TOGETHER AGAIN

When General Pat Cleburne’s body was found on the Franklin battlefield, he still had his pistol and his kepi. Last month they were back together for the first time for a one-week public display at Carnton, the last place they were seen together.

Cleburne’s artifacts were on display at Carnton.

After the battle, his pistol was sent to his fiancée. The pistol came to Carnton on loan from The Layland Museum in Cleburne, Texas, which is named in his honor, while his kepi is part of the TN State Museum’s collection after a donation by the McGavock family. Carrie McGavock, mistress of Carnton, removed Cleburne’s kepi and sword, now believed to be in private hands.

As far as it is known, this is the first time his kepi and pistol have been viewed together since they were separated shortly after the general’s death. This was a once-in-a-lifetime event.

CONFEDERACY AT CARNTON

Last month there was ceremony at Carnton to dedicate a plaque honoring General Loring’s Division. A 21-gun salute was given by members of our camp and Murfreesboro Camp 33.

Maj. Gen. William W. Loring’s Division

During the Battle of Franklin, this Confederate division, composed of three brigades commanded by Brig. Gens. Winfield Scott Featherston, Thomas Moore Scott, and John Adams, swept past Carnton as it approached the Federal line just after 4 p.m. on November 30, 1864. Subjected to artillery fire in the area, Loring’s Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana troops took casualties with each step as they closed upon the Federal works. Carnton was quickly taken over as Loring’s field hospital and the first wounded were taken into the house around sunset. By the time the battle ended around 9 p.m., Gen. Adams was dead, Gen. Scott was wounded, seven of Loring’s sixteen regimental commanders were wounded or dying, and nearly 1,000 of his 3,500 men were casualties. Today, many of these fallen soldiers rest in the nearby McGavock Confederate Cemetery.

TN DIV ’09 Reunion
Our camp will be hosting the Tennessee Division Reunion next year. It is fitting that we are the host camp because it is the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Davis statue on the Tennessee State Capitol grounds. It will be held at Travellers Rest on Saturday, April 4th. Not only is the location already in place but so is the speaker, the music, and the afternoon tour guide. An Internet domain name has been purchased specifically for the reunion. Program ideas are being formulated and the design for the commemorative medal is being worked on.

I will need a lot of help from camp members to pull off this monster of a task. I especially need someone to chair the committee that solicits ads for the program so we will not lose camp money by hosting the reunion. If someone would step up and volunteer to be the ads chairman, that would be a big weight off my shoulders.

CW Trails Marker
One of the sessions at the “Fighting for the Heartland” symposium just held in Franklin featured a speaker who gave a presentation on the Tennessee CW Trails project. Our proposal, the Winstead Hill marker, has been hand delivered to the Tennessee Dept. of Tourism Development. The wording was reviewed by several historians and the pictures were provided by Ronnie Townes. If you haven’t contributed to the project and would like to do so, you can send your cheque to our P.O. box or give it to Ronnie at a meeting.

Remembering Sam
At the Memorial Day held at our State Capitol, Ruth Mallonee gave a terrific talk about Sam Davis and Gene Andrews told us all about the Confederate Marine uniform he was so handsomely wearing. Afterwards, several of us went to the TN State Museum to see Sam’s coat and shoes.

National Reunion
If you are going to the national reunion in Mt. Pleasant/Concord, North Carolina, please be advised that there aren’t any restaurants near the Cabarrus Arena where the reunion is going to be held. Meals are being provided so that you will not have to travel to eat lunch and supper. It would be difficult to leave the arena, drive to eat and return in time for the next meeting. I understand that the arena has a great chef.

The Ladies Fashion Show on Friday will have authentic as well as reproduction clothing displayed and modeled. Discussions will be conducted on “Why they wore what they did.”

This year’s Grand Ball will also be different. It is being held in a large facility within the Cabarrus Arena. Music will be provided by “Un-reconstructed.” The theme for the ball is “Under the Southern Cross” and will feature a huge battle flag overhead. The arena facility says it is going all out to decorate the grand ballroom. For the ball, you can dress in period clothing or suit and tie and evening dress.

The concerts, awards luncheons, ladies luncheons, tour, and the banquet and ball give you a chance to visit with friends, many of whom you may only see at these reunions.

The “Pride of the South” show is a new concept for our national reunion and is free for all registered SCV members. This year there will be a vendors area that will be much larger than in previous years.

On Saturday, there will be an antique car show. The Hunley submarine will be on exhibit and you can meet the people who work for the “Friends of the Hunley.”

Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson will be available for shutterbugs, as will re-enacters. Sounds like a good time to me. I hope to see some of our camp members there.
The Colonel
At the age of 53, Thomas Cartwright (the “Colonel,” as the kids call him at the Carter House summer camp) says it’s time to explore other professional options including doing consulting work, leading extended three-day battlefield tours and perhaps authoring a book. Thomas says, “I think I have a few books in me.” Thomas says he’s leaving now rather than staying too long while other professional opportunities are available.

“I love this place with all my heart and always will. I hope I have brought attention to a site where so many perished. From the start, my whole purpose was to help these brave Americans be remembered,” says Thomas.

Thomas did bring that focus to the Carter House but also to the interpretation of the Battle of Franklin. It is hard to think about him not being on site.

Sam Davis camp member David Fraley is the interim director. He will do a good job.

Two More Directors Out
Not only has Thomas resigned his position, but David Currey is not at Travellers Rest and Angela Calhoun has left Carnton.

Successful Event
This year’s fundraising event at Gen. Forrest’s Boyhood Home was more successful compared to last year. The weather was probably a favorable factor since it wasn’t scorching and the threat of rain never materialized.

The cavalry and artillery demonstrations are always crowd favorites. General Forrest (Stan Dalton) once again was a main attraction and many people had their pictures taken with him.

Elizabeth Coker and ladies of the OCR had a prominent role before and during the event. Debbie Raymer would like to express her thanks to everyone who contributed funds to help purchase food for the occasion. Also she wants to say how much she appreciated those who helped prepare and serve the food: Aida Minter (and her grandchildren), Billy Robertson, Pat Kirtland, Scott Andrews, Gloria Pfeiffer, and T. Bryant Hornal.

Ole Bedford’s
Murfreesboro Camp 33’s 10th annual Black Eyed Pea and Sweet Potato Supper will be held on Saturday, July 5th at Oaklands Plantation from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The speaker will be Jack Hurst, author of the book Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Old Times Not Forgot
Murfreesboro Camp 33 will have a presence at Uncle Dave Macon Days on July 12th and 13th at Cannonsburgh Village. For more detailed information, go to www.uncledavemacondays.com.

CW Roundtable
The next Franklin CW Roundtable will be Sunday, July 13th. The speaker will be Thomas Forehand who spoke at our camp meeting in March. If you missed hearing his impersonation of General Lee or you want to bring a friend, here is your opportunity. The meeting begins at 3:00 p.m. at the Williamson County Library on Columbia Pike. Too bad he isn’t doing General Forrest since July 13th is his birthday.

Home Again at Chapel
After three months of being away from our home base, Woodson Chapel, we will be returning there for the rest of this year’s meetings.

Our July 24th camp meeting speaker is Greg Biggs. His topic will be: “Failure in the West - The Army of the Heartland.” If you heard Greg at the Forrest Seminar at Rippavilla back in the Fall, you know you don’t want to miss another chance to hear him.

The Big Bang
Huwald’s Battery has had a busy June. The mules and cannons were active for three weekends in a row. July isn’t quite so hectic. They will be demonstrating at Travellers Rest on Saturday, July 26th. Since a large number of our camp are members of Huwald’s, you might want to stop by TR to visit the camp and hear some loud noises.
MONUMENTAL DAY IN FRANKLIN

On June 19th, a special ceremony was held back of the Holt House on Columbia Pike. Ernie Bacon, president of Franklin’s Charge, introduced Eric Jacobson, who gave an overview of what happened on this site on November 30, 1864, and set the stage for a presentation.

Eric said, “This is certainly quite a day. There is a lot of hallowed ground in Franklin but you would be hard pressed to find ground that is more important than where we are gathered, as far as preservation is concerned. This site certainly fulfills the definition of hallowed ground.

“Around dawn, Federal engineers began laying out where their lines would be situated. We are standing on the interior of the Federal position. What those men saw from this area, looking South, is almost unimaginable. When a man, who was here, said, ‘You could live twelve lifetimes and never see anything like it -- an odd mixture of awe and terror,’ it tells you something. To watch 19,000 Confederate soldiers, stretching over a front two miles wide, come right toward you, knowing full well every single one of those men will kill you if they get the chance, would leave an indelible impression on you. The sheer brute force of the assault was centered here in the middle, the epicenter of the battle.

“Even after Gen. Patrick Cleburne fell, his soldiers ruptured the Federal line. They gashed a 200-yard hole right in this area on both sides of the road. Almost the entire area up to the cotton gin was opened. The main line had been penetrated but the Federals rallied. Suddenly 7,000 or 8,000 men would be battling each other on this side of the road not just with rifles and bayonets but with their bare hands. Sometimes people wonder why veterans don’t talk about what they have been through. One Confederate outside the works said, ‘They were shooting us down like animals in a pen.’ Another said, ‘It was a place where the Devil had full possession of the earth.’ I doubt very much that he was exaggerating because, when you consider seeing bodies four to six deep and the carnage, both on the works and in the interior, men covered with mud, blood, and filth, you would agree.

“This is hallowed ground. I can’t believe this day has come to fruition. As someone who is quite emotionally invested in what happened in Franklin, I usually don’t get emotional -- but I’m pretty close. The boys who fought here would be very proud of the efforts of everyone who has been involved in this project. The veterans tried until they died in the early 20th Century to save this ground so people could come and see it and think about what happened here. Keep that in your thoughts as we move forward from this accomplishment and hopefully to others.”

Following the recounting of what happened on the site, the deed for one acre of land was presented to Ernie. He said, “This land plus the cotton gin assault land, the Williamson County Heritage Foundation cotton gin house, the Carter House, and the eastern flank at Carnton puts us closer to paying just tribute to the soldiers. Franklin’s Charge will begin very soon to return this property to battlefield status so that it can be celebrated appropriately during the Tennessee Sesquicentennial which is coming up in 2011.”
MONUMENTAL continued ...

Next, Ernie introduced Robert Hicks, who shared his vision for the Un-Civil War battlefield program. Robert said, “It is amazing that what happened here almost 150 years ago was so quickly forgotten. People with short vision were able to subdivide, tear up, and rebuild on this property. So much that had happened in the War, so much that was important to men, both North and South, despite the pleas of those veterans, was ignored as “progress” went on. Now, as we approach the 150th observance of the event, we are trying to right some of that wrong.

“We are moving forward to the day when we can reconstruct the cotton gin. One of the most interesting and unique parts of all is the cenotaph. In the 19th Century, this was the only monument built as a memorial to the Battle of Franklin. Even the monument on the Square was more a memorial to the Lost Cause of the general Confederacy rather than to anyone specifically who died here at the Battle of Franklin. Franklin is not even mentioned on the monument in the Square. There was one monument built, a cenotaph to memorialize Gen. Patrick Cleburne. It stood at about the spot where he died and stayed there until this property was divided. At that point, the monument was torn down and became the foundation for the Holt House that Franklin’s Charge has just bought for $950,000.

“It is not simply a case where we planned to acquire property, realizing that reclaiming battlefield is important. As we move toward the 150th anniversary of the War, we look to the day when the house can be moved, the cenotaph rebuilt, the cotton gin rebuilt, and the trench reconstructed that ran in front of the gin. There were people in the 19th Century that would have doubted that what we are doing would ever happen. Franklin is going to set the standard for all of Tennessee, to show it can be done despite rising land costs and all the nay-sayers.”

Executive Director of the Tennessee Historical Commission, Patrick McIntire, said, “What has taken place today is an extraordinary story in historic preservation. There was so much pain here that the Battle of Franklin tale got obscured, but there’s not another place in the United States that is trying harder to reclaim their story and embrace that effort than here. What has gone on today is another example of that attempt.

“It is going to be very important to do archaeological research in order to rebuild the cotton gin and the cenotaph. We need to get the exact location that each occupied. To do that, the science of archaeology will play a big role. The same goes for determining the site of the trenches, etc. That is one logical way our War Commission can play a part -- hopefully to fund some things as these projects move forward.

“The event today is an example of how, in the coming years, Franklin has positioned itself ideally as heritage tourism continues to grow and develop. In the coming year, there is going to be a sudden burst of interest as we move toward the Sesquicentennial.”

This has been a fantastic day in Tennessee preservation history. Congratulations to Franklin’s Charge for their monumental efforts.
NEW MEMBER:  TONY SCHOFIELD

Our newest camp member was asked, Who was your relative that fought in the War?

“It was a long search. I had to go way back in my family tree to draw any conclusions about my ancestors who fought with the Confederacy in the War. Most of my relatives on my father’s side were Yankees. On my mother’s side, 96% of the Kentucky mountain county where she lived voted not to secede. I had seven great grandfathers who fought for the Union. I thought, this is just not fair; my ancestry is not cooperating with me. So, I got on the Internet and started doing all kinds of research and found some confusing records. But I am a left-brained accountant and if things don’t make sense, I don’t give up. I also went down to the Tennessee State Archives and cleared up some of the problem.

“It took me the better part of two years to unravel the story. As it turned out, I needed to account for every John Low that would have been under a certain age in January 1863. I found all of them except for my great-great-grandfather. His cousin had reported him as being underage, so he was sent home after being in the army for a year. He was Pvt. John Rat Low from Co. A, Kain’s Artillery - Mabry’s Light Artillery. John Low was the youngest soldier on either side in the War. He joined when he was eight!”

How did you hear about the SCV?

“Anyone who finds the War interesting knows about the Sons. I knew because I’ve been a War history buff for a long time. A couple of years ago I decided it was time to do some genealogy.”

What do you want or expect to get out of being a member of the camp? “There are two things. First of all, it may sound corny, but I knew about the charge that we got in 1891 from S.D. Lee and was already doing what the charge invoked. I was upholding the honor of the Confederate veteran and whenever I got into a discussion with anyone who was misinformed about the War, I would correct their thinking with a history lesson. When I found out my family’s history, I felt that I needed to join the SCV and give honor to my ancestors -- which I was already doing, but my membership made it official.

“The other thing I hope to get out of my membership is the fellowship of others who are of the same mind set. That’s important to me.”

Do you have any special interests related to the War? “Yes, re-enactment. My son Benjamin is interested in it too. For instance, when he was in grade school a couple of years ago, they had a play about the War. All the students got to choose a character and Ben chose to be General Lee. We dressed him up appropriately. Ben did some research so he knew what to say when he had to surrender. He said, ‘I would rather die a 1,000 deaths but my troops are starving and we have no ammunition so I am forced to surrender.’ We got his performance on film; it was great. I told him that, after I joined the SCV, we would get in a re-enactment group.” (Both Tony and Ben now have their uniforms and have already participated twice with Huwald’s Battery.)
GRAND EVENT AT THE WATTS’

The annual camp picnic, hosted by Dr. David and Vicki Watts, was an outstanding event. The food was excellent and the bouquets of flowers on every table under the big tent really made it special. There were even fans mounted on the four corner posts to create a breeze.

Everyone seemed to have a superb time. The Watts’ provided a very inviting setting, which made it easy for people to sit around and visit. A highlight of the evening was Dr. Watts receiving a certificate, presented by Jerry Raymer.

To
Dr. David R. Watts

Whereas, those individuals and organizations, ever conscious of their obligation to our nation and preservation of its true history, and

Whereas, in fulfilling this great obligation they become a force in strengthening the basic foundation of American liberty, now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Tennessee Division Sons of Confederate Veterans express, in this way, gratitude and appreciation for the inestimable benefits which have accrued from a cordial relationship, together with hope that the future witness the same splendid co-operation.

Given this 14th day of June, 2008 in the City of Brentwood, State of Tennessee

Commander, Michael R. Bradley

HELPING TO FUND PROJECTS

Talented Mike Jackson built a collection box for Winstead Hill.
Published by
The Sam Davis Camp 1293
Sons of Confederate Veterans
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Newsletter Editor, Richard Rust
Newsletter Assistant, Bill Powell
Webmaster, Allen Sullivant

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UPCOMING CAMP CALENDAR

July 16 - 20
SCV Reunion in Mt. Pleasant, NC

July 24
Meeting w/ Speaker: Greg Biggs
Woodson Chapel, 7:00 p.m.

August 23 - 24
Recruitment at Bob Pope’s Gun Show

August 28
Meeting w/ Speaker: Dr. Michael Bradley
The OCR will be serving a Summer treat
Woodson Chapel, 7:00 p.m.

September 25
Meeting w/ Speaker: Dr. Carole Bucy
Woodson Chapel, 7:00 p.m.

Gene and Ruth at the Capitol.
Billy and Lennie at Travellers Rest.
Larry at TR.