

**Olustee Observer - October 1999**  
**P.O. Box 382**  
**Glen St. Mary, Florida 32040**



**Battle of Olustee Reenactment -**  
**February 18-19-20, 2000**  
**Olustee Historical Exposition -**  
**September 16-17 ? 2000**

<http://battleofolustee.org/>

**Olustee Battlefield Citizens Support Organization Membership Application**

I wish to become a member of the Olustee Battlefield Citizens Support Organization,  
and to support its efforts in maintaining a part of Florida's, and our nation's, history.

Check one:  new member  renewing member

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: work \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your membership category:

Individual \$10     Family \$15     Patron \$30     Organizational \$50  
 Individual Life \$100     Corporate Friend \$500     Corporate Sponsor \$1000

Make checks payable to: "Olustee Battlefield CSO," and mail to:  
Olustee Battlefield CSO, P.O. Box 382, Glen St. Mary, Florida 32040

## No News Is... Well, No News

Last January, I told the Board of Directors that I would no longer play reporter in obtaining items for the newsletter. So Alice Williams requested that Board members provide me with news, but only Gene Ingram did so. You would think that the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reenactment and the annual meeting would generate news, but that was not the case. This is why you didn't receive an April or July newsletter. Then **John Thrush**, our new president, provided more information and asked me to mail the scheduled October issue. The next issue, **if any**, is scheduled for January. - Tom Fasulo [Send news to 5128 SW 86<sup>th</sup> Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32608 or to fasulo@ufl.edu ]

## Museum Project Delays

The **first delay** occurred April 28<sup>th</sup>, when a majority of the Board voted to wait until November to allocate funds for the interpretive planning phase of the project, as the concept work is completed. They hoped a State grant would pay for the interpretive work, but if the grant was not issued, then CSO monies would be used. The application was prepared at the direction of State Park members, only to discover that we applied for the wrong grant.

The **second delay** occurred October 6<sup>th</sup>, when Gene Ingram requested the CSO hire the Interpretive Planner, using the money allocated by the board on April 28<sup>th</sup>. However, a majority of the board voted to forgo this. Instead, they voted to prepare another grant, hoping it would qualify and be accepted. If this one is rejected then CSO funds will be used to hire the interpretive planner, probably in March, 2000. The museum schedule has been revised to reflect a one year delay, with the date of completion now planned for the fall of 2004. - **Gene Ingram**, Museum Planning Committee Chairman

## Olustee Exposition

John Thrush reports that 100 reenactors were at September Exposition, with a good showing by the calvary. While there were about 150 visitors on Saturday, only 60 came on Sunday due to rain. Obviously this event could use more **advertising**. I was surprised to see that even the quarterly Friends of the Florida State Parks magazine did not mention the Exposition.

## Change of Command

**Alice Williams** served as the CSO President for a number of years. John Thrush, on behalf of all our members, extends a **Twenty-one Gun Salute** to Alice for all the time and effort she devoted to our organization.

## Essential Materials Needed

John Thrush needs a special donation to the CSO - **your time**. He can't pay you with anything valuable, as all he has is Confederate money, but your donation will be appreciated. Plus, you will walk away with a feeling of accomplishment. If you can **help in any way**, or **have any ideas** for improving our efforts, please contact him at Rt 1 Box 683, Bryceville, FL 32009 or (904) 266-9466.

## World Wide Web Site

I have spent hundreds of hours on the Battle of Olustee WWW site, and been amply rewarded by the comments of the people who visit it. The site has won several awards and is listed as one of the **Top 5% of all sites** on the WWW. In October, we went over 70,000 hits to the main menu. Scores of other Civil War sites link into pages below the main menu, so 70,000 does not truly represent the number of visitors to the site. Lately, I've added numerous **photographs of men** who fought at Olustee. - Tom Fasulo