

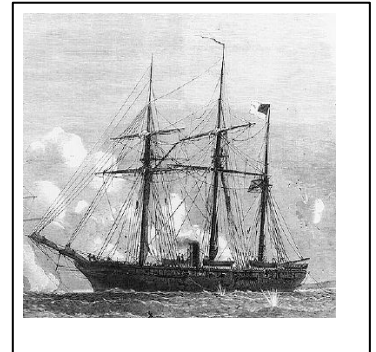
# The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11

September 2012



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

I pray that this edition of the Log finds all of you doing well. Hopefully everyone stayed high and dry during the deluge known as Hurricane Isaac. With any luck, or should I say blessing, that is the last storm of the season.

September has been a busy month. It started on the 9<sup>th</sup> with a living history presentation at Camp Pinetreat. Matilda and I joined several other friends for a program for Boy Scout leaders. It was well received and we hope to get back there to do the same kind of program for the Boy Scouts.

Compatriot Dustin Marshall and I went to Farmington, Mississippi, for the 150<sup>th</sup> Commemoration reenactment of the Battle of Farmington/Corinth on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We are both members of The Baldwin Rangers [Co. C, 15<sup>th</sup> Confederate Cavalry]. Unfortunately our unit had to galvanize as Yankees and as a result we portrayed the 1<sup>st</sup> Louisiana Cavalry [US]. In spite of wearing the blue we had some good fellowship and we saw many of our fellow SCV members.

On Saturday we will be at Beauvoir for a work day in preparation for Fall Muster. Then on Sunday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will be doing a Memorial Service in Theodore. The service will be at 3pm at the Magnolia Springs Baptist Church. Magnolia Springs is on Theodore Dawes Road between Nan Gray Davis Road and Carol Plantation Road.

The September meeting is always special. At this meeting we will honor the birthdays of Admiral Semmes and Admiral Buchanan. Please make your plans to attend.

Our October meeting will also be special. Our beloved friend, Dr. Cecil Fayard, will be with us. We can expect a real blessing when Bro. Cecil comes for a visit to our camp.

Once again as I close this greeting I implore you to pray for our camp as well as each other. Pray that we will have the wisdom, strength, and courage to preserve the good name of the Confederate soldier.

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

Admiral Raphael Semmes Camp 11  
Mobile, Alabama

#### Minutes

Admiral Semmes, Camp 11  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
27August2012

The meeting was called to order by Commander Joe Ringhoffer.

The invocation was given by Quartermaster Darrell Neese.

The pledges to the flags were led by Cmdr. Ringhoffer.

Because of the impending landfall of Hurricane Isaac, the planned program was postponed. The speaker lives in Gulfport which is closer to the projected landfall of the storm.

#### Program:

Boatswain Tom Root gave an extended reading with comments from Admiral Semmes autobiography. The selection centered around a storm encountered at sea in October of 1862.

#### Business Meeting:

Cmdr. Ringhoffer thanked the men of the camp for their support during the death of his father.

Paymaster Christmas reported that dues are now payable.

Cmdr. Ringhoffer announced the nominating committee for officers for 2013 and 2014 is comprised of Compatriots DuPree, Bailey, Neese and Rodgers.

Compatriot Kirk Barrett is working on logistics for historically correct signage and placement of the signage at the Spanish Fort Battleground.

Upon a question about registration of graves, there is an electronic form on the SCV website which does require GPS coordinates.

The September meeting will include the annual celebration of Admiral Semmes birthday.

Compatriot DuPree:

The flag flying at Confederate Rest is the 1st National.

As chair of the Nominations Committee he welcomes any nominations and can be reached at 421-0491.

Volunteers are needed for general clearance of underbrush at Ft. McDermott in late September. If you can help call Joe at 421-0491. At the September meeting he will have a clearing plan and map. He will also meet with BSA Scoutmasters in the area to recruit Boy Scouts to assist.

Anyone who has marble or granite scraps large enough for signage at Ft. McDermott, please contact Joe.

Cmdr. Ringhoffer also reported that the Division stands ready to assist anyone with storm related issues.

Quartermaster Neese reported on men of the camp in need of prayer.

There being no further business the meeting closed in prayer led by Quartermaster Neese.

Respectfully submitted,  
William P. Rodgers, Adjutant

## A Commentary from Ellen Williams

In each edition of the *UDC Magazine*, the Historian General usually writes an article. In the September edition she wrote an article entitled, *Southern Religious Leaders*. She wrote about Leonidas Polk, Father James Sheehan, Rev. W.H. Carroll of AL and several others, but it was the following that touched me:

“Although revivals took place throughout the war, it was during the late fall of 1863 through most of 1864 that the Great Revival occurred. Although this event is best documented for Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, it actually took place in both Northern and Southern armies and in both the Virginia and the Tennessee theatres of the war.

Virtually **every Confederate brigade was affected**, and about ten percent of the soldiers in the Army of Northern Virginia accepted Christ. Night after night troops participated in prayer meetings, worshipped, and listened to ministers proclaim the good news. Virtually every gathering ended with soldiers coming forward to accept Christ or receive prayer. When a pond or river was nearby, the soldiers would frequently step forward for baptisms.

As the Army of Tennessee retreated toward Atlanta in 1864, it experienced the fires of the Great Revival. During their retreat from Dalton, Georgia, a Confederate brigade gathered in a field for worship. They read the Bible aloud, sang a song of praise, and began to pray. While one of the soldiers was praying aloud and his comrades were kneeling in silence, they all heard the distant sound of artillery and were soon greeted with the burst of a 32-pound cannon shell overhead. More shells shrieked towards them, and shrapnel fell nearby, but the men continued their prayers as if there were no danger. Finally the chaplain pronounced the benediction and everyone calmly sought cover.”

Our people (both military & civilian) were able to withstand the hell of war, starvation, deprivations unimaginable, oppression at the hands of a military government. They endured. I believe it was because of their abiding Christian faith.

As I read the above from Mrs. Tindal's article, I had to ask "Why, Lord?" Why did you allow such men as these to suffer defeat and the Christ-denying abolitionist-Unitarians to win? And then I am reminded of the Cross and I remember that "right does not always win in this world."

And I think of what our friends in Selma are going through now, and I remember the words of Christ: "The world will hate you. It hated me first."

Today only the *remnants* of the Southern Bible Belt stands in opposition to a totally secular society in these United States. We are the last. May we be as courageous as our ancestors to take a stand for what is right and good and leave the result to God.

I am reminded of that good old Southern saying: "God doesn't settle all His debts in October."

## Confederate Birthdays

Brigadier General John Gregg was born in Lawrenceville, Alabama, on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1828. He graduated from LaGrange College in 1847 where he was subsequently employed as a mathematics professor. Later on he studied law in Tusculum, Alabama. Gregg relocated to Texas where he was elected as a district judge. Gregg was a delegate to the Texas Secession Convention and served in the Confederate Provisional Congress. His greatest moment during the WBTS was at the Battle of Raymond. Gen. Gregg's brigade of 3000 men went up against McPherson's 17<sup>th</sup> Corps of 12,000 men. Gregg's men fought with a vengeance for six hours before retreating. General Gregg was

killed at the Battle of Richmond on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864. He is buried in Odd Fellows Cemetery in Aberdeen, Mississippi.

### Civil War Usage

General call: sounded by fife and drum, this signal alerted encamped troops to strike their tents and prepare for combat.

Hoopskirt: Heavy torpedo netting of ropes supported by numerous spars projecting from the sides of Federal warships. This homemade device was designed to push aside explosives set adrift by Confederates.

Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison

### A Sesquicentennial Moment

September 4, 1862: The Confederate Blockade runner "Oreto" evades the Federal gunboat "Oneida" and reaches Mobile.

September 17, 1862: The bloodiest day in American history, The Battle of Sharpsburg [Antietam]. "Of all the days on all the fields where American soldiers have fought, the most terrible by almost any measure was September 17, 1862. The battle waged on that date, close by Antietam Creek at Sharpsburg in western Maryland, took a human toll never exceeded on any other single day in the nation's history. So intense and sustained was the violence, a man recalled, that for a moment in his mind's eye the very landscape around him turned red."

Excerpt from Stephen W. Sears book, "Landscape Turned Red"

To put the casualties into perspective there was a man killed or wounded every 2 seconds for 14 hours or 35 casualties per minute with a total of 23,000 casualties.

September 24, 1862: The Great Tyrant suspends the writ of habeus corpus.

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

### Quotes of the Heroes

A Tribute to the Confederate Battle Flag by Cpl. T. J. Carlisle of the 37th Alabama Infantry Regiment

"...hail thou flag of the brave. We lift our hats in reverence as we behold the speechless but unmistakable evidence that you have passed through the fiery ordeal of war in all its fury. We are proud of your history - proud of your scars and venerate you for your age, trusting that your sacred folds may be preserved for ages to come and when time and its inevitable ravages shall dissolve your shreds into dust may the patriotic emotions which actuated us in that memorable struggle pervade American hearts and live in vivid memories of Southern heroism and Southern chivalry."

### A creed for every Southerner

Whatever the reason, there was a citizenry that once saw fit to fight and die and I come from all that, and I look at those people as brave and gallant, and a frightful force until their hearts and their lands were burnt away. I will never turn my back on that heritage.

Lewis Grizzard-1993

### Some humor from the archives of Lewis D. Brasell

In Virginia during 1861, the quartermaster's office of a Union regiment had several cracker barrels stamped with the date 1810 that was being distributed to the troops. Set apart from the others was another barrel that someone with a sense of humor had marked "BC 97".

### Northern Industrialists and the WBTS

"Northern industrialists were fighting neither for Black freedom or White freedom, but for the freedom to exploit and develop the American market.

The freeing of the slaves was "only an incident in the violent clash of interests between the industrial North and the agricultural south—a conflict that was resolved in favor of the industrial North. In this struggle the Negro was an innocent pawn." Ralph J. Bunche 1950 Nobel Peace Prize winner."  
TYRANNY IS NEVER SATISFIED...

"You are not content with the vast millions of tribute we pay you annually under the operation of our revenue laws, our navigation laws, your fishing bounties, and by making your people our manufacturers, our merchants, our shippers. You are not satisfied with the vast tribute we pay you to build up your great cities, your railroads and your canals. You are not satisfied with the millions of tribute we have been paying you on account of the balance of exchange, which you hold against us. You are not satisfied that we of the South are almost reduced to the condition of overseers of northern capitalists. You are not satisfied with all this; but you must wage a relentless crusade against our rights."

John Reagan, Postmaster General of the Confederacy."

Source: Robert Mestas on 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**