



CAMPTALK

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

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Editor Don Young

December 2012 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.

Male descendants of men who served the Confederacy, their wives and others interested in the War For Southern Independence are invited to attend.

CAMP OFFICERS

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COMMANDERS CORNER

Our November meeting featured 1st Lt. Commander Don Young presenting a program on Hiram Smith Williams, an early pioneer of Rockledge, Florida. The program came about due to information in our on-going cemetery information collection. This was a very interesting and informative program. After the program the Camp voted to try to get permission to clean up the small cemetery in which Private Williams is buried.

Our December meeting will be 13 December and used to hold our annual Christmas Social. See the program listing for details and plan to come out and enjoy some good old fashioned season's greetings with your compatriots and family. Everyone is encouraged to bring a wrapped gift (under \$10) to participate in a gift exchange. In addition, we will still be collecting can goods and non-perishable items that can be taken to CITA.

We will be swearing in our new slate of officers for 2013-2014 as well as two new SCV Compatriots. We will also present awards to camp members and those who have assisted the camp this past year.

If you have uniforms please wear them to the meeting.

Your annual dues were late as of 31 October. You will now have to pay a \$5 reinstatement charge. If you are among those who did not reenlist, please reconsider staying with the SCV. Call Commander/Adjutant Kevin Atchison or a Camp officer in the next several days or mail your dues to Kevin. Please renew your membership.

In Service to The South, Kevin Atchison Commander Camp 1387

EVENT

01 Dec	12 th and 14 th Brigade Awards Banquet Davie FL
13 th Dec	Camp Christmas Social and Awards 2 nd Thursday
10 Jan	E-board meeting
24 Jan	Camp meeting
1-2 Feb	Stephen Dill Lee Institute in St. Augustine
14-16 Feb	37 th Annual Reenactment of Battle of Olustee

PROGRAM

Christmas Social

This month there will not be a program presentation. We will have our annual Christmas Social. We will have a gift exchange (less than \$10 please) and Miss Lee promises a new RIGHT – LEFT story. We will swear in our new slate of officers and 2 new compatriots. We will also have awards presentations. Ladies please bring bake goods and other deserts for us to enjoy, contact Miss June at 321-984-9967.



Long time Camp 1387 friend and Florida Division pillar Dick Lee will be having cancer surgery 14 December. Please keep Dick and Miss Sarah and family in your thoughts and prayers. Godspeed to our leader and friend.



Vet Day 11-10-12

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*December 13th, 2012
(Second Thursday)
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Capt. J.J. Dickison
Camp 1387*

*****Invite*****

All Members and Their Families

*To our:
Christmas Social **Installation of Officers & New Members**Awards*

At:

<i>McMaw's B&B</i>	<i>6-7 P.M. ** Order from menu</i>
<i>600 East Eau Gallie Blvd.</i>	<i>7-9 P.M. ** Christmas Social</i>
<i>Indian Harbour Beach, FL</i>	<i>& Ceremonies</i>

*We will have a gift exchange. Gifts should be \$5, no more than \$10.
Ladies bring a lady's gift, Men a man's gift and Children a gift
suitable for either a boy or girl.*

*Ladies, if you can bring a dessert, it would be appreciated, please call
Miss June @ 984-9967*

*****Gentlemen: Uniforms or Camp Shirts, please*****

Veterans Day Events Saturday 10 November 2012



Marc Thornton Wesley Frank Kevin Atchison Rick Still Rob Murray



Coming or going, a fine looking bunch of Southerners

Honor America sponsored the annual Melbourne Veterans Day Parade. We had a Color Guard, riflemen, decorated convertible and Mechanized Cavalry. We had a good time (mild weather) and the lighter than usual crowd was very receptive with supportive shouts from the sidewalks.

Sunday 11 November 2012 Camp 1387 participated in the Massing of The Colors at the Cocoa BCC campus sponsored by The Military Order of the World Wars Chapter 170. Commander Kevin Atchison and compatriot Marc Thornton represented us.

Only in Dixie – Swamp Buggy Parade by Charlie Hickman



On Saturday, Nov 3rd, the Naples Swamp Buggy Parade was held on US 41 and the SCV Lt. F.C.M. Boggess Camp # 2150 hosted the Buggy and float display with Steve Markley at the wheel.

SCV camps from Ft. Myers, Port Charlotte, Marco Island and Arcadia were also noted as participating, as well as UDC members.

Tom Geffert kept the crowds alert with occasional musket fire, while float riders passed out candy, and SCV members marching in uniform were busy dispensing nearly 300 Battle Flags, and additional MIA flags to the observers lined up along 41.

Unfortunately (or perhaps, fortunately!), there was much more demand for our Flags than we came prepared for and only about half of the demand was met.

Overall, we were very well received.

A very beautiful Dixie Day as the temperature was quite favorable for marching.

Southern Wisdom Getting a politician to do somethin' good for our country is like tryin' to poke a cat out from under the porch with a rope.

Getting Even

The Confederacy was blessed with many great generals and among those who dwelt on the Southern Olympus were such familiar names as Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Jeb Stuart, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Patrick Cleburne, Joe Wheeler and Edmund Kirby Smith. There were

also many Confederate generals who performed outstandingly during the War but were not as well-known as these immortals. One such Confederate shining star was Brigadier General Hylan Benton Lyon. Hylan Lyon was born in Caldwell County, Kentucky, into a family that was prominent in politics with members having served both in the state legislature and the national Congress. In fact, a new county was formed from a portion of Caldwell County and named Lyon County for a member of this family.

Hylan Lyon received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1852 and graduated in 1856 with the rank of 2nd lieutenant. After almost five years of service in the U.S. military, where he was posted from Florida to Montana, he resigned on April 30, 1861 to enter Confederate service.

Lyon made a name for himself as a capable, intelligent and dependable officer and was well thought of by the higher command. In November of 1861, Brigadier General Lloyd Tilghman sent a request to General Albert Sidney Johnston, commander of Confederate forces in Kentucky, asking for Lyon to be transferred to Tilghman's command as he would be invaluable there because of his abilities and his knowledge of the area. Proving the accuracy of this assessment, by the following February young Hylan Lyons was serving as lieutenant colonel of the 8th Kentucky Infantry.

Before the month had ended, Lyon's regiment was engaged in a fierce encounter with a much larger contingent of Federal troops at Fort Donelson. While withdrawing from the area, Lyon was captured by Union forces. Despite his capture, Colonel John Simonton, Lyon's brigade commander, wrote glowingly in his battle report of the gallantry of young Hylan Lyon.

Lyon was imprisoned for almost seven months, the majority of which was at Johnson's Island, before he was exchanged for two Confederate-held prisoners in August. One can only imagine the anguish felt by this young officer as he endured this captivity.

When he returned to his regiment he returned with a vengeance. For the next year and a half he built an outstanding fighting record with involvement in the battles of Coffeeville, Port Hudson, Holly Springs, Vicksburg, Chattanooga and many smaller skirmishes. He especially received high praise for his actions at Brice's Crossroads where he ordered his 800 troops, when confronted by a Union force of more than 1500, to dismount and charge the Federals. This surprising move confused the Union troops and forced their retreat. His Kentucky unit continued to charge and harass the enemy troops and played a major role in the Confederate victory.

In his report of this battle, the magnificent Nathan Bedford Forrest wrote with high praise of the actions of Colonel Lyon and stated that he had "displayed great gallantry during the day." Four days later, on June 14, 1864, Hylan Lyon was promoted to brigadier general.

Two months later Brigadier General Lyon received orders that would have removed him from the command of General Forrest and taken him out of Mississippi. Forrest immediately complained to the government in Richmond about this move and within two weeks the orders were rescinded and Lyon was returned to Forrest's Corps. You just didn't mess with Nathan Bedford Forrest.

General Lyon was immediately given command of a brigade consisting of the 3rd, 7th, 8th and 12th Kentucky regiments. This brigade was officially designated "Lyon's Brigade" and for the next several months rode with Forrest in northern Alabama and central Tennessee.

Having recognized the abilities of General Lyon, Confederate Secretary of War James Seddon assigned Lyon to command of the department that had just been created in Kentucky. Western Kentucky was home territory for Hylan Lyon and the Confederate war department believed it would require someone with his background and knowledge of the area to regain control of the region from the Federals. General Lyon was not allowed to take his entire brigade to Kentucky. He was limited to the 8th Kentucky Infantry Regiment and a battery of artillery. He was also given the mission of recruiting more Kentuckians to the Confederate Cause.

General Lyon's first objective in Kentucky was to take control of his hometown, Eddyville, away from the Federals. This was quickly accomplished but Federal troops in the area did something in retaliation that no Southerner would imagine doing - they took General Lyon's wife captive. I'm sure that Hylan Lyon had not forgotten his incarceration at Johnson's Island and now the Feds had taken his wife captive. General Lyon made arrangements to release eight captured Union officers in exchange for the release of his wife. I cannot help but think that this action on the part of the yankees made the fire in Hylan Lyon's belly burn even hotter.

For the first three weeks of October, General Lyon and his troops rode all through western Kentucky. Federal troops frantically pursued him but could neither stop him nor even find him. In late October Lyon again teamed up with Nathan Bedford Forrest who was in the area. Again this combination proved devastating to the yankees. Within the space of a week, the Confederates had destroyed 6 Union gunboats on the Tennessee River, 13 Union steamboats and several barges. Federal troops even began to burn their own vessels so that the supplies on the boats would not fall into the hands of the Confederates. For good measure, Lyon's men also burned all the military buildings in Johnsonville which resulted in more than 2 million dollars of damage. This was just a harbinger of what was to come.

From the second week of December 1864 through the first week of January 1865, General Lyon was truly a man on a mission. On December 12, 1864, Lyon's forces (including the conscripts he was picking up along the way) entered Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Knowing that Courthouses were often used by Federal troops as a center of operations, Lyon and his men went straight to the courthouse and burned it. They then conscripted some men and moved on. The next day, December 13, Lyon led his men due west into Cadiz, Kentucky, where they immediately went to the courthouse and torched it. The Union garrison had fled the building upon the advance of the Confederates. The Kentuckians then headed north.

On December 15, Lyon moved toward Princeton, Kentucky, and the Federal troops there fled into the countryside. As per the usual pattern, the courthouse was burned down. After conscripting more troops, Lyon and his men moved on, this time heading northeast.

Madisonville was next and on December 17 the courthouse went up in flames. It seemed that the Federals in the area could do nothing to stop Hylan Lyon and his men. Their mission of burning courthouses and plundering stores was having a devastating effect on the people of the area. Since many of these people were Union sympathizers the mission was having exactly the effect that Lyon desired.

Three days later, on December 20, Lyon's legion reached the town of Hartford, northeast of Madisonville, and immediately took over the Federal garrison and freed the prisoners. They then proceeded to burn the courthouse. Later that same day, Lyon and his men burned a number of ferryboats along a 10-mile stretch of the Green River.

Three days later, on December 23, Lyon and his troops attacked a train near Elizabethton, east of Hartford, and captured 200 Union soldiers. That night they moved into Elizabethton and burned the stockade, the railroad depot and two bridges. Lyon then headed southeast.

On Christmas Day his troops reached Campbellsville and immediately burned the courthouse. After completing this raid, Lyon directed his troops due south toward the Tennessee line. He just couldn't leave Kentucky without one more raid, though, and on January 3, 1865, led his men into Burkesville where, once again, the courthouse went up in flames. As the building burned, General Lyon and his men left Kentucky for good. But what a farewell it had been. During the period from December 12, 1864, through January 3, 1865, Lyon and his troops had burned 7 courthouses in Union-held towns, destroyed numerous river-going vessels, and created pure havoc in that area of southwestern Kentucky.

I would say that General Lyon did a fine job of getting even with the yankees for the months he was held in a federal prison and for the shameful arrest of his wife by Union soldiers.

As Hylan Lyon headed southward with his troops, he was captured while sleeping in a house near Red Hill, Alabama. Ever resourceful, Lyon was able to escape through some skullduggery

whereby he was able, through shouting out orders to non-existent troops, to confuse his yankee captors to the degree that they fled from the non-existent soldiers and allowed him to escape. General Lyon then headed south, far south, and spent the next year in Mexico where quite a group of Confederate officers and government officials had ended up. After a period of exile, he returned to Kentucky to his hometown of Eddyville to farm. The government eventually bought a portion of his land as the site for a penitentiary and he served a while on the State Penitentiary Commission. He was eventually elected to a seat in the Kentucky House of Representatives. Hylan Lyon lived until 1907 and I'm sure during all that time after the end of the War he made many trips into those areas east of Eddyville where he had created so much havoc during the War. I'm quite certain that he often had a feeling of great satisfaction during those trips remembering the chaos he had created for those yankees who had taken over his part of Kentucky. I would also think that he often, during these trips, got a warm glow thinking about how successful he had been at getting even with the bluecoats and their sympathizers for what had been done to his wife and him back in the 60's.

Brigadier General Hylan Benton Lyon was another in that legion of Confederate leaders who performed their duties magnificently with little fanfare or lasting recognition. As we say in the South, "He was a keeper."

Note: Previous articles of CONFEDERATE JOURNAL are available in book form. Volume 1 (2005-2007) can be ordered online at <http://createspace.com/3540609> and Volume 2 (2008-2009) can be ordered online at <http://createspace.com/3543269>.

Bob Hurst is a Son of the South who has particular interest in the Confederacy and the antebellum architecture of the South. He is Commander of Col. David Lang Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, in Tallahassee and is also 2nd Lieutenant Commander, Florida Division, SCV. He can be contacted at confederatedad1@yahoo.com or 850-878-7010 after 9PM EST.

Musical Bits and Pieces

One of iTunes best with the song 1862 from the album "Born in the Backwoods"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2icTmk2Cyo&feature=youtu.be>

Country Singer Trace Adkins Sports Confederate Flag Earpiece on Televised Christmas Show

<http://newsbusters.org/blogs/noel-sheppard/2012/11/29/trace-adkins-wears-confederate-flag-earpiece-rockefeller-center-chris>

Stephen Dill Lee Institute



You can register for the hotel online here.

Reservations Toll Free: 1-888-789-3090. Reservations Local Phone: 1-904-940-8000

It is my pleasure to announce the scheduling of the 2013 Stephen Dill Lee Institute in St. Augustine, Florida, at the Renaissance Hotel on February 1-2.

Hosting the event will be the Florida Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. It is the aim of the Institute to examine the ramifications of the Emancipation Proclamation from an academic perspective which truly differs from prevailing contemporary mainstream dogma. The 2013 Stephen Dill Lee Institute will be held in one of the most famous and historic Southern cities, St. Augustine, Florida, at the fabulous Renaissance World Golf Village and Resort on February 1-2, 2013. The hotel offers rates of \$119 per night with free parking.

Cost is \$125 for SCV and family members, includes Breakfast, lunch and Banquet. Register for the Institute on line at http://www.stephendleeinstitute.com/register_form_full.html , or call 1-800-MyDixie, 1-800-693-4943.

We are pleased to announce our speakers for the Institute:

Donald Livingston -- "How the North Failed to Respond to the Moral Challenge of Slavery".

Jonathan White -- "Forty Acres and a Mule: Miscarriages of Justice in Post-Emancipation Federal Policy"

Kirkpatrick Sale -- "Emancipation Hell: The Disaster the Emancipation Proclamation Wrought"

Marshall De Rosa -- "Emancipation in the Confederacy: What the Ruling Class doesn't want you to know and why"

Ryan S. Walters -- "The Powers of a Usurper: Northern Opposition to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation"

Brion McClanahan -- "Democracy, Liberty, Equality: Lincoln's American Revolution"

Meet the Speakers Party on Friday, February 1st

Activities begin at 7pm on Friday, February 1st with our annual Meet the Speakers Party hosted by the Florida Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. This gives our attendees the opportunity to meet our Institute scholars on a relaxed and informal basis. As an added attraction, we are pleased to have Mr. Keith Kohl of Ocala, Florida, to present his views on St. Augustine during the War Between the States. Mr. Kohl is a well respected living historian who has spoken throughout Florida and around the world. He is also the author of *Florida's Civil War Years*.

If you have a question please contact Brag Bowling at 804-389-3620.