

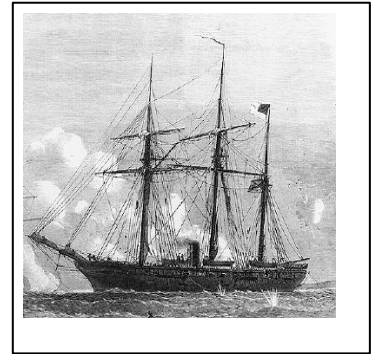
The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11

May 2012



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

Again I hope and pray that this edition of the Log finds all ya'll doing well. We have survived all of the activities of April and I for one was ready for a break.

Claude Turberville and I along with several friends participated in the Surrender Oak Festival at Citronelle on May 5th. It was a lot of fun and a very successful event. Claude was there with a couple of his antique automobiles. However, he was dressed in period attire and resembled a shyster lawyer or a used wagon salesman. Several of us had set up a WBTS show and tell at Camp Pushmataha.

At the end of the day most of our reenacting friends had gone home and a small group of spectators showed up for a reenactment. David and Aaron Kralik, fellow reenactors and members of the Blakely Camp, as well as me gave the public what they wanted.

Once again I have to apologize for Matilda and me playing the role of the Yankee invader, but ya'll know how it is, someone has to do it. David and Aaron were my Confederate adversaries for the skirmish. It all started with a couple of shots from Matilda as my enemy emerged from the woods. I attempted to advance and came under heavy fire from the Confederates; after all I was out numbered 2 to 1.

After a few minutes I was forced back to Matilda's position and got off a couple of more shots with the mortar. At this time I simulated a misfire and as a result the Confederates captured me.

Enter Claude Turberville, Esq. Claude came to my defense as my attorney. I can assure you that my defense was not in good hands. I was being charged with chicken thievery, pillaging, and malicious conduct towards Southerners. After a short tribunal and some money being passed to Claude by my accusers, I was executed on the spot. This was certainly a fitting end for a Yankee.

Our next monthly meeting will be on May 28th at the Admiral Semmes Hotel at 7pm. Yours truly will present a program of Southern and Confederate humor. Ya'll come on and have a laugh at my expense.

Since the last Admiral's Log several of our members have had deaths in their families. Let us continue to pray for our camp and its members.

Your Humble Servant,
Terry W. "Beetle" Bailey
Editor, The Admiral's Log

Semmes Camp #11

Minutes of the April Camp meeting

The meeting was called to order by Commander Joe Ringhoffer.

The invocation was given by Chaplain Steve Kennedy.

The pledges to the flags were led by Compatriot David Smithweck.

Program:

Commander Ringhoffer delivered the program. He shared history of forts in the Spanish Fort area. Spanish Fort was built by Governor Galvez. He built it to drive back the invading British ships. During the War of Northern Aggression, the yanks had 32,000 troops at Ft. Morgan and another 13,000 in Pensacola. Rather than coming by sea, they came by land. The topography of the land surrounding the fort made the north flank vulnerable and when the north flank fell, 90% of the men escaped by via a foot bridge which unknown by the enemy. After the war, the biggest cannon at the fort fell into the hands of the 5th Washington Artillery from New Orleans. That cannon remains in New Orleans.

Boatswain Tom Root read from Admiral Semmes autobiography. Newly built, the Alabama left Scotland headed to the Bahamas. Upon arrival in the Bahamas, the Admiral gave the men of the voyage an opportunity to remain and fight. Of 90 men aboard, 80 remained. That was the only meeting to ever occur on the ship. At sea, autocracy is the only form of governance.

New Business:

1. Compatriot David Smithweck has a new book about Grant's Pass and Ft. Powell at the printer.
2. Thanks were given by the Commander for all the efforts for Confederate Memorial Day. An apology for the difficulties with the sound system was also given. And a promise to ensure that the sound system difficulties will be resolved.
3. July 11-14 are the dates for the National Convention in Murfreesboro, TN.
4. June 8-9 are the dates for the Divisional Convention at Lake Guntersville State Park.
5. Additional copies of the Admiral's Log and the Confederate Veteran are available for anyone to take home.
6. Paymaster Christmas announced we have 133 members.
7. Lt. Commander Bailey reported that he has been busy with reenactments and memorial celebrations. Also construction the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library is well underway. He will attend the events in Citronelle this coming weekend. Plans are underway for the camp to host the National Convention in the summer of 2015.
8. Compatriot Art Green has a 16mm microfiche reader to sell.
9. Compatriot Joe DuPree reported that plans are being made for Ft. McDermott. If you are interested in helping with clearing the area, please call him at 421-0491. A path has already been cleared that is 4' to 6' wide. The plan is to begin the clearing of the underbrush at the top of the fort, then down the hill. At least two Boy Scouts of America (BSA) may be assisting in the project. If you can assist, please carry

your membership card with you. That will identify you as a member of the camp should any inquiries be made.

10. A Certificate of Membership was presented to Compatriot Mitchell Powell.
11. The father of Compatriot Chris Collum is near death. And Compatriot Vic Stanton continues to need our prayers as his health is not good and it is difficult for him to speak.
12. Compatriot John O'Donnell-Rosales reported that the Cuban project is going well.
13. The camp may appoint as many as four delegates to the National Convention. The camp approved delegate status for Compatriots Ringhoffer, Christmas, and DuPree. Anyone interested in attending and serving as a delegate should contact Commander Ringhoffer.
14. Applications for membership were unanimously approved for Joseph Wheeler and Nik Damiani.

Old Business:

There being no old business the meeting was adjourned by a closing prayer from Chaplain Steve Kennedy.

Respectfully submitted,
William P. Rodgers, Adjutant

WBTS Quote

“As to Secession being Rebellion, it is distinctly possible by state papers that Washington considered it no such thing –that Massachusetts, now loudest against it, has itself asserted its right to secede, again and again.”

"The Northern onslaught upon slavery was no more than a piece of specious humbug designed to conceal its desire for economic control of the Southern states." 1862 Charles Dickens

"A written constitution is dangerous to us in the North. The South is using it as a shield." Lincoln's Secretary of State William Seward

From the Facebook page "Defending the Heritage" by Robert Mestas

WHAT DID HE SAY!!!

Wendell Phillips, a prominent fiery abolitionist from Boston speaking on the inherent purpose of his (and Lincoln's) party: "The Republican party is in no sense a national party. It is a party of the North, organized against the South." WHAT?

They didn't teach me that in school! Perhaps that explains why Lincoln was not even on the ballot in 10 of the 11 states that would eventually secede.

In an 1845 essay titled "No Union with Slaveholders", Phillips argued for disunion. Interesting considering Phillips resides in the birthplace of slavery in America; Boston, Massachusetts.

Every few years something occurred that made New England declare it was time for secession; When Louisiana Territory was purchased, when Louisiana was made a state and during the second war with Britain. Newspapers, preachers and politicians were anxious for secession declaring it was time to get out of the Union and make a separate peace treaty with England. No one ever denied their right to do so; it's a shame they didn't go through

with it.

I guess its only treason when Southerners claim the right to secede.

Confederate Humor from the archives of Lewis Brasell

During the start of the 1862 Confederate invasion of Kentucky, the men out marched their wagon trains and for a week were without food except what they could gather along the way. What they found was salt, raw apples, and roasting ears. One wag cried out, "I've just found out that CSA stands for "Corn, Salt, and Apples".

WBTS Usage

Jayhawker: Antislavery zealots in Kansas during the 1850s

Mossyback: A nickname for a draft dodger who evaded military service by seeking refuge in a swamp or similar refuge.

Robbers' row: Slang for the area of a camp reserved for sutlers.

[Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison]

Confederate Birthdays

Brigadier General Henry Hopkins Sibley was born on May 25th, 1816, in Natchitoches, Texas. Sibley was in command of the Confederate troops during the New Mexico Campaign. The campaign came to an end with his defeat at the Battle of Glorieta Pass. Sibley struggled with alcoholism and was court martialed for cowardice in Louisiana in 1863. Though not convicted he was censured. Sibley's claim to fame was his invention of the Sibley tent. This tent, of conical design, was 12 feet tall and 18 feet in diameter. It could easily house a dozen men. General Sibley died in poverty at Fredericksburg, Virginia on August 23rd, 1886. He is buried in Fredericksburg's City Cemetery.

A Sesquicentennial Moment, May 1862

May 1st, 1862: Beast Butler occupies New Orleans

May 10th, 1862: Pensacola occupied by the Federals.

May 15th, 1862: Butler issues his General Order Number 28.

May 26th, 1862: Stonewall Jackson sends Banks back across the Potomac River.

May 30th, 1862: Beauregard evacuates Corinth, Mississippi.

[Source: 1400 Days The US Civil War Day By Day Bishop, Drury, Gibbons]

Weapons of the WBTS

The most versatile and widely used artillery piece of the war was the 12-pounder Napoleon. This field gun was developed from a French design to replace the Model 1841 six-pounder. The six-pounder was the main Confederate field piece in the first year of the war. By July, 1862, it was being withdrawn from service and the Tredegar Works had begun casting the 12 pounder. By the end of the war the Confederates had produced 450 Napoleons. However the Federals produced 1,127 of them. The Napoleon was a muzzle loaded smooth bore cannon with a bronze barrel [5' 6" long]. It had a range of 1600 yards and could fire four different types of shot.[Source: The Civil War Day By Day by Phillip Katcher]

Upcoming Events

May 28th: Camp 11 meeting

June 2nd: Rededication of the Confederate Monument in Ellisville, Mississippi [10am]

June 3rd: Confederate grave marker dedication in Monroe County

June 8th & 9th: Alabama Division Reunion

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

**Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee
Commander-General
United Confederate Veterans
New Orleans, 25 April 1906**