

The Averasboro Advocate

A Civil War Newsletter of the
Averasboro Battlefield Commission

SEPTEMBER 2010

2010 EVENTS

- **September 25**
World War I
Encampment
- **October 6**
Bob Bryan/Averasboro
Golf Tournament
- **October 30-31**
Battle of Averasboro
Civil War
ENCAMPMENT &
LIVING HISTORY

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WORLD WAR I ENCAMPMENT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 10 AM-4 PM

Dr. Jay Gillispie and friends will present their annual World War I Encampment on Saturday, September 25 at the Averasboro Museum. The living history presenters will engage the spectators with various participation activities.



Dr. Gillispie and the living history presenters are all recognized authorities on World War I and will have with them authentic dress and many pieces of equipment that are authentic from World War I.

World War I has been called by many names to include “The Great War” and “The War to end All Wars.” Only one surviving soldier on the North American continent remains today, **Frank Woodruff Buckles**. **Frank Woodruff Buckles** (born February 1, 1901) is, at age 109, the last living American veteran of World War I and the oldest verified World War I veteran and the second oldest military veteran in the world. He currently lives at Gap View Farm, in Charles Town, West Virginia, and is the **Honorary Chairman of the World War I Memorial Foundation**. **Buckles** has his own website at <http://www.frankbuckles.org/>. 4,734,991 Americans served during World War I and now **Frank Buckles** is the only one who remains.

The **World War I Encampment** is free of admission charges and promises to be fun and informative to all who come. Concessions will be available on the site.



The sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War will be coming up in Year 2011. Watch for the Averasboro Battlefield Commission to promote several ideas in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. (**LOGO LEFT PROVIDED BY CYRUS WAKEFIELD)

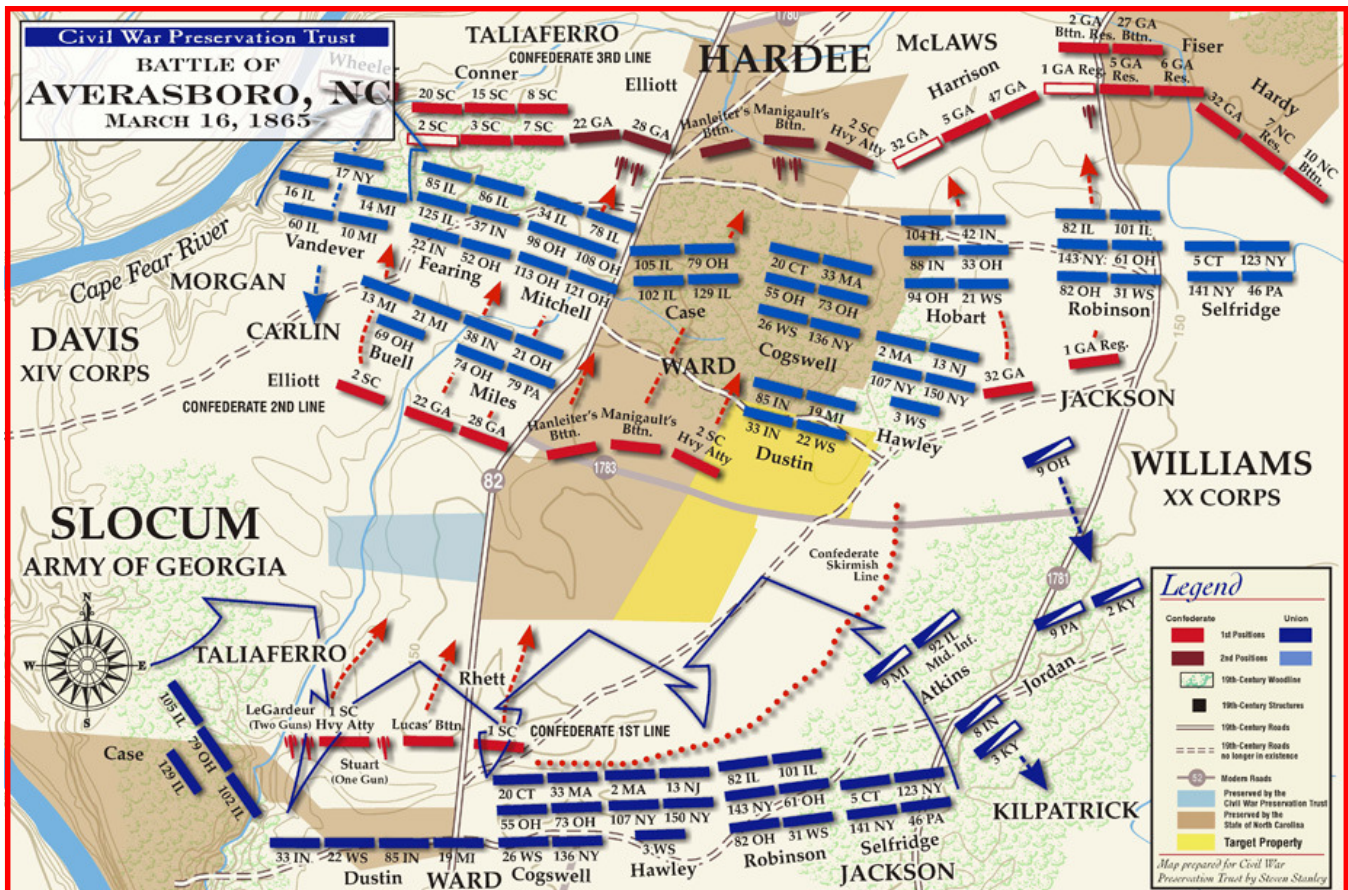
The **Gold Star Award for September** goes to none other than our own President of the Averasboro Battlefield Commission, **James McNeill “Mac” Williams**. Mac gives unselfishly of his time to promote everything connected to the Averasboro Battlefield. He works on every project, contributes his own finances, and does the “heavy lifting” when planning and fund raising are being done.

Mac is a learned historian and is the “mover and shaker” when it comes to maintaining the **Old Bluff Church** property and cemetery. He is a valuable member of the Cumberland County Board of Education and has had a school named for him for his long and storied career as an educator with the Cumberland County Schools, the Mac Williams Middle School.

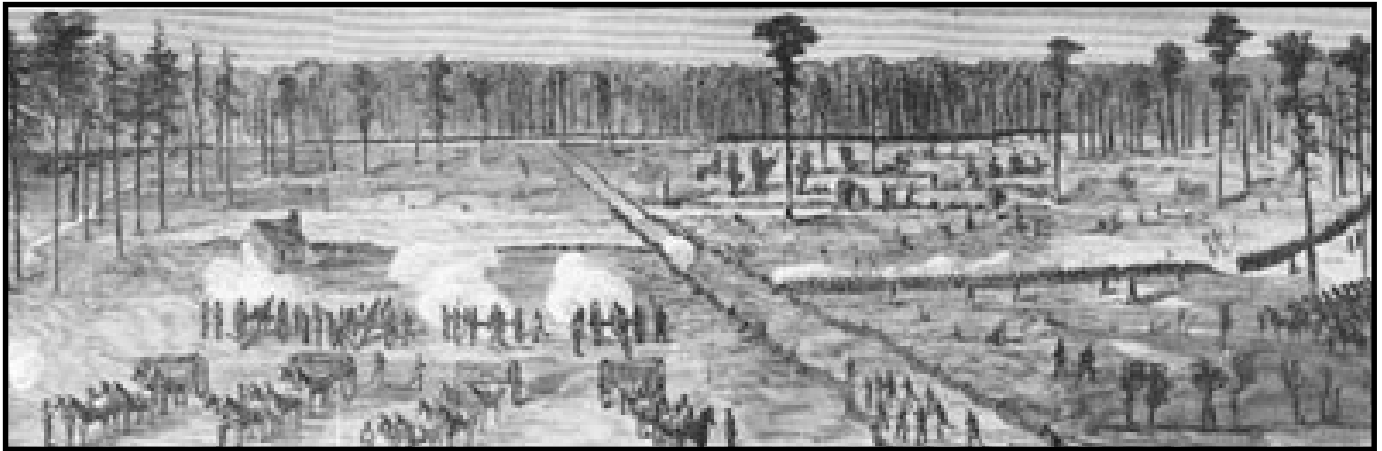
Mac Williams, we are proud to make you our Gold Star Award for September, 2010.



SEPTEMBER GOLD STAR AWARD WINNER MAC WILLIAMS



DID YOU EVER WONDER WHO DREW THIS SKETCH?



A WILLIAM WAUD SKETCH DURING THE BATTLE OF AVERASBORO

Have you ever wondered who drew the battle sketches so often seen in books and newspapers from the Civil War. A visitor to the Averasboro Battlefield Museum recently noticed the battlefield scene of the Battle of Averasboro on the bulletin board taken from the **Harper's Weekly** newspaper. He asked the question, "Do you know anything about the artist who drew this scene?" Sadly, the museum attendant had to say no.

Since that day we have done a little research on the correspondent/artists who traveled with the armies during the Civil War. (1)—*Some of the more well-known correspondents were the combat artists, known as the "specials," including such names as Alfred R. Waud and his brother William, Winslow Homer, Thomas Nast, Frank Vizetelly, Alexander Simplot, and Edwin Forbes. The sketches of these brave men, often drawn quickly while under fire, provided the best firsthand visual accounts of the sights and sounds of battle and camp life in both armies. The "specials" were usually paid by the sketch, until they established a name for themselves, after which they were given a regular salary and field allowance (Winslow Homer was eventually paid \$60 a page for his sketches). The artists would send their sketches back to their respective publishers, either in person or by courier, where they were redone into etchings and published for the enjoyment and enlightenment of the readers. After the war, many of these artists continued their work to become household names, recording subsequent key events in American history for posterity.*

William Waud was the correspondent/artist who sketched the scene on the museum bulletin board. (2) — *William Waud, trained as an architect in England, was an assistant to Sir Joseph Paxton and worked on the design of the Crystal Palace for the Great Exhibition in 1851. Soon afterward he joined his brother, Alfred Waud in America. William was first employed with "Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper." While working as a "Special Artist" for Leslie's, William covered art correspondent assignments in the South, including the inauguration of Jefferson Davis as President of the Confederacy and the bombardment of Fort Sumter. In 1864 Waud joined the staff of Harper's Weekly and worked along with his brother Alfred (also with Harper's) during the Petersburg Campaign. He covered Sherman's March in the south and Lincoln's funeral after the war.*

In today's world, where wars can be watched live on television, or photos can be taken and seen instantly by digital cameras (and transmitted by e-mail), we have to admire those brave correspondents during the Civil War who tried to keep from getting killed during the battle and then sketched battle scenes of the battles after the battle was over and then took many days to get their sketches to their publishers. Quite a chore in the days of old, but not such a chore with today's technology.

(Research items in italics were taken from (2)Wikipedia and from the website

(1) — <http://www.bivouacbooks.com/bbv2i2s1.htm>)

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STAMP

"Preserving the past for the future"



DID YOU KNOW...

- 1. That there is still time to sign your foursome up for the Golf Tournament to be played on Wednesday, October 6th?***
- 2. That the October 30-31 Civil War Encampment will have several activities?***
- 3. That Mac Williams is recovering from recent surgery?***
- 4. That Bob Bryan is working hard to make the annual golf tournament a success?***
- 5. That a recent visitor from Georgia said that, in all likelihood, one of the unknown Confederate soldiers buried in the Chicora Cemetery is her ancestor?***
- 6. That ground will be broken soon for the long anticipated outside restrooms at the museum?***
- 7. That the road in front of the museum has recently been re-paved?***
- 8. That a link to the NC Visitor Center was recently made and a nice article on Thomas Purdie appears on their website? (Check it out at http://ncvisitorcenter.com/Colonel_Thomas_Purdie.html)***
- 9. That a recent visitor put up some nice pictures from the Averasboro Battlefield at website <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=35095>?***