



Sons of Confederate Veterans
The Hunley Torpedo



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

Number Nine

Website: New & Under Construction

September 2006



Camp Report

The Lt. Dixon – CSS Hunley Camp welcomes its newest members. They are:

Andrew Libke
 Ray Ohern
 William Simmons

Membership and Dues

We still have almost twenty men who haven't paid their dues for this New Year. I hope last year won't be the high water mark for the Confederacy here in the Lt. Dixon – CSS Hunley Camp. Send them in men, \$32!

Transferred

Compatriot Lance Kramer is retiring from the Susanville Prison where he has worked for many years as a correctional officer. In a couple of months he will be joining his wife and daughter in their new home near Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. I have transferred him to the Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp # 87 in Knoxville, Tenn. That is a large camp having about 300 members. Lance has done a lot for this camp, and he will be missed.

Next Meeting

It will be in the conference room of the Sparks Library on October 14th at 12:30 PM. **Yall Come!**

A Mountain of Pride

Men, thanks is all I can say. The camp came through big time for our history and heritage. Our coffers were swollen from dues money. So many of you gave extra, that I really can't name all of you here.

Donations

At our September Meeting, a \$300 donation was voted for both Memorial Hall and for the Southern Legal Resource Center. The SLRC with the backing of the SCV won the Jacqueline Duty case in Kentucky.

But it gets better than this. So enthusiastic did our men become at the September meeting, that Davy Crockett volunteered to pass the hat for more money, and he did. We collected another \$225 in cash at the meeting for the SLRC and \$20 more for Memorial Hall, plus I had already received \$50 from Rick Farmer for Memorial Hall by mail. Add to this the pledges made at the meeting. These have already been received. I was able to mail donations in these amounts:

To The Southern Legal Resource Center: \$700.00
 To Memorial Hall: 420.00

There is more. I made a donation to Memorial Hall during Reunion in New Orleans. Ernie Zebal, whose roots are in New Orleans sent one too.

Resolution from the September Meeting

Our September Meeting was well attended with 18 men present. This is not always the case. In summer participation plummets. This is to be expected because of vacations. I presented to the membership a proposal that we go 'Dark' in the summer months of July and August. The camp officers may still meet for business purposes. This proposal was well received and voted in favor unanimously. This is logical. Some of us go to Reunion in July.

We will now have ten regular meetings per year. Of these, the June Meeting will take place in Virginia City where we will reenact the raising of the Stars and Bars which took place there at Johnny Newman's Saloon in 1861. This will be more of a fun event than an actual meeting. The flagpole is in the big parking lot in the center of town across the main street from the Delta Queen. Bring your wives, girlfriends, children and friends. They are all invited to this one. We won't all be standing out in the hot sun for the duration. We can socialize and dine or look around town. Many will want to have their pictures taken by the flagpole. And we can explain its significance to the tourists.

On a small scale we did this in 2003. The Stars and Bars was flown for one hour which is the duration we will use next year too. For those of you who haven't attended a meeting, the Stars and Bars is not The Battleflag. A picture of the 'Stars and Bars' is shown on the rear page. It was the First National Flag of the Confederate States of America and was official from March of 1861 until March of 1863 when it was replaced by the Stainless Banner. The Battleflag was never the official flag of the Confederacy.



Our New Website

Our old website has been down for months now. Construction of the new one begins this week. It will be updated, and will be produced using Dreamweaver which is a much better program.



Camp Finances

We are really strong here men. In spite of donating \$1,120 in September, we still have in excess of \$600 in our camp account. We will receive more dues soon when the rest of our men send them in. I estimate that we will lose no more than 10 to 12 % of our membership.

Our camp funds will be heavily augmented at the end of the year at the lottery drawing in November. Already about \$1,000 has been collected from this. Many of you who live faraway may want to buy some of these. It is a great deal at \$5 per ticket or 4 tickets for \$15. The prize is a week in Hawaii in a time share and two round trip tickets there. Anyone interested in buying these should contact me, **Lee Cross at 775-359-8453** or through my email at rebelcross@sbcglobal.net.



The Newsletter

All of you are encouraged to send me contributions for this newsletter. Of special interest is information about your ancestors which can be put on the ancestry page.

The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina

The Cadets of The South Carolina Military Academy, the Citadel have the distinction of firing the first shot in The War Between the States. On January 9th 1861, Cadets stationed on Morris Island fired the first shot of that war at the U.S. Steamer Star of the West as it attempted to re-supply Fort Sumter with troops and supplies. It was turned back.

On December 20th 1842, the South Carolina Legislature passed an act establishing The South Carolina Military Academy. Originally, this consisted of the Citadel in Charleston and the Arsenal in Columbia. The students attended the Arsenal for one year as freshmen, and then spent their last three years at the Citadel.

The Citadel has nine battle streamers. Among these was the one for which they were sent to Tulifinny Creek to join a small force defending the Charleston and Savannah Railroad. The Yankees were beaten and forced to withdraw.

Our own Davy Crockett is a graduate of the Citadel.



Slavery in the North, Massive Hypocrisy

I received a collection of papers from Miriam Cavallero which I have just begun to study. This is a thick file containing the research of Lee A. Smith of Charlotte, N.C. This file is dated June 2, 1997. Its contents are remarkable and were referenced with documentation for all claims made here from the following sources:

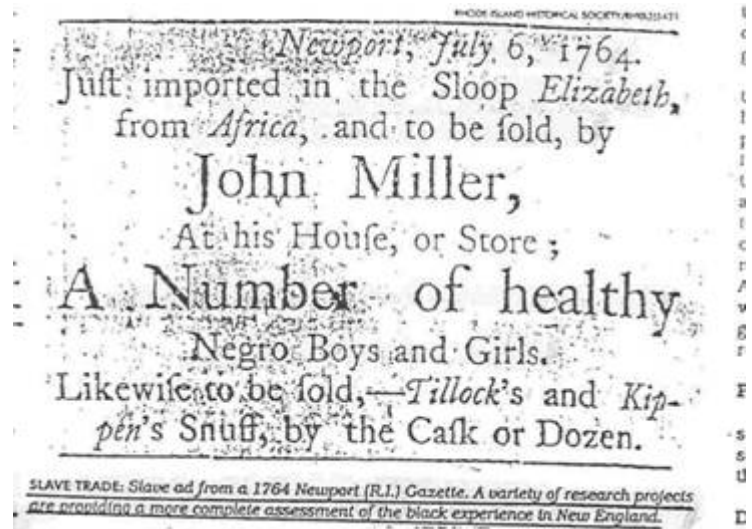
Encyclopedia Britannia
Collier's Encyclopedia
Information please Almanac
World Almanac
National Geographic
Charlotte Observer
U.S. Bureau of the Census

Information uncovered by this research includes the following facts:

1. In 1712, April 6th there was a slave revolt in New York. Twenty one slaves were hanged, and six slaves committed suicide.
2. 1720, one seventh of New York's population were slaves.
3. 1720, one thirteenth of Pennsylvania's population were slaves.
4. In 1741 there was another slave revolt in New York. Thirteen slaves were hanged, thirteen were burned at the stake and seventy-one were deported.
5. 1776, there were 3,668 slaves in Rhode Island. John Brown of Providence Rhode Island was a slave trader. He donated money from this enterprise to a school in Providence which later changed its name to Brown University in his honor.
6. 1780, New York had 21,234 slaves; New Jersey had 11,423, Pennsylvania 3,737, Connecticut 2,764 and Rhode Island 948.
7. 1790 census, New York City's population was 83,000; one in every four households owned slaves.
8. 1810, the slaves in New York worked under the harshest codes in the North.
9. 1830, the U.S. census reported that 3,777 free Negro families owned Negro slaves.
10. 1835, there was an anti-abolitionist riot in Boston.
11. 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation only freed the slaves in those parts of the South not under Union control. Exempted were large tracts of Virginia and Louisiana and the Northern States..
12. 1863, draft riots in New York City. The Federal Fleet turns its guns upon the city. Untold numbers of blacks and abolitionists were shot. Some estimates go as high as 1,000.
13. 1865, December 18th slavery was abolished in Washington, D.C. This was eight months after General Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

14. 1950, There were still at least 4,000,000 slaves held in the interior of Northern Africa, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia and China. In light of this, isn't this most remarkable that when **Bill Clinton was President he when to Africa and apologized to the Africans for slavery.** The litmus test for this would be if these same Africans would trade their impoverished lives to live as well as the average black of slave descent does here in the United States. I think we all know the answer to that. **Slavery existed in Africa thousands of years before the first white man migrated to America.**
15. 1962, Saudi Arabia officially freed its slaves. This was in name only. Foreign workers from other third world countries report horribly repressive conditions and loss of freedom.

The abolition of slavery in the Northern States was often done gradually. For instance in the State of New Jersey, though it officially banished slavery in 1804, this law only applied to slaves born after 1804. Those born before July 4th 1804 remained slaves for life. In 1830 two-thirds of the slaves in the North lived in New Jersey. There were still slaves there in 1846 when it was supposedly abolished for good. Typically, these emancipation laws gave Northern slave owners a period of time to ship their slaves south and sell them. In 1861, New Jersey was getting around this by calling them apprentices for life. Though a technically a 'free state' New Jersey was a 'slave holding' state until 1865 when the last Negro slave died there.



Newspaper Ad from Newport, Rhode Island 1764



The Georgia Military Institute

Boys at military academies all across the South volunteered in great numbers and were often called upon to fight while still enrolled as underage cadets. We see this not only with the renowned VMI in Virginia and the equally famous Citadel in Charleston but also with the boys of the Georgia Military Institute near Augusta, Georgia. Most of these boys were between 16 and 18. In 1861 they were called upon to be drill instructors, first at Camp Brown, and later at Camp Campbell. They even gave weapons and tactical training to officers and NCOs. They were officially brought into the Confederate Army in May of 1864. Their first duty was to guard the arsenals and stores of Augusta, one of the few industrial cities in the South. They served in the Atlanta Campaign and fought the Yankees at Resaca where they came under fire for the first time. They also resisted Sherman's march to the sea. They were one of the last units to surrender on May 20th 1865.

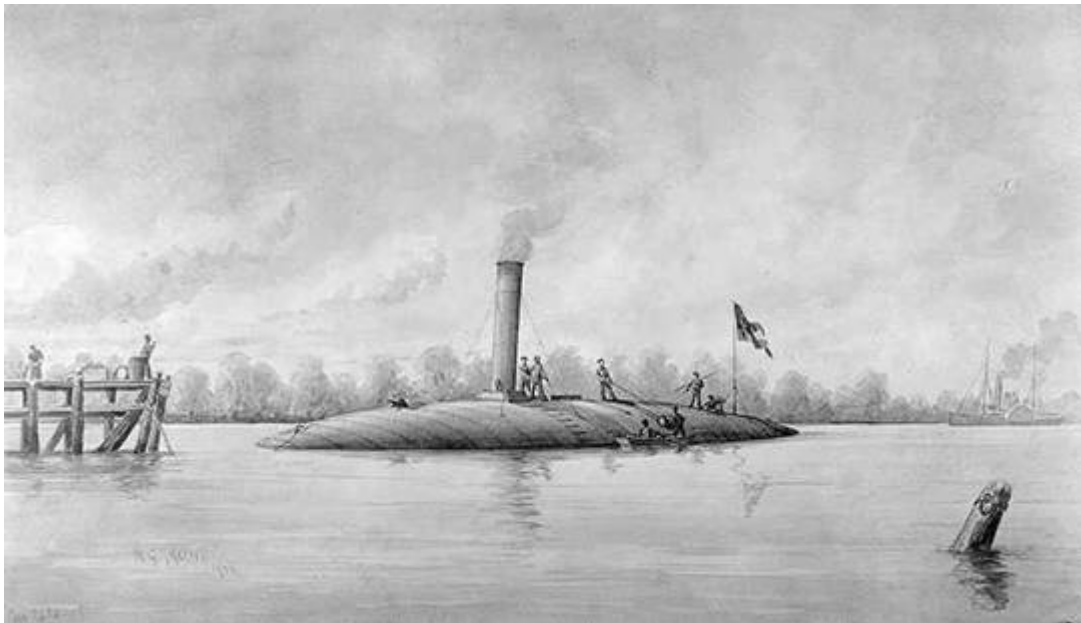
The CSS Manassas

Shown below is the Confederate Ram CSS Manassas. A different version of this article was first shown in the August 2003 edition of this newsletter. About 4/5 of our current members have never seen this. It deserves repeating. Contrary to popular belief, the first iron warship in America was the Manassas, and not the CSS Virginia or the USS Monitor. The Manassas was also the first ironclad to see battle. First built in 1855 in Boston, she was known as the Enoch Train and was 128 feet long.

Her conversion into the Ram Manassas was by private subscription in New Orleans. Upon her framework of white oak, she was built up with massive beams, 17 inches in thickness such that her bow became a solid mass 20 feet thick. Over this iron plates were riveted. Her back was covered with 12 inches of oak covered with one and a half inch iron. Her shape above the water was that of an eggshell so that enemy shot would bounce off with a glancing blow. The Manassas had two stacks set up such that they could be slid down out of sight if need be, a useful advantage in battle. Only one is elevated in the picture below. The pilot house was in the stern. Her weakness was her engine and because of this she could not work against a strong current. To prevent boarding, the engine was provided with pumps for ejecting steam and scalding water over her entire surface. The Manassas carried one gun in the bow. This warship was built by the enterprising people of New Orleans without help from the Confederate Government.

The CSS Manassas first saw action on October 12th 1861. In contrast the CSS Virginia was not plated with iron until November 25th 1861. On October 12th the Manassas aided by two armed steamers headed down the Mississippi to challenge the blockading fleet near 'Head of Passes' at the mouth of the Mississippi. She rammed the USS Richmond and ran it aground. The USS Vincennes also ran aground. For a brief time the blockade was disrupted and much embarrassment was brought upon the U.S. Navy. Immediately after this action, the Confederate Government purchased the Manassas.

On April 24th 1862, the Manassas fought valiantly in the Battle of New Orleans. She was commanded by Lt. Warley. During that battle she rammed three different Union warships, including the USS Brooklyn, USS Hartford, and USS Mississippi but did not sink any of them. The Federals described the Manassas as the most troublesome of the Confederate Ships that defended New Orleans. Finally, the Manassas was disabled by a broadside from the USS Mississippi which caused her crew to beach and abandon her. She was then cast adrift down the Mississippi and set on fire by her commander. The Federals attempted to salvage her, but to no avail as her steam pipes had been cut. She sunk downriver.




The Heritage Page

John Kindred (858)484-3851

Johnk1861@yahoo.com

Camp 2016 Takes the High Ground

Mr. Jeff Klages of our camp has done a remarkable job of locating Confederate graves sites in Nevada. Through his hard work our brave soldier's final resting places can now be maintained and not lost to history. Although the camp website is temporarily down, as soon as it is back up we can all view the details of Mr. Klages' work and be proud that we have yet another compatriot in our camp who takes the Charge of Stephen Lee to heart. I know that our ancestors looking down upon us are just as proud, thank you.



Back in 2000, I met Mrs. Wells who was then the current President of the UDC. She spoke to me in length about the efforts by some to remove anything Confederate in her home state of South Carolina. As a new member of the SCV, I asked her what could be done to help stop these attacks. To this day her response has stayed with me as she said we will not win every battle. Monuments and statues may be taken down but as long as we can maintain the records, documents and grave sites of our ancestors, we will keep our heritage alive.

Mrs. Wells, along with the UDC maintains the Confederate Museum in Charleston, and I had the pleasure of seeing her again as she was giving a speech. She had talked about Fort Sumter and in her closing lines, stated that although the U.S. had taken back the fort, it is us that still hold the keys to the front door. Now that's a lady I like!

One way we can preserve our heritage is to register the graves of our ancestors. The SCV has a printable registration form on its website and since I am on the National Graves Committee, if you would like to send the form to me, I will make a copy for the camp records and submit it to SCV-HQ. The form can be found at scv.org. Click on research and then follow this with another click on grave registration or send me an email and I will mail you a copy. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.



Stars and Bars Flying Over Fort Sumter 1861

