



Sons of Confederate Veterans The Hunley Torpedo



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

Number Three

Website: www.dixon-hunley.org

Third Quarter 2012

Camp Report

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

Lawrence Monsewicz
Toby Tapley

Dues – Dues – Dues

Men, we are now in the grace period for paying our dues. The SCV dues-year began on August 1st. I know it's easy to forget. Some of you have set up automatic prepayments through your banks. And this works really well. I know that many like to receive a separate dues notice in the mail. I will have to do that for some but every one I send out costs the camp about 60 cents. Thirty men are still in arrears which totals \$360 collectively.

Special Thanks

To all of you for supporting our efforts to raise money so the Bell Research Center in Cumming, Georgia, could acquire that valuable collection of documents. Five men donated \$100 each. I know of others that donated who probably couldn't spare the money. I was informed that the money we donated put them over the top and enabled the acquisition. At our special meeting in August, which was called for this purpose, we raised or received commitments for over \$900. I sent them a check for \$851 and others mailed direct donations.

As our dues are now rolling in, we voted further donations at our September meeting. They were to:

The Southern Legal Resource Center:	\$350
Memorial Hall in New Orleans:	200

We still have \$375 in funds with \$360 yet coming!
Our total donations since August exceed \$1,450.00



Next Meeting

It will be on the **first Saturday, October 6th at 9:30 a.m.** in the private room of the Alamo Truck Stop in Sparks. **Y'all come!**

Our September Meeting

Special thanks also to my good friend and Masonic Brother, Jim Hackbarth. He attended our most recent meeting and brought an heirloom belonging to his wife's family. She is descended from an old Gettysburg family; the owners of the Weikert House. That house was used as a hospital during the Battle at Gettysburg. The family was removed when Confederate officers showed up and told them a battle would be fought in the neighborhood. When the family returned they found a blood-stained blanket. They washed it but the stain remained. It has remained in the family ever since.

Planning for 2013

It looks like we may be able to acquire the services of a Civil War band at our 2013 Lee / Jackson Dinner. They wear uniforms during events, gray in our case and play real period instruments.

In Memoriam

Compatriot, Rudy Puckett, of Henderson, Nevada, lost his wife, Meta, recently. Our thoughts are with you, Rudy. His son is a war hero. He was wounded in Iraq several years ago but has since returned to the States, where he has pursued his education.



Unfinished Business

Within the last quarter of this year I will be concentrating some of my efforts to secure for us more ATM pins bearing the flag of the Army of the TransMississippi with its transposed colors. Originally we had 100 of these made at a cost of \$100, paid for and donated to the camp by our departed Brother, Joe Scamihorn. They have been exhausted now for over a year. Those few suppliers we have contacted want \$4 to \$5 per pin. Either these newer pins come gold-plated or the suppliers think we're stupid. In any case I will secure for us the best deal possible. I am now holding \$60 cash in escrow for this purpose, donated by camp members at an earlier meeting. I will also contribute money and maybe we can spare our treasury for more vital activities. These are great promotional items and everyone likes them.



Help Archive the Efforts of Your Southern Patriot
and Support Battlefield and Monument Restoration

See: www.ourconfederateheros.com

This website is also a fantastic source of battle stories, historic photos, and battle maps.
A Project of SCV Camp # 1708 in Arizona

The Wrong Lee

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AFTER GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE had surrendered, General Fitzhugh Lee rode away from Appomattox. While riding through a lane he met an old North Carolina soldier.

"Ho, there," cried General Lee, "where are you going?"

"I've been off on a furlough, and am now going back to join General Bob Lee," replied the soldier.

"You needn't go back, but can throw your gun away and return home for Lee's surrendered."

"Lee surrendered?"

"That's what I said," said General Lee.

"It must have been that damned Fitz Lee, then. Bob Lee would never surrender," and the old soldier put on a look of contempt and walked on.

—*Louisville Courier-Journal*

The Battle of Fort Gregg

This battle delayed the Yankee advance and enabled General Lee to evacuate Petersburg. It is often referred to as *The Confederate Alamo*.

The Confederate earthworks and defenders surrounding Petersburg had defied the Union Army of the Potomac for nearly 10 months; the siege of Petersburg was finally over. Gen. Robert E. Lee advised Pres. Jefferson Davis to evacuate Richmond and issued orders for the Army of Northern Virginia to withdraw. He was in desperate need of time to pull his army together and get them started on the road west- toward Appomattox Court House. Shielded by a heavy fog, the Federals launched a massive final assault on Fort Gregg at 4:40 A.M. on the 2nd.

The sparsely held Confederate lines collapsed under the onslaught. The Union IX Corps stormed over the lines along Jerusalem Plank Road. The VI Corps, in a relentless surge, crushed the works at Fort Fisher, wheeled to the left, and rolled up the Confederate defenders to Hatcher's Run. There, the Confederate lines vanished under an overwhelming attack by 2 divisions of the XXIV Corps, which then turned, charging down the Boydton Plank Road, across the front of the VI Corps, toward Forts Gregg and Baldwin.

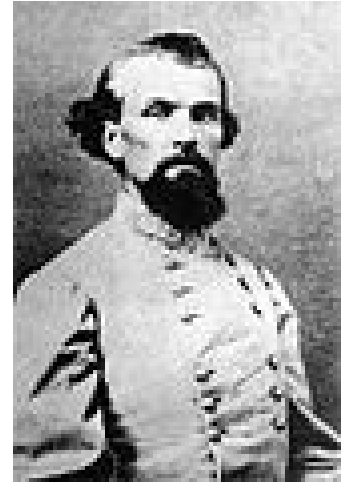
Near noon, the Union assault wave lapped against Fort Gregg. With the collapse of the western lines, Lee notified authorities in Richmond that Petersburg would be evacuated that night, ordered a new temporary line rapidly built to guard the avenues of retreat, and shifted troops to danger spots. Lee needed time to extricate his army safely, and that task fell to the defenders at Fort Gregg, the crucial hinge in the now beleaguered Confederate line.

Barely 500 Confederate defenders and some artillery, belonging to Brigadier Generals Robert S. Foster and John W. Turner assailed the fort. The proud Confederates repulsed the attack, then another, and still one more. Three successive attacks were repulsed before the Union troops, on the strength of sheer numbers, breached the parapets and swarmed into the fort. The muzzles of the Confederate rifles and cannon sizzled from the heat. Wounded Confederates loaded rifles, passing them with bloody hands to the unhurt defenders. The Federals finally found an uncompleted ditch that led into the fort. Surging over the parapet, the Federals engulfed the garrison. The fighting continued hand-to-hand inside the fort for 25 minutes until the Confederates were overwhelmed and there were only 30 defenders left standing to be captured. The battle lasted less than 2 hours, but the gallant defense bought the time Lee needed.

The victorious Federals, suffering 714 casualties, counted 57 dead Confederates, 129 wounded prisoners, and 30 who were unhurt. The fighting spirit of Lee's veterans once more bought their commanders precious time. When the fort fell, a new Confederate line to the rear was finished. The Confederate army abandoned Petersburg under the cover of night.

One Shining Moment at Fort Donelson

History records the battle and siege at Fort Donelson, Tennessee as an absolute disaster for the South. And this is so as we lost over 13,000 men, 12,000 of these by the surrender of that political hack and coward, John Floyd. Floyd allowed his army to be trapped at Fort Donelson. But he almost saved the day when he ordered a surprise attack that opened up the Yankee line. Then he lost his nerve and ordered his men back into the fort. Our boy Floyd was a coward, willing to surrender his men, but unwilling to share their fate. He escaped on a steamboat. Forrest, then a Lt. Colonel was the South's only shining star that day as related below.



Floyd promptly turned over his command to General Pillow. Pillow then passed it in turn to General Buckner, who agreed to remain behind and surrender the army. Pillow escaped by small boat across the Cumberland in the night. Floyd left the next morning on the only steamer available, taking his two regiments of Virginia infantry. Disgusted at the show of cowardice, a furious Nathan Bedford Forrest announced, "I did not come here to surrender my command." He stormed out of the meeting and led about 700 of his cavalymen to escape the fort. Forrest's horsemen rode toward Nashville through the shallow, icy waters of Lick Creek, encountering no enemy and confirming that many more could have escaped by the same route, if Buckner had not posted guards to prevent any such attempts.

Shown at right: Fort Donelson today



This is Where Most of Your Dues Go

Ever since the founding of our camp in 2003 we have avidly supported the two institutions shown below with donations of multi-thousands of dollars over the years. Shown directly below is Memorial Hall in New Orleans. It has the second largest collection of Confederate artifacts in the world. Several years ago the University system in Louisiana attempted to evict them. Originally, the land was donated to the museum circa 1900 but the deed was lost. That resulted in a lawsuit which cost the museum over \$500,000 before the bad guys threw in the towel. That wasn't all. Termites had eaten away the supports for the roof. And for a triple whammy, hurricane Katrina came along and cut their income to about 10% because of the loss in attendance.

Shown below that is the Southern Legal Resource Center in Black Mountain, North Carolina. It is the only law firm in the United States dedicated to the preservation of our rights to perpetuate honoring our heritage. They have engaged in innumerable lawsuits against the haters who would deny us the right to fly our flags, who seek to destroy our monuments, punish our children for honoring their heritage and vilify our ancestors. Their principal source of income is donations from camps like ours, individuals and the SCV directly. And if they were not supported, there would be no one left fighting for us. Check them out on www.slrc-csa.org.



Southern Legal Resource
Defending the rights of all Ame
Advocating for the Confederate co

Father Alister Anderson

I have had the good fortune in the recent past to become friends with Bazz Childress before he passed away. And we were known to have raised a glass of cheer or two to Dixie at various Reunions. When he expired, we lost a big one. I have also had the good fortune to communicate with the distinguished Father Anderson shown below. It is only fitting that Father Anderson received the “Bazz Childress Award.” He is a man of great principle; a man who had been an Episcopal Minister through most of his adult years and then walked away from them because the Episcopal Church had embraced homosexual priests. Father Anderson then became an Eastern Orthodox Priest. The excerpt shown below came from the SLRC.

“Bazz” Childress Heritage Award goes to Rev. Father Alister C. Anderson



Rev. Father Alister
C. Anderson

The Board of Directors of the Southern Legal Resource Center announce that Rev. Father Alister C. Anderson of Frederick, Maryland, has been selected for a "Lifetime Achievement" award of the Basil Dwayne "Bazz" Childress Heritage Award.

Father Anderson is an Eastern Orthodox priest, a 1944 graduate of the US Naval Academy, a combat veteran of both WWII and the Vietnam War and a retired Colonel in the US Army Chaplain Corps. Father Anderson is a past Chaplain-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, A patriot Member of the League of the South, a faithful supporter of the SLRC and a prolific writer and speaker on the rightness of the Confederate Cause.

Father Anderson has sponsored a memorial in honor of Confederate mar-

tyr Capt. Henry Wirz for the past several years as well as supporting the Point Look Out Memorial and the Arlington Cemetery Confederate Memorial.

Congratulations Father Alister!

Heritage Alert!

As we go to press we hear that a Jackson, Tennessee High School Senior was banned from her Senior Prom for wearing a Confederate themed evening dress much like the Jacqueline Duty case the SLRC handled several years ago. Our staff is investigating.



Death and the Civil War

This program has been and will be shown again on PBS. Personally, I will not watch PBS. One of our compatriots, however, shared this me and I'm passing this on to those who may wish to view it.

Program: American Experience
Episode: Death and the Civil War

How the young United States dealt with the unprecedented and overwhelming number of dead in the Civil War, premiering on PBS Sept 18, 8/7c. The Ric Burns film is based on the book "This Republic of Suffering" by Harvard President Drew Gilpin Faust.

Duration: (1:52:10)

Premiere Date: 09/18/2012

Episode Expires: Wed 17 Oct 2012

TV Rating: NR

Closed Caption

An Excerpt from The Confederate Catechism

The Confederate Catechism was formerly taught to school children throughout the South many years before the Department of Education was founded to convert our country into a Marxist / atheist society.

As the following page reveals, secession was OK if it served Lincoln's purpose.

II.

Again Lincoln argued: "If one State may secede, so may another, and when all shall secede, none is left to pay the debts of the Union. Is this quite fair to creditors?" Of course, it did not follow that all the States would secede if one did, nor that any State was relieved of its share of the public debt by secession. Any schoolboy could have told Lincoln that the States would have been obligated to pay the debts even if all did secede.

No more wicked violation of the Constitution was ever devised than the creation of West Virginia out of the territory of the Commonwealth of Virginia. To justify his course, Lincoln got off this grotesque stunt: "It is said that the admission of West Virginia is secession and only tolerated because it is our secession. Well, if we call it by that name, there is still difference enough between secession for the Constitution and secession against the Constitution."

Lincoln had declared secession "anarchy," and it seems that anarchy had no terrors when it subserved his purposes. As a real truth, there was no such thing as either secession for the Constitution or secession against it. There was action in accordance with the Constitution and action in violation of it, and undoubtedly Lincoln's action was in gross violation of his oath to act in accordance with it.

The Blockade Runners Kept the Confederacy Alive

Most blockade runners ran the blockade for money. The pay for running the blockade was extraordinary going up to one thousand pounds sterling for a Captain, for a simple trip between Wilmington, North Carolina and Nassau in the Bahamas. The blockade runners were a success due to the companies that operated them, the amount of goods shipped, the percentage of success they had, and the amount of pay.

The blockade runners were such a big business, companies were created to operate the runners. The first blockade company was John Fraser and Company of South Carolina. This company, with their connections in the Confederate Government, brought in mostly war materials which were then sold quickly to the Confederacy at a handsome price. This was not the only blockade running company however. The Importing and Exporting Company of South Carolina (known as Bee company) was also a highly regarded company at the time. Many battles for the Confederacy were fought with the rifles, ammunition, shoes, food, and clothing that the Bee Company successfully brought in. There were also benefits to buying shares of these blockade running companies. Stocks were reported to have dividends of five thousand dollars per share for the Bee Company from the newspapers of the time. Other companies such as the Anglo-Confederate Company also paid dividends in the thousands. Additional pounds sterling at times were also paid to stock holders. With dividends so high and the blockade running business so profitable many shared in the morale boosting and supplies given by the blockade runners.

The companies as well as making profit kept a keen eye on what was being shipped and what was profitable at the time. The one thing that was on any blockade running ship leaving the confederacy was cotton. With the federal blockade, the shipment of cotton was down and its demand high so the price soared. The South had only one major export which was cotton. From Wilmington, North Carolina alone after March 1864 the amount of cotton was roughly 27,299 bales shipped which is over one million pounds worth, over five million U.S. Dollars and over one hundred and thirty two million in Confederate currency. The ports were always busy with trading between the blockade runners and the traders in the port as seen in the picture of the Nassau harbor. Not only were the ports busy but the water outside of them were as well. Many times, as seen in the photograph of St. George, Bermuda, blockade runners would not even go to port but simple trade with the transatlantic vessels that had arrived from Europe. Blockade runners mainly went to the neutral port of Nassau in the Bahamas. There they loaded provisions such as leather, lead pigs, saltpeter, revolvers, boots, blankets, meat, rifles, coffee, cannons, copper, swords, rope, and medicine. These provisions supplied the army of the Confederacy. The meat was the main food that fed the Confederate army towards the end of the war so the blockade runners were in a sense feeding the army. As of March 1st, 1864 the total rations available for shipment was seventy-three days worth for 100,000 men or over three million pounds of meat. That is a lot of meat for a business that only ran during the nights that were moonless. Also the lead that was shipped to the Confederacy was used to create ammunition for the Confederate army. Information from the Confederate Secretary of the Treasury documents, the total amount of meat that was brought in to Wilmington, North Carolina between October 26th and December 6th, 1864 was well over three million five hundred thousand pounds. Also during the same time other provisions were shipped such as: one

and a half million pounds of lead, two million pounds of saltpeter, roughly five hundred thousand pairs of boots, five hundred thousand pounds of coffee, around seventy thousand rifles, and about two thousand five hundred packages of medicine (13). With all of these supplies that were shipped through the blockade the army and the Confederate nation survived longer than they would have without the blockade runners.

Shown at right:

Blockade Runner: Robert E. Lee



The blockade runners with all of those supplies being shipped through, had a high percentage rate of success. The percentage rates of success vary but roughly eighty-five percent of blockade attempts were successful. It is said that roughly ten thousand blockade runs were attempted with around eight thousand five hundred being successful (hence the eighty-five percent successful rate). Sometimes the Captains of the blockade runner would rather run aground and lose everything than be captured by the Yankees. The advantages that the blockade runners wielded were an enormous help to that high percentage rate. The ships were specially designed for blockade running duty. Seaworthiness was given up for speed and maneuverability. This less seaworthiness allowed the blockade runners to go into shallow waters where the federal ships could not follow. The ships were also very narrow and sometimes the length of the ship was nine times the beam of the ship. The ships were only a few feet above the water to keep their profiles low. The profiles were kept even lower by telescoping down funnels and painting the ships gray to blend in with the sea. The main source of power was steam so masts were of no need or only stubby masts were used. These steam engines gave the ships a lot of the power that they needed. Some ships could even reach eighteen knots which was unreachable by any ship carrying cannons thus giving the ship a speed advantage over any federal ship. However with the main power coming from steam the type of coal used was crucial. There were two types of coal. One produced a distinguishable smoke (Welsh hard coal) that tipped off federal ships and the other produced little to no smoke that gave no hints to a blockade runner's location (anthracite coal). Since the anthracite coal was mostly produced in the North and in very little amounts available to the South, the Welsh coal had to be used. This was used as a last resort because of the black smoke that the Welsh coal created. Even though the coal created black smoke, on the return run to the ports in the Confederacy the forts such as Fort Fisher protected the harbors and thus protected the blockade runners that were in reach of the forts cannons. The final thing that could save a blockade runner if she was caught was who commanded her or where she was headed. If the commander was foreign, such as an Englishman, the ship would be less likely to be confiscated because of not wanting to "rattle the cage" with that particular nation which in this case would be Britain. Not only were the ships elements used to protect and help the blockade runners but tactics were also devised. Most runners would plan their final dash through the blockade and into port on a moonless night. There was also the case of the

floating lanterns. Lanterns were lit and hung on the federal ships so that the crew would be able to maneuver and see. This only helped the blockade runners, with the lanterns on the federal ships clearly visible during a moonless night the blockade runners would simply steer clear of the federal ships. When this was discovered amongst the Captains of the ships they lit only one lantern at the Senior Captain's ship which was always anchored in the center of the fleet. This again in turn was discovered by the blockade runners and again used this to their advantage. However towards the end of the war the Navy soon found their flaw and changed which ship had the lantern lit every night causing much confusion amongst the blockade runners. Not only lanterns but the federal navy also used rockets to signal federal gunboats of the location of enemy blockade runners. Soon the blockade runners themselves were signaling the gunboats with their flares of certain locations but no where near a ship. They used the same kind of rocket and simply would shoot one off one perpendicular to the ship's course sending the pursuing ships in the wrong direction. Overall the blockade runners had distinct advantages over the blockading fleet such as having the element of surprise, having a full head of steam, and having the federal navy very tired. There was little to do on a cramped ship so many became bored and with boredom comes tiredness. The federal navy's crews as well as being tired also were reacting to the enemy. This was a disadvantage because to turn, get a full head of steam and chase after a fleeing ship was nearly impossible.

Along with the distinct advantages that the blockade runners possessed the motive for blockade running was great. Blockade running was, as stated, a big business. This big business produced millionaires in a matter of months which in turn produced even more blockade running ships. They got men to run these ships because of extremely high wages as follows: Captains one thousand pounds sterling (today is equal to over one hundred thousand U.S. dollars), Pilots seven hundred and fifty pounds sterling (today is equal to over one hundred thousand U.S. Dollars as well), Chief Engineer five hundred pounds sterling (equal to roughly sixty-seven thousand dollars today), Chief Officer two hundred and fifty pounds sterling (equal to roughly thirty-three thousand U.S. dollars), Second and Third officers one hundred and fifty pounds sterling (or roughly twenty thousand U.S. Dollars today), and finally a simple crewman made fifty pounds sterling (or about six thousand U.S. Dollars today) every trip. This is extremely high considering the federal crewmen were only making sixteen dollars a month. It is said that many Captains of these blockade runners had enough money to retire after six months of running the blockade. With that much money as wages the Captains would hand pick their crew because everyone wanted a piece of the blockade running. Also with such high wages other nations, specially the British, had a hard time keeping their naval personnel from running the blockade as well. With these high wages the blockade runners became very successful because the best men for the job wanted the money so were willing and able to run the blockade.

No one will ever know how long the Confederate army could have lasted, or the Confederate Nation endured without these valuable blockade runners.