



CAMPTALK

The monthly Newsletter of the Capt. J.J. Dickison Camp 1387, Sons of Confederate Veterans, 10th Brigade, Florida Division, Army of Tennessee, Melbourne Florida

Vol. 27 No. 04 April 2011

Editor Don Young

April 2011 MEETING

MEMAW's BBQ 600 East Eau Gallie Blvd. Indian Harbour Beach, FL

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Order from menu 7:00 – 8:00 Program 8:00 – 8:45 Business Meeting.

Meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month.

CAMP OFFICERS

Chaplain Tim Cobb	321-259-8391
Treasurer Tom Watkins	321-254-0241
2 nd Lt.	Open
1 st Lt. Don Young	321-452-3207
Adjutant	Open
Commander Kevin Atchison	321-242-1126

CAMP STAFF

Color Sgt Evan Phillips	321-961-9407
Q'termaster	Open
Judge Advocate Don Lock	321-752-9276
Public Information Officer	Open
Editor Don Young	321-452-3207
Heritage Don Young	321-452-3207
Matron Of Honor	Open
UDC/OCR Liaison Miss Lee	452-3207

COMMANDERS CORNER

On Sunday afternoon, 17 April 2011, Camp 1387 participated with Chapter 2406 of the UDC in a Confederate Memorial Day service at the Old Melbourne Cemetery. This year's event was attended by a record setting 80 men, women and children, most of whom had ancestors who fought in the War Between the States. This event not only honored those veterans who are buried in the Melbourne Cemetery but all who served during the WBTS. I would like to personally thank all who organized and helped with this event. This includes all of the musicians, speakers, color guard, riflemen, and attendees. A special thanks goes out to Compatriots from Camp 2120, in Christmas, for providing extra riflemen and color guard help. The event was followed by a time of fellowship, food and drinks. A tip of the kepi to all the SCV, UDC and OCR ladies who contributed.

During 1-3 April 2011, the Florida SCV Division Annual Reunion was held in Ocala, Florida. The main emphasis for this year's meeting was to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Florida's Secession from the Union. The convention was lead off by a very good presentation on the overall events surrounding Florida's Secession Convention during January 1861. Since this was

a non-election year the main part of the business was to vote on 14 amendments to the Florida Division Charter. Most of these amendments were voted down except for some general housekeeping ones. This year's reunion was rounded by a very good Awards Banquet. The keynote speaker was Pastor John Weaver. He gave a very good presentation on why the states had the right to secede from the Union based on biblical principles.

By now everyone should be well aware of the Federal court's ruling on our Confederate Heritage License Plate. Essentially the court issued an order declaring the Florida statute that governs the procedure for Florida specialty plates "unconstitutional" and an infringement of free speech guarantees provided by the 1st Amendment. Essentially the court ruled for the 1st Amendment and the SCV based on the Constitution. We will have more on this at our April camp meeting.

During May we have a couple of events planned. On the 7th our camp will participate in the 24th Annual Florida Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion at Wickham Park (Previously Known as Vietnam Veterans Event). Our camp will provide a recruiting table as well as a Color Guard at this event. To round out the month of May our color guard will participate in a Memorial Day Parade at Rockledge on the 29th of May.

In service to The South, Kevin Atchison Commander Camp 1387

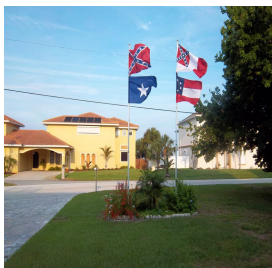
EVENTS

28 Apr	Camp Meeting
07-08 May	All Veterans Reunion, Wickham Park
12 May	E-board meeting
29 May	Rockledge Memorial Day Parade and Picnic

PROGRAM

FLORIDA SECESSION

Compatriot Don Young will present a slide show review of the 150th Florida Session reenactment and a program reviewing the historic events leading up to and following the Florida Convention of the People. We all need to understand Florida's position in the Secession movement so that we can inform our fellow Floridians.



April is Confederate History Month Show Your Colors – Free

Every compatriot should show the colors at his home year round. If you don't, then the month of April is the time for you to show your colors for a temporary display. The camp has 3X5 foot printed rayon flags available for just \$5, any 6 for \$25. We have Battle, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Nationals, Bonnie Blues, Florida State (modern) and Stars and Stripes (50 star). The Camp also provides grave flags, Battle and/or Stars and Stripes, at **no cost**. If you have a family grave site, or know

of a grave that does not get a flag, in the Brevard County area the Camp will, at your request, place a flag for you. Please do not forget our Confederate soldiers or any American veteran. Lt. Young will have flags of all types available at the April meeting, come and get'm!

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New Recruits

The executive committee has reviewed and approved applications for memberships from Robert Meeks and Richard Still. Robert Meeks ancestor was Private William B. Widener, Co. H, 37th Virginia Infantry. Richard Still's ancestor was Benjamin Still, Jr, Co. C, 9th Georgia Infantry. Members who wish to comment on their reviews contact Commander Atchison in writing within 30 days.

Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony



Photos Miss Christie and Miss Lee

The Henry Patrick Gradick Chapter 2406 United Daughters of the Confederacy and Captain John Jackson Dickison Camp 1387 Sons of Confederate Veterans held their annual Confederate Memorial Day Service Sunday 17 April at the Old Melbourne City Cemetery. Our numbers this year were enhanced by several visitors and support groups. Mrs. Laura Connor, immediate Past State President of the UDC was present. We had helpful coordination and support from 10th Brigade Commander Larry Rowe; attendees from the Florida Mechanized Cavalry (14th Brigade Commander Wesley Franks, Jason Franks and his fiancée), and several members from Munnerlyn's Cattle Guard Battalion Camp 2120 Christmas (riflemen Robert Phelps, and 4 flagmen). This boosted our Color Guard to 4 flags, 8 rifles and 2 officers. Our unit was further boosted by Confederate Piper Kelly Dobson, a second piper, Eric Matson and another drummer. Kelly recruited these folks from her unit with the Brevard Sheriff's department. Also, Dixie was played on the pipes, learned and practiced specifically for our event. Kelly is also a bugler and played taps at the end of the program. For a different experience Chaplain Tim Cobb's nephew Sean played taps on the saxophone. Yes, that is correct – sax,

we have had harmonica's, violins, guitars, banjos, and trumpets, but this was the first time on a sax. Gotta tell ya, it's nice.

Jenna Carson played violin selections, including Dixie. Austin Church and Tracy Yoho performed "Hunley" and Mr. (need to make that compatriot) Lathan Hudson (professional musician) performed his "Ode to the Confederate Flag".

Roll calls, readings, poems and recitals were given by Mrs. Nell Mussler, Mrs. Joan Russ, Mrs. Annie Hellen Thomas, Treasurer Tom Watkins, President Jane Smythe, Commander Kevin Atchison, Dub Drinnon and Lt. Don Young.

The event had a record 80 individuals in attendance that ranged in age from 17 months to 90 years. The crowd remained around the cemetery socializing and enjoying snacks for 2 hours following the service. The food included a "Happy 30th Camp 1387" cake.



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release, For Further Information, Contact: John Adams (407) 302-1297 or (407) 491-8225, or Doug Guetzloe (407) 312-1781

Sons of Confederate Veterans Win Major Federal Court Battle over Establishment of Florida Confederate Heritage Specialty Plate

Court rules that specialty plates are "free speech," throws out Florida Statute as "unconstitutional infringement."

(Orlando) Federal District Judge John Antoon II has issued an order declaring the Florida statute that governs the procedure for Florida specialty plates "unconstitutional" and an infringement of free speech guarantees provided by the First Amendment. Antoon ruled in favor of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (Florida Division) in a lawsuit that was filed over two (2) years ago following the failure of the Florida Legislature and the Florida Division of Motor Vehicles to approve a "Confederate Heritage" specialty license plate.

The SCV had completed all statutory requirements for a specialty plate and was then denied the issuance of a plate for "political reasons" by the Florida Legislature.

"Judge Antoon ruled for the First Amendment and for the SCV based on the Constitution and for that we are very pleased and grateful," stated SCV Vice President John Adams.

Orlando attorney Fred O'Neal represented the SCV in this successful lawsuit. The ruling for the SCV and against the State of Florida allows the SCV to seek and be granted attorneys' fees in this case that could amount to in excess of \$100,000.

"Now that the statute has been stricken that prevented our plate from DMV approval, we will go back to the Legislature, with Federal order in hand, and insist on the establishment of the „Confederate Heritage" plate and we will be successful," Adams concluded.

PRESS RELEASE SOUTH CAROLINA FIRES ON FORT SUMTER!

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(Atlanta - April 14, 2011) Today marks the 150th Anniversary of the surrender of Fort Sumter to South Carolina and the Confederate States of America. In commemoration of this event, the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is announcing a number of activities, including living history presentations and monument dedications, across the state of Georgia for the remainder of this calendar year.

It was on the afternoon of April 14, 1861 that federal forces under the command of Major Robert Anderson surrendered Fort Sumter to General P.T. Beauregard and the Confederate forces in Charleston, South Carolina. Governor Pickens of South Carolina had ordered Gen. Beauregard to begin bombardment of the fort early on the morning of April 12 unless Maj. Anderson surrendered and agreed to evacuate the fort, but no surrender was forthcoming until two consecutive days of bombardment convinced Anderson that it was futile to attempt to hold the fort. Although Lincoln used the firing on Fort Sumter as his pretext for raising 75,000 troops to invade the Southern states, what is not so well-known is that the Lincoln administration had promised a peace delegation from the South that there would be no attempt to supply or further garrison Fort Sumter; unbeknownst to the peace delegation, Lincoln's secretary of war had already secretly launched a fleet of ships to do that very thing. South Carolina's decision to fire on the fort was made only after the supply ships arrived in Charleston harbor, and it became evident that Lincoln had lied to the Southern peace commission. There were no deaths on either side during the engagement, and all federal prisoners were allowed to freely return north after their surrender. The bombardment of Fort Sumter was an act of South Carolina to preserve her interests as a sovereign state that became President Lincoln's pretext for four long years of total war against the South and the destruction of America's constitutional republic.

As we commemorate the historical events of 1861, the words of Confederate President Jefferson Davis at war's end certainly ring true: "The principles for which we contend are bound to reassert themselves at a different time." Current debates across America over the use of nullification and States' Rights to halt unconstitutional acts of a growing federal government in 2011 show just how prophetic President Davis' words were. America could learn much from her own history; and the Sons of Confederate Veterans are committed to providing numerous educational opportunities to Georgians throughout the remainder of 2011 and for the next four years as we commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States. Georgians and tourists alike are invited to visit the Georgia Division website frequently for updates at www.GeorgiaSCV.org.

Interviews with SCV historians and spokesmen, as well as living history presentations, may be arranged by phone at 1-866-SCV-in-GA or online at www.GeorgiaSCV.org.

Who fired first Civil War shot? A dispute in Florida

By MELISSA NELSON, Associated Press

GULF ISLANDS NATIONAL SEASHORE, Fla. – A raid 150 years ago by Confederate sympathizers on a Union fort at what is now Pensacola Naval Air Station was likely little more than an ill-planned and drunken misadventure, perhaps ended by one soldier's warning shot — and a blank one, at that.

But don't tell Pensacola residents that. The Jan. 8, 1861, skirmish meant nothing — the event is the stuff of legend in this military town. Some even claim the clash was the Civil War's first, three months before the battle on April 12, 1861, at South Carolina's Fort Sumter, which is

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widely recognized as the start of the war.

Dale Cox, the unofficial historian for the Florida Panhandle chapter of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, wrote on his blog that he considers the Pensacola shot the first of the Civil War, saying in an interview that it marked the first time federal troops fired toward Confederate agitators.

"It is an interesting bit of history and I'd like to see Pensacola get more recognition for all of its Civil War history," he told The Associated Press.

As 1861 dawned, the Union was falling apart. Abraham Lincoln's election as president the previous November had many Southerners convinced he would ban slavery after taking office that March. South Carolina had seceded on Dec. 20 and other states were about to, including Florida.

Amid the turmoil, about 50 federal troops under the command of Lt. Adam J. Slemmer encamped at Fort Barrancas, at what is now Pensacola Naval Air Station in a fort of the arched brick passageways and tunnels overlooking the turquoise waters and white-sand beaches of Pensacola Bay.

On the night of Jan. 8, the men had raised a drawbridge around the fort, which dated to when Spain controlled Florida, because of growing tensions in the surrounding Naval yard, said historian David Ogden, a ranger at Gulf Islands National Seashore.

According to Slemmer's report, just after midnight, guards heard footsteps outside and challenged the intruders and heard no response, Ogden said. Slemmer made no mention of shots being fired.

It wasn't until after the war ended in 1865 that one of the would-be intruders, R.L. Sweetman, wrote to Slemmer and later to Slemmer's widow and made reference to the blank shot fired at Fort Barrancas as the war's beginning.

"In his letter, Sweetman said something like 'Your husband can claim that he commanded the post where the first shot was fired,'" Ogden said.

The letter sparked the local legend that continues to this day — and plays into Pensacolans' belief that their city has been cheated by history. Then again, they also claim Pensacola and not St. Augustine in the state is the oldest city in North America, based on Pensacola's original founding in 1559 by the Spanish, compared to 1565 for its Atlantic coast rival. But Pensacola was destroyed by a hurricane two years after its initial founding and the Spanish didn't return until 1698 — St. Augustine never went out of existence.

"We Americans like to be the first and the biggest and the tallest, and Pensacola has this perennially underdog status," Ogden said with a laugh.

Ogden and others said it's a stretch to say what happened at Fort Barrancas started the Civil War — the would-be attackers, a small group of drunken and rowdy locals, left as soon as the warning shot sounded — if there ever was one. The National Park Service has marked some anniversaries of the incident with candlelight tours of the fort.

"I've gotten in trouble with locals before who have wanted to make a bigger deal out of this," Ogden said.

Hours after the Pensacola incident, another pre-war clash took place in South Carolina — cadets from The Citadel military academy manning a battery on Morris Island fired on the steamship Star of the West as it tried to resupply 200 federal troops at Fort Sumter. The cadets forced the steamship to turn back and others consider that action the first shots of the war, not the larger fight that happened at Fort Sumter three months later.

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"You can get real far down in the weeds about all of this," said Winfred B. Moore Jr., The Citadel's dean of humanities and social studies. "The truth is that what happened on April 12, 1861, at Fort Sumter had far, far greater significance than all of these events that came before." On Tuesday, booming cannons marked the 150th anniversary of the war's outbreak as hundreds of people watched a reenactment of the Confederate bombardment of Union-held Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor — the engagement widely credited with plunging the young nation into a war that dragged on four years and claimed more than 600,000 lives. Union troops surrendered after about 34 hours of bombardment, Lincoln and the Confederates issued calls to arms, and fighting soon commenced.

Moore said it was almost inevitable that the war would begin in South Carolina despite efforts — outlined in documents — of attempts in Florida and elsewhere to avert hostilities.

"But there are a lot of Civil War stories to be told and a lot that have never been adequately told and it's understandable why people who live close to the history want to give it proper recognition," he added.

And Civil War history did happen in Pensacola.

Across the bay from Fort Barrancas lies Fort Pickens, where Union troops fended off Confederate attacks for four years and kept Pensacola Bay open to federal ships throughout the war.

On a recent afternoon, Rudy Ynostrosa of Pensacola and his 12-year-old son Nicolas made their way through the maze brick tunnels and stairways that comprise Fort Pickens. Ynostrosa said he has long heard that the war's first shots were fired in his home town.

"It always amazes me that this was a Union fort and it was out here in the heart of the South,".

Battle at Narcossee Mill

This year's reenactment was outstanding even in a long history of successful events. The weather cooperated with a beautiful Florida spring day and a large crowd of spectators. New recruits to Camp 1387 attended and were treated to a well coordinated tactical demonstration.

Race - Hate Article Dujour

What the War was and was not about: Answer to Leonard Pitts Hate Article

Well, Leonard Pitts, there you go again. I'm not sure why it is so difficult for that man to get anything right. After reading his article that appeared in this paper on Monday, April 11, I was reminded of that statement oft-repeated by the wonderful humorist/philosopher Will Rogers that the real problem in America "is not what people don't know" but, rather, "what they know that just ain't so".

In his latest screed, what Pitts "know(s) that just ain't so" is that the sole reason the Southern states seceded was to preserve the institution of slavery. Allow me to present an inconvenient truth of history that shatters this myth.

It is likely that Pitts is totally unaware of the Corwin Amendment. I dare say that most reading this article are likewise unaware of the "original 13th Amendment" since politically-correct professors, historians, journalists, etc. don't like to discuss it or even acknowledge it.

On December 4, 1860 the U.S. House of Representatives, at the request of President James Buchanan, created a special committee to develop a compromise which would, hopefully,

prevent the Southern states from seceding. The federal government needed the Southern states since these states were supplying approximately 75% of all federal revenues.

The committee drafted a proposed constitutional amendment that would have prohibited any interference with slavery where it already existed and would also prohibit any future amendment from touching that institution. The proposal was sponsored by Congressman Thomas Corwin of Ohio in the House and in the Senate by Senator William Seward of New York. The text of the proposed constitutional amendment is as follows:"

"No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the Power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State. "

This amendment passed the House by a vote of 133 to 65 and the Senate by a vote of 24 to 12 - both overwhelming. The House vote was on February 28, 1861 and the Senate vote on March 2, 1861. What's the significance of these dates? By the time these votes were taken, seven Deep South states had already seceded from the Union so the votes for passage were made by northern and border states politicians.

These politicians thought that by protecting slavery in perpetuity in the Constitution that the Southern states would rejoin the Union. What these politicians did not understand was that the list of grievances the South had against the North was long and primarily fiscal and the primary desire of the South was to be free and independent of any political bands connecting them to the North (shades of the Declaration of Independence).

Not a single Southern state opted to rejoin the Union. Surely if slavery was the sole motivation for the South, as Pitts and others contend, then the Southern states would quickly have rejoined the Union. Both Charles Dickens and Karl Marx understood this. Each covered the War as a correspondent for European publications. Dickens wrote: " Union means so many millions a year lost to the South, secession means the same millions to the North...The quarrel between the North and the South is, as it stands, solely a fiscal quarrel." Marx, a strong supporter of Lincoln, wrote:" The war between the North and the South is a tariff war. The war is further not for any principle, does not touch the question of slavery and, in fact, turns on the Northern lust for sovereignty."

Abraham Lincoln, in his inaugural address on March 4, expressed his support for the Corwin Amendment. He said: " I understand a proposed amendment to the Constitution...has passed Congress, to the effect that the Federal Government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of the States, including that of persons held to service...holding such a provision to now be implied constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable."

How about that! Seems Old Abe had no problem with slavery being in perpetuity if the Southern states would just come back into the Union and bring their revenues. Folks, with government it is always about power, money and territory.

Pitts, of course, is not the only one touting the assertion that the War was only about slavery. In this paper there have been at least three previous articles (Chuck Hobbs, Gerald Ensley and Pitts, again) making the same dubious claim and nationally all the leftist and progressives are repeating the line incessantly and will likely throughout the four-year commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the Great War of 1861-65. It's eerily Goebbelsesque to observe this phenomenon.

I do not have the space to counter other erroneous statements by Pitts (he made two about Nathan Bedford Forrest) but I will certainly challenge his assertion that the Confederates were traitors. It is not the policy of the U.S. Military or government to name major military installations for traitors. Pitts is obviously unaware that Fort Hood, Fort Polk, Fort Benning, Fort Bragg, Fort Gordon, Fort Hill, Fort Lee and others are all names for Confederate generals. Fort Rucker is

even named for a Confederate colonel. By the way, Pitts, there is no Fort Benedict Arnold anywhere to be found. I just don't understand why Pitts has such a hard time getting anything right.

P.S. There will likely be at least two leftist professors who will write letters-to-the-editor attempting to discredit what I have written. I encourage you, readers, to do your own research. It's all there.

Bob Hurst, 1502 Kessel Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32308, 850-878-7010

Activities and Announcements

Media Bias Monthly, Where Context Matters, John D. Long, Editor

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[YouTube - CONFEDERATE SONG ~ TO ARMS IN DIXIE](#)

"They invaded our lands, they murdered members of our families, they stole our property, they burnt our homes, they kept their heels on the back of our necks with unjust laws and military occupation, and now, they want my grandchildren to thank them? May God straighten their lying tongues, may He send light to their darkened hearts, and may He have mercy upon their wicked souls."

- Former Private Thomas Jefferson Martin, Co. A, 12th Louisiana, Inf, CSA, 50 years after the surrender of the Army of Tennessee. April is Confederate History Month in Louisiana.

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You may want to read and comment on this hate inspired article

<http://www.thecharlottepost.com/index.php?src=news&srctype=detail&category=News&refno=3543>

Also, there is a bru ha ha at the Memphis VA Hospital over a paralyzed Vet with a CBF. Let your voice be heard <http://www.wreg.com/news/wreg-confederate-flag-legal.0,4055302.story>

Lunelle Siegel, Friend of the Early Camp, www.tampascv.org

SCV Compatriot addresses Black group

The total presentation was about 30 mins, and was well received by the audience.

[The Poetic Symposium, John Long .MP4](#)

Confederate History Month 2011 brochure update

Please sign up for updates at Confederate History and Heritage Month web pages at: <http://www.confederateheritagemonth.com>

The Confederate History Month Committee of the Sons of Confederate Veterans offers you the brochure on attachment here or you can order through me as below.

Order in bundles of 25 brochures at \$19.00 a bundle, break even price, which includes postage and make check made payable to Calvin E. Johnson, Jr. and send to: 1064 West Mill Drive, Kennesaw, Georgia 30152. Also you can order Confederate History Month stickers at below:

<http://confederateheritagemonth.com/heritage/2009/stickers.php> . See a copy of our

Confederate History Month 2011 report in the January-February Issue of the Georgia Confederate a great read newspaper with Tim Pilgrim, Editor on line at:

<http://georgiaconfederate.org/gc/Jan-Feb11.pdf>