

**Olustee Observer - July 2000**  
**P.O. Box 382**  
**Glen St. Mary, Florida 32040**



**The Tillman brothers - 32<sup>nd</sup> Georgia**  
**Battle of Olustee Reenactment -**  
**February 16-17-18, 2001**  
**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

## News - or Lack Thereof

No one sent any news for the scheduled January issue, so there wasn't one. But CSO president John Thrush sent me the following for the April issue. We then waited, hoping someone else would contribute something, but to no avail. So this is either a **late April or early July** issue - your choice. - Tom Fasulo, editor

## The President Reports:

For the benefit of any members who did not attend this year's reenactment - you missed a great event. We had approximately **2,200** reenactors, **80** sutlers and **10,000** visitors. Obviously, it was well attended and even the weather was very cooperative. Plans are already underway for next year's event.

Our **annual meeting** was held on April 5<sup>th</sup>. About 25 members attended, which is a small turnout. Elections were held to elect the half of the Board of Directors whose terms expired. The new elected members are Bill Danforth, Eric Hague, Frank Malone, John Thrush, Mitzi Nelson, Wilahmena Lauramore, and Bob McLendon. After the general meeting we held a Board of Directors meeting and elected the following officers: president - John Thrush, vice-president - Brian Kepner, secretary - Mitzi Nelson, and treasurer - Paul Durham. Jerry Heerin agreed to take on membership and organize the CSO tent. Any member who feels he or she can be of assistance should contact any member of the Board. We must all be involved or our organization will not survive.

**Board meeting dates** are: 7:00 pm, June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Forestry HDQR in Olustee; 9:00 am, September 17<sup>th</sup> during the Exposition at the Historical Site; 11:00 am, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2000 during the annual Olustee Workday; and 7:00 pm, April 18<sup>th</sup> at the newly renovated railroad station in Olustee. All members should try to

attend the meetings. The Board is only as good as the general membership of our organization.

This year **Florida Parks** were named **#1** in the United States. This is a great honor and credit goes to the hard working Florida Park personnel and the members of their supporting CSOs.

If you have any **questions or suggestions**, please write me at RT 1, Box 683, Bryceville, FL 3200, or THRUSH@coj.net . - John Thrush

## OverDue Dues

If you have a **star** inked on the address label, then you have not paid your \$10 dues for 2000. There are 34 stars out of 71 members! Please send a check, made out to the Olustee Battlefield CSO, to OBCSO, P.O. Box 382, Glen St Mary, FL 32040. - Mitzi Nelson

## Compared To...

While reading the Civil War News I often see notices about CSOs of small historical parks up north - that never heard a shot fired in anger - that have several hundred to over one thousand members in that CSO. Yet, this issue of the Olustee Observer was mailed to **only 71 members** of a CSO that hosts the largest annual reenactment in the SE United States.

Besides individuals, only one group - the **3<sup>rd</sup> Florida Regimental Band** - is a member. Are SCV posts ashamed of this Confederate victory? No reenactor's fee is charged for the Olustee event, but hay, water, firewood, rations and more are provided for **free**. Is \$50 too much for a Blue or Gray clad unit to pay once a year to support this event?

On the Internet side - The Battle of Olustee WWW site is still averaging over **100 hits per day**. - Tom Fasulo