



TRAVELLER



The official publication of the General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, Tennessee

Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry

Deo Vindici

October, 2012

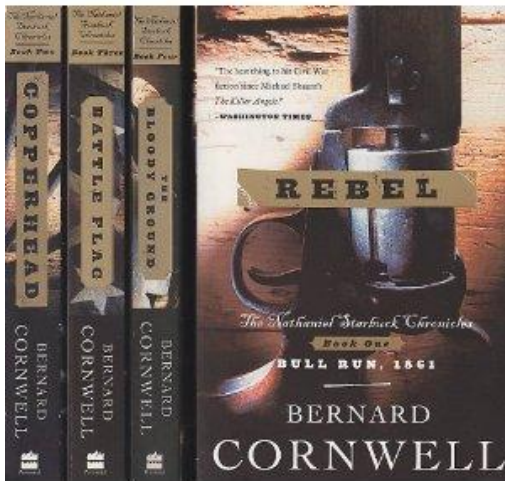
CAMP MEETING

October 8, 2012

Speaker: Beecher Smith

Topic: Bernard Cornwell's "The Starbuck Chronicles"

**7:00 p.m. at the Pickering Center
Don't miss our next camp meeting.**



Beecher Smith Featured Speaker at R.E. Lee Camp October Meeting

The speaker for our October camp meeting, Beecher Smith, is a retired attorney with a double major from Millsaps College in English Literature and World History. He will present a review of all four books in internationally acclaimed historical author BERNARD CORNWELL'S Civil War Saga about Nathaniel Starbuck, a Boston Yale divinity student who fights for the South. The series begins at the outbreak of the War and continues through the Battle

of Antietam. Smith is a distant cousin of Confederate General Thomas Drayton, General Forrest's quartermaster Major Edward Alfred Beecher, as well as a distant cousin of infamous Yankees Henry Ward Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe. His historical articles on Generals Beauregard and Edmund Kirby-Smith have appeared in THE TRAVELER.

Notes from the Field

By Lieutenant Commander Mark Buchanan

Letters from Augustus Abernathy to his family in Arkansas:

New Madrid Missouri

January 11 1862

Dear Sister,

You should see the excitement in camp. Field officers galloping to and fro shouting orders, weary sentries challenging every passerby in a loud and stentorian voices. Toward the wagon yard one sees mules being hitched and the sound of more wagons rattling up while soldiers run, pitching blankets, knapsacks pell-mell into the moving wagons. Every thing a mass of movement and confusion. Suddenly we hear the order to march and there goes our glorious confederate flag, which always brings a lump in ones throat. Where those boys have started no one knows and whether they live to return or not again no one knows.

New Madrid Missouri

February 27 1862

Pa has written to Ma and Henry to you so I will close. Kiss the children and tell the negroes howdy. Give my regards to the girls living close by.

Camp Tunnel Hill Georgia

December 7, 1863

Dear Father,

I do not know whether you have written me or not but I have never received but 2 letters from home. Mr Parsons brought me a letter from you last Spring and Bird Smith came from there last week with letters for a lot of the boys but none for me.

We are having a hard time. The 19 and 24 Reg. have been consolidated. The 8 Arkansas and all have been placed in Ledills Brigade. The Georgia and Tennessee men have been whipped at Lookout Mt. but our western men drove the Yanks off 3 times. We waded the Chickamauga River by wading water and mud all night to reach Ringold where we built a fire to dry our clothing.

The Yanks were on us again and we fought for 5 hours. I received a bullet in my hip. It looks bloody and black but does not pain me. If everyone fought as the Arkansas and Texas men we would soon whip the Yanks. Most of our men are going barefooted on the frozen ground. My shoes are in threads. It is strange to see the wealthiest men of Arkansas without enough clothes to cover their nakedness, but thats what I see every day. We are hungry, cold and starved but I do not intend to give up as long as I am able to stand.

Gus fell defending Atlanta, when the Confederacy was still a country. His brother of whom he often wrote, survived the war.

There have been authors who wrote that there was a lack of resolve on the part of the southerners to continue the fight for independence. I think Mr. Abernathy proves them wrong, don't you agree?

Lynyrd Skynyrd Clears Up Controversy Over Confederate Flag

On Sept. 9, three members of Sothern rock band Lynrd Skynyrd (Gary Rossington, Rickey Medlocke and Johnny Van Zant) appeared on CNN to discuss their new album, "Last of a Dyin' Breed." Toward the end of the discussion, interviewer they were asked about the band appearing to disassociate themselves from the Confederate flag.

"It became such an issue about race and stuff where we just had it in the beginning because we were Southern, and that was our image back in the '70s and late '60s ... but I think through the years, people like the KKK and skinheads and people kind of kidnapped the Dixie or Rebel flag from the Southern and the heritage of the soldiers," explained guitarist and sole original band member Rossington. "We didn't want that to go to our fans or show the image

like we agreed with any of the race stuff or any of the bad things."

That didn't go well with some fans; messages left on the CNN board indicated they felt that leaving the flag out of the routine was a slap in the face and kowtowing to political correctness. "By ignoring and denying the flag that is part of their history, they are leaving a large segment of their fan base behind," wrote G.D. Smith on the boards. "It's a shame that money is now more important than honor or heritage."

"We hope you never come back to 'Sweet Home Alabama,'" wrote another fan, L.E. Thompson.

Well, never let it be said that Skynyrd isn't responsive to its fans; last Friday, Rossington posted a message on the band's website to "clarify the discussion of the Confederate Flag" in the interview, writing:

"Myself, the past members and the present members (that are from the South), are all extremely proud of our heritage and being from the South. We know what the Dixie flag represents and its heritage; the Civil War was fought over States rights.

"We still utilize the Confederate (Rebel) flag on stage every night in our shows, we are and always will be a Southern American Rock band, first and foremost. We also utilize the state flag of Alabama and the American flag as well, 'cause at the end of the day, we are all Americans. I only stated my opinion that the confederate flag, at times, was unfairly being used as a symbol by various hate groups, which is something that we don't support the flag being used for. The Confederate flag means something more to us, Heritage not Hate..."



Confederate Silver Dollar

Coin in plastic sleeve \$65.00 ea.
Coin encased in plastic \$75.00 ea.
Add \$20.00 for shipping & handling

**Price subject to change with market fluctuation.
Call for live quotes*



The coin itself is one troy ounce of .999 fine silver. It was minted in Washington State by the Northwest Territorial Mint (NWTM).

One side of the coin features the Great Seal of the Confederacy, showing Colonial George Washington astride his horse. The other side of the coin was designed in 2002. The scripture "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" is from Psalm 33:12 and celebrates the strong Christian faith and tradition of the old South. The centerpiece is an eagle from a U.S. 1830s silver half-dollar, a coin in circulation during the war. The Breastplate or shield has the "Stars and Bars" of the battle flag with CSA (Confederate States of America) above.

Much history rests in this coin. It can be kept as a treasured keepsake or given as a gift.

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*With a new member
brought in by yourself*

Lee Camp Members Only

*See Camp Commander
for more information
Tarry Beasley*

Visit our website @ www.atlanticbullionandcoin.com

Commander's Corner

Gentlemen,

The SEPTEMBER MEETING was downright exciting! If you were not there you should have been. Mr. Lee Miller gave a great talk on the C S Navy sometimes called the Brown Water Navy and the Battle of Memphis where we took on the d...yankee flotilla of their Navy and their Army rams. Outnumbered so greatly but not out fought the Confederates got the worst of the engagement but two of our ships made it through the fight and on down river to Vicksburg. Lee's research found a mislabeled photo of a Confederate ship in the Navy archives and he informed them that it was one of ours NOT theirs! It was the world's largest inland Naval battle ever and it occurred here at Memphis following the Confederate Naval victory at Plum Point which we never hear about since the d...yankees lost that engagement.

There were 32 in attendance and 5 past Commanders of the Camp including Gary Hood, Don Harrison, Clark Doan, Bill Simmons, Mark Buchanan and myself. We have a small disconnect between the actual number in attendance and the sign in roster which is eventually made a part of the minutes and records of the camp. Some of you forget to sign in so at the next meeting try to remember that as your name will go down in history by having signed in. There were two awards to be presented but both recipients were AOL this month. We will present another War Service medal and another Life Membership certificate at our next meeting.

DUES are due and will be considered late after October, so please get them in today if you have not already done so. We need your support in honoring all of our ancestors. The dues are 60.00 for the year if paid now. Let's try to have a 100% renewal of our membership. Several Camps do this each year out of the 600 plus camps in the Confederation. We can do this. Mail your check TODAY to the R E Lee Camp, P O Box 171251, Memphis, TN 38187 and show your pride in you Southern heritage and ancestors.

MEETING PLACES were again discussed as the City of Germantown is at the end of our current lease raising the lease rate to 200.00 per meeting. Several restaurants have been suggested so if you have a suggestion please call Mark Buchanan or me and let us know about it. It would be best if it had a separate room that can be closed off and hold at least 35 persons. Our meetings would begin as usual at 7:00

but if you wanted to eat that would begin at 6:00.

GERMANTOWN HISTORIC TOUR is being seriously studied. The Camp was entrusted about doing the tour based on the member's response at the camp meeting. Commander Hood, Commander Doan and Commander Harrison all related to the newer members of the Camp our successful Elmwood tours that were accomplished in 1995 and thru 2001. We will all need to pitch in and help with this project. It should accomplish a couple of objectives: first it will introduce the citizens of Germantown to the R E Lee Camp of the SCV and second it will educate the population to the real struggle that occurred and why our ancestors fought to keep the invading d...yankees out. We are tentatively looking at developing 4 or 5 stops on the Tour. One at Fort Germantown, one at either the Presbyterian or the Baptist Churches that are still with us from the w period, one at the McVey Cemetery, and one at an original antebellum home where the ladies will demonstrate a tea of the period as well. The stops will have explanations of what was going on there and explain the importance of the railroad and Germantown's location in the War. The dates being looked at are April 20th or 27. If you know of any conflict with your calendar please advise us as we will need all of our hands on deck for this. If you would like to write a script or do some research call me today. We need you!!!! These events are FUN!!!! Wouldn't you like to be dress up in a top hat long tails and walk around talking about the War in the first person? General N. B. Forrest may even join in and be there. Be at our next meeting October 8th and let's get a plan laid out and see where you will fit the best there are a lot of jobs to be done.

Our Camp has a long history of putting on Walking tours at Elmwood and Forest Hill Cemeteries for many years and also a tour of old homes in Memphis all of which were very successful with literally 1,000s of persons taking the tours over the years. I have been asked numerous time "when are we were doing the tour this year?" only to have to answer during the last 5 or 6 years that we were not currently doing them. The people (usually 300 to 1000) always seemed to enjoy the presentations and most repeated the tour the next year or two.

AMERICAN by birth, SOUTHERN by the Grace of God.

Sincerely,

Tarry Beasley, Commander



New Cannons Mounted at Confederate Park

The two guns mounted on the southern end of the park (pictured) represent Bankhead's Battery. They are a Quimy-Robinson 12 lb. field howitzer, and a Quimby-Robinson 6 lb. smoothbore.

Two other guns on the north end of the park represent the Memphis Appeal Battery.

SCV LIFE MEMBERS ROSTER

T. Tarry Beasley II	T. Tarry Beasley III
Winston Blackley	Eugene Callaway
John Cole	W. Kent Daniel Jr.
James Anthony Davis	Hubert Dellinger Jr.,
MD H. Clark Doan	Eugene Forrester
Robert Freeman	Donald Harrison
Frederick Harrison	Frank Holeman
M. Gary Hood	William P Hunter, Jr.
Bobby Lessel	Jerry C. Lunsford
Frank M. McCroskey	Steve McIntyre
Arthur Oliver	Charles Wendell Park
Steve Reasons	Bill Simmons
Larry J. Spiller, Sr.	Larry J. Spiller, Sr.
Osborn Turner, IV	Charles L Vernon
William C. Wilson	

41 % of active members



Traveller is the monthly newsletter of:

The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640
Sons of Confederate Veterans
and

The Mary Custis Lee Chapter,
Order of the Confederate Rose
P.O. Box 171251
Memphis, Tennessee 38187

Steve M. McIntyre, Editor



**Next Camp Meeting ** October 8, 2012
Germantown Pickering Center, 7771 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**