



*The
Delta Rifles
Dispatch*



February 2016

We started off the year's skirmish schedule with a shoot held by the 37th Georgia Volunteer Infantry at the Brierfield Ironworks State Park. With January going down as the hottest one since record keeping started in 1881, February seems to be following suit. While we all enjoy the chance to put on our "fancy duds" and wear our coats with our uniforms in the winter, they turned out to be not needed this weekend as the weather was unseasonably warm and in the 60s all weekend. While cloudy, the rain held off until after the event was over on Sunday.

The 37th Georgia were gracious hosts, running an excellent skirmish that ran like clockwork. They also ran the concession stand where shooters could avail themselves to coffee, sodas, water, breakfast, and lunch! This skirmish medals for individual competitions were only awarded for first place scores. Team events were awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, as usual.

With no shooting on Friday, we all started bright and early on Saturday morning to get our individual shooting done by lunch when the team shooting started. There is pretty much no time for shooting re-entries if you want to run four guns - it will take all your time just shooting those if you shoot your sighter and your scoring target in separate relays.



At lunch the end of the individual matches yielded up a first place medal for 50 yard Musket for our newest shooter, Jason Hill, and 5 first place medals for Steve Sheldon, in 100 yard Musket and Carbine, Musket and Carbine Aggregate, and

Grand Aggregate.

Unfortunately, we flagged in the afternoon as the 4th Louisiana was unable to place in Carbine, Smoothbore, nor Musket. We had to have 2 pickups to field a full team in both Carbine and Smoothbore, but we were able to field a whole team Sunday morning for the Musket match. As usual, Forrest Escort took first place in Carbine and Smoothbore, but were edged out for first place in Musket by the 14th Mississippi! Congrats to them all!

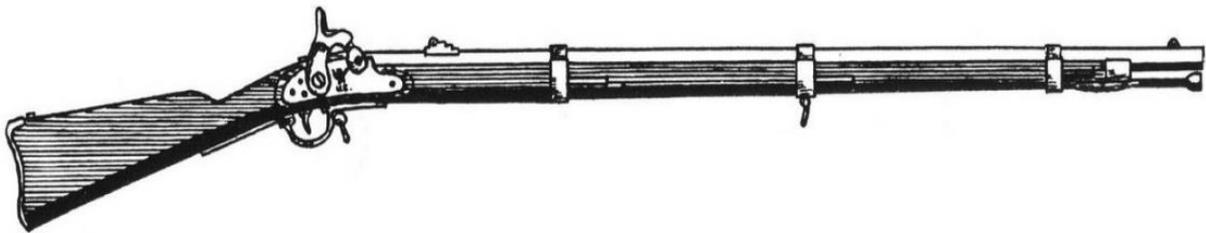


The 4th Louisiana at the February 2016 skirmish.

We had a new potential recruit come out and meet us on Saturday, Larry Weeks. He seemed very excited about the whole experience and said he was planning on coming out to the next skirmish, hopefully as a member! We are looking forward to seeing Larry on the firing line! In addition, we had a couple of other folks from the public show up to watch and express some interest. Time will tell if they follow through. It's not uncommon to have non-N-SSA folks from the campground show up as spectators to see what all the shooting is about, so if you see someone standing around watching don't hesitate to take a moment to "bend their ear" about the N-SSA - you never know when we might win over a new recruit!

We missed Rod Harbin this weekend, as he is in the final throws of preparations for his upcoming wedding, which will make him miss the *next* skirmish, too! We are very happy for Rod and his new bride-to-be but we hope the man gets his priorities straight soon! (😊 just kidding!) We sure missed his smoothbore on the line, though!

On a sadder note, a lot of Chuck Garvey's gear was on sale at the skirmish this weekend as he sells off his equipment and says goodbye to skirmishing. The arthritis in his thumbs has made it impossible for him to carry on. Chuck will be sorely missed as he was one of the 4th Louisiana's best shooters. We all hope he gets well soon and maybe can come off the disabled list and get back on the line.



Upcoming Events

Next month's skirmish is also at Brierfield, hosted by the 44th Georgia Volunteer Infantry on March 18-20. This skirmish will have individual shooting on Friday afternoon so be sure and come down and support that if you can. It sure makes it easier to get multiple guns done in individuals shooting Friday and Saturday!

44th GA	Brierfield, AL	March 18-20, 2016
14th MS	Brierfield, AL	April 22-24, 2016
Spring Nationals	Winchester, VA	May 18-22, 2016
20th GA	Brierfield, AL	June 10-12, 2016
3rd GA	Brierfield, AL	Aug 27-28, 2016
Fall Nationals	Winchester, VA	October 5-9, 2016
Forrest Escort	Eva, TN	November 4-6, 2016