



# Sons of Confederate Veterans

## The Hunley Torpedo

The Lt. Dixon – CSS Hunley Camp # 2016  
Sparks, Nevada



First National Flag

Number Four

Website: [crossmicro.com/csshunley](http://crossmicro.com/csshunley)

April 2006



### Camp Report

The Lt. Dixon – CSS Hunley Camp welcomes its newest and 98<sup>th</sup> member:

Jim Odell

### Confederate Memorial Day

On Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> we observed our fourth annual Confederate Memorial Day Service at the Masonic Chapel in Reno.

### Special Thanks

To all of those who attended and helped make this event a success. In addition to our own people and their family members, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Order of the Confederate Rose and Sons of Union Veterans were represented. Special thanks also to Mrs. Carr of the Eastern Star who volunteered her services to play the piano for us. The Confederate Brigade of the Comstock Re-enactors provided an honor guard. We had other visitors not connected to the above named groups. Each year we owe a debt of gratitude to Wayne Kingsley, Secretary of the Scottish Rite Masons in Reno for allowing us free use of the chapel. In usual form we distributed the altar roses after the traditional Roll Call of States among the Confederate Soldiers buried in Reno.

### Next Meeting

This will be on **Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon** in the private room of the **Black Bear Diner** at 2323 South Virginia Street in Reno. All please note that we are not meeting at the usual place and time. This will be a luncheon meeting, wives and guests are invited and encouraged to attend. The Black Bear Diner is across the street from the Park Lane Mall and Colonial Bank on Virginia St. For those attending for the first time and coming along 395, it is best to exit on Plumb, go west to Virginia Street and then turn south on Virginia. The restaurant is at the very next light.

### Promotionals

Joe Scamihorn, our Chaplain is handling our fund raising efforts. We have some exciting items for sale. These include:

- Gray caps with Confederate Flags: \$10 @
- Seven piece Confederate Flag pin sets: \$10 @
- Lotto tickets, Hawaii trip: \$5 @  
(Air fare for two and a one week time share)
- Lotto tickets, American Eagle Light: \$1 @  
(Has flapping wings and a patriotic theme)

Confederate Memorial Day, Reno, Nevada 2006



Apologies are in order here; we only have the altar photos, twenty-five other people were present.



Confederate Memorial Day, Reno, Nevada 2006



## The Los Angeles Mounted Rifles, California's Confederate Militia

There was one only so called 'free state militia' that joined the Confederate Army. This was the Los Angeles Mounted Rifles. A little background is in order here. Had California not been so isolated, it would have been a border state. The Hispanic population there had only been part of the U.S. for 13 years and was not yet assimilated as Americans. Up to half of the Anglo population was Southern in origin and they were more heavily concentrated in Southern California. In 1860 the California Legislature passed a bill which was signed by Governor Downey and approved by a vote of the citizens to divide the state. Southern California was to have become "The State of Colorado." This required congressional approval from Washington, which did not come because of the anticipated national division and war. Southerners dominated Southern California and it is almost certain that had this division taken place, the proposed "State of Colorado" would have joined the Confederacy in early 1861. The Rocky Mountain State we now know as Colorado gained statehood in 1874.

Los Angeles was a city of about 4,000. In mid-February 1861 a petition was submitted to Judge Dryden, a Marylander, to enroll a volunteer militia company in Los Angeles. Dryden approved it and Alonzo Ridley became its captain. Los Angeles County Sheriff Tomas Sanchez was one of the lieutenants. Initially there were 64 privates, the most common surname being Sanchez. This unit contained many law enforcement officers and was almost totally pro-Southern. Due to its militia status, the Los Angeles Rifles received 80 Colt revolvers, 80 rifles and 80 sabers from the California Adjutant General. The original plans were for this unit to ride en mass and join the Confederacy. General Albert Sidney Johnston had by now resigned command of the U.S. Army in the west. Captain Lewis Armistead had resigned also. Knowing Johnston was going south, the Union Army had plans to arrest him for treason. Learning about Johnston's impending arrest, Captain Ridley advanced the departure date. On June 26<sup>th</sup>, Captain Ridley in company of 26 men from the Los Angeles Mounted Rifles and ten other men from Southern California (36 in all) including Johnston and Armistead moved east.

California Adjutant General Kibbe, Union General Carlton and Governor Downey all caught hell because of the Union arms these men took with them. Captain Ridley had taken all of the unit's small arms and ammunition with him in the ambulances. After this, the Yankees repossessed the cannon left in Sheriff Sanchez' care.

It wasn't easy crossing the desert and they camped within sight of Fort Yuma for three days. The Yankees declined to attack them. All of the Union officers were sick and they lacked confidence to begin an engagement. Otherwise there would have been a battle fought on California soil. Some troopers inside the fort volunteered to lead an uprising and join the Confederates if Ridley would attack. Albert Sidney Johnston put an end to that idea, saying they would be pirates if they did because they had not yet been mustered into Confederate Service.

From Yuma, they went to Tucson, and were overwhelmingly welcomed in that city, which was overwhelmingly Confederate. The Arizona Territory officially seceded from the U.S. and joined the Confederacy in 1862. For those of you new to the camp, in a previous article I described this event. They had some minor adventures from here, encountering a party of Unionist Texans at Apache Pass who wanted to deny them the use of water there. The Los Angeles Rifles brushed them aside and took what they wanted. They also discovered along the way the burned out wrecks of two stagecoaches and bodies of fourteen people who had been killed by the Apaches. Near the Rio Grande River they made contact with Enrique D'Hamel, a Cuban who was a member of Captain Coopwood's "San Elizaro Spy Company" which was composed mostly of Californians. Coopwood had been the Assistant District Attorney of San Bernardino, California. These were Confederates, part of Baylor's Texas Command. After 800 miles, they had made it. General Johnston would later die at Shiloh; General Armistead would die at Gettysburg. About half of these men would become Confederate Officers; two of them would become Confederate Naval Officers. After this event the Yankees disarmed militia units in Southern California and stationed other militia units from Northern California in southern part of the state.

## Bloody Missouri

The greatest volume of personal tragedies and ugliest fighting during the War Between the States took place in Missouri. A total of 1,162 battles and skirmishes were fought in Missouri, which was only exceeded by Virginia and Tennessee. In Missouri, it was usually a “matter of no surrender, and take no prisoners.”

Prior to the war, Missourians voted overwhelmingly against secession. Most were sympathetic toward and believed the seceding Southern States had the right to do so, but did not initially want to join them. The majority were against Federal military action against the South. During the 1860 presidential election, Missouri supported the Democratic candidate Stephen Douglas. Only 11% voted for Lincoln and over half of these were in St. Louis, and mostly of immigrant German extraction.

As a result of a power struggle for the State’s military resources, a confrontation between State and Federal forces brought the first bloodshed in what became known as the “Camp Jackson Massacre.”

Missouri was the only state in history, when proclaiming to be part of the United States, where the U.S. Army declared a state of war existed between it and the Federal government. On April 20<sup>th</sup> 1861, Missouri State Forces seized the Federal arsenal at Liberty, Missouri.

Unable to remain neutral, and after Federal forces disarmed the Missouri State guard in St. Louis, the lawfully elected legislature of Missouri with the backing of Governor Claiborne Jackson seceded on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1861, and became the twelfth state of the Confederacy. The governor and legislature had to flee advancing Federal troops. The Federals installed a rump, illegal government and declared secession was null and void.

The Irish population of St. Louis was overwhelmingly pro-Confederate. The German population of St. Louis was overwhelmingly pro-Union. St. Louis has the distinction of supplying the most men of any city west of the Mississippi River to both the Confederate and to the Union Armies.

It is not known for sure how many men from Missouri fought in the Confederate Army during the war of 1861-1865. It was at least 40,000. Many Missourians served in units from other Southern States such as the 13<sup>th</sup> Ark. Inf. which was also known as the “St. Louis Company.” Confederate guerillas, sometimes with only 4,000 men in the field tied up over 100,000 Federal Troops in Missouri and are the greatest single factor in saving the TransMississippi from Union control. These guerillas included Frank and Jesse James, William Clark Quantrill and Bloody Bill Anderson. Confederates won two major battles in Missouri, including “Wilson’s Creek” and “Lexington.” They also had their share of defeats. In all a total of 13,885 Union soldiers would die of all causes in Missouri.

So brutal were Union leaders in Missouri that hatred and revenge killings continued many years after the end of the war. Union General Ewing issued General Order Number 11 which depopulated four counties of Missouri. The inhabitants had to pack up and leave. In Westport, now called Kansas City, hundreds of Southern women and children were imprisoned in a three story barn. It collapsed killing and maiming hundreds of them. One of these dead women was ‘Bloody Bill Anderson’s sister. Another sister was permanently crippled. After this his sister’s name was always on his lips as he went into battle. It was because of this murder of Southern women and children that Quantrill conducted his retaliatory raid upon Lawrence, Kansas. During this raid only males over the age of fourteen were killed, numbering 180 in all. Only one Confederate Raider lost his life.

At St. Louis the Union Army had a hospital for its White Soldiers and a separate hospital for its Black Soldiers. In 1861 Union General Fremont emancipated Missouri’s slaves. Lincoln rescinded that order.

## What is Confederate Memorial Day, and why do we observe it?

This page was part of our Confederate Memorial Day Program on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Masonic Chapel in Reno. There was a popular song from the war of 1861 – 1865 entitled “The Homespun Dress” which was themed for the ladies who remained at home while their men went to war. One of the lines from this song went, “The South is a glorious land and ours is a glorious cause.” One might ask, what does this mean? The answer is pride. America began in the South. The first permanent colony was settled at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607, even though others like to claim this honor for their ancestors. The colonial capital in Virginia remained in Jamestown for 92 years. It wasn’t until 1699 that it was moved to Williamsburg, ten miles away. By then, over 100,000 people lived in Virginia. Services were still held in the Episcopal Church in Jamestown until 1758. It was a Southerner, Thomas Jefferson, who wrote the Declaration of Independence. Another Southerner, George Washington led us to victory and independence and became our first president. The Revolutionary War was won in the South at the Battle of Yorktown which followed other Southern Victories at Cowpens and King’s Mountain. Another Southerner, James Madison, wrote the Constitution. The most significant victory of the war of 1812 was won in the South at the Battle of New Orleans by another Southerner and future president, Andrew Jackson. Almost the entire west was acquired under the administration of Southern Presidents. The Louisiana Purchase was acquired by Thomas Jefferson and the far west, including the land we’re standing on now by another Southerner, President James K. Polk in the Mexican American War.

This brings us to the origin of Confederate Memorial Day

Confederate Memorial Day had its roots back in 1862 when a grieving Georgian widow, Mrs. Charles Williams of Columbus, Georgia would make a daily trip to her Confederate husband’s grave and place flowers upon it. She would sit by his grave and reflect. While she did this, her little girl would go about and pull weeds from all of the soldier’s graves and place wild flowers upon them. This little girl would die a short time later. This inspired the mother to actively seek a memorial day to honor the Confederate dead. And through her efforts and other ladies of Columbus, Georgia, the holiday was adopted. Confederate Memorial Day in Georgia is officially on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Even the National Holiday can also trace its roots to the South. U.S. General Logan was so impressed with the way that Southerners honored their dead around Richmond that he actively promoted the adoption of the U.S. Holiday, Memorial Day.

### Duty

One of the greatest generals in history and for that matter greatest Americans, Robert E. Lee said, “Duty is the sublimest word in the English language.” For him, duty came first. President Truman held General Lee in such esteem that he once relayed a personal story about himself. When he was a small child, President Truman asked his mother, “Mama, was Robert E. Lee in the old testament or in the new testament.” True story! President Eisenhower kept a picture of General Lee in the Oval Office. General Lee literally put everything on the line in the name of duty, just like the founding fathers had done in the Revolutionary War. He gave up a 29 year career in the U.S. Army which he loved so dear. He turned down command of the Union Army at the war’s outset. This alone would have propelled him into the presidency of the United States. He lost his health during the war and also his ancestral home at Arlington.

But what is the significance of this word duty? Those men who went off to fight in war of 1861 – 1865 did so with no material expectation in mind. They fought to repel an invader. True to his sense of duty, Lee led the Army of Northern Virginia until it could fight no longer. At Appomatox, his men cried and begged him not to surrender. But he realized he had another duty, a duty to save as many of these men as he could when all hope was lost. Duty is also our legacy; we have a duty to honor these men.



# The Heritage Page



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Heritage officer's comments:

Every month I split this section into two columns; one column is devoted to a Camp or Division that is leading the charge to preserve our heritage while the 2<sup>nd</sup> column lists current heritage violations that need our attention. This month I have not been advised of any major violations and now have the space to give a full account of a great project the Florida Division has taken on.

## **THE FLORIDA DIVISION Leading the charge**

### **Flag Preservation Project**

In 1987 the Museum of Florida History and the Florida Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans began an extensive project to study and preserve the flag collection. The goals of this project are to stabilize each of the 19 flags in the museum and to provide appropriate storage and exhibit conditions for long-term preservation. The Florida division initiated a fund raising campaign and with their help several major steps in the preservation project have been completed as listed below:

Acquisition of a museum-quality storage cabinet

Treatment and stabilization of nine significant flags:

- 1st Florida Hardee pattern
- 2nd Florida flag surrendered at Appomattox
- 4th Florida Hardee pattern
- 5th Florida, with unit inscription
- 6th Florida, captured at battle of Brentwood Hills
- 8th Florida captured at Gettysburg
- 8th Florida with 6 battle honors, captured at Sailor's Creek, Virginia
- 9th Regiment, 6th Florida Battalion flag with "Ocean Pond" battle honor
- 11th Florida, captured at Sailor's Creek

Costs for treatment vary according the flag's materials and condition. Flags needing removal of the polyvinyl alcohol resin used in a previous treatment are generally more expensive due to the amount of time and care involved. All estimated costs for stabilization include detailed analysis of fibers and flag construction, photographic documentation of treatment, and preparation of a treatment report.

A summary of the costs for the repair of flags is given below:

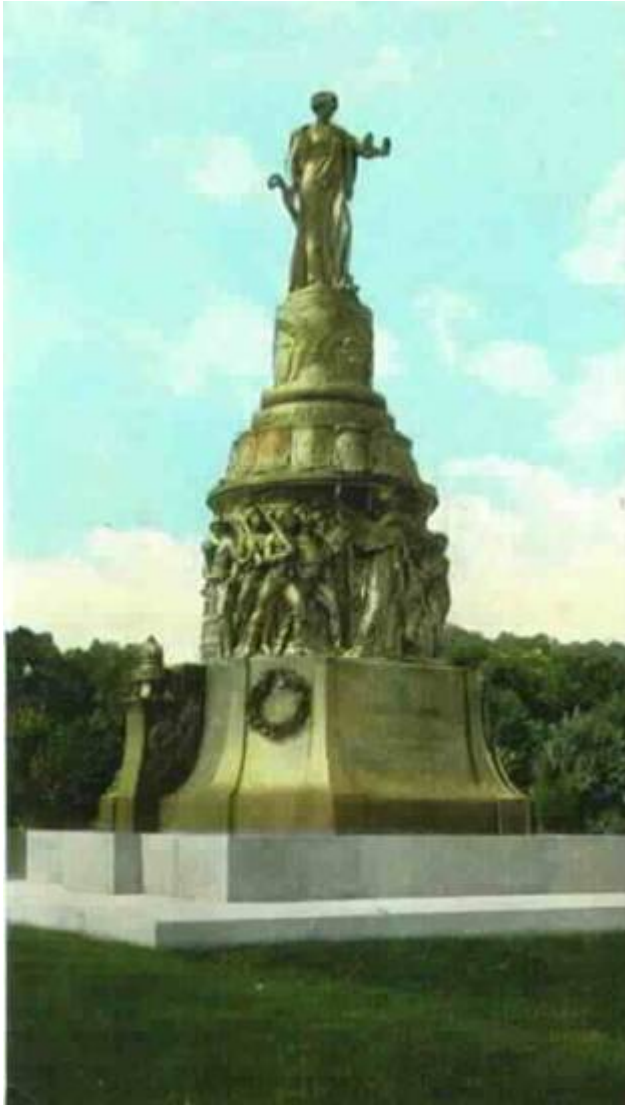
<b>Flag:</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Battle Flag of the 2nd Regiment	5,960.00
Battle Flag of the 4th Regiment	5,508.00
Battle flag of the "18th" Regiment	5,520.00
Battle Flag of the Kilcrease Light Artillery	7,620.00
Militia Flag of the Apalachicola Guards	9,446.00
Headquarters Flag of the Florida Brigade Western Army	6,623.00
Florida's Secession Flag	10,912.00

If you would like to make a donation make your check payable to "SCV Florida Division, Inc." and designate it "For Flag Preservation"

SCV Florida Division, 200 Sheppard Street Altamonte Springs, FL 32701



## Confederate Memorial Day



*Author Unknown*

The marching armies of the past  
Along our Southern plains,  
Are sleeping now in quiet rest  
Beneath the Southern rains.

The bugle call is now in vain  
To rouse them from their bed;  
To arms they'll never march again  
They are sleeping with the dead.

No more will Shiloh's plains be stained  
With blood our heroes shed,  
Nor Chancellorsville resound again  
To our noble warriors' tread.

For them no more shall reveille  
Sound at the break of dawn,  
But may their sleep peaceful be  
Till God's great judgment morn.

We bow our heads in solemn prayer  
For those who wore the gray,  
And clasp again their unseen hands  
On our Memorial Day.

