

Sons of Confederate Veterans Roswell Mills Camp No. 1547 MILL TALK

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Commander's Comments

At our October meeting, Past Commander Maddox suggested that attendance of our Camp members for part of the 2010 SCV Georgia and National Conventions would reflect well on our Camp and should be of interest to our members.

With the state convention in Milledgeville and the national in Anderson, South Carolina, the latter will probably not be closer for a long time. The dates are expected to be June 11-13 (Friday-Sunday) for the State and July 21-25 (Wednesday-Sunday) for the National.

The activities of greatest interest at both conventions will probably be the social gathering on the Friday evening and some of the general sessions on Saturday.

So mark your calendar now. Perhaps a group excursion for the Friday and/or Saturday would be of interest.

Howard Bryant
Commander

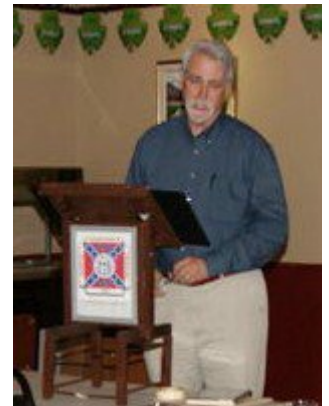
Members who have not renewed their membership will be charged a \$5 late fee after November 1st. Please send your dues in today.

Members Charged Up at October Meeting

The Bill Potter's presentation was enthusiastically received by Roswell Mills Camp member at the October meeting in the Harp Irish Pub. This is what our membership is all about.

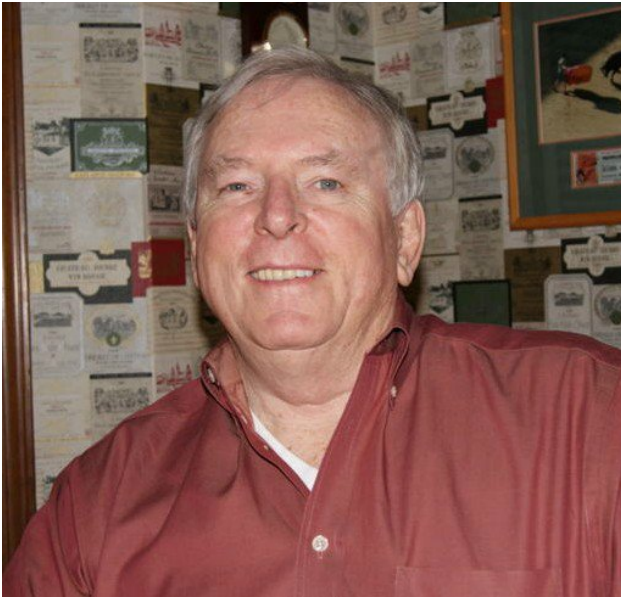
He told us about the 300 Confederates from the Second and Twentieth Georgia Infantry Regiments that held the bridge across Antietam Creek against 13,000 Union soldiers

**Bill Potter,
Curator and
Historian of the
Circa History
Guild in
Roswell**



On Wednesday, September 17, 1862 at nine o'clock in the morning the Union Army moved against the Rohrbach Bridge (now called Burnside Bridge) where the Georgians were dug in on a hill overlooking the bridge across the creek. **Continued on Page 3...**

Members Attending the October Meeting



Robert Blankenship furnished the camera for photos due to dead batteries in Doug Allen's camera.



Small gathering learns about the 300 Georgians.



John Cobb gives the Camp a report on Old Soldier's Day in Alpharetta. John is also involved in planning our Sesquicentennial.

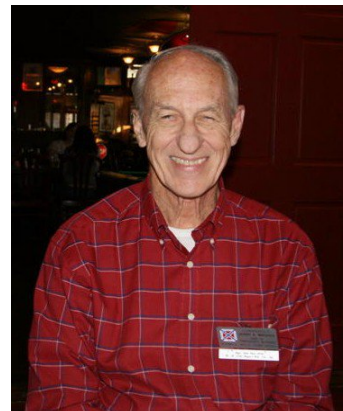
Commander Howard Bryant presents James Wells a certificate of membership. James is the grandson of Camp Member James Lewter.



Their ancestor was Surgeon James W. Oliver of the 21st Virginia Infantry. We also welcomed James M. Roberts as a transfer member at the October meeting.



Dick Anthony and former camp photographer Doug Allen. What's a photographer without a camera?



Past Commander Jerry Maddox swears our Camp will receive the Distinguished Scrapbook Award from Division..... eventually.

(The Three Hundred continued from page 1.)

Union General McClellan's plan was to attack Lee's army one section at time. The orders for General Burnside was to cross Rohrbach Bridge and roll up the Confederate flank.

On the extreme right flank of Lee's army the Georgians, commanded by General Robert Toombs, were given the task of holding the bridge.

Connecticut. Confederate sharpshooters pinned down the Yanks at the stone fence along a 300 yard field of flat open terrain. At 10 o'clock the Eleventh Connecticut tried again with the same results.

Then, the Second Maryland and the Sixth New Hampshire were sent to take the bridge. The Georgians with galling fire repulsed several successive charges by these two regiments.

Rohrbach Bridge, 12 feet wide and 125 feet long, spanned Antietam Creek.



The Union army sat up artillery that could reach every part of the Confederate lines and Burnside had 13,000 rifles at this command.

The two Georgia regiments dug in on a hill overlooking the bridge and waited for the Union attack which came at 9:15 by the Eleventh

Burnside sent in seasoned veterans of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania and the Fifty-first New York with the order 'to carry the bridge at all costs.'

General Crook brought a section of his battery to bear on the heights just above the bridge to protect the Pennsylvanians and New Yorkers as they charged

the bridge.

Meanwhile, another division found a ford and crossed the creek below the bridge. General Robert Toombs sent word that this force was moving on the Georgians.

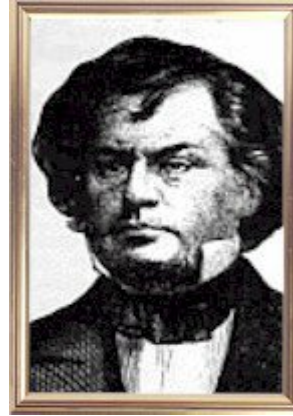


Drawing of Rohrbach Bridge and hill where Georgians dug in.

The soldiers from Georgia turned to face the Union force moving on them. What was left of the 300 had run out of ammunition and began firing buck and ball into the Union ranks.

At one o'clock in the afternoon, four hours after the Union's first charge on the bridge it was all over. Confederate Lt. Col. Holmes offered the last defense of the bridge drew his sword and charged the enemy. He was cut down along with three of his men who tried to recover his body from the bridge.

**Cost: Second Georgia....42 killed
Twenty-first.....68 killed**



Robert Toombs, un-reconstructed Georgian, commanded the Second and Twenty-first Regiments at Rohrbach Bridge.

Toombs served in the U.S. House of Representatives before the War. He served as Secretary of State in

Jefferson Davis' administration and Brigadier General in the Army.

At the end of the War Toombs went to England and returned to Georgia a few years later to practice law.

He refused to request a pardon and never regained his U.S. citizenship.

Stubborn old dude!

Next Meeting-Thursday, November 5

Place: Harp Irish Pub

Dinner: 6:30

Program: 7:00

Harp is located at 1424 Market Blvd, off Old Alabama Road.

Another great History Speaker:

Dr. Jerome Reed will tell us about:

"Thomas Green Clemson: A Philadelphia Native Who Served the Confederacy."

Let's support our Camp. Come out for fun, food, SCV fellowship and a dadgum excellent program.
