



Sons of Confederate Veterans

The Hunley Torpedo

The Lt. Dixon – CSS Hunley Camp # 2016



Number Ten

Website: www.dixon-hunley.com

October, 2006

Camp Report

Our total membership is now 87. Approximately 15% of the men chose to drop out or disappeared. Adding into this total a couple of new members, puts our membership loss at approximately 13% compared to August 1st. We will most likely recover this loss and continue to grow over the next year.

Unfortunately, we will not be at the Big Reno Gun Show this November. I can't spare the time. We may be able to participate in one in the spring. This much is uncertain yet. These gun shows always result in a big increase in recruits.

All of you are encouraged to become recruiters. Tell your friends and relatives about us. If we can continue growing, we can hold back the forces of evil that wish to eradicate our heritage.

New UDC Ladies

On Saturday, October 28th, Mrs. Johnnie Scamihorn and Mrs. Miriam Cavallero both received their certificates of membership in the United Daughters of the Confederacy at a UDC luncheon / presentation in Reno.

The 2007 Elections

We will elect new officers for the coming year at the November meeting. These men will assume their duties in January.

Heritage Defense

There are many serious heritage issues going on in this country. All of you are encouraged to read the heritage articles on page seven of this newsletter.

Photo # NH 57256 Capt. Semmes & Lt. Kell aboard CSS Alabama, 1863



Next Meeting

This will take place in the private room of the Black Bear Diner on **Saturday, November 11th at 1:00 PM**. These luncheons are always fun. You are encouraged to bring your wives or girlfriends. Please take note of the time as it will commence thirty minutes later than usual.

This will be an important meeting for the camp. The drawing for our lotto will take place. Some lucky person will win a week in a time share in Hawaii and two round trip tickets too. The winner will have his or her choice of island and can pick the time of the year subject to certain restrictions. Tickets are still available up until the last minute before the drawing.

The Photograph Shown Above

Some of you may not be familiar with the exploits of the cruiser, CSS Alabama. She was the greatest commerce raider of any war in history, with the exception of certain submarines. Her famous captain, Raphael Semmes, is shown above. Few photos of the Alabama exist. She captured 65 Yankee Merchantmen and sank one U.S. Warship.

Crisis in Richmond

Shown at right is the beautiful White house of the Confederacy, which was occupied by the Davis family during the War Between the States. It faces the Museum of the Confederacy which lies just behind the spot where this photograph was taken. Most of this historic site is surrounded by a medical center and it is difficult to reach. There is a major fiscal crisis going on. The State of Virginia is providing very little funding, forcing the museum to take austere measures. Many are trying to force the removal of these structures but the museum won't consent to this. This ground is a historically protected site. I'm going to bring this issue to vote in November. The museum needs money; we can help.



She was the only deep sea armored ship commissioned by the Confederate Navy, but she came too late. She was built in France but the French government would not allow her to be delivered. She was sold to the Danes who were at war with the Prussians and Austrians. When their war ended, the Danes refused delivery. Her builder secretly sold her back to the Confederates. She was armed with a 10 inch gun in the bow and two 6.4 inch guns in a casemate at the stern. The Yankees had nothing that could stand up to her. The plan was for the CSS Stonewall to break the blockade. In early 1865, she put into a Spanish port to escape a storm. There were two Yankee warships there, both of which wisely turned tail and ran. She arrived in Havana in May of 1865; Lee had already surrendered. She surrendered to the Spanish who turned her over to the U.S. who in turn sold her to the Japanese. They renamed her Kotetsu, and later Azuma. She served Japan in combat. They sold her in 1891.

CSS Stonewall



Excerpts from “The Official Records”

Thousands of cases of misbehavior against Southern men and women were recorded by Union commanders for various reasons and saved in Official Records. These records would have been destroyed if these officers knew they would someday come to light. I have thousands of these on file. Here are a few:

Col. David Moore, 21st Missouri, Union recorded:

“The troops of this command are committing every species of crime, including murder, robbery, assault and battery, destruction of private property of peaceful citizens, together with other offenses.”

Union General Innis N. Palmer, New Bern, N.C. on Sept. 1st, 1864 reported to Gen. Benjamin F. Butler at Fort Monroe the following communication:

The negroes [on Roanoke island] will not go [to be laborers at Fort Monroe] voluntarily, so I am obliged to force them. I have sent seventy-one and will send this afternoon about 150. I expect to get a large lot tomorrow.... The matter of collecting the colored men for laborers has been one of some difficulty, but I hope to send up a respectable force....They will not go willingly....They must be forced to go, and I propose tosend them up. I am aware that this may be considered a harsh measure, but we must not stop at trifles.

General H. W. Halleck, commanding at Richmond, on April 29 advised Grant in Washington,

“General Ord represents that want of discipline and good officers in the Twenty-Fifth Corps [General Weitzel] renders it a very improper force for the preservation of order in this department. A number of cases of atrocious rape by these men have occurred. Their influence on the colored population is also reported to be bad.”

Union General Darius N. Couch wrote this:

“Captain Horn.... brought in thirteen Federal stragglers whom he found within seven miles of Greenville [North Carolina], plundering houses and tearing the rings from women’s fingers.”

General Sherman wrote to General Halleck:

“The truth is the whole army is burning with an insatiable desire to wreak vengeance upon South Carolina.

Confederate Scout, Guide and Spy

Nancy Hart was born in 1846 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Her family moved to Virginia when she was an infant. She was of Scotch-Irish descent and her mother was first cousin to Andrew Johnson. Nancy grew up in the wilderness where she became an expert rider and a 'dead eye' shot. She never learned to read and write.

On October 16, 1861 Union soldiers dragged her brother-in-law out of his house. Nancy was living with him and her sister. Three days later he was found shot in the back on the road to Spencer. Her hatred of Union soldiers blazed from then forward.

She attended a going away party for the next door neighbors, the Kelly boys, who were joining the Confederate Army. Union soldiers marched by in the moonlight and she shouted "Hurrah for Jeff Davis." The Yankees fired four minie balls into the house. Three days later, she saddled up and rode away, beginning her career as a Confederate spy.

Nancy joined the Moccasin Rangers operating in the part of Virginia the Yankees later renamed West Virginia. She carried messages between Confederate forces by night and slept during the day. She saved the lives of many Confederate soldiers by hiding them with sympathizers and often nursing them back to health. She served as a guide for Rebel detachments and sold eggs and vegetables to the Yankees, allowing her to get close and spy on them. She reported Yankee strength and vulnerability to General Jackson and led his cavalry on several raids against Union troops.

The Yankees took her prisoner in 1862. She was able to gain the trust of one of her guards, and got his weapon away from him. She shot him dead, dove through the window and escaped by stealing Lt. Colonel Starr's horse, riding him bareback.

About a week later Nancy led a detachment of 200 men from Jackson's cavalry against Summerville. She rode the same horse into that battle. They



burned the commissary store house and some wagons, took horses, mules and captured several prisoners.

Nancy Hart married Joshua Douglas, a former Confederate ranger. Josh Douglas was dying of his wounds when Nancy nursed him back to health during the war.

After the war, they settled in Greenbrier County in West Virginia. They had two sons, George and Kennos.

Her last public appearance was shortly before her death when she testified on behalf of her son Kennos who was charged with killing Tom Reed at a dance in Trout Valley. Nancy died in 1902.

Antonia Ford Confederate Spy and Honorary Aide de Camp to Jeb Stuart

When the War Between the States broke out in 1861, 23-year old Antonia Ford was living a life of quiet comfort in Fairfax, Virginia. Her father was a prosperous merchant and theirs was an old Virginia family. Her brother served as a lieutenant in Jeb Stuart's artillery and he was killed in combat at Brandy Station.

Antonia's first service to the Confederacy took place before the Battle of First Manassas. Federal troops moving south from Washington, D.C. occupied the town and moved into the Ford house. Antonia listened carefully to all that was said and observed everything that was done. She reported as much as she could to Jeb Stuart, whose troops were nearby.

At the Battle of Second Manassas in August of 1862, she saved Confederate troops from certain disaster by reporting the Union plan to use Confederate colors to draw them away from assigned positions. No one would carry this important message. So Antonia drove a carriage twenty miles at night in the rain past Union troops and delivered it to Stuart in person. In recognition of her service, General Stuart awarded her a commission as an honorary aide-de-camp.

In December of 1862, Union Brigadier General Stoughton established his headquarters at Fairfax Court House. Antonia provided the necessary information to Stuart and Colonel John Mosby which enabled Mosby to capture General Stoughton while he was asleep in bed. Colonel Mosby woke him up and told Stoughton he had information about Mosby. Stoughton responded in a stupor, asking him if he had captured Mosby. The colonel replied, no, but he has captured you.

The Unionists began to suspect Antonia Ford of spying for the Confederacy and set a trap for her by bringing in another woman, a Federal agent. Her name was Lafayette Baker, AKA Frankie Abel. She posed as a refugee from New Orleans and was



given the task of gaining Antonia's attention. Frankie Abel was taken in by the Fords, who gave her stylish clothes to wear and a place to stay. She and Antonia traded stories about service to the Confederacy. After she departed, Federal agents moved in and arrested Antonia and her father.

Antonia was later exchanged. Shortly afterward she was re-arrested and escorted to the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, D.C. by Major Joseph Willard. The Yankee Major fell in love with her and won her release several months later by getting her to sign a loyalty oath. He resigned his army commission and they married in March of 1864. They had three children before she passed away in 1871 after just seven years of marriage.

The Battle of Franklin The Gettysburg of the West

The most disastrous period of Confederate History began when President Jefferson Davis appointed John Bell Hood to command the Army of Tennessee. Hood was brave beyond reproach. He made an excellent Brigadier General with a reputation of getting the job done. He had been wounded, lost limbs and lived on laudanum to control his pain. Laudanum contained opium. Jefferson Davis had put a man whose brain was fogged with drugs in command of an army. Allowing him to do this was an absolute disaster. His style was similar to that of the French in World War I. It could be summed up in one word – Attack! For this reason, the Battle of Franklin was known as the Gettysburg of the West.

After losing 20,000 men in four senseless attacks against the numerically superior Yankee defensive positions besieging Atlanta, Hood abandoned Georgia to Sherman's tender mercy. He took his army into Tennessee with the ultimate goal of recapturing Nashville, thereby, in his imagination, drawing the Yankee Army out of the Deep South. Sherman was overjoyed by this move, even threatening to give him the rations if Hood would promise to do it.

Hood caught up with the Yankees at Franklin where their commander made his HQ at the Carter House. The battlefield was only two by one and half miles long. The Yankees were in an exceptionally strong position, just as they had been at Gettysburg. The main battle was fought after dark. Hood's generals, including Forrest and Cleburne tried to talk him out of it, but Hood would not listen to reason. Cleburne, the Stonewall Jackson of the West responded, "We will take the works or fall in the attempt."

The Union troops were amazed as the massed ranks of the Confederates advanced with their bands playing and colors flying. Several charges were made into this valley of death. The Carter family hid in the basement of their house as the battle raged above them. One of the Carter sons, Tod, a Confederate officer hadn't been home in three years. He cried out, "Follow me boys, I'm almost home." He was right; he was mortally wounded and died in it two days later.

This genius Hood managed to lose 7,000 men compared to the Yankee loss of 2,500. More men were lost in this five hour battle than in the two day battle at Shiloh. Fifteen of the 28 Confederate Generals present became casualties. Five of them died, including Patrick Cleburne himself. Sixty-five field grade officers were lost. Some infantry regiments had a 64% casualty rate. Around midnight the Federals retreated to Nashville and Hood claimed victory.

General Hood followed this up catastrophe by again attacking the numerically superior, entrenched Yankees at Nashville. There, he lost most of what remained of his army. The Army of Tennessee actually died at Franklin. The Battle of Nashville only polished that defeat for the Yankees.

At several of the Sons of Confederate Veterans' Reunions I have attended, I have often heard of Hood fondly referred to with pride. Maybe I'm missing something here. I think the Yankees should have given him their Medal of Honor. He could probably take credit for killing more Confederates than most Yankee generals. But this is one man's opinion.

Nevertheless, the Franklin Battlefield is sacred ground to us. This is why the flag fight as described on the next page is so important.

The Carter family donated two acres of their property to establish a Confederate Cemetery there. A total of 1,481 Confederates are buried there. The Carter House was purchased by the State of Tennessee in 1951. Today, it is a registered historical landmark.

The Heritage Page

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The article shown below is just one of many in this confusing story regarding the mayor's statement that the Battle Flag not be flown at the Franklin anniversary ceremony to be held on Nov. 30th. Lucky for us, our brothers in Tennessee are on top of this one. What we know now is that initially the mayor wanted to ban the Battle Flag and any rifles for the color guard. The mayor's next statement was that he wanted the Second National Flag flown instead. He followed up by agreeing that the color guard could bring their rifles if inspected by the local police for safety reasons. Then, he stated that he was misunderstood and the Battle Flag could be included per First Amendment rights.

As of this week, it looks like the ceremony will include a Southern and a Union band playing period music. At one point the Second National will be lowered as the U.S. National is raised and the Union band will close the ceremony. This story is not over by a long shot, but I wanted to get this out early for anyone interested in contacting the double talking mayor. His email is: Mr. Tom Miller, mayor@franklin-gov.com.

Civil War Group Upset over Rebel Flag Ban

By Kristin M. Hall, Associated Press Writer
October 4th, 2006

Franklin, Tenn. (AP) – The Sons of Confederate Veterans criticized a mayor who reportedly didn't want the Confederate Battle Flag flown during an anniversary ceremony of a Civil War battle. Franklin Mayor, Tom Miller, said the Confederate Flag is an anathema to some and didn't want the flag at the upcoming Battle of Franklin commemoration; the *Tennessean* reported in a story posted on its web site.

But a city spokeswoman later claimed the mayor was misunderstood and that he only wanted to keep the flag from being displayed on a flagpole in the middle of the city square. City spokeswoman Monique McCullough said the plan was to have an individual hold the Confederate Flag, but Miller said he didn't want it flown high on the flagpole. Miller did not return calls for comment. He was concerned all attention would be paid to the Confederate Flag. He certainly didn't ban the flag from being flown. That's a First Amendment right. McCullough said the city wants the ceremony to reflect the historic importance of the battle as a precursor to the end of fighting between the Confederate and Union forces. "He wanted to make sure that both flags would be shown," she said.

Chris Sullivan, Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, first said after hearing the mayor's reported comments that he thought the mayor wanted to sanitize history. "The Confederate Flag is an important reminder to Southerners who only want to honor their ancestors," Sullivan said. "We find Mr. Miller's lack of understanding and willful disregard of the opinions of others insulting." But after hearing of the city's later effort to clarify the mayor's remarks, Sullivan said, "If they are saying they will allow the Confederate Flag to be a part of the program that would certainly mitigate our concerns."

"The commemoration in Franklin's square will be the first time this event had been held," McCullough said.



1. In eighteen-hundred and sixty-one,
Roll, Alabama, roll!
This ship's building was begun,
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
2. When the Alabama's keel was laid,
Roll, Alabama, roll!
It was laid in the yard of Jonathan Laird.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
3. It was laid in the yard of Jonathan Laird;
Roll, Alabama, roll!
It was laid in the town of Birkenhead.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
4. At first she was called "the Two-Ninety-
Two,"
Roll, Alabama, roll!
For the merchants of the city of Liverpool
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
5. Put up the money to build the ship
Roll, Alabama, roll!
In hopes of driving commerce from the sea.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
6. Down the Mersey ways she rolled then;
Roll, Alabama, roll!
Liverpool fitted her with guns and men.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
7. Down the Mersey she rolled one day,
Roll, Alabama, roll!
And across the Western she plowed her
way.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
8. From the Western Isles she sailed forth,
Roll, Alabama, roll!
To destroy the commerce of the North.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
9. To fight the North Semmes did employ
Roll, Alabama, roll!
Ev'ry method to kill and destroy.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!
10. The Alabama sailed for two whole years,
Roll, Alabama, roll!
Took sixty-five ships in her career.
Oh, roll, Alabama, roll!