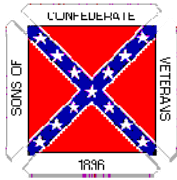
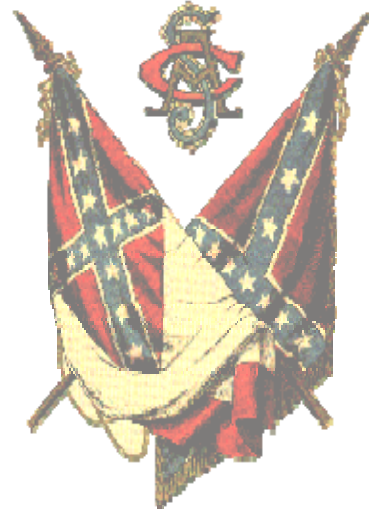

NEWSLETTER OF STATE OF DADE CAMP NO. 707



THE SILVER GRAY



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Confederate Memorial Day 2006.



State of Dade Camp 707 participating in Memorial Day observations at the Georgia Monument in Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park – 2006.



7th Annual Confederate Memorial Event

Seven years ago, Freddie Parris, Jr. and Doug Coleman were conducting a living history event at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. They discussed the old custom of having a memorial day to remember the Confederate soldiers, and concluded that the Georgia Monument, the tallest monument in the park, would be an ideal place to come together to honor the Confederate soldiers of Georgia.

The first event was a great success, and it has been repeated every year up to the present.

This year the State of Dade Camp 707 joined with SCV Camps 507, 599, 1859, and 1977 for the seventh annual observance of the event. This year Dade County Executive Ben Brandon, a member of the State of Dade Camp 707, was the feature speaker. Local representatives in the State Legislature also make a few comments.

Report on Lewis Leach

By Lori Leach



The last time I provided an update, they were just beginning the 2 medications for stimulation, and the one for sleep. They have upped the dosage of the stimulators a bit everyday, and I do believe now he is on 200 mg of each. I am still firm in my belief that those stimulants are working as they should be. There was a good bit of activity - lots of exasperating breaths, and kicking of his left leg while on the CPM machine. He moves more and more things each day – jerks of the head lots – shoulder movements.

The doctors mentioned to me on Friday, that over the weekend we would need to begin to check out and tour skilled nursing facilities... I can remember that when I was 14 years old... I used to walk down the ridge to visit my great grandmother at the [nursing facility] – it was called a different name then, and is now called Life Care Center of Missionary Ridge. I would eat there, and spend the whole day in there reading to people, and playing games. Mimi, my great grandma, lived there for years, and died at the age of 102. As I was ending on my story, the nurse on duty stated that the head of nursing for the facility was there today and would gladly give me a tour. Janice came to the desk, and I retold the story getting to the part where I mentioned that my grandmother and father tended to Mimi for a long time there. She asked of me "you don't mean Margaret Leach?" (which is my grandma), and I said yes... She said, "I used to clean your grandmothers house, and I know your father very very well". Further, she has just come to this facility only three weeks ago.

Ok, really no more to say – when the head of nursing at the facility is a family friend, and you are assured that the care level will be more than expected, and she is also willing to bend rules, allowing me to stay there with him after hours, that leaves really no questions. Now mind you, all of the other residents are elderly, and the building is quite old, having that personal family friend running the facility is better than I could have asked for. She will work with me to get him to that Rancho scale 4 that he needs to be at to move to Rehab! Perfect.

The were supposed to move us to Life Care tonight, but instead I sat here in the room with him – all the photos, and decor removed by Elaine earlier today, so it was kind of drab – just went to bed early.

They have removed the cast fully from Dad's left arm, and are putting on a splint. He had his eye open this morning for about three hours. We will leave right after the splint for Life Care and will be in room 31B. I will send a new update after getting settled or if he does anything new.

Kate Cumming, Confederate Nurse

Calvin E. Johnson, Jr.

Kate Cumming was a remarkable woman. Born in Edinburgh, England, in 1835, her family first made their move to Montreal Canada. They would move next to Mobile, Alabama, where Kate, as young woman, quickly adopted to the Southern way of life. It has been written that Cumming was intelligent and courageous in all she did. Kate did not support secession, but, when the South was invaded, she was quick to criticize the actions of Union President Abraham Lincoln. She became a strong supporter of the Confederate cause and looked down at those Southerners who were less patriotic. She believed that every able bodied man and woman should do whatever they could for the South.



In 1862, Kate Cumming helped wounded soldiers at the Battle of Shiloh and in that summer helped in such places as Corinth and Chattanooga. She enlisted in the Confederate armies medical department as a hospital Matron. Kate was strong in her opinion and an outgoing woman. Her assertiveness would help her work with Dr. S.H. Staub, who believed in the use of woman in hospitals. Kate was known for running very efficient and clean hospital wards and in seeing to every need of the patients and keeping a adequate kitchen.

After the War between the States, in 1866, Kate Cumming published in Mobile, Alabama the "Journal of Hospital Life in the Southern Wartime Hospitals." She also believed that Southern women should take an active part in helping disabled ex-Confederate soldiers.

Kate Cumming never married but she got involved with her friends of such Southern organizations like the United Daughters of the Confederacy and United Confederate Veterans.



Home from the Wars



State of Dade Camp 707 member Patrick Parris is happy to be home from the wars. His eventful time with Charley Company in Iraq is now a memory.

From day one in the war zone, Charlie Company of the 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry Regiment has been separated from the Georgia Army National Guard's 48th Brigade Team to which it belongs, and attached to other units fighting in the western Baghdad and Abu Ghraib areas.

Besides patrolling, Charlie Company was on call for protection of the Abu Ghraib prison, a top priority for U.S. forces in this area. The men gained a reputation of being able to deal with any situation. The Georgia soldiers were also called on as a quick reaction force when things heat up in other areas.

It was during an Abu Ghraib raid that they discovered Baby Noor, the Iraqi child with spina bifida who was then flown to Atlanta for critical medical care. The Gainesville soldiers won worldwide acclaim for their efforts to save the little girl.

In the last few days, the soldiers routinely came under small arms fire and got caught up in attacks against Iraqi security forces. They were called to the scene of grisly execution-style killings of Shiite men. Two Bradleys were hit by roadside bombs. In spite of months of hard fighting, all the men of Charley Company survived. This is a real credit to their training and their team spirit.

Patrick is now looking forward to continuing his education at Northwest Georgia.



Homecoming.

Mechanized Cavalry Report:



As most of you know on May 20 the Mechanized Cavalry officers meeting was held in Birmingham. I attended, and will give a full report at our next camp meeting. Two items of interest I will announce at this time. Jessie Pinson was promoted the Major with control of the Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina district. I was promoted to Lieutenant and announced my candidacy for Georgia Captain. This will probably announced at our annual meeting in June.

The monthly meeting of Georgia Mechanized Cavalry will be held on Sunday, June 4, 2006 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Club house on Brainerd Road. We will have a picnic lunch starting at 12:00 noon. All State of Dade Mechanized members are strongly urged to attend.

The National Mechanized Cavalry re-union – consisting of a week long ride to numerous significant sites of the War Between the States in West Virginia and Virginia – will be held at Moorefield, West Virginia from June 29th through July 2nd, 2006. State of Dade Mechanized members will be leaving on Sunday, June 25. Check with Terry Thomas for departure time. There will be a planning meeting held on Sunday June 18th and all members who plan to make the ride are urged to attend. For additional information call me at (423) 605-2231, or (706) 375-2302.

Terry Thomas is also organizing the Run to the Border ride for the third week-end in August. This is shaping up to be a first class event. Plan now to take part. Additional information will be provided next month.

While Lewis Leach is recovering from his recent accident, Dennis Forster will be serving as acting adjutant for State of Dade Mechanized. Special thanks to him for this service.

I hope to see all of you at our camp meeting on June 20, 2006.

We miss you Lewis – please hurry back!

Mechanized Cavalry
Sgt. Johnny Sparks





The Chaplain's Corner

The "Battle of Resaca" re-enactment week-end turned out to be pretty wet for those that participated, especially Saturday night when the thunderstorm came thru with heavy winds and rain that toppled a few tents and got several re-enactors wet, but this didn't dampen their fighting spirit and they were ready to meet the "Enemy" on the field the next day.

The "1890 Day's Festival" was one of the hottest in temperature that I

remember.

It was 90+ degrees in temperature that day, but no one fell out during the parade. There were many spectators along the parade route and we were cheered more this year as we marched by than in years past. As we participated in the opening ceremonies with the singing of "Dixie" and the National anthem and the firing of the 21 gun salute and of Freddie Parris telling of the participation of the 48th Georgia National Guard in Iraq and of our own Patrick Parris having been there and helped in their mission. Many cheers went up by the crowd in thanking him and the 48th for what they had done.

Prayers. Lewis Leach continues to improve after his motorcycle accident. He was recently removed from ICU at Erlanger hospital and placed in a private room. In checking on his condition this A.M., I found that he has been taken to a health care facility that is close to Memorial hospital. I'm sorry that I don't have that information (as of this writing.) Check with the Camp. Wedge Morrison's granddaughter, Rachel Phillips, has a very serious illness. Fred Stafford continues to improve from his motorcycle accident. Ronnie Watts requests prayer for his Dad who has health problems.

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.

Psalms 41:3 "The Lord sustains him on his sickbed: in his illness thou healest all his infirmities."

James Fletcher, Chaplain,
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E-mail jdfletcher@farmerstel.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 17-18, 2006: Georgia Division Convention: The annual Georgia Division Convention will be held on June 17-18, 2006 at Gainesville, Georgia. Call 657-5000 for additional information.
- June 20, 2006 : Camp Meeting: The June 2006 meeting of the State of Dade Camp 707, Sons of Confederate Veterans will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, June 20, 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.
- June 25-July 2: The National Mechanized Cavalry re-union – consisting of a week long ride to numerous significant sites of the War Between the States in West Virginia and Virginia – will be held at Moorefield, West Virginia from June 29th through July 2nd, 2006. State of Dade Mechanized members will be leaving on Sunday, June 25.



STATE OF DADE CAMP No. 707
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Lewis Samuel Leach, Adjutant
116 Ridge Road
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37411

HONORING OUR CONFEDERATE HERITAGE

