



Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863, Conyers, Ga.

# GEN. JOE'S DISPATCH



Volume 12, Issue 3

July 2016

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### Coming Events

July 12, 2016 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

August 9, 2016 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

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## The 119th Division Reunion



By: J. H. Underwood, editor



**119th Annual  
Georgia Division Reunion**

**Compatriots of  
Camps 1432 & 863**

**Son of Confederate Veterans**

Hosted by:  
The Confederate Memorial Camp 1432, Stone Mountain, GA.  
and Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp 863, Conyers, GA.

Congratulations to all Compatriots of The Confederate Memorial Camp 1432 and Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp 863, we pulled it off!

Commander Richard Strout of Camp 1432, Commander John Maxey of Camp 863 and all the Officers and Members who participated made it a very successful Reunion and we actually made money. Commander Richard Strout will be at our August 9th meeting to present the camp with a check for our half of the profits. I don't want to steal Commander Strout's thunder by revealing the amount at this time but I do think you will be pleasantly surprised.

It was not without a few issues but for the most part it went off smoothly with no major problems. Mother nature through us the biggest issue with the "HEAT" and the venue room's

air conditioning seemed inadequate to keep the space cool enough for the 300 people present.

The Elections were held and the results were as follows;

Georgia Division Commander;  
**Scott Gilbert**

Lt. Commander North;  
**Phillip Autrey**

Lt. Commander South;  
**Al Perry**

Division Adjutant;  
**Tim Pilgrim**

Division Judge Advocate;  
**Dan Coleman**

1st Brigade Commander;  
**David Cordell**

2nd Brigade Commander;  
**Karl Haun**

3rd Brigade Commander;  
**Tommy McCullers**

4th Brigade Commander;  
**Thomas Stevens**

5th Brigade Commander;  
**Thomas Miller**

6th Brigade Commander;  
**Bob Whitaker**

7th Brigade Commander;  
**Charles Griffin**

8th Brigade Commander;  
**Charlie Parks**

9th Brigade Commander;  
**Ken Arvin**

10th Brigade Commander;  
**Al Medcalf**

11th Brigade Commander;  
**Jeff Robinson**

12th Brigade Commander;  
**Richard Leak**

13th Brigade Commander;  
**Steve Camp**

Congratulations to all the newly elected and re-elected officers of the Georgia Division.

In addition to the election of officers, two tag fund projects and six proposed By-Law amendments were voted on by the membership. Both tag fund projects were passed; \$2970 to replace the iron cannon wheels for the Memorial Cannon at the Marietta Confederate Cemetery and \$7000 to purchase 100 iron crosses for the Division Store to make them available to Members and Camps for \$70 each to place on their Confed-

Continued on page 4.



# Our Commanders' Comments



By: Commander John Maxey



Southern Ladies and Gentlemen,

We now have the 119th Ga. Div. Reunion behind us and I know that all of you will agree with

me that it was a resounding success. All of you gentlemen that worked hard or were in attendance were the reason. You and the members of the Stone Mountain Memorial Camp have set the standard very high. Commander Richard Straut will be at our August 9th meeting to present us with a check for our part. I'm sure all of you will be

well pleased.

Our new Division Commander is Scott Gilbert. Scott has been a very active member for around 25 years. I have no doubt that he will do a great job for us. Past Commander Jack Bridwell has served us very well for a long time, our hats are off to him for a job well done.

Our next meeting will be on July 12th. The program will be presented by Mr. Robert Jones. He is a Southern writer and has written several books about the South, from a Southern perspective. His program that evening will be on "The Lost Confederate Gold". I feel

sure you will enjoy it. He will also have some of his other published books for sale. Be a good time to bring a friend to this meeting.

I'll be looking forward to seeing each of you in July.

Till then have a "Dixie" day,

John L. Maxey, Cmdr.



# Undeclared War Support from the North



By: Earl Shadd, Dover, NJ

## Letter to the editor of "Civil War News".

I was reading my June issue of Civil War news, and it's a terrific issue as usual. The item that got my attention was the series of Confederate monuments that faithfully serve as a reminder to the great loss of life by the young men of the South who fought bravely to defend their states from Union armies. I am a bit envious of the spirit of the South in remembering their family heroes.

There's a different sentiment here in the North, where you really have to look hard to find a Civil War monument, and I know no body that decorates Civil War Sites, except for certain national holidays, it's hard to find anyone decorating gravesites of WWII veterans. In the North there has been a tendency to forget the Civil War and all references. My wife is a retired history teacher and she told me that Civil War history has long been removed from text books.

I am aware that an undeclared war has been launched to destroy anything that has historical Civil War references in the South, but stand fast and don't allow it to happen. You might be surprised to hear that there is great sentiment and support for the South in the Northern states and it is not uncommon to see a Confederate flag flying alongside the USA flag, especially during July 4th holiday.



Last year, while on vacation, we noted numerous Confederate flags being

flown from front porches, on SUVs, fishing boats, just about everywhere. We also met some Vietnam vets who displayed Confederate flag pins on their hats in support to their Southern friends who served with them in battle.

Continue to stand fast to defend your flag and Southern traditions. The handful of anti-South agitators who are seeking to destroy your heritage should be opposed, they do not represent but a small handful. I served in the Vietnam War, and we had plenty of men from the South in our ranks, and it was routine to see some of them with a rebel flag patch on their combat clothes, no one cared or complained.

Earl Shadd  
Dover, NJ



Fergit Hell!!!!

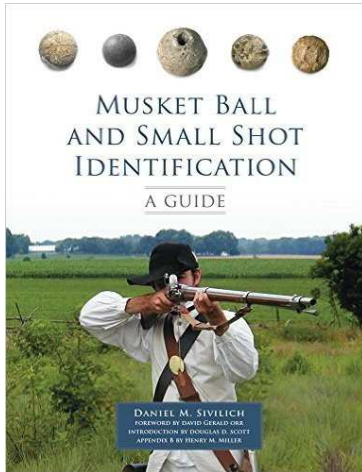


# Archeologist's Guide for Musket Balls



*A book review by: Jeff Patrick, National Parks Service*

**Musket Ball and Small shot Identification: A Guide.** By Daniel M. Sivilich. Illustrated, photos, maps, graphs, tables, appendix, bibliography, index, 232 pages. Printed by Oklahoma University Press.



At a glance, this book may appear to be a dry, technical text meant only for professional archeologists. Not so. Instead, archeologist Daniel Sivilich's book is a fascinating study of the humble musket ball, the instrument of death and dismemberment on many American battlefields.

Sivilich has assembled far more than just a detailed discussion of the basic musket ball. His book focuses primarily on the Revolutionary War period with an emphasis on the 1778 Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey, where extensive archeological work has uncovered many interesting finds.

The book includes chapters on what impacted musket balls hit, how to interpret fabric impressions on balls, and how they were altered for both more and less lethality.

Additional detailed chapters on artillery

canister and small shot (buckshot, birdshot and other types) round out the text. A brief history of early firearms and several appendices provide even more useful information.

Sivilich's groundbreaking research is useful to those studying Civil War sites as well. Although the legendary Minie ball reigned supreme on Civil War battlefields, the musket ball is also frequently found by archeologist, particularly at sites associated with early war activity.

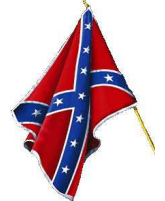
Profusely illustrated and free of technical jargon, this impressive book should appeal to anyone interested in weaponry, tactics or ammunition of the pre-1865 period.

Review by Jeff Patrick, interpretive specialist with the National Parks Service, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Republic, MO.



# Dalton I

*Battle summary by the National Parks Service*



## 6th Battle of the WBTS in Georgia

**Campaign:** Forrest's Expedition Into West Tennessee and Kentu

**Date(s):** February 1864

**Principal Commanders:**  
Major General George Thomas [US]  
Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Johnston [CS]

**Forces Engaged:**

**Estimated Casualties:**

429 total  
(US 289;  
CS 140;)

**Description:**

From Vicksburg, Mississippi, Sherman launched a campaign to take the important railroad center at Meridian and, if the situation was favorable, to push on to Selma and threaten Mobile, in order to prevent the shipment of Confederate men and supplies. To counter the threat, Confederate President Jefferson Davis ordered troops into the area. While these operations unfolded, Thomas determined to probe Gen. Johnston's army in the hope that Johnston's loss of two divisions, sent to reinforce Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk as he withdrew from Meridian to Demopolis, Alabama, would make him vulnerable. Skirmishing and intense fighting occurred throughout the demonstration. At Crow

Valley on the 25th, Union troops almost turned the Rebel right flank, but ultimately it held. On the 27th, Thomas's army withdrew, realizing that Johnston was ready and able to counter any assault.

**Results:**

Confederate Victory





**MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH WHEELER CAMP #863,  
CONYERS, GA.**

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## The 119th Division Reunion



By: J. H. Underwood, editor

erate Ancestors graves. The proposed By-Law amendments vote went as follows;

2016-001 - Article XIII, Succession and Removal of Officers - Amendment Failed

2016-002 - Article VI, Division Officers Elections - Amendment Passed. (this splits the elections for state wide officers and brigade officers making every year and election year for some offices.)

2016-003 - Article XIII, Succession and Removal of Officers - Amendment Passed. (Clarifies officer removal procedures.)

2016-004 - Article VIII, Division Convention - Amendment Passed. (this amendment names the Division Adjutant responsible for all election procedures and verifications.)

2016-005 - Article III, Division Structure - Amendment Failed. (would have

split Haralson County into 11th and 12th Brigade divided by I-20. Failed because all camps in the two divisions did not agree.)

2016-006 - Article III, Division Structure - Amendment Passed. (this moves Putnam County from the 4th Brigade to the 3rd Brigade. Camps in both brigades agreed to the move.)

A new budget was presented by Adjutant Pilgrim that increased the budget by \$8900 to \$51900 annually. The new budget was approved by the membership.

Thank you Commander Jack Bridwell, his staff and the officers of the Georgia Division for a well organized and orderly Division Reunion. This made our job as Host Camps much easier, especially for those members providing security.

And a special "Thank You" to the members of the Host Camps who were there and worked the Reunion in some capacity. They were: From **The Confederate Memo-**

**rial Camp;** Cmdr. Richard Straut, Div. Lt. Cmdr. North Phil Autrey, Chaplin Ben Kelley and wife Vickie, Compatriots Dale Bartlett, Samuel Alston, David McConnell, John Stevens, Thomas McConnell, John Grafton, Eric Howell, Leroy Mathews and Kevin Mercer and from **Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863;** Cmdr. John Maxey, Past Cmdr. Joe Underwood and wife Pat, 13th Brigade Cmdr. Steve Camp, 1st Lt. Cmdr. Jerry New, 2nd Lt. Cmdr. Mark Camp, Quartermaster Tommy Cook, Chaplin Larry Cornwell, and Compatriots Don Meyer and wife Eleanor, Brent Boling, Gene Wade, Jimmy Chappell, Jack Phelps, Mike Griffin, David Meyer and David Anderson.

Thanks to all the members of both Host Camps for making the 119th Georgia Division Reunion the best and join Commanders Straut and Maxey in hoping the 120th Georgia Division Reunion in Macon will be even better.

