

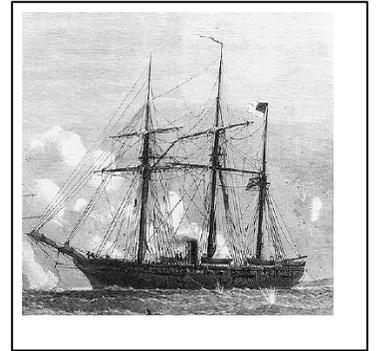
The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11

April 2013



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

Greetings and salutations from Camp 11. I hope that this edition of the Log finds all of you doing well. It has been a busy month so let's dive into our camp news.

The first order of business is for the editor to apologize to the family of Vic Stanton for falling to mention his death in the last edition of the Log. Compatriot Stanton recently crossed over and is now encamped with our heroes in Gloryland. Our camp certainly offers the most sincere condolence to Vic's family. It is our prayer that the Holy Father will bring them comfort in this season of loss.

I am also saddened to report that former Alabama Division Commander Leonard Wilson passed away recently. And sadly, shortly after Commander Wilson's death the Mississippi Division lost a former division commander, Bill Atkinson. Please pray for the families of these men.

Our annual Confederate Memorial Service this past Sunday was an absolute success. It was a tribute to the Alabama troops who served in the ANV and the service was one that we can all be proud of. We certainly appreciate all of you who helped bring it together.

Over the past few years Compatriot Steve Kennedy has been putting out the flag holders for the Confederate graves outside of Confederate Rest. He is in the process of marking all of these graves with GPS. Our list for these graves is out of date and this is certainly a job that needs to be done. If you have Confederate ancestors in Magnolia Cemetery please give this information to Compatriot Kennedy. Also if you know of any new headstones that have been set we need that info as well.

Speaking of Confederate Rest we must also offer a heartfelt thank you to Claude Turberville. As all of you are aware we recently found damage to the obelisk in Confederate Rest. Claude has been busy making repairs to the monument and we cannot say thank you enough. Our camp is blessed to have Claude as a member.

On Saturday, April 20th, Matilda and I joined some other reenactors for a living history program at the Daphne City Museum. The museum is in an old Methodist church with a cemetery on the grounds. Several Confederates are buried here. As a matter of fact Compatriot Kirk Barrett recently placed a Southern Cross of Honor on his ancestor's grave in this cemetery. The program was well

received and we hope to expand on it next year by including a memorial service as part of the day's events.

In closing I once again implore you to be dedicated in your prayer life. Truly, prayer is a valuable asset in our daily lives.

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

Minutes

Admiral Semmes, Camp 11
Sons of Confederate Veterans
25 March 2013

The meeting was called to order by Commander Joe Ringhoffer.

The following guest was introduced: Mike Howell

The invocation was given by Chaplain Steve Kennedy.

The pledges to the flags were led by Commander Ringhoffer.

The program, presented by Chaplain Kennedy, was the naval battle of Hampton Roads. Complete with models of the ironclads CSS Virginia and USS Monitor, the battle was the first in history of two ironclads. He discussed the specifications of each ship which pointed to the pros and cons of each. Having been brought in under the darkness of the night of March 8, 1862, the Monitor engaged the Virginia the next day. Following the battle the Virginia was eventually scuttled on May 10 by the CSA because its bulkiness and deep keel made it significantly less facile in turning and required deep water ports and rivers. The Monitor sank during a storm in December, 1863.

Commander Ringhoffer reported on the death of Compatriot Victor 'Vic' Paul Stanton. Many of the men in the camp offered remembrances of Vic and of his dedication to the SCV and to the honoring of his Confederate heritage.

Following the break, Boatswain Tom Root read from Memoirs of Service Afloat by Raphael Semmes. He read the selection in which the Admiral stated the standard operating procedure when capturing a yankee ship was to burn it. Upon an occasion of a plea not to burn by the yankees who claimed they were democrats and not lincolnites, he burned them anyway.

Adjutant Rodgers read a list of email addresses to which he sends camp-related documents. These email addresses have no name tied to them, so he does not know if they are active members or if they are inactive.

Commander Ringhoffer reported on the following:

1. The signage at the statue of Admiral Semmes.
2. The National Board meeting at Beauvoir.
3. The books owned by our Camp #11 that are on loan to Beauvoir.
4. On June 30, the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library at Beauvoir will be dedicated.
5. A shout-out to 1st Lt. Commander Bailey for his efforts at the the National board meeting weekend at Beauvoir.
6. The Confederate Lecture Series is scheduled for April 3 at the University of Alabama.
7. Dallas, TX, was awarded the 2016 National Convention.

8. Vicksburg will host the 2013 National Convention from July 17 through July 20.

9. Camp #11 will commemorate Confederate Memorial Day at 2:00pm on April 21 at 2:00pm at Confederate Rest in Magnolia Cemetery.

1st Lt. Commander Bailey reported on events and activities in support of the National Board meeting at Beauvoir.

Compatriot Turberville reported on the repair of the vandalism wreaked on the center obelisk at Confederate Rest. Work has begun and is almost complete.

Compatriot DuPree reported on continuing work at Ft. McDermott. He indicated that the 1st National flag will fly at Confederate Rest until May 1. Also if anyone in the camp has ancestors who were in either the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 12th or 26th Alabama, please see him about participating in the Confederate Memorial Day ceremony.

Dustin Marshall reported that he is working on nominating the Camp #11 website. The work has been a labor of love for Compatriot Joe LoCicero.

Compatriot Eubanks reported that the two headstones that were found being used as sidewalk stones at a home in Mississippi are being restored and erected.

The Alabama Division meeting will be in Foley June 7-9 and plans will be discussed on the meeting at the April camp meeting.

Chaplain Steve Kennedy commented on those who have health issues.

Heritage posters were available.

The being on further business the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Chaplain Kennedy and the reading of the charge of Stephen D. Lee.

Respectfully submitted,

William P. Rodgers, Adjutant

NOTE: In case you have wondered over the last 2+ years, some words that normally would be capitalized, your Adjutant does not believe they deserve the emphasis of capitalization. In other cases, words not generally capitalized are because they deserve the respect of capitalization.

A Sesquicentennial Moment

April 1863

April 11th: Union Colonel Abel Streight makes a raid into Alabama and Georgia. This raid is a part of Grant's attempt to divert attention from his Vicksburg Campaign and effort to keep Bedford Forrest busy.

April 15th: Captain Raphael Semmes and the CSS Alabama capture two whaling ships off the coast of Brazil.

April 16th: Union Admiral Porter makes a daring run past Vicksburg during the night. The Union Navy now has a formidable fleet below Vicksburg.

April 17th: Union General Benjamin Grierson leaves LaGrange, Tennessee, with 1700 cavalry on a 16 day, 600 mile raid through Mississippi. This raid was a part of Grant's Vicksburg Campaign and Grierson wreaks much havoc on Confederate lines of supply and communication.

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

WBTS Usage

To lie on arms: An order requiring soldiers to sleep with their rifles or muskets in their hands, loaded and at the ready.

To lie on oars: an order to oarsmen to keep their hands on their oars and ready to use them.

Skulker: Soldiers who habitually avoided combat.

Slow bear: Yankee slang for pigs.

Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison

Confederate Birthdays.

BG Philip D. Roddey was born in Moulton, Alabama, on April 2nd, 1826. He was a tailor, sheriff, and steamboat owner before the war. He organized a cavalry company and saw combat at Shiloh. In October of 1862 he took command of the 4th Alabama Cavalry and served under Forrest and Wheeler. Roddey's men were armed with rifle-muskets rather than carbines, and as such are often regarded to as mounted infantry rather than true cavalry; they generally fought dismounted. Much of the time they were stationed in their own home area, and Roddey is thus called the "Defender of North Alabama". Roddey fought a delaying action against Grenville Dodge during Abel D. Streight's 1863 raid across Alabama and Georgia, and remained in Alabama during John Bell Hood's 1864 Nashville campaign. After Hood's failure, Roddey joined Forrest in trying desperately to stop Union General James H. Wilson's cavalry raid into south Alabama in March 1865. Roddey's command fought for the last time in April at the Battle of Selma, where Forrest's men were overpowered by the more numerous and better armed Union horse soldiers. Most of Roddey command was captured at Selma. After the WBTS he lived in Tuscaloosa and New York City. While on business in England Roddey died on July 20th, 1897. General Roddey is buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama

Quotes from the Heroes

Charles Mackay was hired by the London Times in 1862 as a war correspondent. Mackay believed the Southern states had a right to secede. Northern newspapers accused him of favoring the South. The following are several of his quotes from the London Times.

"The [Emancipation] Proclamation is as cruel and illogical as the war of which it is the climax. It only declares slaves to be free in states where the president has no power either to make them free... while it retains them in bondage in every place of which is armies could give effect to his words, and convert his theories into facts." London Times, January 15, 1863.

"Raw lads of 18 and 20 form the bulk of the army that defends Washington against the eminent aggression of General Lee. These youths revel and riot in their premature manhood, and exhibit their exuberant strength and insolence in drunken and other orgies that seem to have no limit but their purses." London Times, February 28, 1863.

"Hitherto the march of Grant - though, if it be ultimately successful, it will be considered heroic - is the advance of a piece of mechanism. He sees no obstacles, and goes blindly and ruthlessly on. He trusts to nothing but superior numbers and hard fighting. The lives of his men are of no value. He throws them away by thousands..." London Times, May 27, 1864.

Source: Facebook Page Defending the Heritage

The following quote is by Al Benson Jr. and comes from an article he wrote in 2003. Certainly this quote is appropriate as we close Confederate Heritage and History Month.

"We have been informed over the years that Confederate flags and statues in various places in the South contribute to divisiveness and emotional trauma - yet they are going to plant a statue of

Abraham Lincoln in Richmond, Virginia, and, if they get their way, statues of other Union 'heroes' as well - and that is not supposed to cause any emotional trauma or mental anguish to Southerners??? What liars and hypocrites 'those people' are. They should be exposed and opposed at every turn. If they plan to attempt to steal our heritage then let's make then fight for it. Let them know, in every possible legal and honorable way that 'we ain't goin' easy.'”

John H. Regan Address to the R. E. Lee Camp in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 19, 1903.

“It has been to a large extent assumed that negro slavery was the cause of that war. This is not strictly true. It was the occasion of the war, but not the principal cause of the war. The real cause of the war was sectional jealousy, the greed of gain, and the lust of political power by the Eastern States. The changing opinions of civilized nations on the subject of slavery furnished the occasion which enabled political demagogues to get up a crusade which enabled them in the end to overthrow, in part at least, the Constitution of the United States, and to change the character of the Federal government by a successful revolution.”

Upcoming Events

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

April 27th: Mississippi Division Confederate Memorial Service at Beauvoir

April 29th: Semmes Camp meeting

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**