunday night. The Holiday Inn is (770) 749 - 0006.

Stovall's Brigade marched through Cedartown On October 8,1864 on the way to Franklin and Nashville, along with the rest of the Army of Tennessee. Men of Polk county filled the ranks of Cobb's Legion, Phillip's Legion ,as well as other infantry regiments.

Harris Griggs Project Nears Completion

Vice President Harris Griggs of Franklin, TN, reports that his project has progressed to the proof reading stage. Sometime ago he and I discussed the project and he agreed to develop the concept .He quietly tore into it and it is now nearly ready for publication.

The project involved taking the information each descendant has supplied on his ancestor, or ancestors, in the initial membership form and put it into a database and computer spreadsheet. The information was filed safely in the files by year of initial membership. Many nuggets of information, like " Wounded in hip at Resaca", was buried in the files. So, in a sense it couldn't be seen by others and perhaps other family relationships revealed.

We think it will be interesting to all members, and once it is seen and read, other details may come to mind. When you see it, please give some time to check the dates, name spellings and other details to get it right. Only you know the correct information. The format is designed so that new information can be added. It will grow as new members join.

Secretary David Richardson will send the project to those that have e-mail. Harris will bring hard copies to the Congress for you to look over and amend if necessary.

Watch for this to reach you soon.

As an example to " relationships", Jon Perryman is related to the Green family and so is a branch of the Griggs family. Private William Green Berry Griggs, Co. B, 41st Georgia , was called Green his whole life. The name Green came from the Green family on his mother's side. At one time it was believed the "Green" had to do with a mother homesick for Ireland. The real meaning is now known. William Griggs is a grandson of Green and Kay Griggs Bishop , both of West Monroe, Louisiana , is a great grand daughter of Green. The Green family connection was brought to light by Jon Perryman just this past year. How about that ?

Book on Desertion

Secretary David Richardson can poke around on the Internet and other sources and come up with new literary information that bears on the Barton and Stovall brigade. His newest find is A Higher Duty : Desertion Among Georgia Troops During the Civil War by Mark A. Weitz. Amazon.com has it at 19.95 and used copies at 12.50 each.

This is the published book version of the desertion study previously reported. Most of the desertions happened between Dalton, Georgia and the fighting around Atlanta. The men were fighting on ground near where their families lived. Many saw and felt a duty to help their families, who were suffering to various degrees, and they did leave to help them. The book explains and records this human drama that involved real people, some of them men from our regiments.

Directions to 7th Annual Congress Headquarters

It is likely a good idea to repeat the directions to the Hilton Hotel in Marietta. After a long trip to get to Marietta, you need to go straight to the hotel without a hassle.

From I-75 take Exit 263. Take " Southern Tech ". Follow this road 2 miles and 5 traffic lights. Turn LEFT on POWDER SPRINGS ROAD. Go about 500 to 600 feet to entrance on the RIGHT. Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Conference Center.

Address Update

When the special mailing to contacts in the Marietta area went out last month, the Post Office had to return five envelopes. They did not leave forwarding addresses or the forwarding had expired.

Please update your e-mail address, and mailing address if it has changed. This is the cheapest and fastest way to communicate with you. We depend upon it. Just send your new e-mail address to the Secretary at hdrichardson@earthlink.net.

New Members

Fran Wagner of Canton, GA reports that she has been recruiting one of her cousins for several years. Her cousin, with spouse, will attend the Congress in Marietta. Dan and Ann Ferrell will be attending from Augusta. As I understand it, Dan has a cousin that lives in Marietta who descends from a 52nd Georgia ancestor. So, Randal and Betty Hunter from Marietta will attend also. Betty has been a tour guide at the Confederate Cemetery, so she will be able to give us additional details on Sunday during that portion of the tour.

Please watch for them and include them into our family.

Oakland Cemetery Cleanup

Webmaster Don Bulloch reports that the Oakland Cemetery is seeking 100 volunteers to help pickup debris at Oakland Cemetery on August 9. This effort is organized by Kevin Kuharic who is Director of Restoration and Landscapes. The work party starts at 8:30 AM and ends at Noon.

If you would like to help, please register at kkuharic@oaklandcemetery.com Sign in at the Visitor's Center which is located at 248 Oakland Avenue, SE, Atlanta 30312 The tornado that hit Atlanta blew debris from the surrounding area into the cemetery. This debris added to damage from fallen trees and downed branches over some 48 acres.

Southern Storm - Sherman's March to the Sea

Kay Borden, 40th Georgia Historian, has found that Southern Storm - Sherman's March to the Sea by Noah Andre Trudeau is now for sale. It is 671 pages, published by Harper and costs 35.00.

The account is largely from the Yankees perspective, from their diaries and reports, and covers the period from November to December, 1864. While this 60 mile wide path of destruction was unfolding, the Army of Tennessee was marching on Franklin and then Nashville in an attempt to knock out the supply base at Nashville, and the army protecting it.

The Army of Tennessee would again engage Sherman's forces in South Carolina and North Carolina in January - March, 1865 after marching from Tupelo, Mississippi following the defeat at Nashville.

That is all I have for now. I look forward to seeing everyone in a few weeks.

Mike Griggs
President