



THE CHEROKEE RANGER

American Civil War Reenactors
And
Historic Interpreters

19th Alabama Infantry, Co. I
And
42nd Indiana Vol. Infantry
Co. I

Proud Members of the
First Confederate Legion
And First Confederate Division



Volume 1, Issue 1
March 2004

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Special points of interest:

- *An Interview with the maker of our new 42nd Indiana Regimental Colors!*
- *Chris Gore's Wedding Invite*
- *2004 Schedule*
- *Latest Member List*

Attention Company

By Maj. Jim Rhodes

Let me begin with saying welcome to the 2004 reenacting year. As always we have a very active schedule planned (see attached 2004 schedule of events) for this year and as always we need your support through active participation to make this a great year. As I have said many times, we are always better when we have everyone at each event! So, please mark your calendars and be with us at each MAX EFFORT event!

To bring you up to date and for those of you who missed our annual meeting (***which was very well attended, I might add***) you missed a very good meeting and important decisions voted on by the unit. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge and thank Athens State University for the use of Founders Hall and ***Sam Campbell*** for making the arrangements and ***Jim Limbach*** for helping us out the day of the meeting.

The three highpoints of the meeting were; a celebration of ***Ann & John Jarrett's*** marriage on the 24th of January, the unveiling of our new and very correct 42nd Indiana Regimental flag. (***A special thanks to each of you who donated to this cause, your money was very well spent as you will see when we take the field as the 42nd Indiana this year! A MAJOR thank you to Karl Ryan for all the work on getting this flag researched and produced for us!***) And our unit awards presentations.

I speak for the entire board when I say thank you for your trust and please know we are committed to doing our very best for you and the unit this year! To our board members ***Danny Eldridge, Jerry Rogers*** and ***Tommy Bassham*** who stepped down this year, a personal thank you for your years of unwavering support and untiring efforts on behalf of each of us and our unit.

In addition to these actions several other items were voted on by the unit. Our schedule was set for 2004 (see that attachment elsewhere in the Ranger) as were three unit by-laws changes as follows:

Nineteenth Alabama Infantry Regiment Army of Tennessee, C.S.A., Inc
By-Law Changes approved by the membership at annual meeting 1/31/04

Article I, Section F.

Current: The Nineteenth Alabama Infantry Regiment and all of its constituent companies shall maintain membership in good standing in the ***Alabama Division of Reenactors, Inc.***, hereinafter known as the ***Alabama Division***, and will adhere to the policies and procedures of the ***Alabama Division***. Failure of any company of the Nineteenth Alabama Infantry Regiment to adhere to the policies and procedures of the ***Alabama Division*** shall be referred to the Board of Directors for further action. In the event of a conflict between these Bylaws and the policies and procedures of the ***Alabama Division***, these Bylaws shall take precedence.

Cont. on page 2...

Attention Company (continued from page 1)

Changed to: The Nineteenth Alabama Infantry Regiment and all of its constituent companies shall maintain membership in good standing in the **First Confederate Legion**, hereinafter known as the **Legion**, and will adhere to the policies and procedures of the **Legion**. Failure of any company of the Nineteenth Alabama Infantry Regiment to adhere to the policies and procedures of the **Legion** shall be referred to the Board of Directors for further action. In the event of a conflict between these Bylaws and the policies and procedures of the **Legion**, these Bylaws shall take precedence.

Article III, Section B.

Current: The Directors shall take office **January 1**, and shall.....

Changed to: The Directors shall take office **February 1**, and shall.....

Article VI, Section A.

Current: The annual business meeting of the Corporation shall be held during the **month of November**.....

Changed to: The annual business meeting of the Corporation shall be held **no later than the end of the month of January**.....

The reasons for these changes were; Article I, Section F, our unit membership is with the First Confederate Legion not the Alabama Division as of January 2003, Article III, Section B, due to the vote on Article VI, the timing needed to be changed on the service terms of our Board of Directors, Article VI, Section A, due to the First Confederate Legion meeting not being held until December of each year, where our Battalion and Legion MAX EFFORT events are voted on and established, the decision was made to move our annual meeting until after the First Confederate Legion meeting, thereby, giving us the opportunity to vote on a finalized event schedule at our annual meeting.

Other votes involved the disbursement of our historic preservation funds for 2003. We voted for our funds this year to be split evenly between The Veterans Memorial Museum in Huntsville and the Friends of the Wheeler Foundation with those funds being earmarked for the preservation of General Wheeler's Confederate Frock Coat and his West Point Coatee.

Of other interest I reported on the First Confederate Legion meeting that **Danny Eldridge, Don Davis, Russ Spry** and I attended on January 24th at Confederate Memorial Park. The meeting went well; **Col. Paul Whaley** was again confirmed by acclamation to continue as our Battalion Commander as well as his staff, **Lt. Col. Dave Neel, Maj. Jim Rhodes, 1st LT. Tom Thompson, Adj. and Sgt. Maj. Vince Elliott.**

As I close again this year my thoughts turn towards our current men and women in uniform and their brave deeds in the war on terror. The price of freedom is not cheap. Please keep those who keep us safe, save our freedoms, and insure our liberty in your thoughts and prayers. Again, please take the time when the opportunity presents itself or make an opportunity to personally thank those brave Americans currently active and veterans alike, for their service to our nation and each of us.

God Bless each of our brave service men and women and God Bless America! Hope to see ALL of you in the field soon!

19th Alabama 2004 Board of Directors

President/Commander: Jim Rhodes

1st Vice President/1st LT.: Don Davis

2nd Vice President/1st Sgt.: Russ Spry

Civilian Coordinator: Ann Jarrett

Secretary: Pam Rogers

Treasurer: Dennis Marshall

Members At Large: Bill Hoover & Robert (Nick) Nichols

Field Commander's Corner

By Capt Danny Eldridge

Thanks to everyone for the support all of you have shown the 19th. This is the greatest organization of folks that I have ever been involved with. As my term as Vice President winds down, I look forward to many years of continued association with all of you.

As Don Davis takes on the role as the new Vic President of our group, I am sure you will all do what you can to support this him and this unit. Don, is one of the most sincere and dedicated individuals to this hobby I have ever known. I know as he progresses in this unit he will take the unit into the next generation of leaders, not just for this unit but for the hobby in general.

This year is already shaping up to be an exciting and successful year. Don has worked hard at starting a new relationship with the folks at the Wheeler Home and Belle Mont. It looks like we will have a relationship similar to the one we once had at the Burritt.

We are planning on two events a year at those sites, one in the spring and one in the fall. We just completed our spring muster our first at Belle Mont, the weekend of Feb. 28th and 29th. We had a great turn out of soldiers (20) in all and 7 civilians. We all met and parked at the church about a mile from the home and marched to the property. To put a twist on things Don worked out a skirmish scenario with the curator and his cavalry as we entered the property that morning.

To the surprise of most of our soldiers, they entered the property in skirmish formation where they found resistance as we came out of the woods. This was great for the new guys that have not yet seen the elephant. I think everyone enjoyed pushing the rebels out of their camps and being able to claim the home as our headquarters for the weekend. It was not easy though with Tom and Ruth Sines and Bill, Mary Ann and Sarah Hoover there to protect the home. Since our foraging platoon was able to find food in the root cellar, hid from the United States Army, it was determined that these civilians were aiding the enemy. They were immediately removed from the home. As things progressed it was also discovered that Mr. Hoover and Mr. Sines were deserters from the rebel army and refused to take the oath of allegiance to the US. Therefore they were escorted to the nearest tree and shot by firing squad.

The folks at Belle Mont seemed pleased that things went so well for their restoration efforts. I believe I heard them say that they had about 80 visitors and about 50 that paid to see the home. This attendance was without advertisement, only by word of mouth. It would appear in the future if they advertise (which they intend to) they will have large crowds attending. I feel this is a worthy cause for this unit to get involved in. The home has come a long way from when they took the home over, but it has a very long way to go. This is where we can make a difference in historical preservation, and I hope that each of you will see the importance and really put forth your max effort at these two events. The next event we will do for this group will be at Pond Springs (the Wheeler Home) in August for our fall muster. We met with Mr. Brown at the Wheeler Home earlier this year and it too is in very poor condition. Besides school programs, historical preservation is why we do what we do. I hope you all will come out and support this event in August.

The schedule for 2004 is set and looks like another great year. I hope that all of you will be there to support the schedule and enjoy those magic moments.

Here comes the law!

By Cpl Dennis Marshall

After several weeks of hard work (and adaptive scheduling), our very own New Zealand import graduated from the Reserve Deputy Academy on Saturday, March 21, 2004. This made him the first Kiwi to serve in the Madison Co. Sheriff's Department.

As we all should have expected, Ants didn't just graduate, but made an impact as well. He was awarded top marksman for his performance on the firearms range - he shot a perfect score. He was also noted for being the top in his class academically, as well (now who would have believed that?) Seriously, we should all be very proud of his commitment to protecting the citizens of a nation he is not formally a part of. I only wish more Americans would have the same dedication as Deputy Beresford.

From the Right Flank

By 1st Sgt Russ Spry

Welcome to a new year! I am excited to be your First Sergeant for the upcoming season of events and I hope that I will meet your expectations.

As we embark on this next year, I will endeavor to continue the fine traditions of former First Sergeants of this unit. That does not mean, however, that some things will not change.

We are a proficiently drilled unit. That will continue because all of you are dedicated to the craft. Our impressions are very well done and we all continue to improve them on our own (with a little help from Sparticus now and then). Being who we are there isn't a lot we really have to work on, we just need to maintain our high standards.

One thing I hope we will all work on is the family atmosphere of the unit. I have personally been bad about this in the past, so I know how hard it can be to watch your behavior during times around the campfire (or in the General's camp at Aiken). But we have to remember that this is a family organization with some of our kids growing into participation as musicians and young troops in the field. I am not saying we can't have fun, but we just need to be on top of our behavior more. Watch your P's and Q's. I know I am the "pot calling the kettle black" but you have your orders. 'Nuff said.

I would also like to see our military improve on their knowledge of the civilian aspects of our impressions. I would ask that we all remember that most soldiers were civilians before the war so we need some training on what life on the homefront was like. This information will not be as helpful during battles, but will really do a lot for us during school programs and down-time talking to spectators. Spend some time with our excellent group of civilians and pick their brains. We are lucky to have them so let's include them.

Due to my job I will be doing some traveling, so 2nd Sgt Marshall will be filling in for me at a few of the first events this spring. I am fully confident he will do a great job and rise to the occasion as he has always done in the past (oh by the way Dennis, you will be 1st Sgt at Selma and Resaca- just in case I haven't told you).

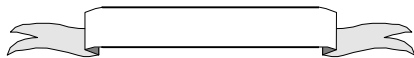
As I said, I am looking forward to serving you this year, both in the field and on the Board.

2003 awards presentations were as follows:

Soldier of the Year – Cpl. Robert (Nick) Nichols

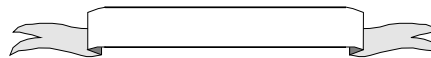
Civilian of the Year – Sara Hoover

High Private – Pvt. Ron Bednarczyk



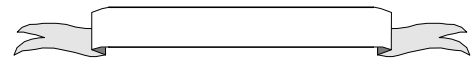
20 Year Service Award –

Don Ray
Elizabeth Ray
3rd Sgt. Al Stone



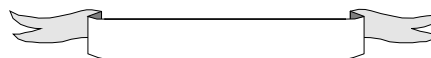
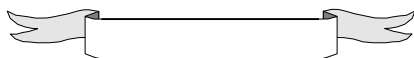
15 Year Service Award -

High Pvt. Sam
Campbell
Diane Campbell
Jenny Bassham
(2002)
Tommy Bassham
(2002)



10 Year Service Award –

Capt. Danny Eldridge
Lynn Eldridge
Nanette Dendy
1st LT. Adam Eldridge
2nd LT. Jim Rhodes
Ann Jarrett



Interview with the maker of the 42nd Indiana Regimental Flag

By Karl Ryan

Note: Steve Hill is the Curator of the Indiana War Memorial and the maker of our new colors. Karl sent him questions so we could get to know more about how our flag was made. Below is the response from Mr. Hill.

[I have] been interested in flags as long as I can remember, and in flags specifically of Civil War since about 1968. I was interested in finding flags of 13th and 105th Illinois, both of which had companies recruited in DuPage County, Illinois, where I lived (also, hence my flag-making name). I inquired of State AG and State Archivist and was told the usual myths (though they were not at the time known to be myths): that regiments only carried stars and stripes, no one carried regimentals; that flags were made by gentle hands of local ladies and presented to regiments; that all looked alike, so what was my question really??? But I was also told that most of the Civil War flags were still on display in the Hall of Flags in State Library in Springfield. So I went there and was amazed!

The flags were clearly manufactured-very few suggested "gentle hands" or gave any sign of being home-made in any way. Yet they varied immensely-clearly many different manufacturers were involved and they used different basic patterns and different painters. At the same time, it was clear that they followed a few clearly defined ideas-basically endless variations on a few common themes. As I began to research more states' flags I found the same things-most states had their flags on display somewhere, and nobody knew anything at all about them. Several years later while in the Army I wrote to every single Northern state to inquire after their flags. Eventually I visited and photographed the flag collections of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. I got photos by mail of all the flags of Kentucky, Minnesota, Colorado, and California. After I got out of the Army I was curator at the Historical Society of Delaware, which owns all the Delaware Civil War flags. In 1989 I went to Boston and worked exclusively on that State's flag collection for about seven years. As you know, I am currently at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, where all the Indiana Civil War flags are kept.

[I have made] somewhere in the neighborhood of 280-300 starting in about 1980.

Where are my flags- I recently made a copy of Oliver Hazard Perry's "Don't Give Up the Ship" to replace the aging original on display at US Naval Academy at Annapolis, have sent 6 more to replace originals on display in Maine State House, and will be making 12 Mexican flags to put on display in place of original trophy flags from Mexican War at West Point.

My first flag was the 105th Illinois, a national color with the stars in the tall oval pattern made in Philadelphia.

How many per year?--About twelve to fifteen. Usually about two-thirds go to re-enactment groups, the balance to museums, a few to other miscellaneous requests.

I first visited Indianapolis to see flag collection in 1983. I was on leave from Army at the time. I photographed all those on display and then coordinated with the Director to get into the storage areas to photograph those not on public display. The Director was a retired Colonel, so perhaps the fact I was a Captain on active duty made me trustworthy to him. Several years later Indiana began a flag conservation project and someone passed along my name as having done some research on the flags and taken pictures. The person working the flag project was Donna Schmink, at the time a grade school teacher. It started as a class project and soon became sort of a personal crusade. Anyway, Donna contacted me in Boston and we began a friendship by correspondence.

Several more years passed and Donna resigned as a teacher and eventually was hired at the War Memorial, where the flags were by then all stored. My flag job at the Mass State House ended and I got another job in Boston. That ended when a new director came on board and changed everything. Just coincidentally the Indiana War Memorial was looking for an additional person for their museum staff at about the same time, and

Cont. on page 6...

Interview *(cont. from page 5)*

Donna contacted me. I flew out to Indy, interviewed with the new Director, and it was all arranged and approved in no time flat. I started at IWM in Oct 2000. My desk in newly renovated museum office area is EXACTLY where the excess Civil War flags were stored when I visited back in '83.

I think I can say that as far as accurate reproduction of existing original, 42d Indiana is best I have ever done. I did a few Massachusetts colors where I also got to compare my copy with original, but mostly I have to work with pictures, and no matter how good the pictures are, they can never get every tiny detail or all the colors just right.

I have made about seventeen Reb flags over the years, mostly for friends, such as Don Toianito use in his pictures, or for National parks or other museums. It also depends on how much other work I have to do and how unusual the flag is-I don't do "standard" ANV flags. I've also done about twenty Revolutionary War colors and the French and Indian War colors for "Last of the Mohicans."

The way I do a flag such as 42d Indiana is to get a good photo of flag to start with. This is reproduced as a transparency and projected to full size with an overhead projector onto either contact paper or plastic-backed freezer paper. From this a stencil is cut. For the 42d I used freezer paper. An 8x10 picture blown up to 6x6 feet of course loses a bit of clarity, so the drawing is reworked for details before the stencil is cut. Sometimes a lot of reconstruction is required where there is serious damage and/or missing portions of the original.

The flag itself is made of three panels of silk. The positioning of the seams is somewhat arbitrary-those originals that were seamed together were much the same way-however, if I am making a flag of which the original really was seamed together, I will do all the seams in exactly the same place as the original. (The original 42d Indiana was painted on one 6 foot width- actually about 69"-without seams, but modern silk is not made that wide.) The pieces of silk are sewn together prior to the silk being washed. After sewing together and hemming edges whole flag is washed as one piece. This allows silk and sewing thread to shrink together. [The] flag is ironed out while still wet and the result is a smooth flat piece of cloth on which the seams are virtually invisible-no puckering. Then one end is rolled over and lined to form the pole sleeve (unless original had ties or other method of pole attachment.) The stencil is then stuck to the flag. Contact paper is peel-and-stick. Freezer wrap, as used on 42d Indiana, is ironed on. This gives a non-slipping stencil and produces a very accurate outline of all painted parts of flag. Sometimes the paint slips under stencil a little and has to be painted over with same color as background. Having looked at hundreds of originals, believe me, this happened quite often in 1860's too.

The basic design is painted in solid basic colors, generally gray or brown for eagle, cadmium red for scrolls, green for leaves, gold for stars and lettering. Details are then painted in on top of base coat. Reverse of flag is overpainted depending on how much paint has bled through cloth, but generally requires an entire coat in the base colors same as front. Usually I complete reverse first and then flip over and do front. In fact, front is usually a little better because 1) paint is smoother due to stenciling technique, and 2) I've already practiced details of specific flag when doing back.

An additional step that I could take on 42d Indiana was to take it in to the War Memorial and compare with original. I did this twice, making notes on various details that I then modified or corrected back at home. Cords and tassels are made as exactly like originals as possible. Original flags came from manufacturers as complete stand-flag itself, pole with finial, cord and tassels, so even when original cord and tassels are missing- as on all Indiana flags-proper type can be made to go with each type of flag.

Sincerely,

Steve Hill

First Confederate Legion Annual Meeting Minutes

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to report to you on the second annual First (tongue twister) Confederate Legion meeting, held at Confederate Memorial Park on Saturday, January 24, 2004.

At 9 AM, General Rambo opened the meeting by asking the membership to observe a moment of silent prayer for Walt Harrison, Jebb Harrison and the Harrison family.

The Roll was called and dues and rosters were turned in:

Artillery -

Jeff Davis Alabama Light Artillery - Present

Lumsden's Alabama Battery - Present

Stanford's Mississippi Battery - Present

Huwald's Tennessee Battery - Present

Cavalry

3rd Alabama Cavalry - Present

51st Alabama Cavalry - Present

56th Alabama Cavalry - Present

7th Tennessee Cavalry - Absent (A representative was supposed to be sent, but with the noted reputation of the 7th's ability to find their way, their "vacant chair" was understood . . .)

Infantry

19th Alabama - Present

21st Alabama - Absent (The leadership was involved in a War of 1812 living history)

22nd Alabama - Present

28th Alabama - Present

33rd Alabama - Present

16th Louisiana - Absent (The unit was involved in a fund raiser for the recently saved Confederate Museum in New Orleans)

19th Tennessee - Absent (The leadership are involved in more active police work and National Guard duty ever since 9-11)

51st Tennessee - Absent (The unit was hosting Lee-Jackson festivities in Memphis)

Civilians - Present

Guest - Mr. John Barber of Raymond, Mississippi, representing the "Friends of Raymond." John, along with event host representative Roger Hansen of Stanford's Battery answered questions about the upcoming November Raymond event.

A quorum was present and business proceeded.

Treasury Report:

The end of the year 2003 Legion account totaled \$110

Thanks to Captain Gunnin, the Legion is now tax exempt.

Captain Gunnin's attorney recommended that we drop the word "Confederate" in the Legion name so as to avoid any undue attention from the IRS. The membership decided NOT to follow this recommendation since it was felt that as reenactors of the War Between the States, the IRS probably lumps us into a general classification anyway (and it probably ain't good company).

Living History Tax Deduction Forms were distributed.

General Rambo addressed the body. He pointed out that 2003 was a tough year in reenacting due to the disruption of the schedule caused by the Gettysburg farbfest. It was an odd year in reenacting due to popular events that by nature were not appropriate for all three branches of the Legion to attend; and popular events where event numbers did not allow all Legion units to participate on the same side. However, it was a great year due to the formation of the *First Confederate Legion*, and the resulting Camps of Instruction for all branches; a great Legion debut at Bibb Furnace; great Army of Tennessee impressions by the Legion at

FCL Minutes *(cont. from page 7)*

Chickamauga (So good in fact that the director of the highly restrictive Pickett's Mill, Georgia Battlefield issued a standing invitation to the Legion); a great demonstration of strength of character at "Murfreeshboro" where the Infantry and Artillery of the Legion remained on the field Sunday afternoon despite the "great bug-out." Added to this was the pleasant surprise of the establishment of a great working relationship with Lt. Col. Steve Thomas' battalion of Infantry from the Alabama Division. At Murfreeshboro, these men demonstrated authenticity and attitude that made them a welcome sister battalion in the brigade. And finally, 2003 was a great year because of the widespread adoption of a much more thorough Weapons Inspection system at events.

General Rambo asked the membership to consider if any changes were needed in the Legion's camping impression; which includes "campaign"; "campaign appearance"; and "garrison." It was decided that no changes were necessary, as we had already demonstrated at Murfreeshboro that if the campsite doesn't lend itself to our intended impression (such as no trees to tie tent fly ropes to), or threatening weather is a distinct possibility, we make the proper adjustments. No matter what the tentage however, the exclusion of visible or audible anachronisms remains the rule.

General Rambo asked the membership to emphasize a western Federal appearance when we have to "do the deed" and pointed out specifically the addition of Hardee hats and replacing canteen cork chains with leather or string among other things.

General Rambo encouraged everyone to visit the new and improved North/South Alliance web site.

After a short recess, the assemblage broke up into branch meetings.

Upon reconvening, the artillery announced that the wartime regulation vent bore size was officially adopted by the Legion artillery. They also reelected Kent Oestenstad as Legion artillery commander; the cavalry reelected Ronnie Fullwood as cavalry commander (Serves him right for not being present); The Infantry reelected Paul Whaley as Infantry commander. Col. Whaley pledged to improve communication with his Infantry. General Rambo was reelected Legion commander in a tight race with Bozo the Clown (Thank goodness for Florida chads).

General Rambo announced that on February 28 the NSA was going to meet at Rippavilla, Spring Hill, Tenn to walk over the land acquired for the "Franklin" event in October. Most of the Rippavilla land will be used for parking. Several new parcels of land (which combined are much larger than the Rippavilla site) have been acquired near to and adjoining Rippavilla, part of which is the original Spring Hill battlefield. All NSA officers (battalion level and above) are invited to attend. The walk through will begin at 10 AM. A First Confederate Division meeting is slated to be held following the walk through (which is supposed to end, hopefully, NLT 3 PM).

The four Legion events for 2004 were nominated, discussed and voted on (with a necessary 2/3's majority to be selected). They are as follows:

April 23-25 - Selma, Alabama - Garrison - Whaley's battalion will fight Federal, with the artillery and cavalry fighting as needed.

May 14-16 - Resaca, Georgia - Campaign Appearance - Federal. The Legion will be joined by all four battalions in Rambo's FCD brigade.

October 1-3 - "Franklin" (Spring Hill) Tennessee - Confederate - Garrison (The CS camp is in a huge pasture). The First Confederate Division is portraying Cleburne's Division. My brigade will portray Lowery's Alabama-Mississippi Brigade.

November 12-14 - Raymond, Mississippi - Maybe Confederate (TBD) - Garrison (We're in a pasture here also). This will not be a moving Raymond campaign event this year as in years past.

General Rambo announced that on Monday, April 26 (Confederate Memorial Day) the Alabama Historical Commission is sponsoring a rededication of the newly refurbished Confederate monument (Alabama's tallest Confederate monument) on the grounds of the State Capitol. Governor Bob Riley is scheduled to speak as is Bertram Hayes-Davis, direct descendant of Jefferson Davis (who laid the cornerstone for the monument in 1886). This is the day after Selma, but it is a ceremony sure to draw considerable media attention and we need a good showing. General Rambo was asked by the Historical Commission to provide the troops. Accordingly, he is inviting the Legion to participate, most especially one gun crew (cannon provided by Confederate Park) and a company of Infantry (Our cavalry is also invited but our horses are not :-). Spend Sunday night in Selma at the 33rd Alabama barracks and ride over to Montgomery on your way home the next morning to do the ceremony. The ceremony should be over NLT

FCL Minutes (cont. from page 8)

11 AM. Please contact General Rambo if your unit can participate.

There is also a 2PM Confederate Memorial Day ceremony at Oakwood Cemetery (where hundreds of Confederate soldiers who died in the hospitals at Montgomery during the war are buried). This ceremony is hosted by the Ladies Memorial Association, which has sponsored this ceremony every year since 1866. Even I won't ask the out of town members to try to make this one too, but I am hoping that the local troops will help out here as well. Again, please contact General Rambo if you can participate.

April will be a busy month due to much of the Legion Infantry and Cavalry attending the annual Shiloh NBP living history April 2-4; and much of the Legion Infantry and Artillery will participate in the funeral for the Hunley crew in Charleston, South Carolina on April 17. The monument ceremony and the Hunley funeral are not only rare and meaningful events in themselves; they actually continue to protect the men they seek to honor by giving us opportunities to help preserve our heritage. This makes the extra effort even more worthwhile.

Mrs. Terre Lawson announced a civilian living history at the town of Chickamauga, Georgia on September 18-19. Contact Terre for details.

It was decided to hold the next annual Legion meeting at a much earlier date. Accordingly, December 11, 2004 was chosen.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12 Noon, with everyone invited to make the 17 mile drive south to General Rambo's plantation, where Mrs. Rambo had prepared burgers and hot dogs on the grill for lunch. It was duly noted that many members are on the Atkins diet, as they avoided bread like the plague. A lighter Confederate is a fighter Confederate . . . (Sorry about that). It was also noted that Colonel Whaley avoided getting too close to the goats in the pasture. The resemblance was uncanny . . .

I look forward to serving with you on the field of honor soon,

Until then, I remain

Your Obedient Servant,

Bill

W.G. Rambo, Brig Gen'l comdg
First Confederate Legion

**Pre-registration money for
Resaca and Franklin need to be turned in
to the Company
By March 27**

**Resaca- \$6
Franklin- \$10**

School Programs in the Huntsville Area

By Karl Ryan

On February 2, Dennis Marshall and I conducted a school program for the Covenant Academy School of the Southwood Presbyterian Church over in Jones Valley. The 19th was invited to do this program after hearing of us through past Burritt Programs and our website.

Dennis was decked out in his Federal finest with his pre war US Regular uniform. I was in my jean cloth confederate uniform. We got to the site at about 9 am and did not leave until about 2. We spoke to about 50 children ranging in age from 7 years old to about 13.

The program was an unqualified success. The children really enjoyed all the uniforms, weapons, and flags that we were able to present for them. The new regimental colors were used for the first time much to the delight of the children. They really liked the "Big Blue Flag". While not the Bonny Blue Flag it was good to hear such enthusiasm from them. The teachers were also very interested in all our equipment. We spoke at length to them as well.

We formed the class up into opposing companies so the kids might see how a unit was formed. The kids asked very good questions.

On February 10, 1st Sgt Russ Spry conducted a school program for Providence Community School in downtown Huntsville. The five students involved learned about typical life as a soldier and were familiarized with various uniform and equipment items.

While portraying the 19th Alabama 1st Sgt, Russ also provided federal uniform items for the students to see. The students were very thankful to get a "real life look" at what the soldiers had to wear and carry day to day.

You are cordially invited to the Wedding

of

William Christopher Gore, Private, United States Army

To

Miss Renee' M. Moore

Saturday May 1, 2004

Pleasant Springs Baptist Church, Huntsville

At 2 o'clock P.M.

R.S.V.P by March 15

(256) 694-0305

Sumner County School Program

By Danny Eldridge

As most of you have already noticed, it is time for another school program to service the students in northern Sumner County. We agreed to do this program every other year for the 4th and 5th graders, therefore giving each of the students an opportunity to learn more about the Civil War. Knowing this year, that April is a very heavy month for events, we looked at doing it in March but were afraid to try it in March because of the weather and we couldn't do it in May because the schools will be going through their final testing for the year. In order to get this program in we have set April 30th as the date. We will be doing this program in Portland as we have done twice before. This location is easier for the students in the northern part of the county and allows the local historical society to teach the students about the local history. It also gives us the better support of the parks department and the city officials as well as the historical society and school board.

As most of you know though, in order for a school program this size to be successful, we need everyone's support. We will be able to set up on Thursday and camp that night on site. We will encourage all of those working on this school program to do just that. That way we will all be on site and set up in plenty of time for the kids to arrive. They will all start arriving around 8:15am, and will all be gone by 3:00pm. Of course the company will provide lunch for all those attending and will be part of the cooking demo as normal.

This program of course is mainly for the students and teaching them those things that they don't get in school about this time in our history. This is what the 19th is all about, and this is why we all get into this hobby. This also is our largest fund raiser for the unit that will allow us to do more for historical preservation and for special events we all enjoy. We will be getting \$2.00 per student that attends and this year it looks like it will be at least 1000 students will be attending. I know that each of you will do your best to support this event. I would like to get this started by asking each of you to take the time necessary to make this a great success and to let me know when to expect you on site and what if any special station you would like to do. Please contact me by email DEldri1864@aol.com or by phone 615-855-0231 or cell phone 615-972-4874. Directions and additional information will be sent out closer to the date, with station assignments.

I look forward to seeing you in the field and hearing from you on this very important program. You all are the greatest in the hobby, because of what you do for projects like this.





19TH ALABAMA INFANTRY, CO. I
AND
42ND INDIANA VOL. INFANTRY
Co. I

19th Alabama Inf., Co I.
PO Box 4323
Huntsville, Alabama 35815

WWW.19THALABAMA.ORG
