

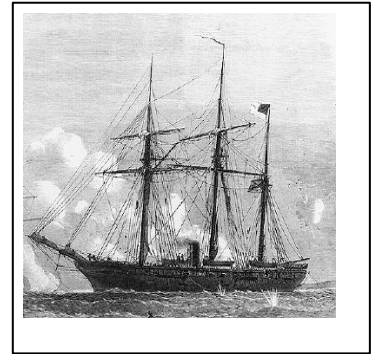
# The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11

July 2012



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

We all certainly hope that you had a safe and fun 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday. I am sure we all got our fill barbecue, water melon, and fireworks.

It would easy to complain about the heat, humidity, and rain. However that is the price we pay for living on the south end of the Heart of Dixie. We all know that a bad day in Dixie is better than a good day north of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Several of our camp members attended the National SCV Reunion. I know they had some good Confederate fellowship at Murfreesboro. At our next camp meeting Commander Ringhoffer will give us a full report of the convention.

Alright compatriots of Camp 11, its time to put on your thinking caps and get out your work clothes. We have several projects that our camp will undertake in the near future.

As all of you very well know the tombstones in Confederate Rest need constant maintenance. Our heroes are buried in the lowest part of Magnolia Cemetery. Many of the stones have begun to sink and fall over. Compatriot Darrell Neese has taken the lead on this project in the past. We will certainly lean on his expertise as we renew our effort to preserve Confederate Rest. There are also some much needed repairs to the Confederate Monument in Confederate Rest that we will have to do.

We had first considered doing a Division Heritage Rally during the sesquicentennial of the Battle of Mobile Bay in 2014. After carefully reconsidering this affair we have made a change to this plan. Instead we will host the Alabama Division Heritage Rally in 2015. The site of the rally will be at Fort McDermott. Therefore we will need to assist Compatriot Joe Dupree as he leads our camp in this preservation effort. The good news is that we have two years to get ready for this event. I think we should all be proud of this opportunity to showcase a premier site in the Mobile Campaign.

We will also be moving forward with our property at the south end of the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta Bridge [aka the Dolly Parton Bridge]. Commander Ringhoffer will propose that we install a sign on the site. The sign will be SCV/Semmes Camp related. This project will be much easier than trying

to erect and maintain a flag at the site. This will be an excellent way to get our name, and the SCV, out to the traveling public.

Our next camp meeting will be on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the Admiral Semmes Hotel. We have a very special treat for the meeting. Mr. David Bagwell will be presenting a program about a local Confederate hero, Capt. Harry Maury. Harry Maury was a very colorful character. He commanded the 15<sup>th</sup> Confederate Cavalry which operated out of Camp Hall's Mill. See you there.

In closing I urge you to 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  
Admiral Semmes, Camp 11  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
25June2012

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 Lt. Cmdr. Beetle Bailey.

The following guests were recognized:

Ed Miller  
David Cahill  
Trent Tillman

Program:

Lt. Commander Beetle Bailey introduced Ed Miller who discussed the botched drive by the federal forces to the Alabama-Mississippi state line in hopes of occupying Mobile.

Break:

Following the break, Cmdr. Ringhoffer presented SCV membership pins to Roy Pope and to Tim Hughes.

He announced that raffle tickets are available and to see Bryan Clark.

He called on Boatswain Tom Root who read a selection from Admiral Semmes autobiography. The selection concerned the women and children on board the USS Ariel which was captured in 1862.

Hudson MacDonald shared the new book on Currency of the Confederacy, Volume 1. Hudson wrote the foreword of the publication.

Paymaster Charlie Christmas reported we stand at 141 members which give us 14 votes at the National Convention scheduled for July in Murfreesboro, TN.

Cmdr. Ringhoffer briefly mentioned the Division Meeting that was held in Gunterville earlier in the month.

Our Camp is still hoping to be selected as host for the 2015 National Convention.

New historical markers have been erected at Spanish Fort.

Compatriot Claude Turberville is helping repair the monument at Confederate Rest. Cmdr. Ringhoffer mentioned this because the city is not funding Friends of Magnolia. We may have to take leadership in some of the maintenance of Confederate Rest.

Lt. Cmdr. Bailey discussed the Division Meeting. Gary Carlisle is the new Division Commander. David Myers of the Blakely Camp is the new 1st. Lt. Brigade Cmdr. Activities are reported in the Admiral's Log. Beetle then presented certificates to Cmdr. Ringhoffer, Paymaster Charlie Christmas, Memorials Chairman Joe DuPree, and Adj. Rodgers. Lt. Cmdr. Bailey also received a certificate from the Alabama Division.

The 2013 Division Meeting will be in Blakely and plans are being made for 2014 for a Battle of Mobile Bay Heritage Event.

Compatriot DuPree reported the flag of the Army of Northern Virginia will replace the First National at Confederate Rest. He also asked for a show of hands of men in the Camp who have riding mowers and equipment to move them to Confederate Rest to help with the maintenance.

Quartermaster Darrell Neese reported on those in the Camp with health issues.

There being no old business, Cmdr. Ringhoffer asked for new business.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved for the delegates to the National Convention to vote their consciences on matters brought for approval.

An application for membership for Godon LaCoste was approved unanimously pending receipt of membership dues.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by a closing prayer from Quartermaster Darrell Neese.

Respectfully submitted,  
William P. Rodgers, Adjutant

The Tactics of the Revisionists by Russell R. Lenzini [August 28, 1995]

Today, as well as in years past, the news media and Hollywood constantly try to connect the Confederate flag to the Klan & hate groups in their propaganda. It is time to put an end to this anti-Confederate slander. It is past time that the real story and the truth was told. Hitler's tactic of "tell a big enough lie often enough and people will believe it" has been utilized to the fullest extent, to smear the Confederate States of America and her symbols such as the battle flag.

Magazines, books, television shows as well as the Hollywood movie producers should hang their heads in shame for what they have done to the public. Their intentional, choreographed and premeditated distortion of history is appalling.

To show how the media uses its influence over the masses, let's study the widely acclaimed movie "Amistad". We have seen the captured Africans being shipped in the hulls of the boats. We see the leader of the ship's uprising, Cinque, kill the crew and overtake the ship. Eventually Cinque regains his freedom through a trial and is sent back to Africa, a freed man. But what Mr. Spielberg doesn't finish, is the rest of the story of our "hero" Cinque.

Once back in Africa, Cinque starts into the slave trade himself! He sure knows the "inside" slant to the business. Cinque is responsible for the capture, exportation and sales of his own brethren. Perish the thought of Mr. Spielberg including that into his wonderful movie. We can't have the whole truth now, can we??? That just wouldn't do in the eyes of the revisionists.

To me, that is an ongoing atrocity of the war of 1861-1865. The entire misconception of the Southern people as being "bad guys" just isn't correct. The real truth is held hostage and not divulged to the public. Most people are victims to this deception. And people such as me are called rebels, racists, supremacists, etc. And that is simply not true!! We simply want the whole story told and hope that people accept there were mistakes made by all people during this time.

I now want to share with you another prime example of how history gets distorted, or even worse, having real truth hidden from you. It is the story of Union Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman.

This man was responsible for burning and destroying a large portion of the South during the war. He made war upon thousands upon thousands of innocent people...men, women and children! His actions were atrocious and can be argued that they were criminal. He fervently and unashamedly declared "Total War" against the South. Not just the soldiers, but the "South" in its entirety.

To give you a bit of insight into Sherman's thought process and total disregard for human life, take into consideration a letter he wrote to his wife in July 1864 while in northern Georgia. He writes to his dear wife:

*"I begin to regard the death and mangling of a couple of thousand men as a small affair, a kind of morning dash."*

A "small affair" or a "kind of morning dash" ??? My Lord, what kind of man utters this kind of sentiment??? The likes of Hitler, Stalin or maybe Genghis Khan are the men that have this mentality towards slaughter. And definitely the likes of William Tecumseh Sherman.

Anyhow, this man named Sherman; bent on total annihilation of the South had another dark side that the vast majority of Americans are not aware of. During the entire term of his service as a general in the US army, he owned 13 slaves that actually traveled with him for his personal use, convenience and service. It wasn't until after the war in late 1865, that he released these slaves. His slaves were kept even though Lincoln freed the slaves in 1862 with the Emancipation Proclamation following the battle of Antietam.

Again, a matter of hypocrisy to be sure. But you are not supposed to know this dark side to General Sherman, for it would taint American history and make the "good guys" look bad.

A Sesquicentennial Moment, July 1862

July 4<sup>th</sup>: Colonel John Hunt Morgan begins a long raid deep into Yankee territory.

July 13<sup>th</sup>: General Nathan Bedford Forrest captures Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

July 15<sup>th</sup>: The Confederate ironclad "Arkansas" engages Yankee gun boats on the Yazoo River. She breaks out into the Mississippi River and gains safety under the guns of Vicksburg.

July 29<sup>th</sup>: In Liverpool, England, steamer 290 sets sail for the Portuguese island of Terceira. There Admiral Semmes converts steamer 290 to the C. S. S. Alabama [Roll, Alabama, Roll].

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

Confederate Birthdays

Edmund Winston Pettus was born in Limestone County, Alabama, on July 6, 1821. Pettus was a lawyer and a statesman as well as a brigadier general in the Confederate army. He served in the Mexican War and practiced law in Gainesville, Alabama. At the beginning of the WBTS he organized the 20<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry Regiment. General Pettus served at Port Gibson, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta Campaign, Nashville, Franklin, and the Carolinas. After the war he returned to Alabama where he was elected to the US Senate in 1896. He served in that capacity until 1907. General Pettus died on July 27, 1907. He is buried in Live Oak Cemetery in Selma, Alabama.

Civil War Usage

Jackass gun: A mountain howitzer on a pack carriage.

Katydid: A term for VMI cadets and other young and inexperienced soldiers. The word stems from the green color of the insect.

Light marching order: This order sent the infantry moving as fast as possible. Knapsacks and blankets were abandoned for the sake of speed.

Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison

## WBTS Trivia

Mary Boykin Chesnut was a keen observer of Washington politics as well as in her home state of South Carolina. Her diary contains a wealth of insight and commentary.

## Quotes of the Heroes

"There was no surrender at Appomattox, and no withdrawal from the field which committed our people and their children to a heritage of shame and dishonor. No cowardice on any battlefield could be as base and shameful as the silent acquiescence in the scheme which was teaching the children in their homes and schools that the commercial value of slavery was the cause of the war, that prisoners of war held in the South were starved and treated with a barbarous inhumanity, that Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee were traitors to their country and false to their oaths, that the young men who left everything to resist invasion, and climbed the slopes of Gettysburg and died willingly on a hundred fields were rebels against a righteous government."

The Reverend James Power Smith, last surviving member of General Jackson's staff, 1907

"How few of our children know that Jamestown, Virginia, was settled many years before the Pilgrim Fathers came to this country, or that the vast domain which forms four-fifths of the United States was won by Southern men, or that slavery was forced upon this country by England, seconded by New England, or that in 1860 most of the slaves were communicants in churches." Rev. J. H. McNeilly Chaplain, 49th Tennessee Infantry Regiment C. S. A.

## Upcoming Events

August 4<sup>th</sup>: Battle of Mobile Bay Commemoration at Ft. Gaines and Ft. Morgan

August 4<sup>th</sup>: Alabama Division Executive Council meeting at Confederate Memorial Park

August 11<sup>th</sup>: Southern Heritage Conference in Laurel, Mississippi.

## **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**