

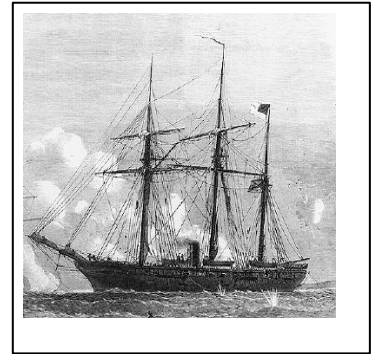
# The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11

June 2013



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

Greetings and salutations from Camp 11. I certainly hope and pray that this edition of the Log finds all of you doing well.

Obviously summer has arrived. There is an old saying that applies to this time of the year. Spring has sprung, fall has fell, summer is here and it's hot....well ya'll know the rest. It is easy to complain about the weather but I will take the Heart of Dixie over Yankeedom any day.

It was a real treat to see our friend and compatriot, David Mader, at our last meeting. We all hope that this is the beginning of seeing David regularly.

The giving and caring nature of our camp members is something that should make all of us proud. Allow me to explain my reasoning. Claude Turberville picked up Compatriot Mader and brought him to the meeting. Stephen Ellison goes by each month and delivers Mr. Jessie Taylor to the meeting. After our meeting last month Tom Root gave Mr. Jessie a copy of General Taylor's biography. Then last but not least is the Darrell Neese car pool each month. Good job fellows.

Speaking of giving and caring I was recently made aware of something that happened many years ago at Confederate Rest. Have you ever wondered why the Hunley obelisk has a patch on it? I certainly have. Eddie Hickman told me that one morning back in the early 80's he was at Confederate Rest and found the obelisk broken in two. The sledge hammer used by the neighborhood thugs was lying on the ground by the monument. Eddie loaded the broken piece into his truck and delivered it to a buddy that was a brick mason. The brick mason mixed up a concoction then he and Eddie reset the obelisk.

Compatriot Ellison has gotten our camp sign installed by the cannon in the island behind the Admiral's statue at the foot of Government Street. We are all glad to see it back in place.

Compatriots, these are just a few examples of what our members do for each other as well as for the cause. Yes sir, I am proud of our camp and its members.

The annual division meeting was an absolute success and we offer a heartfelt Rebel Yell to our compatriots of the Blakeley Camp. Their effort was second to none. I went over to Foley on Friday with a large quantity of flags from mine and Compatriot Ellison's collection. The flag display was well

received by our visiting guests from around the division. Needless to say Mr. Ellison's Sterling Price flag caught the eye of many of the attendees.

Commander Ringhoffer, Compatriot David Eubanks, Compatriot Dustin Marshall and I represented Camp 11 at the meeting. Dustin and I were also in the honor guard. Compatriot Bryan Clark was also there as a vendor.

Connie Mori is a lady many of you may know. Miss Connie has the Confederate Shoppe in Birmingham. She has been a regular vendor at many division and other heritage events for a long time. Connie is retiring and we will certainly miss her. Yours truly proposed a resolution that was passed at the meeting. The resolution recognized Connie for her many faithful years of service to the cause. We all wish Connie the very best as she moves on to the next stage of her life.

On Saturday afternoon we had a division memorial service at Confederate Rest in Point Clear. There were approximately fifty people in attendance. The division commander, Gary Carlyle, and a couple of other fellows entertained us with music. Truly it was a good time of fellowship while we honored our heroes.

On Saturday night I was humbled to receive the Stonewall Jackson Superior Achievement Award. It always makes a fellow feel good to be recognized for his efforts. When I look upon the awards that I have received over the years I quickly realize how blessed I am to have the support and encouragement from Camp 11. Thanks guys.

I want to give out a big ole Confederate thank you to all of you who brought stuff to our annual Show and Tell meeting in May. It was a fun time for all of us.

Our next camp meeting is on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Francis McGowin of the Covington Rifles Camp in Andalusia. I do not know the subject of Sir Francis' presentation. I can assure you it will be informative and entertaining.

One of the worst parts of being the newsletter editor is to report the sad news within our confederation. Doug Hardin of the Blakeley Camp and Ben Hestley of Camp 308 recently crossed over the river. The wife of our dear friend, Carl Ford, was recently diagnosed with cancer. Carl and Miss Nancy are devoted Confederates of the Rosin Heels Camp in Laurel, Mississippi. Let us lift these folks up in our prayers. And of course it goes without saying, pray for each other and our camp. Prayer is a powerful weapon for the Believer.

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

Minutes  
Admiral Semmes, Camp 11  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
27May2013

The meeting was called to order by Commander Joe Ringhoffer.

The invocation was given by Assistant Chaplain Sid Phillips III.

The pledges to the flags were led by Commander Ringhoffer.

Commander Ringhoffer:

AI Division Reunion is in Foley. Dates are June 7-8.

The survey of Ft. McDermott is complete and is +/- three acres.

The sign for the statue of Admiral Semmes located at the foot of Government Street has been made and will be erected.

National Reunion in Vicksburg, MS. Dates are July 17-20.

Lt. Commander Bailey:

Selma reenactment.

Surrender Oaks at Citronelle.

SCV camp in Leaksville.

Clark County Museum and Anderson camp.

Beauvoir Fall Muster. A substantial amount of money was raised last year raised last year.

Point Clear Memorial Service this coming Saturday at 3:00pm.

Tom Root:

Reading from Memoirs Afloat by Admiral Semmes. He addressed the origin of the struggle and concluded that even though man is an intelligent beast, the US government is no better nor any worse than other governments. Honesty failed. The discordant differences of the peoples of the north and the South prohibit them from being put in the same sheaf.

Any men of the camp who are published authors please send your information including the titles of your works to our camp Webmaster, Dr. Joe LoCicero.

The meeting then moved to the annual show and tell session where men of the camp presented relics, weapons and other memorabilia.

Assistant Chaplain Sid Phillips, III, delivered the invocation as the meeting was adjourned.

WBTS Usage

Light marching order: Infantry ordered to move as fast as possible. Knapsacks and blankets were usually abandoned for the sake of speed.

March of death: The fatal movements of Yankee troops at Marye's Heights at the Battle of Fredericksburg in December of 1862.

CSS Mobile: a screw steamer gun boat under construction when the Yankees began to encircle Vicksburg. She was burned in the Yazoo River in May, 1863.

Movable electric train: a mobile telegraph unit or field telegraph.

Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison

WBTS Trivia

Col. Lloyd J. Beall [b. Rhode Island] was an 1830 graduate of West Point. He was the first and only commandant of the C.S.A. Marine Corps.

General James Longstreet gave up poker, as penance, after three of his children died of scarlet fever in a single week in January, 1862.

Albert Pike was a Boston born brigadier general whose Indian regiments were charged with scalping Union soldiers. The regiments were composed of Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles.

Robert E. Lee was often called the King of Spades because as a veteran engineer he set his men to digging.

When Unionists in the deep South joined the Yankee ranks they were referred to as "homemade Yankees".

Source: Civil War Trivia and Fact Book by Webb Garrison

Confederate Birthdays

Brigadier General John Rogers Cooke was born on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1833, at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. He was the son of Union General Phillip St. George Cooke and a brother in law to Jeb Stuart. When Virginia seceded he went with Stuart into the Army of Northern Virginia. Much to his dismay his father

remained faithful to the Union. This caused a family rift that was not reconciled until well after the WBTS. During the war John Rogers Cooke was wounded seven times. After the war he returned to Richmond as a merchant. He was one of the organizers of Richmond's Confederate Soldier's Home. John Rogers Cooke died on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1891 and is buried in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery.



**Monument on the spot  
where General Leonidas  
Polk died**

A Sesquicentennial Moment  
June, 1863

Rain. All it had done for the last three days was rain. In Georgia the red clay normally starts to bake in June so that by the end of July it has those telltale fissures every few feet, but in the June of 1864 it rained. From the 11th to the 14th it rained, and would rain for 10 days after, but today one of the most beloved Confederate generals would die. Beloved not only by his men, but by most southerners and many northerners as well, this rotund man had been an Episcopal Bishop of Louisiana for some twenty years and just recently baptized Generals [Joseph E. Johnston](#) and [John Bell Hood](#). Born on [April 10](#),



[1806](#) in Raleigh, North Carolina, Leonidas Polk graduated from West Point in 1827, along with the future President of the Confederacy [Jefferson Davis](#) and fellow officer [Albert Sidney Johnston](#). Called to pursue a religious career, he resigned his commission in the army. Over the next thirty years that career would include missionary work and his appointment to the prestigious post of Bishop.

[Secession](#) brought the Bishop into the fold of the Confederate Army. He seized the city of Columbus, Kentucky, on [September 3, 1861](#). On [November 7, 1861](#), Polk chased off a then unknown [Ulysses S. Grant](#) at Belmont, Missouri. He saw action at Pittsburgh Landing (Shiloh), Perryville, Stone's River, and his troops bore the brunt of the first day's fighting at [Chickamauga](#). He was transferred to Alabama after questioning [Braxton Bragg](#) about a decision.

Polk fought with the [Army of Tennessee](#) during the [Atlanta Campaign](#). Called to the line by Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, the swarthy Cajun, Johnston, Polk, and others journeyed to Pine Mountain to see if the position could be maintained. [William Tecumseh Sherman](#) surrounded the Confederates on three sides and [William Hardee](#) was fearful of being enveloped by Uncle Billy. As they studied the position Rebel infantry repeatedly warned the officers that Union artillery had the range of their position, but for some reason these men chose to ignore the warning and continued in full sight of the Federal batteries. Although mini-balls had come nearby, the big guns were under orders to conserve ammunition and did not fire until Sherman rode up and ordered them to keep the observers under cover. The first shot scattered most of the generals, but Polk, for some reason known but to him, took his time.

A second round struck nearby and the third round entered Polk through an arm, passing through his chest and exiting through the other arm. He was dead. Johnston stood over the man who had baptized him earlier in the campaign and cried. One of the few men who had little use for Rebels, and even less for the clergy was Gen. Sherman, who in a tersely worded statement sent to Gen. Halleck, "We killed Bishop Polk yesterday and have made good progress today..."

An interesting note: Polk donated the land for Maury County's Saint John's Church. It was so beautiful that General [Patrick Cleburne](#) remarked, "It is almost worth dying for to be buried in such a beautiful place." After Cleburne's death a few days later at the Battle of Franklin he was buried there until later disinterred.

The Polk Monument (pictured at right) is a tall shaft erected on the spot where Leonidas Polk fell that fateful day. Beginning in the 1890's many of the important events of The Civil War were being commemorated. A [Marietta](#), Georgia soldier and his wife had the monument built to honor the general, fearing others would forget him. The monument is on private property but still accessible.

*It was said at Sewanee, The University of the South that the Illinois soldier who fired the cannon that killed Leonidas Polk was so distraught that he had killed such a fine man that he committed suicide.*  
[Source: About North Georgia, [www.aboutnorthgeorgia.com](http://www.aboutnorthgeorgia.com)]

#### Quotes from the Heroes

In the late nineteenth century Bill Arp's weekly column in the "Atlanta Constitution," syndicated to hundreds of newspapers, made him the South's most popular writer. Others surpassed him in literary quality, but in numbers of regular readers, no one exceeded Bill Arp. Here is another commentary made by a man who lived during this time in history that illustrates the North's involvement and lack of accepting responsibility.

"You have purchased our cotton; you have used our sugar; you have eaten our rice; you have smoked and chewed our tobacco --all of which are the products of slave labor. You have grown rich by traffic in these articles; you have monopolized the carrying trade and borne our slave-produced products to your shores. Your northern ships, manned by northern men, brought from Africa the greater part of the slaves which came to our continent, and they are still smuggling them in. When, finding slavery unprofitable, the northern states passed laws for gradual emancipation, but few

obtained their freedom, the majority of them being shipped South and sold, so that but few, comparatively, were manumitted. If the slave trade and slavery are great sins, the North is particeps criminis, and has been from the beginning.”

Source: “The Uncivil War” by Bill Arp, 1902, Page 40. <http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/arp/arp.html>  
Posted on Facebook by the Facebook page “Defending the Heritage”.

### **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**