

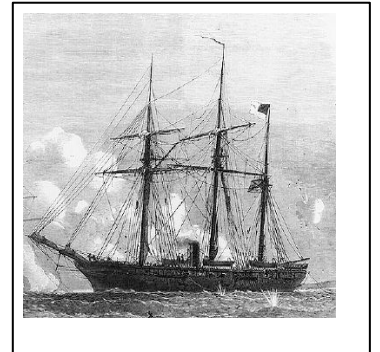
The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11

January 2013



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

Greetings and salutations from Camp 11. We have now come to one of the best times of the year on our Confederate Calendar. There have been numerous Lee-Jackson events in our area and I hope you have found the time to attend some of them. If you haven't then we certainly hope to see many of you at Confederate Rest in Mobile's Magnolia Cemetery on Sunday, January 20th. That is the date of our camp's annual Lee-Jackson Salute. The ceremony starts at 2pm. Compatriot Dupree has organized a ceremony that I expect to be a real blessing, so ya'll come on and be blessed with the rest of us.

Sadly I must report the death of a dear friend of Camp 11. Since the last edition of the Log, William "Bill" Armistead crossed over the river and is now at rest in the land of the unseen. Mr. Armistead was an Auburn University graduate and a pharmacist by trade. He was very active in the preservation of our Confederate history here in Mobile. At one time he had organized a Civil War Round Table that inspired many to become interested in the WBTS. Mr. Bill was instrumental in the recovery of the Ft. Powell cannon which is now on display in the median behind the Admiral's statue on Government Street. He also had a relic museum in Alabama Port that was called "Ye Olde Fort Alabama". On behalf of Camp 11 we extend our most sincere condolences to the friends and family of Bill Armistead. May he rest in peace.

We have also come to that time of year where we need to line up speakers for our camp meetings. At our meeting in May we will have our annual "show and tell". Bring something related to the WBTS and share it with us. September will be our annual observance of Admirals Semmes and Buchanan's birthdays. Then once again in December, in lieu of our meeting, we will have the annual Christmas party. If you know someone who will do a program please inform either Commander Ringhoffer or myself. Also, we encourage camp members to find a subject of interest and share it with the camp. The camp needs your help in this area so let us hear from you.

With regards to our program at our meeting on January 28th your Editor will present a program on the Reconstruction Era from the Southern perspective {the correct perspective, I might add!}.

Be sure to look closely at the event list at the end of the Log. In the meantime I want to call your attention to a National Confederate Heritage Sesquicentennial Event on March 6th at Beauvoir. On this date we will have the dedication of the new Jefferson Davis Presidential Library. In conjunction with that event we will also be having a Heritage Parade from the Mississippi Coast Coliseum to Beauvoir. Make your plans to attend and as a camp we will be marching with the Alabama Division contingent of the parade. Also our camp will present an original copy of the "Official Records of the War of Rebellion" to the JDPL. This is something we have been working on for quite some time and are happy to see come to fruition.

In conclusion let me once again encourage you to continue to pray for each other as well as our camp. Prayer works miracles.

Best regards,

Terry W. "Beetle" Bailey

Editor, The Admiral's Log

Admiral Raphael Semmes Camp 11

Alabama Division, SCV

Mobile, Alabama

A Sesquicentennial Moment

January 1st, 1863: Lincoln's great lie, the Emancipation Proclamation, is issued.

January 3rd, 1863: The Battle of Stones River comes to a conclusion. 14,560 Confederate soldiers are either killed, wounded, or missing.

January 11th, 1863: The CSS Alabama lures the USS Hatteras out of Galveston harbor. In a 17 minute engagement the Hatteras is sent to the bottom of the ocean.

January 16th, 1863: The CSS Florida slips past the blockaders of Mobile Bay and over the next year and a half she sinks 15 Northern vessels.

January 27th, 1863: The editor of the "Philadelphia Journal" is arrested on the charge of publishing anti-Union material.

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

WBTS Usage

Leg case: slang for desertion. In January of 1863 desertions in the Army of the Potomac were running at 200 per day.

Military crest: The highest elevation at a given point from which to see an approaching opponent and deliver maximum fire upon him.

Outworks: Defensive positions designed to hinder an enemy's advance on a fortification.

Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison

Confederate Birthdays

Robert E. Lee: January 19th, 1807

Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson: January 21st, 1824

Richard Taylor: January 27th, 1826

Daniel Ruggles was born on January 31st, 1810, in Barre, Massachusetts. He was a West Point graduate and served in the Second Seminole War and in the Mexican War. He resigned his commission in the U. S. Army and was given command of the 1st Division, 2nd Corps of the Army of Mississippi. Ruggles is most famous for his actions at the Battle of Shiloh. General Ruggles saw numerous Confederate charges against the Hornet's Nest fail. He sent word to his commanders to "get every gun you can find". Subsequently he lined up a row of 62 cannons against the Hornet's Nest. This was the largest concentration of artillery ever seen before. This action broke the Union line 12 hours after the battle had started. General Ruggles died on June 1st, 1897, and is buried in Confederate Cemetery in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Quotes from the Heroes

“What years of discord, bitterness, injustice and loss would not our country have been spared had the wounds of war healed “by first intention” under the tender ministrations of the hands that fought the battles! But the task was allotted to ambitious partisans, most of whom had not heard the sound of a gun. As of old, the Lion and the Bear fight openly and sturdily—the stealthy Fox carries off the prize.” General Richard Taylor in an article published by the Southern Historical Society Papers in 1877.

“...We must forevermore do honor to our heroic dead. We must forevermore cherish the sacred memories of those four terrible but glorious years ...of unequal strife. We must forevermore consecrate in our hearts our old battle flag of the Southern Cross – not now as a political symbol, but as the consecrated emblem of an heroic epoch. The people that forgets its heroic dead is already dying at the heart, and we believe we shall be truer and better citizens of the United States if we are true to our past.”

Confederate Veteran Rev. Randolph Harrison McKim

"Does the propriety of discussing the causes of the War Between the States belong exclusively to Northern writers and speakers? Did the South, when she laid down her arms, surrender the right to state in self-justification her reasons for taking them up? If not, I fail to see how it can be improper, when perpetuating the memory of the Confederate dead, at least to attempt to correct false and injurious representations of their aims and deeds and to hand down their achievements to posterity as worthy of honorable remembrance." ~ Robert Catlett Cave 1911

"If the North triumphs, it is not alone the destruction of our property; it is the prelude to anarchy, infidelity, the ultimate loss of free and responsible government on this continent. It is the triumph of commerce, banks and factories."

~ Stonewall Jackson

WBTS Trivia

Of the 359,528 deaths in the Union Army, nearly a quarter of a million of them came from other reasons than enemy action. Five men died of disease for every two that died on the battlefield. Mosquitos delivered malaria and the troops suffered from typhoid due to polluted water. 99.5 percent of the soldiers in the WBTS suffered from intestinal diseases such as diarrhea and dysentery. [Source: 1400 Days The US Civil War Day By Day by Bishop, Drury, and Gibbons]

Death by Artillery

Any soldier hit by a 12 pound ball or a roughly 12 pound conical shell would cease to exist. Veterans of the war told stories of looking down the line after an artillery shot and seeing fellow soldiers “liquefied”. [Source: Civil War Trivia by Norman Bolotin]

Camp and Outpost Duty for the Infantry

“It is seldom expedient to send verbal reports; it should be avoided if possible, as it is very difficult to find non-commissioned officers or soldiers capable of delivering them correctly.”[Source: Civil War Trivia by Norman Bolotin]

Benjamin Butler and the Gatling Gun

During the WBTS only 12 Gatling guns were used by the Yankees. They were bought privately by Benjamin Butler in 1864 [another good reason to despise the Beast]. [Source: The Civil War Day by Day Phillip Katcher]

Upcoming Events

February 9th: Alabama Division Executive Committee meeting in Prattville

February 22nd: The Defense of Quitman Reenactment at Archusa Water Park in Quitman, Mississippi

February 25th: Semmes Camp meeting

March 1st – 3rd: Boy Scout Camporee at Beauvoir, a living history event

March 6th: Confederate Heritage Rally at Beauvoir

March 9th: Living History at Isaac Creek in Monroe County

March 9th: Two Confederate tombstone placements and memorial services in Greene County, Mississippi

March 16th: 1812 event at Ft. Mims in Tensas, Alabama

March 25th: Semmes Camp meeting

April 12th -14th: Natchez Rendezvous at Jefferson College near Natchez, Mississippi

April 22nd: Confederate Memorial Service in Montgomery on the Capitol Grounds

April 26th – April 28th: Reenactment at Selma, Alabama

April 27th: Mississippi Division Confederate Memorial Service at Beauvoir

April 29th: Semmes Camp meeting

Origin of Dixie

“A few years after Louisiana became a part of the United States, at a time when the American monetary system was in a chaotic condition, one of the New Orleans banks began issuing ten-dollar notes, one side of which was printed in English and the other in French. On the latter, in large letters was the French word for ten, *dix*. Since the proper pronunciation of the French word was not one of the accomplishments of the river men, one of these notes was known simply as a dix; collectively they were dixies, a name which was soon applied to the city of issue as well.”

“.....not until the Civil War, when D. D. Emmett’s famous song, written in 1859, became the favorite battle-song of the Confederacy, was it in general use to designate the entire South.”

[Source: The French Quarter by Herbert Ashbury{1936}]

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**