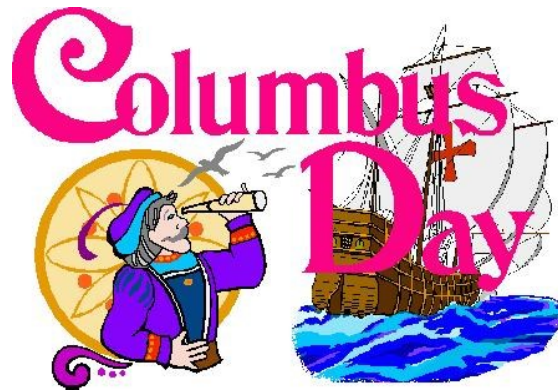# Florida Living History, Inc.

Gazette

Monday, October 10th

Columbus Day was made an official holiday in 1937 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It is celebrated each year on the second Monday of October. Variations of the holiday date back as far as the late 1700's. Most of the early celebrations were created by Catholic and Italian communities who celebrated Columbus' accomplishments with pride.

I was glad to hear from the updates that everyone came through Hurricane Ian okay with minimal damage with the exception of the demise of Chris Maniaci's shed. Steve was hoping that ours would blow down, but the termites held fast and kept it standing. ☺

Although Parrish Train had to be cancelled, we look forward to seeing everyone at Ocklawaha safe and sound.

Cindy Keck

Editor

A Word from Command

Hello 2nd Florida family! Our brand new season is now upon us! On the heels of those who recently made the trek to Gettysburg, it is time to gear up for the three events that are coming up this Fall. First, this coming weekend is **Parrish Train Raid** (Sep. 30-Oct. 2), followed by **Ocklawaha River Raid** (Nov. 4-6), and then **Dade City** (No. 18-20). I hope you are making your plans, gathering your gear, and excited about what the season will bring. We are at a fantastic time in the history of 2nd Florida. Our membership and enthusiasm are cresting at the perfect time. Don't forget to invite others to be a part of what we are doing. Each new reenacting season excites me as I think of the great times and memories we are all about to experience. This year is no different. Although I will be unable to attend Parrish Train Raid, I look forward to seeing each of you at Ocklawaha. Please watch for the muster announcements and remember to respond to them with haste. Its something we do better than any organization in Florida.

With Great 2nd Florida Pride,
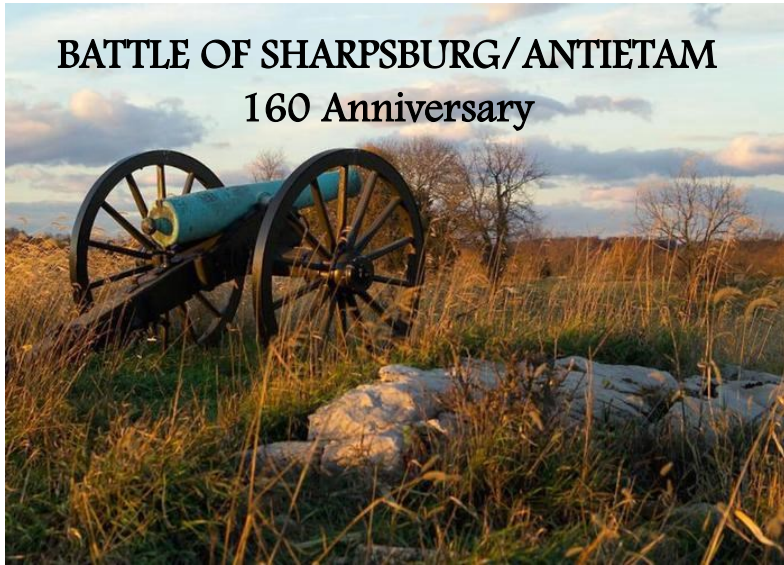
Capt. Wayne Alonzo

Chap's Corner

In hopes of enticing you to attend future worship services, I've included General Jackson's reaction to Dr. R. L. Dabney's August 25, 1861 sermon delivered in the woods outside of Centerville, VA to the Stonewall Brigade. Based upon Acts 7:59, the beloved chaplain preached on the prayer uttered by Stephen (the first Christian martyr recorded in the New Testament), who cried out "Lord Jesus receive my spirit" just before his murder. Jackson was so moved by this message entitled, "Our Comfort in Dying," that he wrote to his wife the following excerpt...

I did not have room enough in my last letter, nor have I time this morning, to write as much as I desired about Dr. Dabney's sermon yesterday. He spoke of Stephen...like Abel...dying by the hand of violence, and then drew a graphic picture of his probably broken limbs, mangled flesh and features, conspiring to heighten his agonizing sufferings. But in the midst of this intense pain, God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, permitted him to see the heavens opened, so that he might behold the glory of God. Was not such a heavenly vision enough to make him forgetful of his sufferings? He beautifully and forcibly described the death of the righteous, and as forcibly that of the wicked (Life and Letters of General Thomas J. Jackson, 1892, p. 193).

According to Dabney's notes, it seemed to be "a subject not inappropriate to Christian soldiers, whose business it was to die for their country." Furthermore he hoped that "the sublime truths revealed in this passage of God's word would be impressive to those who were out of Christ, and consoling to those who were united by faith to him. So may it strengthen the souls of all God's chosen ones to whom it comes, and deliver them who, through fear of death, have been all their lifetime subject to bondage." More to come some Sunday morning...

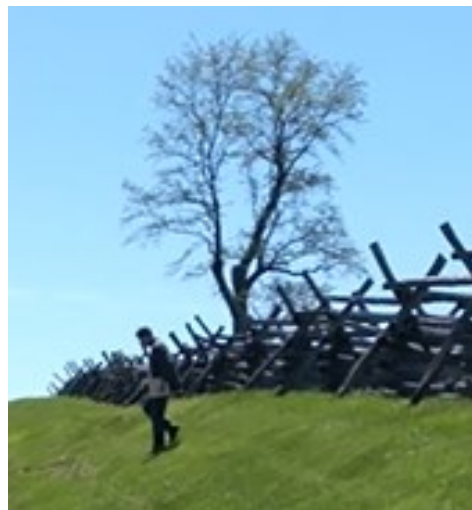BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG/ANTIETAM
160 Anniversary

Steve Keck scouting the area for Feds.

Relaxing before the battle and catching up with friends

Marching into battle

Witness Tree at the Bloody Lane

Happy Halloween