



# The Palmetto Vindicator

The Newsletter of the Palmetto Battalion, Inc.

Volume XV, Issue 3

May 2002

This Edition of the Vindicator is dedicated to the memory of our fallen Comrade  
Captain Adrian "Red" Haddock, 25th NC Infantry

## The Reenactor's Epitaph

John Vaughn, 2nd SC Vol. Infantry

Please do not weep for me; I have not truly left you, even though I have been called home. I have been called home to be with my Lord and my family and to be reunited with those that I have represented for lo these many years. I know that it is hard for you to think that we will never meet again and that I am gone from you forever, but remember that a part of me will remain here for as long as I am remembered, and some day we will be reunited.

When you are standing by the fire in the cold morning air and having that first cup of coffee I will be in the gray smoke rising to greet the dawn.

When you are standing in formation for morning colors, as the flag is raised I will be in the wind that unfurls your colors in all their glory.

When you are on the drill field, practicing your maneuvers, you just might hear an old familiar voice in the ranks "Lean in, look out, dress that line, let's do it right this time boys." You look around, but cannot see where it is coming from.

On the tactical, you just might hear someone behind laughing and urging you on "Come on boys! These briars ain't nothin'! Don't be such a sissy, that creek ain't that cold or that deep!" When you look around and see no one there to match the voice, you'll know.

During the long marches, as you are resting on the roadside, if you look deep back into the woods, you might just see a familiar figure resting, leaning back against an old pine tree. Hat pulled down, a curl of smoke rising from his old pipe, and his brogans off, airing out his tired old feet. You might blink your eyes and he is gone.

In the din of the afternoon battle, I will be in the acrid musket and cannon smoke lying heavy on the field. You might just hear my voice in the echo of the cannon and the volley of the muskets, barking out orders, just like the old days.

That night at the dance, when you are dressed in your finest uniform and the ladies are in their fanciest gowns, I'll be there. As you are dancing the waltz, or polka, or lively stepping out to the Virginia reel, if you take a moment to look back in a dark corner of the hall, you just might see me, leaned back in a chair tapping my feet the time of the music. How I loved the sound of the fiddle and banjo.

Late at night, when all have gone to bed, taps have

sounded, and the only sound heard is the popping of fires and the low conversations of those who just don't want the night to end. A part of me will still be there, sitting in the shadows, watching the fires and my friends who were so much a part of my life. No, I am not completely gone from you, nor will I ever be as long as there are those who sit by the fire late at night and start their quiet conversations with "Hey, do you remember back when...?"

Dedicated to our pard' Adrian "Red" Haddock, may he rest in peace.



## Chaplain's Corner

The second Battle of Manassas was fought from August 23 through September 1. Ministering to the wounded on the field, Chaplain Hopkins was deeply grieved when he came upon his good friend, Colonel Lawson Botts, mortally wounded. Hopkins and the other chaplains of the brigade spent all that first night with the wounded. The following evening, toward sunset, Colonel W.H.S. Baylor, now brigade commander, asked chaplains to conduct services of thanksgiving throughout the brigade. When the sun set the following day, Colonel Baylor was dead. Discussing the Colonel's death with General Jackson, Chaplain Hopkins mentioned the interest Colonel Baylor had displayed for the work of the chaplains. Jackson said he hoped that Colonel Baylor died as a Christian; that he needed only Christianity to make him a role model.

Comrades, it still takes the same characteristics to make us a role model. Apostle Paul, writing to the Galatians wrote of nine things we must possess. It is known as the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). When people see us, do they want to be like us or do they say, I hope I never be like that? Be a role model. The Bible plainly says "A tree is known by the fruit it bears."

God Bless you,  
Chaplain Wayne Lewis

# The Resaca Driving Tour

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**Please be respectful of private property.**

**Orientation/STOP #1:** From Interstate 75, take Exit 320 and turn west on GA 136 (LaFayette Road). Immediately pull into the graded area on the north side of the road just beyond the I-75 ramp. This gives you an overview of most of battle area. Looking west (further down GA 136) you see the remnants of the two bald hills that the Old War Time Road bisected on its way from Snake Creek Gap. This was the route taken by McPherson's Army of the Tennessee into Camp Creek Valley on May 9

South of you, across GA 136, lies the Oostanaula River. Looking north, you see the long north/south axis of the battle lines. This is the area that the State of Georgia will use to create a 504-acre State Battlefield Historic Site. Camp Creek runs through the center of this small valley, in the depression 50 yards to your left as you continue to look north. The Old War Time Lafayette Road ran approximately 150 yards in front of you, where the telephone lines are now. The Confederates were entrenched to your right along the high ground in a line that follows the tree line on the west side of Interstate 75 north from the exit (much of this was flattened during construction of I-75) for about 3 miles before curving back east across I-75 and US 41, forming an upside down fish hook. The Federals held the wooded ridgeline to your left running north up the valley. The hamlet of Resaca is due east a half mile on GA 136. On May 14, 1864, Dodge's Federal XVI Corp and Polk's Confederates would have contested the ground you are standing on.

*Turn right onto GA 136 and proceed west .7 mile and turn left onto Hall Road. Follow Hall Road .5 mile past the school on your left and stop just before the intersection with Hall Memorial Road and park on the left in the grassy area of the school property. There is a marker on your left*

**STOP #2:** You are on the Old War Time Road at the point where McPherson's Army of the Tennessee entered Camp Creek Valley from Snake Creek Gap on May 9. Lay's Ferry was 1.5 miles SW of here. On May 13, most of Sherman's army passed this way into the valley

*Turn right onto Hall Memorial, go one block and turn right at the intersection at the Pure gas station back east onto GA 136. Go .45 mile and turn left onto the first paved road to your left. This narrow road is the Old War Time Road into Camp Creek Valley. Go .4 mile to the stop sign. Proceed straight another .25 mile and pull to the side of the road before you get to the blue metal gate. (This is private property; do not leave the road.)*

**STOP #3:** Scott's Brigade (CSA) held this ridgeline and the two bald hills (the hills were reduced in prominence during massive grading for the construction of I-75) along with two 12-pounders of Capt. Alcide Bouanchard's Pointe Coupee' Louisiana Battery. William's and Ward's Brigades drove them from this location to the Confederate main line west of Resaca. The 2nd Missouri and 4th Ohio Batteries then posted on the hills to your left and right

*Carefully turn around and follow the road back .25 mile to*

*the first road to your left. Turn left and proceed .2 mile to Ga 136. Turn left on Ga 136 and go 1.1 miles, across I-75 to the intersection with US 41 in the hamlet of Resaca. As you turn back onto GA 136, look to your left as you go down the hill for a good view of Camp Creek and Camp Creek Valley. In Resaca, turn left on US 41 (the war time Dalton-Resaca Wagon Road) and follow it north 1.6 miles to Confederate Cemetery Road. As you travel north, note the proximity of the railroad tracks on your right. This was the Western & Atlantic Rail Road in 1864. Pull in to the roadside park on the right side at the intersection of US 41 and Confederate Cemetery Road*

**STOP #4:** This roadside park is one of four that were constructed in the 1930's to commemorate the Atlanta Campaign. A Georgia marker commemorates the Battle of the Angle that took place about .6 mile west of this spot

*Turn right on Confederate Cemetery Road and follow it .4 mile to the entrance of the Confederate Cemetery.*

**STOP #5:** Just east of the Confederate Cemetery runs the single track of the Western & Atlantic Rail Road, along the exact road bed it occupied in May, 1864. 600 yards NE of here, Stewart's Brigade launched its attack on the Federal left on May 14. The Confederate Cemetery honors 442 Confederate Soldiers and is the oldest Confederate cemetery in Georgia and second oldest in the United States

*Follow Confederate Cemetery Road back to US 41, turn right and then make an immediate left onto Rooker Road. Follow it .4 mile to the end and the marker on the right side. Rooker Road runs just behind where Hood's lines bent back to the east from the Angle*

**STOP #6:** This is the site of the Battle of the Angle, located on the ridge line just north and west, at the junction of Hardee's and Hood's (CSA) Corps where the Confederate lines bent back east towards the Conasauga River. Some of the bloodiest fighting of the Atlanta Campaign took place here as Cox's and Judah's Divisions of the Federal XXIII Corps attacked the Kentucky Orphan Brigade and Walthall's Mississippians on May 14. They were entrenched on the hill and ridge just south of this spot, and were pushed through this area. Cox gained valuable ground to the edge of the Confederate entrenchments at the cost of 562 casualties. Judah's troops shot into the back of another Federal Brigade and he was relieved from command three days later. A massive artillery duel obliterated Hotchkiss' Confederate Battery

*Carefully turn around and follow Rooker Road back to US 41. Turn left and go .4 mile to Chitwood Road. Turn right on Chitwood Road and immediately park on the right. There are two markers across the road*

**STOP #7:** At this location, Hood's lines crossed the Dalton-Resaca Wagon Road (US 41). Major General Carter L. Stevenson's Division comprised of soldiers from Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Virginia and North Carolina was astride the road and Stewart's Division occupied the ground east to

## Resaca Driving Tour

(continued from page 2)

the W&A Rail Road. Major General Thomas C. Hindman's Mississippi, Alabama and South Carolina regiments were west of the road. The woods on the north side of the road are indicative of the terrain in this area in May 1864, which caused Stewart's troops to become entangled in the woods and of no assistance to Stevenson in their attack on Stanley on the Federal left late in the day on the 14th. Stevenson's Division were about to seize victory and over run the 5th Indiana Battery when Robinson's Brigade of William's Division of the XX Corps arrived to save the 5th Indiana Battery and drive the Confederates back through these woods

*Proceed straight ahead, east, on Chitwood Road .3 mile to the marker on the left*

**STOP #8:** Following along behind Hood's lines which ran along the top of the ridge line north of you, up the hill, from left to right. About 100 yards north and slightly to the left was the location of Van Den Corput's Cherokee Georgia Battery, whose guns were dug out and dragged from the lunette on the night of May 15. Note: The drive way next to this marker is private property, please do not walk or drive up this driveway

*Continue to drive east on Chitwood Road another .4 mile to the marker on the left. The property you are driving through is the location of the annual reenactment of the Battle of Resaca held each May. The reenactment is open to the public*

**STOP #9:** From this area, Major General Alexander P. Stewart launched his attacks against the Federal left on May 14 and again on May 15

Stewart's Division was comprised of regiments from Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana. Stewart's troops could not cover the ground through thick woods and dense underbrush and were unable to support Stevenson's Division on their left, which moved northeast about .7 mile to just in front of the 5th Indiana Battery before being routed by the arrival of Robinson's Brigade of the XX Corps. Their line of march swung northeast, then north, then back to the northwest in an effort to flank the Federal left. Stevenson repeated his attack on the afternoon of May 15 with the same result

*Turn around and follow Chitwood Road back to US 41. Turn right and go 4 mile to a marker on the left, just past the county line sign*

*Carefully pull off the road on the left side at the marker*

**STOP #10:** The IV Army Corps of Major General O. O. Howard had moved down the Dalton-Resaca Wagon Road, following the Confederate retreat from Rocky Face Ridge. When Hood's Corps entrenched .5 mile south across the wagon road, Stanley's Division of the IV Corps entrenched across the road at this location. On May 14, this was the far left of the Federal line until late in the afternoon when Sherman moved Major General Joseph Hooker's XX Corps to the left of Stanley to cover the ground between the road and the Conasauga River, about two miles to the left. This was the focal point of Stevenson's and Stewart's rebel attack on the afternoon of the 14th

*Carefully cross US 41 to the right lane and continue north .4 mile to Bethlehem Baptist Church on the right at the intersection with Nance Springs Road. Pull into the church parking lot and park. Carefully walk across Nance Springs Road towards US 41 to the marker located in the narrow strip of grass between Nance Springs Road and US 41. Be very careful as vehicles drive very fast in this area*

**STOP #11:** This is the area originally occupied by the Federal XXIII Army Corps under Major General John Schofield when they were shifted left on May 15. They then proceeded further left until they covered the area between the W&A RR tracks and the Conasauga River. The 5th Indiana Battery, the focal point of Stevenson's rout on May 14 was located less than 100 yards west of this intersection along the ridge line above the creek. This ground was the scene of heavy fighting as Stevenson advanced almost to the battery before being driven off by Robinson's Brigade of the XX Corps arriving on the scene at a desperate moment

*Exit the church parking lot and turn left on Nance Springs Road. Go .3 mile to where Nance Springs Road begins a sweeping turn to the left*

*Before entering this turn, pull off in the gravel area on the right and drive 50 yards down the gravel path to Nance Springs. There is a marker on the left near the wooden bridge*

**STOP #12:** This is Nance Springs, a natural water source that is as active today as it was in May 1864. You are directly north of Stop 9 where Stewart launched his attack in support of Stevenson on May 14

Stewart's troops became entangled in the woods and hills behind the springs and were no factor in the attack of the 14th. When the XXIII Corps was shifted left on May 15, Stewart again attacked across this ground to be met by Hovey's Division of the XXIII Corps and William's Division of the XX Corps. Badly outnumbered and scattered through the woods, Stewart was defeated. Further east of this location, across the railroad tracks, Major General Joseph Wheeler's Confederate Cavalry guarded Johnston's extreme right. He was opposed by Stoneman's Cavalry Division of the Federal Army of the Ohio (XXIII Corps)

*Turn around and go up the rise to Nance Springs Road. Turn right and go 2 mile and turn right onto Gracie Road. Stop on the right and a marker is found on the left*

**STOP #13:** This is the site of a wood station on the Western & Atlantic Rail Road that played two roles in the Civil War. In April 1863, Andrew's Union Raiders stopped here for fuel after stealing the Confederate locomotive "The General" at Kennesaw. This was memorialized in the movie "The Great Locomotive Chase." On May 9, 1864, 18 troopers from the 9th Illinois Cavalry arrived here from Snake Creek Gap at the direction of Major General James McPherson. They were to scout a route to the railroad so that McPherson could destroy it and get behind the Confederate Army. Arriving here, they burned the station and cut the telegraph wire before returning to McPherson at the edge of Camp Creek Valley. Drive down Gracie Road for a few hundred yards. Stop and look at the woods on both sides. This is also indicative of the terrain during May 1864

*Turn around carefully (you are surrounded by private*

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## Resaca Driving Tour

(continued from page 3)

property) and return to Nance Springs Road. Turn left on Nance Springs Road and go to US 41. Turn left on US 41 and travel 2.8 miles to the hamlet of Resaca

Just before reaching GA 136, turn left into the parking lot to the left of the fire station. There is a marker in front of you

**STOP #14:** This is the center of the hamlet of Resaca, the same location as were the few houses and buildings on both sides of the wagon road and just north of the Oostanaula River in the spring of 1864. On the 15th, Polk's untried troops were pushed to within a few hundred yards of this location, just west astride GA 136. The railroad bridge across the river, which was a covered bridge in 1864, was just east and about 300 yards south, at the site of the current railroad bridge that can be viewed from the US 41 highway bridge. Johnston's engineers had laid a pontoon bridge across the river in this vicinity. Late on the night of the 15th, Johnston's army quietly stole across the bridge, undetected by the Federals. The next day, Union troops found the Confederate works abandoned and the rebel army gone.

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## From the Editor

Schedule Correction: Secessionville is 15-17 November. The date listed previously in the Vindicator was incorrect.

In the article on first person last issue, the battle timeline got somewhat confused. Obviously, Sharpsburg would NOT be a good place to have a first person discussion of the battles of Fredericksburg or Chancellorsville.

While on the subject of Sharpsburg, a correction is due the PLHA sponsored Sharpsburg March as well. The March will end at the original battlefield, NOT the event site. Marcher's will be shuttled to the event site or returned to their vehicles as needed.

I am still looking for new contributors with articles on improving any of the three aspects of the impression. Man, Method, Material. Please be sure to include references or footnotes regarding the sources of information.

Your Obedient Serv't,  
Daniel Fodera  
Pvt, 14th SCVI



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## From the Relic Room:

John Bigham, Curator of Education  
(803) 737-8097  
jbigham@crr.state.sc.us

**T**hree regimental battle flags, out of four South Carolina Army of Tennessee infantry regiments at Resaca, remain at the Confederate Relic Room.

The battle flag of the 10<sup>th</sup> SCV Infantry [Manigault] was issued according to an order by Gen. Johnston to standardize AoT flags in early 1864. This is the reverse of the flag. Many of the regiments did not take to this design and continued to use earlier colors. The 10<sup>th</sup> and her sister regiment the 19<sup>th</sup> were both issued flags of this style. It may well have been the first battle flag design that they carried since they had been ordered West in April 1862 thus missing the late 62-early 63 Charleston Depot issues. At the NC surrender, the 19<sup>th</sup> flag was given up and the 10<sup>th</sup> flag concealed, in 1925 to be donated to the museum. Whereabouts of the 19<sup>th</sup> flag are today unknown. A Charleston Depot design battle flag of the 19<sup>th</sup>, similar to the 16/24 flags, is occasionally offered for sale, however, it has been judged a fake due to the use of blue stenciled letters instead of black lettering. Also in question is whether the unit even received a Charleston flag since they were in the West early on. Flag students call this an Atlanta Depot issue, but this design has recently been positively identified as made and shipped from the Augusta Clothing Depot.

Battle flags of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Regiments [Gist] are

Charleston Depot issues in April 1863 prior to their departure West in May 1863. Gen. Beauregard, upon his return to Charleston, ordered this design. The museum has five of this style – two without designation, three with. While the regts would have been offered or issued Johnston AoT 1864 flags, these two, with blue sleeves indicating infantry, are believed to have served for the war. Unit designations are attached on cotton cloth and black-stenciled lettering. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, the appearance of battle damage is actually the result of the men cutting up the flag for souvenirs at the NC surrender. In the lower section, "So. Ca." has been removed. Damage on the 16<sup>th</sup> is more significant indicating much wear. Both flags saw battle with the AoT right through Franklin and Nashville, and each flag remained in friendly hands until reaching their final destination at the Relic Room. Contrary to "The Returned Battle Flags" as published in 1905, the 16<sup>th</sup> SCV Infantry battle flag was not captured in Virginia. The 16<sup>th</sup> regiment was never in Virginia. This is a subject that goes around and comes around with each new flag student. *The 16<sup>th</sup> battle flag was never captured nor surrendered.*

The 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> flags have been conserved in the past four years. The 24<sup>th</sup> flag was framed in the 1990's. All are in excellent condition and await your inspection at the Confederate Relic Room.

Thanks for all that you do,  
John

# School of the Soldier

From Rifle and Infantry Tactics, Revised and Improved, 1861  
Brig Gen W.J. Hardee, CS Army

The genius of General Hardee is how he organized the school of the soldier. By learning each position in the order presented you can quickly master later lessons. To illustrate, below are the lessons needed to properly execute the command "Inspection arms." This is something we do at every event. Are we doing it by the book? Pay close attention to the hand and finger positions. The General was very specific. For a complete version of "Confederate Hardee's," go to "The Drill Network" <http://home.att.net/~Cap1MD/Drill.htm>

## Principles of Shoulder Arms

120. The recruit being placed as explained in the first lesson of the first part, the Instructor will cause him to bend the right arm slightly, and place the piece in it, in the following manner:  
121. The piece in the right hand-the barrel nearly vertical and resting in the hollow of the shoulder-the guard to the front, the arm hanging nearly at its full length near the body; the thumb, and fore-finger embracing the guard, the remaining fingers closed together, and grasping the swell of the stock just under the cock, which rests on the little finger....

### Present- ARMS

*One time and two motions.*

143. (*First motion.*) With the right hand bring the piece erect before the center of the body, the rammer to the front; at the same time seize the piece with the left hand half-way between the guide sight and lower band, the thumb extended along the barrel and against the stock, the forearm horizontal and resting against the body, the hand as high as the elbow.

144. (*Second motion.*) Grasp the small of the stock with the right hand below and against the guard.

### Shoulder- ARMS.

*One time and two motions.*

145. (*First motion.*) Bring the piece to the right shoulder, at the same time change the position of the right hand so as to embrace the guard with the thumb and fore-finger, slip up the left hand to the height of the shoulder, the fingers extended and joined, the right arm nearly straight.

146. (*Second motion.*) Drop the left hand quickly by the side.

### Order- ARMS.

*One time and two motions.*

147. (*First motion.*) Seize the piece briskly with the left hand near the upper band, and detach it slightly from the shoulder with the right hand; loosen the grasp of the right hand, lower the piece with the left, re-seize the piece with the right hand above the lower band, the little finger in rear of the barrel, the butt about four inches from the ground, the right hand supported against the hip, drop the left hand by the side.

148. (*Second motion.*) Let the piece slip through the right hand to the ground by opening slightly the fingers, and take the position about to be described.

### Position of order arms.

149. The hand low, the barrel between the thumb and fore-finger extended along the stock; the other fingers extended and joined; the muzzle about two inches from the right shoulder; the rammer in front; the toe (or beak) of the butt, against, and in a line with, the toe of the right foot, the barrel perpendicular....

*Load in nine times.*

### 1. LOAD.\*

156. (*First motion.*) Same as the first position of present arms No. 143

(*Second motion.*) Carry the piece to the left side with the left hand-but upon the ground-barrel to the front-piece inclined to the right and front resting upon the left thigh, muzzle six inches in front of the center of the body-right hand grasping the piece just below the upper band, and left hand extended upon the piece.

(*Third motion.*) Seize the piece with the left hand at the muzzle and carry the right hand to the cartridge box....

### Fix- BAYONET.

*One time and four motions.*

188. (*First, second, and third motions.*) Same as in first, second, and third motions in the first time of loading, except in the third motion; the right hand is carried to the bayonet, grasping it, with the little finger up.

189. (*Fourth motion.*) Draw the bayonet from the scabbard, fix it, seize the piece with the right hand at the muzzle, the left hand resting on the barrel, arm extended.

### Shoulder- ARMS.

*One time and two motions.*

190. (*First motion.*) Raise the piece with the left hand and place it against the right shoulder, the rammer to the front; seize the piece at the same time with the right hand at the swell of the stock, the thumb and fore-finger embracing the guard, the right arm nearly extended.

191. (*Second motion.*) Drop briskly the left hand by the side.

192. The recruits being at ordered arms, if the instructor should wish to fix bayonets, he will give the command:

### Fix Bayonets,

when the pieces will be brought to the left side at one motion, and held as prescribed in No. 188. At the second motion the bayonets will be fixed as in No. 189; immediately resume the position of *ordered arms*...

226. The recruits being at ordered arms, with the bayonet in the scabbard, if the instructor wishes to cause an inspection of arms he will command:

### Inspection-ARMS.

*One time and four motions.*

(*First and second motions.*) Same as in *fix bayonet*, No. 192, except that the left hand remains at the muzzle, and the rammer head is seized between the thumb and forefinger, as in *draw rammer*.

227. (*Third motion.*) Spring rammer as prescribed in *loading*; lower the left hand along the piece to full extent of arm, grasping the piece at the muzzle band with the right hand.

228. (*Fourth motion.*) Bring the piece to position of *order arms*.

229. The instructor will then inspect in succession the piece of each recruit, in passing along the front of the rank. Each, as the instructor reaches him, will raise smartly his piece with his right hand, seize it with the left between the lower band and guide-sight, the lock to the front, the left hand at the height of the chin, the piece opposite to the left eye; the instructor will take it with the right hand at the handle, and, after inspecting it, will return it to the recruit, who will receive it back with the right hand, and replace it in the position of *ordered arms*.

230. When the instructor shall have passed him, each recruit will retake the position proscribed at the command *inspection arms*, return the rammer, and resume the position of *ordered arms*."

## Field Orders

*“Duty is, then, the sublimest word in our language. Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.”*

Anyone who has been to many Confederate Memorial Day Services or has read a few books has doubtless, more than once, seen or heard these words attributed to General Robert E. Lee. He almost certainly never penned them, though. The quote comes from a letter that General Lee supposedly wrote to his eldest son, Custis, from Arlington on 5 April 1852. Lee was elsewhere on military duty at that time and apparently quite a bit more evidence exists that the letter is a forgery, most likely penned by a New England soldier who was stationed at Arlington during the War, who happened upon some of the General's real letters. In his four-volume biography of Robert E. Lee, Douglas Southall Freeman addresses the authenticity of this letter in Vol. 1, page 316, footnote 47. Northern apologists sometimes dismiss Freeman's biography, which was first published in 1934, as too laudatory, but it is still the most thoroughly researched and complete biography of General Lee that is available. The letter was basically proven a forgery back in 1914, but that research is largely skipped over and the quote remains probably the most famous thing that General Robert E. Lee never said.

Does the fact that the famous “duty quote” is almost without any doubt a forgery alter in the very least the great esteem that we have for General Lee? Certainly it does not! He didn't need to say these words; the way that he lived his life said the same thing as those words say, but much more eloquently, much more profoundly, much more indisputably than any letter that he could ever write might express or assert. A couple of old expressions come to mind: “talk is cheap” and “actions speak louder than words.” Had Lee actually wrote those words and not lived them, would we think of him with the dignity and great respect that we do today? I think not. But, the fact is that while Lee didn't write those words so often incorrectly quoted, he did indeed live his life doing his duty in all things.

The Battle of Aversboro, the most important event for the Palmetto

Battalion to support in this spring re-enacting season has come and gone. It was a first year effort for the real battlefield with Palmetto Battalion given the honor to supply all of the Confederate troops. Many who wished to attend were turned down on account of this fact. The event was discussed and voted on by the unit representatives last fall and we agreed to go as a battalion. On the Friday evening of the Aversboro event, the battalion staff and I went to see General Stepp to tell him, hat in hand, that our turnout was not looking good. By that time, the North Carolinians, who were there to play Federal just for us, had 130 muskets. When we marched out of camp on Saturday morning, the Palmetto Battalion had, after converting the sergeant major and adjutant into musket toting infantry privates and having the lieutenant colonel fill in on an artillery piece, a grand total of 20 men. I was leading barely a platoon-sized organization in a colonel's uniform. To say that this felt depressing, disheartening and embarrassing is to say that the Atlantic Ocean has some water in it. I was embarrassed for myself, I was embarrassed for the Palmetto Battalion, but most of all, I was embarrassed for my beloved South Carolina.

Whenever we get the increasingly rare opportunity to do an event on a real battlefield, on that hallowed ground, and there is a cemetery, I'm always hopeful to steal a little time just to stand and look at the gravestones, just look and think. The thing that touches me most at the Aversboro cemetery, like some other battlefield cemeteries, are the unknowns – gravestones that say simply “8 SOUTH CAROLINIANS.” Many of us who have Confederate relatives take a special pleasure and pride in visiting the graves of our ancestors and I'm no exception. Still, I can't help but wonder about that young, unidentified South Carolinian who defended his state with his all in those last trying days of the war, at Aversboro, buried so near the very spot of his last and greatest struggle in this mortal world. Does he even have any descendants? I once made a comment in casual conversation to Mr. J. R. Fisher that I was lucky that one of my

g-g-grandfathers had survived several major battles and two years as a prisoner of war at Ft Delaware, because, since he didn't marry and have children until after the war, I wouldn't have even happened (there are a few readers here who now wish that this was the case) had he perished. I don't think I'll ever forget J.R.'s rejoinder to that comment. This tireless old researcher who has endeavored to get so many Confederate graves properly marked said, in that gravelly voice so familiar to you and me, this: “Well, think of all of the people who *aren't* here today because some young fellow went off to war and *didn't* survive.” I don't know if J.R. even remembers saying that to me, but it's something that's stuck with me ever since and affects me to my very soul every time I see that gravestone marked with something like “UNKNOWN” or “8 SOUTH CAROLINIANS.” Whose bones lie just under that ground? Does he have some great great grandson who wonders where he was buried? Odds are better that he doesn't. Is his name even recorded on any extant Confederate record? Very possibly not. Will the story of this valiant South Carolinian's final, fatal struggle in a long war that was almost over be told with as much accuracy and truth as possible? ...Who cares?! ...Who cares?! Certainly the Aversboro Battlefield Commission does. Though a great deal of the Aversboro battlefield is private property, most of the landowners are sympathetic to the cause and cooperative, but there was a portion of the battlefield that we had to consider off limits due to a hostile land owner. When Captain Private Buck Carpenter, in the heat of battle, led a few men over a little portion of his property, I had some mixed feelings: there could be some fallout over going there, but it felt kind of good to snub this person who wanted to desecrate the hallowed ground of this battlefield, to truly worship at the feet of mammon by building a subdivision right in the middle of the site of this great struggle. The Aversboro Battlefield Commission was able to get the area rezoned and prevent such, so, being that his monetary gain was impeded, that landowner hates the Aversboro Battlefield Commission. The

## Field Orders

Commission has many different individuals with many different talents and some of them are studying bullet and shell impacts to tell who was where and documenting such, some are legalistic, some are fund raising; there are so many other things that I've borne witness to, efforts to preserve and better understand the true history. But who cares? ...Who cares? I do! You do! The Palmetto Battalion does! I hope I've illustrated how our actions have seemed otherwise, though. We said we'd support Averagesboro last fall when the unit representatives agreed to attend the event as a battalion. Remember what I said of General Lee. Words have been put into his mouth. But, these words are merely reflections, pale reflections of genuine truth, of a noble life, of the way he lived his life, and his *actions* - oh how they spoke so much louder and truer than words ever could. General Lee's actions have spoken to us deeply. What have *our* actions said? I've been approached by a number of folks who've said how much they'd have loved to be at Averagesboro and who have very legitimate reasons for not being there and I point the finger at no one, but surely we, a battalion of more than 450, could have had more than 27 at our highest point (that was only for the afternoon battle on Saturday) of attendance. The North Carolinians have come to so many of our events in large numbers and have even done Federal at so many of our events. We have hosted successful events that would have been failures but for their support. We, the Palmetto Battalion, we South Carolina, could have done much better, could have easily done much better for these Tar Heels who keep telling me that Averagesboro was really a *South* Carolina battle and we could have certainly done so much better for those South Carolina soldiers who rest with no name on their marker in that mass grave.

Selma is just now in the past. This was another event that we had agreed to go to as a battalion. Again, we were a platoon-sized organization. At least we didn't have the responsibility to supply all of the troops for one side and we were all able to fall in as privates. I enjoyed this role and long to do it on a full time basis. Unlike Averagesboro, there were some in state conflicts with Selma. We knew that the Butler Guards couldn't be in attendance, because, as they stated at the planning meeting last fall,

beforehand, that was the weekend for their own event at Fairview Church, an event that also appeared on our schedule.

Another conflict with Selma was the re-interment of Captain William Farley. The Palmetto Battalion was not invited to this event, though several of our units were. I didn't try and pressure anyone that I found was going to the re-interment to go to Selma, even after learning that this would cost me at least a whole company that was originally going to Selma in strength. The re-interment was indeed important and I've received several reports that it went well and that pleases me. It has been suggested that possibly the Laurens SCV Camp who sponsored and organized the Farley re-interment may have intentionally scheduled the event in conflict with important events on our schedule and didn't invite the Palmetto Battalion as a whole or some units just because of the fact that some of their members are re-enactors who are former battalion members, artilleryists, who after it was decided to limit artillery numbers at Aiken this year, did not get to participate in that event. I don't really think that this is the case. A re-burial service really does need to have precision-fired volleys and this is so much easier with a more manageable number of troops. Reports that I have received indicate that this was successful. I assume nothing but honorable intentions on the part of the Laurens SCV Camp in the endeavor and ask that you do the same. I would have dearly loved to be at the re-interment, either in uniform or in a suit and tie. Yes, there was an old friend, a long time member of the battalion, who admonished me to call every member of the battalion and ask them to go to the re-interment and it seems he's rather angry with me for not doing so, but we weren't invited as a battalion and had made a commitment to attend Selma. I'm confident that I did the right thing.

Both Generals Stepp and Rambo were very gracious and kind to us regarding anything that they said and wrote regarding Averagesboro and Selma. When you've had a leadership position for the many years that those two have, these types of disappointments can be understood. I don't consider the commitment that we made to be just to general officers, though, but to the private from North Carolina who has

come to our events so many times and to the private from Alabama who came to support us at Aiken two years in a row, this year as Federal even, and they don't take any more pleasure in that than we do. I place the blame for letting them down where it belongs, squarely on my own shoulders. I know that the Palmetto Battalion is filled with good people and that if I could have better communicated the importance of answering these commitments or not urged that they be made in the first place, we'd be better off. I do the best I know how to and recognize that while I have certain talents and skills, I am weak, woefully inadequate, in other areas. Come September, we need consider carefully whom we elect as our next colonel.

To the Palmetto Platoon, those who attended and I dare say very much enjoyed, Averagesboro or Selma or both, I am so very grateful. If I may quote General Rambo quoting General J.E.B. Stuart, "Long may you wave!" As for the rest of you, well, truth be known, I still love you, just as much as ever.

By the time you receive this, the only event remaining on the spring schedule will be Resaca. It's not very far away, fairly large event, nice memorial service in the cemetery if you chose to do that, we're doing Confederate, \$10 registration fee. I'm not going to beg any more, it seems to do little good. I'll toss the coat with the stars along with the sword in the back of the truck, just in case we have a battalion there, but I expect to tote a musket as a private in a small company of South Carolinians that falls in with the Southern Cross Battalion of Alabama, which suits me just fine.

My Very Best Regards,  
Your Humble and Obedient Servant,

*Alan*

A.J.



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## From the Desk of the Lieut. Colonel

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**W**e all work to portray the 1860s, but I'm sure there are a few of us that remember the 1960s first hand. There was a phrase that was popular then: "What if they had a war and nobody came?" Somehow I felt a bit like that at Selma and at Averagesboro. But to sound a positive note, to the twenty or so who went to Averagesboro, and the dozen who drove to Selma, my sincere thanks. And now for a few assorted ramblings!

Our next event is Resaca. This is a good event in as much as we get to be Confederate, and get to fight on an original battlefield. But it has always amazed me how year after year, six hundred odd Confederates, firmly entrenched in a double row of well-built earthworks, can be routed by a hundred Yankees charging a half mile up the hill over open ground. But it never fails! The solution of course, is galvanization. This is something that the battalion has successfully dealt with, even though it was a tough pill for some to swallow. But the result is that we can now better honor those we remember by showing how things really were. Score one for the Palmetto Battalion.

Let's leave Resaca for a moment, and go back to Selma. Those who attended can tell you that immediately adjacent to our camp were a group of some half dozen reenactors who looked terrific. Their uniforms were first rate, they had great gear, they were sleeping around the fire with no canvas at all, all in all a near perfect picture. But (there is always a "but"), they had three tents right next door in which their ladies were camping (this was billed as a "men only" camp) and they sat in camp all morning on Saturday (drill time) explaining to each other in loud voices how "drill was a total waste of time" and how they never participated in it. The Palmetto Battalion, as you all know, takes our drill seriously, and I'm happy to report that in my opinion, we are one of the best-drilled units to take the field in the Southeast. This was apparent at Selma, for example, when our company was compared to some of the other companies with which we fought. Score another for the

Palmetto Battalion.

Travel ahead to next fall now if you will, to the Sharpsburg event. The last Sharpsburg is generally remembered as a good event. But as most of the big eastern events, it had far too much canvas, dozens of totally bogus impressions, and a carnival-like atmosphere in the civilian camp/sutler row. How then did we have such a good time? Part of it is because we brought our own fun. The march in for example, is something we did for ourselves, and something we will do again this year. (And I highly encourage everyone to make an effort to participate in this.) In short, it's a matter of attitude. If we find ourselves at an event with various sub-optimal properties, we are capable of making our own fun. Another score for the battalion.

I have mentioned several areas in which the battalion excels, and there are many others (the way we have worked to upgrade our uniform standards for example). Where then do we fall short? Based on what I have seen this spring, I have to admit that we have not done well at fulfilling our commitments to support out-of-state events. I don't remember a single unit rep voting against Averagesboro, or voting against Selma. And what about Perryville next fall? How many of us are planning to attend? Yet here is another rare opportunity to fight on an original battlefield, and to work for historic preservation. Will you be there? We are not a battalion without *all* of us working together. Every man counts, and every absence is felt keenly by all the rest of us. It's not always easy, but neither was it easy for those men whom we portray. We need to do it for them, and we need to do it for each other. *We* are the Palmetto Battalion. Each and every one of us. Let's make ourselves proud.

*Bruce*

Bruce Hoover  
Lieutenant Colonel

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## Heavy Guns for Charleston (Part II)

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South Carolina Department of Archives  
Patrick McCawley, Reference Archivist  
Patrick@scdah.sc.state.us

South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History  
8301 Parklane Road  
Columbia, SC 29233

**T**he events in Charleston during the last two weeks of 1860 created considerable excitement within the state and the country. Edward Manigault's work on the siege guns left from the crisis in 1850 & 1851 led to his appointment as Colonel of Ordnance to supervise the work of the newly created state Ordnance Bureau. This position gave him a bird's eye view of the initial events of the coming war:

"On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Decr. 1860, the Board of Ordnance had its first formal meeting. On the night of the 26<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. troops evacuated Fort Moultrie and retired into Fort Sumter. On the evening of the 27<sup>th</sup>, the South Carolina troops took possession of Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney. On the 28<sup>th</sup>, the writer (Manigault) was ordered by Gov. Pickens to Fort Moultrie to superintend the unspiking of the Guns. On his arrival at that fort, he found Lieut. Henerey and others of the Washington Artillery, busily and energetically engaged, under Col.

DeSaussure's orders, in withdrawing, or drilling out, the spikes; and before dark, more than one half the Guns were unspiked.

The destruction by fire of nine Gun Carriages, and the partial destruction of the tenth, made it necessary to take immediate steps for rebuilding the same. The Iron Work, though bent out of shape, by the weight and fall of the Guns, after the Woodwork had been consumed, was otherwise uninjured, and it was collected to be used again. Mr. David Lopez was employed to rebuild these carriages, and orders given from the Ordnance Office, authorizing him to put in requisition the services of any or all the Machine Shops, and similar establishments in this City. Mr. Lopez went to work with great energy, and in ten days after the work was really commenced, the Guns were again mounted and ready for service.

# Resources

**A** good hat and a good coat are the most visible, hence the most important, part of your material impression. Ben Tart is still running the "Palmetto Battalion Special" for us. In case you're new to the Battalion and haven't heard: Ben Tart's patterns and fabrics are top of the line, based on solid textile research and hands on examination of original artifacts. The details of the special are:

Richmond Depot pattern jacket, in your choice of two fabrics, either #3F "Smoke" (This fabric is woven with wool from gray colored sheep) or #1F "Charcoal," both fabrics are wool jean on a natural cotton warp. The jacket is lined in cotton fabric with two interior pockets, and nine hand worked buttonholes. It is machine top-stitched.

The price is \$125 + \$5 shipping. He accepts money orders, cashier's checks and personal checks. You can get an order form at his web site [www.bentart.com](http://www.bentart.com) or write out your order, including your modern coat size, height, weight, and a daytime phone number. Send to: T, B&B, PO Box 28, Spring Hope, NC 27882. Be sure to ask for the Palmetto Battalion Special (item #PBS).

A soldier's life was regulated by the bugle calls. Soldiers in camp and on the battlefield knew the calls, what they meant, and how to respond. Thanks to Mr. R.J. Samp, learning the bugle calls is a low cost way to improve your impression. The following products are available:

ACW Bugler Series I (yellow): Cavalry Bugle Signals for NON-Buglers - JR Poinsett's 1841 and Phillip St. George Cooke's 1862 Cavalry Bugle Signals. Tape has voice, ditties, repetition of the MUST KNOW calls. Trumpeters: Tom Tallman, RJ Samp (who does voice and singing on the tape, ouch). Manual Written by Richard Lynch. Tape \$4, Manual now \$6, Review CD \$10

ACW Bugler Series II (blue): Infantry Bugle Signals for NON-Buglers - Hardee's 1855, Scott's 1861, and Casey's 1862 Infantry Bugle Signals. Tape has Repetition, Ditties, and how to use the calls. Blue Tape features must know calls, day in camp, formation sequences. Green Tape is Skirmish and Maneuver by the bugle. George Rabbi, Clairon. RJ Samp, Bugle voice and ditties on the tapes only. Manual includes Forward! and Bugle Call Notes written by Dom DalBello, Bugle Calls - A Day in Camp written by Robert Braun. Taps Musicology by RJ Samp (where did the call come from musically). Review CD is George Rabbai playing ALL the calls. Repetition. NO VOICE on CD. 2 Tapes \$4 Each, Manual now \$7, Review CD \$10.

1826 Holbrook's Militia Manual - (reprinted as Cooper's in 1830, and 1861 by the Army). The bugle signals for States Militia Units. Some of these calls become the Cavalry Calls in JR Poinsett's 1841 Manual. Used during the Seminole Wars, Black Hawk War. Includes the ADVANCE as used by Jackson's Corps to initiate the Flank Attack at Chancellorsville, May 1863. RJ Samp, bugler NO VOICE on the CD. \$10 CD with handout.

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS: POSTAGE is about \$1.50 per order, \$3+ for bigger orders, includes the expensive padded envelope to keep the plastic cassette and CD cases intact. Priority Mail is \$3.95 these days. Email (fax, mail) exactly what you want, and include your shipping address. Send the check (with postage) in the mail to RJ Samp, 100 W Roosevelt Road, Bldg A2, Suite 201, Wheaton, IL 60187  
 Email: [rjsamp@ameritech.net](mailto:rjsamp@ameritech.net)  
 Phones: (630) 462-7681  
 FAX (630) 462-7843  
<http://www.acwbugler.org/>  
<http://www.rjsamp.com>  
<http://ftp.rjsamp.com/rjsamp/bugling> (lot's of images, files to

## 2002 Battalion Events Calendar

- May 17-19 Resaca, GA (BA)
- Jun 15 Ft. Lamar LH, James Island
- Jun 28-30 140<sup>th</sup> Seven Days, VA -Info
- Aug 10-11 Rose Hill Camp of Instruction
- Sep 13-15 140<sup>th</sup> Sharpsburg (BA Max Effort)
- Sep 29 Battalion Elections, Columbia
- Oct 4-6 Perryville, KY (BA MAX Effort)
- Oct 11-12 Ghost Walk, Charleston -Info
- Oct 18-20 Battle for the Lowcountry\* (BA)
- Oct 25-27 Brattonsville LH, York (BA)
- Nov 2-3 Saluda LH
- Nov 15-17 Secessionville (BA)
- Dec 6-8 Gramling Mills LH

**For Sale.** Price Reduced! One metal #2 cannon carriage. Perfect for outdoor display. Carriage will fit 12lb. Napoleon tube and 24lb. Field Howitzer. Carriage has undergone extensive restoration. Photographs are available upon request. Price is \$4,500. Proceeds from sale will assist in putting an original Confederate gun back on the field. If interested, contact Scott Coleman at: [chestercannon@hotmail.com](mailto:chestercannon@hotmail.com) or write and send a self addressed, stamped envelope for photos to: Chester County Historical Society, P.O. Box 811, Chester SC 29706. Call (803) 385-3401 after 7:00pm EST.

**Battalion Dues for 2003  
are Due July 1, 2002.**

download there, have at it!)

# The Apple Crate Table

Fellers,

Over the last couple issues of "The Vindicator" we've discussed camp life and touched very briefly on some of the roles and responsibilities of NCOs. Well folks, I'm here to tell you that if we ain't there it don't much matter. I say that in respect to the Battalion turnout at the two out of state events so far this year. I know, I know, everyone can't make every out-of-state event. Many of us can't make all the in-state events. Understood. I for one have an abundance of paid vacation days per year. Everyone doesn't have that luxury. Again, understood. The peculiar situation we would find ourselves in with these last two out-of-staters is this:

(1) Avera'sboro. That was an opportunity to participate on actual ground, with proceeds going towards preservation. The 20 some odd of the Battalion that did go had a wonderful time. Repeat, a wonderful time. The folks there treated us like kings, very attentive to any of our needs. Together with the scenarios, and lots and lots of action, most of us burnt maybe 80-100 rounds before noon on Saturday. And it kept going!!! This was across the field from our comrades in the Carolina Legion, who wore the blue that weekend. Those boys have supported us time and time again. I for one felt that we let them down. Big time. Not only did we let them down, we let our own ancestral blood kin down that weekend. We portrayed Rhett's boys. At least the 20 some odd that came did.



(2) Selma...All 11, yes folks, count 'em, 11 of the Battalion that went to Selma, as the Palmetto Battalion for a Max Effort event. Having said that, I can tell you that those folks know how to make a scenario look good. Buildings burning as we filed through in line of battle. Actual trees being hit by solid shot and toppling over. A Grand Ball on Saturday evening. Our camp on the banks of the river, complete with a sandy beach from the wood line down to the water line. I know. I slept there Friday evening 'til I was picked up and taken to the Colonel's tent. Enough of that. This was an opportunity for us to repay in a small way, the good boys from Alabama who have supported us at Aiken (in numbers greater than 11, I can tell you that much) for the last 2 years. All of that said fellers; this rambling ain't about numbers or really about quantity. It's about showing gratitude, about gentleman's honor, simply attempting in some way to repay someone for things they've done in the past to help us out.

I can only hope, that we have treated them as well when

they were here helping us, as we were treated by them when we went back to repay a large debt. Fellers, I really hope that they don't keep score or keep count. If so, we fall very, very short. If it's a matter of going out of state to do blue, those of you that went to Manassas this past August. Have any of you forgotten how much fun we had up there? All 30 some odd of us? "The Great Crawdad Round-up"? We can't always expect the event to provide the fun. Let's bring the fun to the event. All of us at times in our lives have had to make lemonade out of the lemons that life throws at us. If we go as blue, lets go have some fun being blue!!!

I just got back in this afternoon from Memorial Services in Columbia. And it's odd, that after you read the scathing lines from me above, that I can say that today we again saw the best and the heart of the Battalion. It was very cold and as wet as I've been in several years. Those 100 men or so (and ladies) that endured the elements can attest to the fact that we stood exposed for 3 hours more or less, during which time maybe close to an inch of rain fell. I may be a poor judge. It might have been more than that. My hat is off to all of you that smiled, whooped and hollered while obviously miserable.

The weather should be better in Charleston next Saturday, maybe. Regardless, we'll be there. It's our duty and an honor. Resaca - come on out fellers. Last one for several months. Last chance. Not to mention on actual ground. Again. Let's all work together with the attendance thing. We've said it before, we all swim together, or we all sink together. We look as good or better on the field as any group of re-enactors anywhere. We just need to be on the field!!!! Most of you know me pretty well. This is about as close as I'd ever get to giving a rump chewing. I'd like to think I could get it across and make you feel good about getting it.

I remain,  
Your Most Humble And Obedient Servant,  
*Wm. R. (Rick) Davis*  
Sergeant Major, Palmetto Battalion



## “ATTENTION - Battalion”

from the Adjutant's Pen

**C**omrades,  
I'd like to thank everyone for their efforts in getting me all the address changes for their membership. I'm still getting some returned but it looks like the Post Office may have mishandled them mailing this time causing some of the problems. I hope I'll get them eliminated this time. If you're still reading this second hand, get me your address, pronto, since with this issue half of the issues for 2002 are complete!

I hope you've enjoyed them to date and I'd like to applaud the work of Dan Fodera for getting the inform together in a usable format for me to have printed. With that I'd like to make certain that any editorial comments or potential articles get directed to Dan at [palmetto\\_vindicator@hotmail.com](mailto:palmetto_vindicator@hotmail.com). Daniel has the final say-so whether an item makes it to print, I only make certain that it's printed. Dan deserves the credit for the high quality of the issues. I've had several conversations with our insurer to confirm that the policy does what we expected it to do so I'm a bit delayed in receiving the final policy. Each Battalion member does have a \$1,000,000 liability coverage at ALL Battalion Affiliated events. A secondary Medical Policy rider is attached that provides Secondary coverage for most medical mishaps with the only exception being accidents involved with mounting, dismounting or riding a horse. They could not offer that coverage in the medical add-on. The Primary coverage is for Liability.

Well, if you recall from my last column I said it was an honor to see the First National flying from Moultrie's flag staff; I'll have to say it was an even greater honor to see it flying again over Fort Sumter!! I've got some photos I'd be happy to share for any who would like to see it.

I'm compiling all the attendance rosters that I've received since becoming Adjutant and hope to forward my record to your unit contacts by the end of July for their confirmation. All events since the Rose Hill event held in 2001 will be counted towards Voting Eligibility for the September 2002

Elections. For the Unit Reps — If you haven't turned in all Attendance Rosters please do so quickly.

The following three paragraphs represent the official policy stated in the Battalion By-Laws:

- “Active members” are members who not only pay their dues, but those who attend at least three- (3) events per year, (two- (2) BA) portraying an active military impression. Only those “active members” are entitled to vote in elections and in determining Battalion policy. All members are required to have attended 3 events (2 Battalion Affiliated and 1 other) in order to be eligible to vote.
- Any member who is not an “active member” and current with his battalion dues will not be allowed to vote in any election, nor can he hold any office on Battalion Staff.
- The dues for membership in the Palmetto Battalion are \$15.00 per man payable on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of July each year.

Finally, don't forget that the registration for Antietam 2002 is now at \$15.00 per person and will be so until July 31st when it rises to \$25.00. For those planning on the March with the PLHA don't forget to send their money to Neill Rose at:

1609 Sarsfield Ave.  
Camden, SC 29020

For info contact Neill at: [patty\\_neill@charter.net](mailto:patty_neill@charter.net)

Look forward to seeing you all on the field,

Your Obedient Servant,

*David*

Lt. David Chinnis

## Improving Your Impression

**W**hile ‘campaign’ style reenacting certainly has its benefits (one trip from the car to wherever you're going to sleep), continuing to improve the garrison impression provides an excellent opportunity for experience, learning, and educating the public. When in winter quarters or on coastal duty, southern soldiers were more likely to be regularly supplied. For example, in one letter a South Carolina soldier in the ANV writes home “I am fatter now than I have ever been. I weigh 165 pounds.” The directive below, although issued by a federal surgeon, is a good illustration of a garrison or camp diet, as well as the current (1860) thinking on sanitary food preparation techniques. Try some of his recipes. Don't forget the vinegar and pepper! The quote below is from the Official Records Series I, Volume 11 (Part III), pp 350-351 “The Peninsular Campaign”

*“Directions for cooking in camp*

The importance of soup as a diet for troops is not sufficiently apprehended except by veteran soldiers, those of experience in the field. It cannot be too highly esteemed, and should be used to a much greater extent than it is. Bean soup, when properly made, is one of the best that can be used; when improperly made, one of the worst. The beans must be washed, steeped in water overnight, put on the fire at reveille, and boiled slowly for six hours; a piece of pork, say one ration for three men, put in three hours before dinner; this, eaten with a little pepper and vinegar, makes a wholesome and palatable dish. The cooking is everything; if not well done, it is positively injurious; if well done, it is wholesome. The great principle in making soup is that it must be boiled slowly and for a long time; it cannot be boiled too much. In making beef soup all the

*(Continued on page 12)*

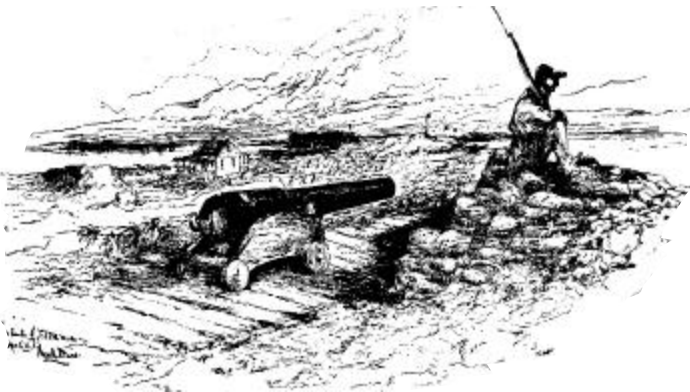
# The Palmetto Vindicator

103 Inwood Place  
Summerville, SC 29485  
palmetto\_vindicator@hotmail.com

Stamp  
Here

First Class Mail  
Address Correction Requested

Address Label Here



Battery Wagner from a Wartime Photograph

The Palmetto Vindicator

## Improving Your Impression

*(Continued from page 11)*

bones should be used, together with half rations of beef, rice, and desiccated and fresh vegetables, with salt and pepper; the desiccated vegetables should be steeped in water for two hours, and boiled with the soup for three hours; the rice should be added, after having been washed half an hour before the soup is served; the beef must first be put in cold water, and the soup kept at a low boil for five hours. Beef should not in any case be used for cooking until cold. Hard bread will be more palatable and more easy of digestion if placed in the ashes until thoroughly heated; it can also be improved by breaking it in pieces an inch or two square and soaking it thoroughly in warm water, then placing it in a frying-pan with a few slices of pork, and cooked for five minutes, stirring it, that all may be cooked alike. Such portions of beef as are not used in making soup should be cut in pieces about the size of a hen's egg, with half a ration of potatoes and a small-sized onion cut in slices to one man, and half a ration of desiccated vegetables previously soaked in cold water for an hour, with a few small pieces of pork, adding salt and pepper, with water sufficient to cover well the ingredients, and stewed slowly for three hours, will make an excellent dish. Beef that is not used thus should be cooked on coals or held before them on a stick or fork, and

no salt or pepper put on until cooked; the salt put on before cooking only assists in abstracting the juices of the meat and in making it dry and hard when cooked. The secret in using the desiccated vegetables is in having them thoroughly cooked. The want of this has given rise to a prejudice against them which is unfounded; it is the fault of the cooking, and not of the vegetables. Pork should be boiled three hours, having been previously soaked in water, to abstract the salt, for three hours, the water being changed twice in that time; when cold and cut in slices, with a piece of bread and a slice of onion, it makes an excellent lunch; cut in slices and toasted over coals it is sweet and good. Coffee should be roasted over a slow fire, constantly stirring it until it becomes of a chestnut-brown color, and not burnt, as is so commonly done. It should be boiled for twenty minutes, set one side, sweetened, well stirred, and a little cold water added to cause the grounds to settle. Cabbage is more wholesome when cut in shreds and eaten with a little vinegar, pepper, and salt, than when cooked. All fried meats are unwholesome; they should be boiled or broiled. (Signed) JONATHAN LETTERMAN, Surgeon and Medical Director, Army of the Potomac"