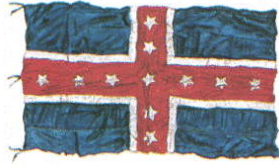


The Webfoot

Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29

Published Monthly



February 17th - March 16th Issue

CAMP REPORT

Friends, Compatriots and to all concerned,

On March 16th we will have a Lt. Colonel Michael Guthrie speaking to us about his endeavor to start up an all Male Military College based on the old Virginia Military Institute. This will be the first time he has ever spoken to any SCV camp and will be traveling from Madison, Alabama. This will be quite an interesting meeting and will be the first time we've ever had any active duty military personnel speak to us - Feel free to bring friends and family. This will be a very interesting meeting to say the least.

If at all possible and out of consideration it is important that you try to make this next meeting. Your participation and attendance will determine our future guests.

On another note, the camp leadership needs to speak with active Confederate re-enactors to discuss a ceremony in the early month of May and to work out some details on how it will be conducted. If work schedules keep you away March 16th, feel free to contact anyone in leadership by telephone.

Respectfully Your Obedient Servant,

Jack Taylor, II

Camp Adjutant/Editor

The Webfoot

Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29

Digital Edition

FEBRUARY 17TH MINUTES

February 17th, 2004 marked the second meeting of the year for the Sam Watkins Camp #29. Guest speaker was the distinguished Dr. Michael Bradley of Tullahoma, Tenn.

7:07PM - Meeting started with prayer. After prayer the camp said the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and said the honorary salute to the Confederate battle flag.

7:10PM - Commander Greg Atwell introduced Dr. Michael Bradley of Tullahoma, Tennessee.

7:11PM - Dr. Bradley began his presentation on his latest book, "With Blood & Fire: Life Behind Union Lines In Middle Tennessee, 1863-65. The subject of the book and his main topic for the evening was based on the detailed records of Provost Marshall Robert Milroy during the Middle Tennessee occupation. He detailed many atrocities committed during that time by the Provost Marshall. Backing up his claim, he spoke of numerous detailed records and shown copies of the orders by the Provost Marshall for certain individuals to be murdered during that time period.

7:41PM- Dr. Bradley allows for questions and answers.

7:55PM - Dr. Bradley ends his talk and allows the camp to look over his latest books.

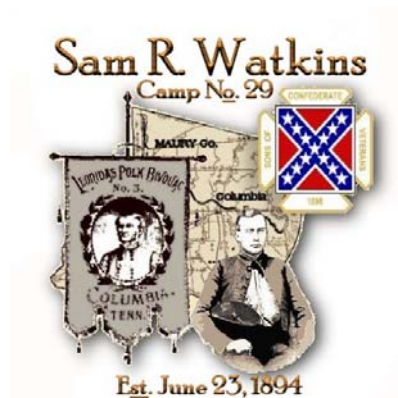
8:06PM- Commander Greg Atwell begins the business meeting for the camp and goes over the upcoming elections due for the State Division of the SCV in April. The camp went over the fact that very few have come forward for positions and so far only James Patterson of Murfreesboro is running for the position of Commander and that Jason Goodrich of Lawrenceburg is running for the position of 2nd Lt. Commander.

Atwell mentioned the latest financial report given by Adjutant Jack Taylor and

commended his report. He also reiterated the fact that the camp needs to visit the Jackson College Cemetery and help out with its restoration.

8:14PM - Past Commander Robert A. Bain announced to the camp that the Maury Grays, 1st Tenn. Re-enacting unit have been invited to participate in the upcoming C.S.S. Hunley Funeral. He said they would be involved with as much of the actual ceremony as possible.

8:28PM - Meeting adjourns.



Legislation would re-erect Confederate flags at two historical sites

Associated Press 2/20/04

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. - The Confederate flag would be raised again at two historical sites in Missouri under bills pending in the state Legislature.

The bill in the House, sponsored by state Rep. - Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, would allow the Missouri State Park Board to decide matters related to proposed changes in historical markers and monuments on state property.

The measure is a response to a January 2003 decision by Missouri Department of Natural Resources director Stephen Mahfood to remove Confederate flags that had long flown over the Confederate Memorial State Historic Site, a cemetery in Higginsville, and the Fort Davidson State Historic Site in Pilot Knob. Under the bill, discussed Wednesday by the House Corrections and State Institutions Committee, flags at both sites would be restored and remain in place unless the park board, after public hearings, decides they should be removed. The committee did not

take any immediate action. A similar bill is pending in the Senate.

"This would give the general public due process and allow their input into what is going on with our state parks system," Mayer said.

Bruce Hillis, of Dexter, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, said the bill is about preserving history, not flags. But state Rep. Betty Thompson, D-St. Louis, said many black Missourians see the flag as a symbol of violence and oppression.

"I couldn't in good conscience support this bill," said Thompson, who is black.

The familiar Confederate battle flag has sometimes been linked to hate groups like the Ku Klux Klan. However, bill co-sponsor Rep. J.C. Kuessner said the flag at Pilot Knob was a battle flag unique to the Confederate unit that fought at the site.

"I guarantee you very few people know what that flag looks like," said Kuessner, D-Eminence, whose great-great grandfather was a member of the unit that fought there.

50,000 expected to attend last Confederate funeral

Associated Press 02/17/04

CHARLESTON, S.C. - As many as 50,000 people are expected to come to Charleston in April for what organizers are calling the last Confederate funeral -- the burial of the crew of the submarine H.L. Hunley.

The Hunley was the first submarine in history to sink an enemy warship and Tuesday was the 140th anniversary of the Hunley mission.

The vessel with its crew of eight sank Feb. 17, 1864, after sinking the Union blockade ship Housatonic off Charleston. The sub was raised in 2000 and brought to a conservation lab at the old Charleston Naval Base.

About 2,000 people, many of them Confederate re-enactors, have signed up to make the almost 5-mile funeral march on April 17 from Charleston's Battery to Magnolia Cemetery.

There the crew will be buried next to the remains of two other crews who died in earlier

sinkings.

"We are into the home stretch now," Hunley Commission Chairman Glenn McConnell said Monday. "Very shortly, we will reunite all three crews in port."

The Hunley sank three times during the Civil War -- once after it was swamped at its mooring, again during a test run and finally after its sinking of the Housatonic.

During the week leading up to the April 17 funeral, facial reconstructions and biographies of the crewmen will be unveiled. There will also be lectures, ceremonies and vigils.

The public will be able to pay their respects to the crew at the aircraft carrier Yorktown at Patriots Point on April 12 and 13, at John Wesley United Methodist Church on April 14, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on April 15, and the Church of the Holy Communion on April 16.

The day of the funeral, the remains of each of the crewmen will be loaded onto a separate horse-drawn caisson for the funeral procession.

"It is a funeral, not an event, not a flag rally," said Kay Long, a member of the burial committee of the South Carolina Hunley Commission. "It will be done with the dignity and honor that these men so richly deserve. It will be history in the making."

Board Approves Flying Confederate Flag In Piedmont

Associated Press - 02/17/04

SURRY COUNTY, N.C. - The Surry County Board of Commissioners said the Sons of Confederate Veterans could fly the Confederate Stars and Bars over the Surry County Courthouse.

The commissioners voted 4-0 Monday night to let the group fly the flag on March 6, a day already designated Confederate Flag Day in North Carolina.

The measure passed despite opposition at the meeting. "It's a lot of hatred behind that flag and it does something to me when I see



that flag," said Korean and Gulf War veteran Roscoe Hines.

Commissioners stood behind their decision. "It's significant no matter your race, color or creed, you know. If you or your family lived in town in this time period it was extremely significant and this is how we viewed it," said Surry County Commissioner Jim Harrell.

Flap brews over flag tag

Nashville City Paper
Nashville, Tennessee
02/17/04

A House bill sponsored by Rep. Ulysses Jones (D-Memphis) and identical Senate bill sponsored by Sen. Roscoe Dixon (D-Memphis) would prohibit "any motor vehicle registration plate that depicts or otherwise displays any flag of the Confederate States of America or contains an emblem, logo, or other design based upon any flag of the Confederate States of America."

Another section of the proposed legislation specifies that the Tennessee Department of Safety cannot renew any previously issued motor vehicle registration with the flag, which would affect the SCV plates.

Several legislators have signed onto the bill, mostly black representatives from Memphis and also Joe Armstrong (D-Knoxville). None could be reached Monday, which was President's Day.

"We have some people on committee who don't think [the legislation] is going to go through but we're concerned as to why all of the hubbub now after we got the plate," SCV Tennessee Division Commander Skip Earle said. "Plus we don't want to lose the plate."

The SCV specialty license plates were released last month to 1,017 state residents who pre-paid \$35. It features the SCV logo, which includes the Confederate flag.

Earle said all indications are that the plate is going to be a "huge moneymaker for the state" as counties have been requesting additional shipments.

The specialty plates bring in revenues,

including 50 percent for the organization, 40 percent for the arts commission and 10 percent for the highway fund.

"Each county was given a special allocation," Earle said. "Grundy County has reordered four times, Giles County three times, Williamson County twice – and it looks like this plate is going to end up being one of the top five selling plates in the state."

The group was concerned for several months after being approved for the plate because they feared legislators would ban all specialty tags before their order was completed.

It accused the state of "slow-walking" the plate because computer generated designs were coming back with errors that the group could not approve. The final design was approved with minor errors because Earle believed time was of essence.

The legislation he feared was filed Feb. 4, just after members received their pre-ordered plates.

The group boasts 2,300 members statewide and hopes that number will increase as it has in other states currently featuring the plate. Virginia's membership increased 20 percent in the first year, according to Earle.

The SCV rejects any person or group whose actions tarnish or bring dishonor upon the Confederate soldier or his reason for fighting, which particularly applies to groups and persons using the Confederate flag "as a symbol for their own dishonorable purposes," according to its Web site.

Did Lincoln Conspire To Kill Jefferson Davis? 02/20/04

Did U.S. President Abraham Lincoln Conspire to kill C.S.A. President Jefferson Davis? Lincoln historian and East Carolina professor David Long believes Jefferson Davis made very clear that the South would never surrender short of independence. Long also



believes Lincoln was determined to prevail no matter what the cost.

Professor David Long believes that President Lincoln organized a group headed by Colonel Ulrich Dahlgren to kill the South's President. The attempt on President Davis' life failed when Dahlgren was killed and Confederate soldiers found detailed plans on Dahlgren's body.

Professor Long was quoted as saying, "The Confederates now believe, That's what they're doing. We'll do the same thing..."

Enter John Wilkes Booth.

"He's an actor. He's going to make his grand moment on stage -- the assassination of the president of the United States."

Long's book about the raid and the Lincoln/Jefferson Davis assassination theory is due out this summer.

Shiloh cannon owner to fire first shot for Hunley crew

02/28/04 - The Civil War Courier

When the eight-member crew of the H.L. Hunley is buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston on April 17, Riley Gunter of Shiloh Civil War Relics in Shiloh, Tenn., will fire the first salute.

It's only right for Gunter's bronze Confederate 12-pound field howitzer to fire the initial volley. The cannon is also a survivor of the Battle of Shiloh--the battle where the life of Hunley leader Lt. George Dixon was saved by a \$20 gold coin.

The cannon, labeled #43, is one of only 13 surviving cannons built by the Quinby and Robinson Company of Memphis, Tenn. Only 77 were made. It was delivered to the Confederacy on February 17, 1862 at a cost of \$610.70.

For Gunter, acquiring the cannon was a study in patience.

"In 1965, there was a cannon for sale. I was 22 years old and could not afford the gun," Gunter said.

"I pleaded with the company for the man's address. When they finally gave it to me, I wrote him a letter and informed him of my youth and interest. Should he ever sell the gun, to please give me a chance at it. He wrote back and thanked me for the letter, but informed me he would never sell me the gun."

That man was Jac Weller.

Each year for the next 23 years, Gunter wrote Weller a letter asking to trade or purchase the cannon.

"Each time, he would write me back, thanking me

for the letter, but informing me he would never sell me the gun," Gunter said.

In 1994, Gunter received a call from Weller's representative informing him that Weller would not sell him the cannon.

"I know that. It's been 29 years," Gunter remembered. "I was then informed Weller had died and willed me the gun. I was shocked. After all those years of waiting, I finally had the gun, not by purchasing or trading, but as a gift."

Gunter mounted the rare cannon on a beautiful reproduction carriage with limber. The cannon is now used in memorials, parades and reenactments to honor all those who served the Confederacy.

"It is an honor to participate in the artillery salute to the crew of the Hunley, with my original Confederate field howitzer that was on the battlefield of Shiloh when Lt. George E. Dixon was wounded," Gunter said.

Another piece of history will be in that cemetery in April.

Gunter has a cannonball that was fired at Shiloh, but never exploded. He plans to mix some of the original powder from that cannonball with modern gunpowder.

When the cannon fires the initial volley April 17, it will be fired with powder from the Battle of Shiloh.

Following the funeral ceremony, U.S. Marines Major Michael Lawrence Landrige will be presented with the first Cross of Military Service from the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Landrige, who returned from Iraq last year, will be the first soldier from the current Iraqi to be so honored.

Gunter has been interested in the War Between the States since age 9.

He participated in his first reenactment at age 11 during the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Brice's Crossroads, Mississippi. He has been reenacting ever since.

Gunter is a 45-year member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He authored "The Artillery at Shiloh" in 2001 and is currently working on the history of Freeman's Battery Forrest's Artillery.

He is an avid artillerist. He allows six of his original cannons to be used in reenactments, living history events, memorials and movies. Two of his guns were used in the movie "Gods and Generals."



Riley no longer pushing merger of Confederate holidays

Associated Press 02/26/04

Responding to complaints from Confederate heritage groups, Gov. Bob Riley announced Thursday that he is dropping legislation that would have combined two of Alabama's Confederate holidays into one observance.



Riley said the legislation was never intended to harm Southern history. "I take as much pride in my Southern heritage as anyone does," the governor said.

But the Sons of Confederate Veterans and similar groups viewed it as another effort to erase Confederate history from the state where the Confederacy was formed. They had bombarded the governor and legislators with phone calls and letters.

Benjamin Hestley of Pell City, chief of heritage defense for the Alabama Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, called the governor's announcement "wonderful."

Hestley said Riley got bad advice when he offered the legislation as part of his government accountability package. "We had to react the way we did because we're seeing Confederate history and culture dismantled all over the South," he said.

When Riley unveiled his government accountability package, it included a bill to cut Alabama's paid state holidays from 13 to 11. Riley said he was trying to bring Alabama closer in line with the 10 holidays that federal employees receive.

To trim holidays, Riley proposed combining Confederate Memorial Day with Jefferson Davis' birthday in June. Confederate Memorial Day is currently celebrated April 26.

He also proposed dropping the day off that state employees in Mobile and Baldwin counties get for Mardi Gras and the personal holiday that state workers in the rest of Alabama receive.

Sen. Hank Erwin, the sponsor of the governor's bill, said he asked Riley to drop it after

Confederate heritage groups complained, and the governor agreed. He said they were trying to improve government, not slight Alabama's history.

"I find that very hypocritical," said Roger Broxton of Andalusia, president of the Confederate Heritage Fund.

"If it was really as issue about too many state holidays, the governor wouldn't have given state employees two extra holidays last year for Thanksgiving and Christmas," Broxton said.

Riley said he would welcome the opportunity to sit down with Confederate heritage groups to explain his intentions.

Measure favors moving Davis statue

Associated Press - 02/24/04

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Rep. Paul Bather has filed a resolution calling for moving the statue of Jefferson Davis from the Capitol rotunda to the Kentucky History Center.

"The state Capitol is the center of governance of -all Kentuckians. It is where the laws of this state are made, enforced and interpreted. Jefferson Davis, through his actions and beliefs, does not represent a government for the welfare of all Kentuckians, and that is why allowing this statue to stay in the state Capitol is so inappropriate," Bather, D-Louisville, said yesterday in a news release.

Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy, was born in Todd County. His statue is one of four in the rotunda that surround Abraham Lincoln's statue in the center. The other three are Sen. Henry-Clay, Vice President Alben Barkley and pioneer surgeon Ephraim McDowell. In the past year many of the state's African-American leaders have called for removing the Davis statue from the rotunda.

"The statue symbolizes slavery and inequality, and these are not values we should honor by giving this sculpture a prominent place in our Capitol," said Bather, one of six African Americans in the

General Assembly. "Moving the statue to the History Center will send the message that we do not condone these values, but rather that we recognize them as part of a dark period in Kentucky history." Among defenders of the statue, Don Shelton, a spokesman for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, has said Davis lived in Kentucky longer than Lincoln and is just as symbolic of the Civil War. Bather's resolution, filed earlier this month, has been referred to the House State Government Committee.

Virginia Renews Request for Return of Confederate Flag

Associated Press - 02/25/04

Roanoke, Va. (AP) - A Civil War re-enactment group has called in reinforcements in its quest to get back a flag lost at the Battle of Gettysburg.

U.S. Sen. George Allen, U.S. Rep. Bob Goodlatte and Virginia Attorney General Jerry Kilgore wrote a letter last week to the U.S. Army's chief of military history, reiterating their interest in seeing the flag returned to Virginia.

A private from Minnesota captured the battle flag from the Salem regiment during Pickett's Charge. Today it is housed at the Minnesota Historical Society.

"We know where it is, and we'd just like it back in Virginia, in a museum in Virginia," said Carrie Cantrell, a spokeswoman for Kilgore.

The letter is the latest development in the dispute, which arguably began in 1863 and wound up on the CBS Evening News in August, with Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty's unequivocal declaration that Virginia wasn't getting the flag back.

In their letter, Allen, Goodlatte and Kilgore - all Republicans - renewed their

request to the Army to prompt the federal government to take steps to secure the return of the flag, said Chris Caveness, executive director of the 28th Virginia Infantry Regiment, a group of Roanoke Valley re-enactors who have worked to get the flag back.

"We're armed legitimately with what we need if we have to take civil action," Caveness added.

The flag is the only known captured battle flag that has not been returned to its state of origin, he said.



But it would be the federal government's responsibility to take that step, Caveness said. A congressional resolution and executive order from 1905 ordered the War Department to return all Civil War flags to their original states. That makes the return of the flag a federal issue, Caveness said.

The flag was one of 12 captured during Pickett's Charge. Soldiers from Roanoke, Botetourt, Bedford, Craig and Montgomery counties made up the 28th Virginia Infantry, which sustained casualties of 80 percent in the battle, Caveness said.

Pawlenty's chief of staff, Dan McElroy, said that as far as he knew, there had been no new developments in the dispute. He said the decision to keep the flag in Minnesota was made not by state government officials, but by the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul.

Sons of Confederate Veterans honors Black Confederate, Holt Collier

03/02/04

On Saturday February 28th, The Sons of Confederate Veterans placed a headstone at the grave of Holt Collier, a black hunting guide who led President Theodore Roosevelt on a Mississippi- bear hunt where the term "teddy bear" was coined.



Collier is buried at Live Oak Cemetery in Greenville. The ceremony was held at 2 p.m. with color guard and a 21-man rifle squad.

As the story goes, Roosevelt was invited to Smedes Plantation in Sharkey County for a bear hunt in 1902. Collier joked with Roosevelt, saying he would make sure the president killed a bear, "if I have to tie one up and bring it to you."

After two days of unsuccessful hunting, Collier knocked a bear unconscious with his rifle and tied it to a tree. The president told Collier that killing -the helpless bear would not be a sport. Roosevelt's decision to spare the animal inspired a famous political cartoon, and a Brooklyn, N.Y., couple who sold stuffed bears to ask the president for permission to name the toys after him.

Holt Collier mentions in his memoirs that he was only a few yards away from Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston when he was shot in the thigh and later died during the battle at Shiloh.



Georgians keep "Stars and Bars" State Flag

03/02/04

Georgia voters overwhelmingly choose to keep the current State banner



Tuesday March 2nd.

The "Stars and Bars" based flag adopted by the Legislature last year was endorsed in a statewide referendum, a vote pitched as a way to settle Georgia's decades old flag debate.

"Let's get this thing over with, put it to bed," said Jerry Deen, a car dealership owner in Albany, Georgia who said he was tired of all the bickering. With light turnout reported statewide the current flag was approved by a 3-to-1 margin.

The winning flag was adopted by lawmakers last year as a compromise and does not contain the well-known "Southern Cross".

When the Legislature removed the Confederate emblem from the ballot, public interest in the vote nearly

disappeared.

What made the vote so controversial is that current Governor Sonny Perdue was elected Georgia's first Republican Governor since Reconstruction due to his promise to give Georgians the opportunity to vote on keeping their original 1956 State Flag. The State legislature refused to allow the older banner to even be on the referendum. Many have accused Perdue of lying and for the past year he has been plagued with protestors fighting to get the old banner back.

Some surveys suggested that if the 1956-2001 flag were on the referendum it would have won by a landslide.



Jackson College/Old Brick Church Cemetery

03/05/04

Work on the Jackson College Cemetery at Spring Hill is coming along but not as fast as I'd like it. Work on the area should have been near completion by now but bad weather/rain has kept most of the work to a minimum.

I'd like to thank Compatriot Rick McElroy, Timothy Campbell and Robert Bain for their help recently and everyone else who has contributed time and effort to its restoration.

Work on the cemetery can be done by anyone and I ask that more of you try to help out. Even if you contribute a mere hour of time it really is a lot of help to the camp.

If you wish to help in some way you may call me at 931-381-4835 or my cellular at 931-505-1889.

Re-enactors: I would like to have a ceremony in early May to honor the Confederate Veterans buried in said cemetery. If you are actively engaged in re-enacting, please contact me so we -can work out a date. It is understood that the Month of April will be quite hectic.

Sons of Confederate Veterans
No 29
COLUMBIA, TENN

Miscellaneous Notes Worthy of Mention

APRIL 17, 18, 2004 - HENNING, TENNESSEE

In honor of the 140th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Pillow, Fort Pillow State Historic Park is hosting a Civil War Living History Weekend. The event includes military demonstrations with battle skirmishes both days and an authentic civilian demonstration area.

Fort Pillow State Historic Park, 3122 Park Rd. Henning TN 3804

Call 731-738-5581 for more info.

MAY 14, 15, 16, 2004 - SACRAMENTO, KENTUCKY

"Forrest's First." The Battle of Sacramento Reenactment is held on the original battlefield Nathan Bedford Forrest engaged Crittenden's Army of the Ohio in his first battle. Friday will be youth education school days, with youth and adult pageants in the evening.

Saturday's activities include a parade, ladies' tea, battle reenactment, cavalry competition and ball. Sunday's activities include worship services and battle reenactment.

JUNE 11, 12, 13, 14, 2004 - PARKER'S CROSSROADS,

The Battle of Parker's Crossroads Living History and Battle Reenactment. Site of the battle fought December 31, 1862 between Gen. N.B. Forrest and Union forces during Forrest's First West Tennessee Campaign.

Like the Webfoot? Let us hear from you! If you have anything you'd like to see or read about please contact any of the camp leadership.

Please take note that all members in the camp can run advertisements for free. Outside sources can run advertisements at a nominal fee.



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Don't forget to pick up your SCV license plate if you haven't already.

Camp Mail Bag

To My Brothers in Gray:

I have a favor to ask of you. Would someone, if you take care of Sam's grave site, say hello to Sam for me. I read Sam's book when my marriage fell apart and Sam's simple words on the last page of "Co. Aytch" were a beacon to me when the world seemed a sad place. Sam reminded me that life goes on and if a man who survived the horrors that Sam went through can speak if the "trees bowing their heads as if slumbering in the breeze" then life is worth living. Had I had the honor of knowing Sam I think I would have liked him a great deal.

Is there a picture of "Jenny". I have a fascination to know what the love of his life looked like.

Andrew Phillips
Ottawa, Canada
2nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Coy "E"
Niles Militia
3rd Division
9th Corp
Union Army