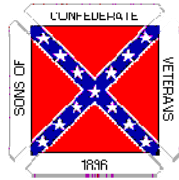
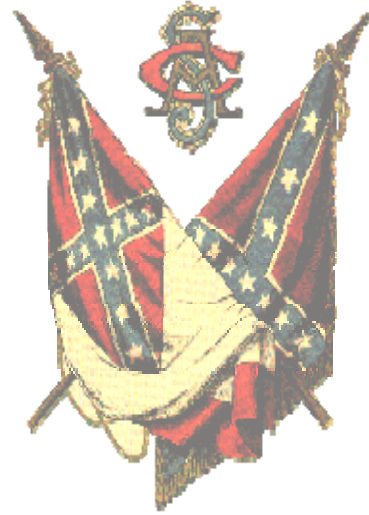




NEWSLETTER OF STATE OF DADE CAMP NO. 707



**THE
SILVER
GRAY**



Vol. 11

September 2006

No. 9



State of Dade Mechanized Cavalry at the Myrtle Hill Cemetery, site of the wartime Fort Stovall in Rome Georgia. (See page 4.)

ANNUAL DUES

Dues payable August 1 of each year and are delinquent November 1 of each year.

Anyone who joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans before August 1 (by the new rules passed at the 2005 convention) are owed dues as of August the first.

I will be sending in DUES the last week of October

DUES ARE AS FOLLOWS

Sons of Confederate Veterans	\$20.00 per year
Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans	\$12.00 per year
State of Dade Camp #707	\$ 5.00 per year
TOTAL	\$37.00 per year

If dues are sent to me after 1 November 2006 the Sons of Confederate Veterans will add a \$5.00 re-instatement fee for a total of \$42.00.

You may pay me at the meeting or mail your DUES to:

Larry D. Wheeler (Adjutant)
639 Canyon Park Dr.
Trenton, Georgia 30752-2640

Thank you for being a Son of the South. The South needs the support of all of her Sons. Please continue your membership and support THE CAUSE.

Thank you for your kind assistance in this matter.

Yours in Service to the South,

Larry W. Wheeler, Adjutant

The Deportation of the Roswell Mills Workers

Calvin E. Johnson, Jr.

On July 5, 1864, Union General Garrard's Cavalry reached Roswell, Georgia and finding it undefended, occupied the city. General Garrard reported to General William T. Sherman on July 6, 1864...."there were fine factories here. I had the building burnt, all were burnt." The cotton factory was working up to the time of its destruction, some 400 women being employed.



Former Associate Dean of Emory University, Webb Garrison wrote of the destruction of the Roswell Mills. He said, "incidents of this sort occurred repeatedly throughout the War Between the States. Had the usual attitudes prevailed, the destruction of the industrial complex would have

ended the matter. That it did not was the temperament and inclination of one man (General William T. Sherman)."

What Sherman did next would shock the good people of the North and create a mystery that has endured to this day. On July 7, 1864, Sherman reported to his superiors in Washington, D.C....." I have ordered General Garrard to arrest for treason all owners and employees, foreign and native (of the Roswell Mills) and send them under guard to Marietta, whence I will send them North."

A Northern newspaper correspondent reported on the deportation, "only think of it. Four Hundred weeping and terrified Ellens, Susans, and Maggies transported in springless and seatless wagons away from their loves and brothers of the sunny South, and all for the offense of weaving tent cloth."

A marker today marks the spot in Roswell, Georgia, that was dedicated by the Roswell Mills Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, to the memory of the Roswell mill women.

These women might have been our Great Grandmothers and we should all remembered during April – Confederate History Month.

The source of information on this Confederate History Month minute came from an article written by Webb Garrison.



FORT ATTAWAY – ROME GEORGIA

Confederate soldiers, assisted by enslaved Africans conscripted from the local area, constructed three hilltop fortifications at Rome in strategic positions on De Soto Hill, Myrtle Hill, and Jackson Hill. These were field fortifications consisting of artillery positions and rifle pits. Later, the local people, wishing to honor notable Confederates, designated them as “forts” and gave them names. De Soto Hill became Fort Attaway (in honor of Tom Attaway who was killed in the second Battle of Manassas). Myrtle Hill was called Fort Stovall and Jackson Hill Fort Norton.

On May 16, 1864 General Jefferson C. Davis led a Federal division against Rome from the north. At the same time, Confederate General Samuel G. French was bringing his division out of Alabama to join Joseph E. Johnston and was stopped for the night at Rome. One of his brigades had already left by train to join Johnston, when his pickets informed him that a federal infantry division with artillery was advancing on Rome. French was aware that Rome contained warehouses full of Confederate military supplies and the hospitals had a number of wounded Confederates. Feeling that these should be evacuated, and knowing that the capture of Rome by the Federals would turn Johnston’s flank, he decided to stay and confront Davis. With the fortified positions on the hills surrounding the town, he was confident that it could be held. He therefore ordered Ector’s brigade to Fort Attaway, and began planning the defense of Rome.

General Davis proceeded ahead on May 17, and easily drove in the Confederate pickets. Advancing toward Fort Attaway, his men then came under heavy rifle fire from the approximately 2,000 protected Confederates behind the earthworks. Ross’s Confederates Cavalry Brigade made a counter attack and pushed the Federals back considerable distance, prompting Davis to later comment that Rome was “the most fortified place I have seen in Dixie.” Knowing that a frontal assault would be suicidal, he established a line that he felt to be secure. In his report he stated: “My line as now established, completely invested the enemy’s works on the west bank of the river; my left being so near the Oostanaula and my right so near the Coosa, as to prevent my flank from being turned from either direction.”

During the night of May 17, General French received an urgent message from Johnston, instructing him to abandon Rome and join him at Cassville, where he was expecting an attack from Sherman’s entire army. The Confederates quietly withdrew from Fort Attaway under cover of darkness, and began moving south over the Etowah River, taking the wounded and as much in the way of supplies as possible with them. Artillerymen remained at Forts Norton and Stovall to cover the retreat.

The next morning, under cover of a heavy fog, the Federals advanced on Fort Attaway, expecting to be fired upon at any minute. They occupied the works, and Davis immediately brought up his artillery. A probing move was made toward Rome, but was quickly turned back by artillery fire from the remaining two positions. Giving the Confederates time to evacuate the town, taking most of the wounded and military supplies with them. Davis then pressed on, and at the end of the day the city was in

Federal hands. On May 23, Sherman ordered General Davis to leave Rome and join the main army. He did so the following day.



Today, commercial and urban developments have destroyed most of the wartime defenses of Rome. The site of Fort Stovall is now the Myrtle Hill Cemetery. Some four hundred Confederate soldiers, including some who died defending Rome, are buried here. The site of Fort Norton is marked, and a number of trenches are visible. Most visitors regard them as well preserved Civil War earthworks. It has been said, however, that most of the features were actually dug later. City maintenance workers say that most of these trenches are actually modern

ditches that were dug as fire breaks to protect a nearby building associated with the city water plant that is located on top of the hill. A report on the topic has stated that: “The earthworks have been seriously disturbed by later activities, most obviously the construction of the waterworks reservoir and filter plant and later terracing and grading for road construction and other possible soil disturbances.”

The third hilltop fortification, Fort Attaway, has also been disturbed by urban growth. A Japanese restaurant and a quarrying operation have impacted a portion of the top of De Soto Hill, and the southern slope of the hill has extensive residential development. Nevertheless, there remains a significant portion of the wartime earthworks on the crest and northern face of the hill – the direction from which the attack came. In fact, of all the defenses of Rome, the best examples remaining are those present on De Soto Hill that were part of the complex called Fort Attaway. Unfortunately, these are now also endangered by a proposed road project.

A group of local residents and property owners formed the Fort Attaway Preservation Society, that wants to preserve the site and eventually turn the location into a heritage site that would promote historic tourism in Rome. They have worked tirelessly to achieve this goal, and deserve all the help they can get. Discuss the situation with your friends and make your feelings known to local and state elected officials. Write letters to the newspapers, and discuss the economic value of preserving such sites for historic tourism with the State Department of Tourism and with the Rome and Floyd County Chamber of Commerce. Contact David and Cailey Fowler at Fort Attaway Preservation Society, <http://www.fortattaway.com/>

Mechanized Cavalry Report:



As most of you know August was a very active and very hectic month, with many activities developing on a near day-to-day basis. Nevertheless, most Mechanized members of the State of Dade Camp took part in a number of really great events. In spite of the excessive heat, many miles were ridden and several gallons of beverage were consumed. If you were with us you know it – if you were not, you should have been.

I am now Captain, having been elected without opposition. I want to express sincere thanks to all of you who supported me for this

position. I will make every effort to live up to your big expectations.

The quarterly Mechanized Cavalry meeting was rescheduled due to Labor Day Week-end. It will be held on the last Sunday of the month – September 24, 2006. The time and place will be announced. I will be calling each of you, or you can call me at (423) 605-2231, or (706) 375-2302 for additional information.

We all had a great week-end of fun with the Run to the Border ride on the third week-end in August. A special thanks to Freddie Parris and all the others who made this ride a great success.

On August 27, 2006, Georgia Mechanized and the State of Dade Camp 707 assemble at Mac's Pub on Brainerd Road around noon for a benefit Poker Run for our injured member Lewis Leach on Sunday. The last bike left Mac's at 1:00 P.M. Stops included Hog Wild, and the Camp Headquarters in Trenton, with the last bike getting back to Mac's at 6:00 P.M. This was a great way to show our support for Lewis, and I am happy to announce that we raised over \$4,000.00. Everyone who took part can be proud of what we did.

Lewis is back at the Health Center at Standifer Place. Their phone number is 423-490-1599. Please visit him when you can. We miss you Lewis – please hurry back!

Captain Johnny Sparks,
Mechanized Cavalry
(423) 605-2231, or (706) 375-2302





The Chaplain's Corner

As we remember the fifth anniversary of September 11th and just recently the thwarted attempt of terrorists to bomb ten planes on their way here from England, it indicates that we still have a long way to go in this war on terrorism. Because we live in a difficult world, we have understandable fears for our families and our nation. When we face the inevitable difficulties of life here on earth, God stands ready to protect us. Our responsibility, of course, is to ask Him for protection. When we call upon Him in heartfelt prayer, He will answer in His own time and in accordance with His own perfect plan.

Luke 11:9-10 So, I say to you, ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, it will be opened.

Prayer List: Lewis Leach (as of this writing) is at the Health Center at Standifer Place. Their phone number is 423-490-1599 for directions and his latest condition. He can be seen at any time. Lewis continues to improve to therapy, but he needs our visits by talking to him to help bring him out of this condition. Wedge Morrison's granddaughter, Rachel has a very serious illness. Ronnie Watts requests prayer for his Dad who has health problems. Fred Stafford continues to improve from his motorcycle accident. Let us remember all of these in our thoughts and prayers. I believe that prayer is an answer for many of the hardships we as mortals face.

Psalm 86:7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee; for thou wilt answer me.

James Fletcher, Chaplain,
SCV camp #707 Ph. 256-657-5998
E-mail jdfletcher@farmerstel.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 9-10: **Battle Re-enactment:** The annual re-enactment of the Battle of Tunnel Hill, Georgia will take place on site on Saturday and Sunday, September 9-10, 2006. The camp booth will be up and running. This is one of the best events of the year and everyone should plan to attend. The camp will be set up on Wednesday before the event as usual. For more information call (706) 657-5000.
- September 16: **Executive Council Meeting:** On Saturday, September 16, 2006 there will be a meeting of the Executive Council of the Georgia Division held at Chickamauga, Georgia. This will in conjunction with the annual War Between the States festival in Chickamauga. All State of Dade members should plan to come and spend the entire day.
- September 19, 2006: **Camp Meeting:** The September 2006 meeting of the State of Dade Camp 707, Sons of Confederate Veterans will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 19, 2006 in back of the Easy Rental Store on Highway 11 at the south end of Trenton. We will meet to eat at 6:00 P.M. – there will be no retreat! Call 657-5000 for directions.



STATE OF DADE CAMP No. 707
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Larry D. Wheeler (Adjutant)
639 Canyon Park Dr.
Trenton, Georgia 30752-2640

HONORING OUR CONFEDERATE HERITAGE

