



# Sons of Confederate Veterans The Hunley Torpedo

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



Number Two

Website: [www.dixon-hunley.org](http://www.dixon-hunley.org)

Second Quarter 2014

## Camp Report

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

James Robert Blow  
Charles Smith  
Charles Tadlock

Charles Smith transferred from SCV Camp #1770 in Orange County, Calif. These welcome additions put our camp on the upswing again; we now have 71 members.

We lost our two top officers recently due to health and family reasons. Our Camp Commander, Harold Roberts and our Adjutant, Mike Tocci, resigned their posts. Both men did an excellent job and their services will be missed.

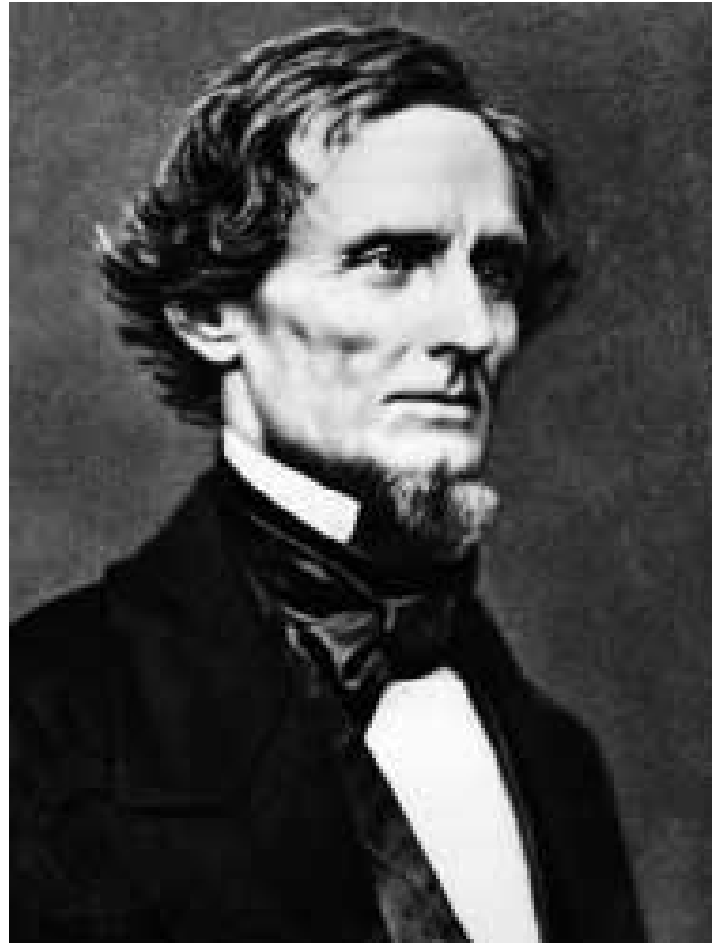
This required that we have a new officer line-up. By default the Commander's job became the responsibility of the Lt. Commander. I canceled our annual flag-raising in Virginia City so that we could have a June meeting. Important camp business of a vital nature had to be settled in addition to selecting officers to fill these vacancies.

Our Newly Elected Officers are:

Commander: Lee Cross  
Lt. Commander: Jim White  
Adjutant: Lee Cross

Harold Roberts, health permitting, will stay on as our webmaster. Our Chaplain, Gerry Dunlap and Historian, Ernie Zebal both remain in their offices. I will assume distribution of our newsletter and will continue in its production.

Other important camp business is shown on pages two and three here following. These include: (1) the results of our referendum ballot (2) financial report (3) donations (4) and upcoming activities in September in conjunction with the CCWR in Virginia City (5) dues.



## *Happy Birthday Mr. President*

### The President's Birthday

Our President, Jefferson Davis, was born on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1808 in Kentucky. Our annual flag-raising which was canceled this year is always partly held in his honor, usually on the first weekend in June.

### Summer is Upon Us

We go dark during the months of July and August. Our next meeting will be in September. **All Y'all** will be notified by email and phone of the date and location in advance (more than once). Have a safe and fun summer.

## Major Changes in Our Camp Functions Determined by Ballot and Verified at the June Meeting

As most of you are aware, a special ballot was sent out to secure certain changes in our camp with regard to its banking, mail service and holiday functions. These changes just happened to coincide with the resignations of our former officers; they were not the cause of them. When it became necessary that I, Lee Cross, step up from the Lt. Commander's position to that of camp commander, I evaluated certain practices that I deemed needed to be changed. Rather than make these changes as some sort of autocrat, I submitted a referendum ballot to our camp membership. As my idea of changing our banking practices was indeed controversial I insisted that the proposal receive a clear-cut majority of our camp's membership; a plurality of votes cast would not have effectuated these changes. As you all know I tied the three major changes together on an all or nothing basis. Ballots were sent out by either email or by U.S. mail.

I printed out the email mail ballots which I added to those few we received via regular mail and brought them all to the June Meeting for counting. A recap of these issues is shown as follows:

**Item one:** We became the victims of certain banking practices as a result of the Patriot Act and other banking policies. From the founding of this camp we have always and still do have a tax exempt 501 [C] 3 status. This has enabled us to have free checking accounts at various institutions. Over the last few years we have had bad experiences with Bank of America and before that with Wells Fargo. Recently, Bank of America was charging us \$14 per month for our account whether we used it or not which resulted in an annual cost of \$168. As far as I was concerned, we were being raped by Bank of America. Item one of my proposed changes was that we go to a cash box as I could get free money orders. This became unnecessary as I was able to negotiate a free business account with Bank of the West. Problem solved! However, I insisted that votes be tallied so that in the future if this or any other bank becomes heavy-handed and starts charging us a fee. Then we can indeed set up this cash box procedure. Again, this became redundant but we have the procedure approved if we need to use it.

**Item Two:** This issue was that of the P.O. Box. It was necessary that our previous officers have a place in common where they could get the mail. This is not an issue for me. As I am now handling the functions of both of these offices, the mail comes directly to me which eliminates one leg of a trip to the post office. Also, I live less than a mile from the post office. Elimination of the P.O. Box saves the camp \$125 per year and its cancelation has resulted in a \$65 return of our funds.

**Item Three:** Regards Flexibility in our holiday scheduling. Our three major events of the year are: Our Lee / Jackson Dinner / Confederate Memorial Day/ and the Flag-Raising in Virginia City. Recent attendance levels have suggested that some of these events should not be held annually. For instance, our attendance at Confederate Memorial Day was at an all-time low. I suspect that once a member has seen it once or twice, there is no strong incentive to repeat the experience. We may hold this event every couple of years when a surplus of new members might be inclined to attend. With regard to our Lee / Jackson Dinner, we may move it back to January. In the last few years we moved it into the spring because of potential bad winter weather. During the spring however, we are in competition for attendance by dozens of events.

**Ballot Results:** These were tallied impartially by two of our compatriots. The results are:

For the measure: 44 (= 62 % of total membership / its passage required 51 % or more)

Against: 14 (Plus 12 non-voting = 26 or 37 % / split votes were counted as "No" votes)

Non-Voting: 12 (These counted as "NO" votes)

## Financial Report

June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014

### Banking:

Funds on Deposit: \$302.02

Cash Payables: - 0 -

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Funds Available: \$302.02

Anticipated Expenses: Less than \$20 for postage between now and August 1<sup>st</sup> 2014

### Donations:

Memorial Hall / New Orleans, LA: \$250.00

This was a direct donation from Compatriot Ralph Covington to the memory of Joseph Scamihorn, our deceased brother. It was funneled through our camp account but was not made with camp funds.

Southern Legal Resource Center: \$450.00

At our June meeting the camp voted to donate this sum to the SLRC which is the only law firm in the United States dedicated to our preserving Southern rights and Southern Heritage.

### Upcoming Activities

On Labor Day weekend we will be co-operating with the Comstock Civil War Re-enactors at Virginia City. They have hired the use of a hot air balloon which will be taking paying-customers aloft in the parking lot of the Silverland Hotel. It will remain tethered to vehicles in the parking lot during its ascent and descent. We will be dealing directly with the customers. Rides will cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. The first \$560 goes to the CCWR for its re-imbusement. All funds raised above that go to the camp. Here's a bonus. We will have a First National Flag attached to it....So yes indeed! We will have a Flag-Raising this summer.

### Dues / Dues / Dues

#### Compatriots:

The time will quickly be upon us which becomes the Adjutant's nightmare. Our dues-year runs from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Many of you think your dues are paid for 2014. Not so! The 2014 dues year begins on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Unless you joined the camp after January of this year, your dues should be paid by August 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a three month grace period, but please avoid using it if you can. **Please make out your checks to SCV Camp # 2016.**

Dues are: \$42 for Regular Members; \$12 for Life Members. Please send your checks to:

SCV Camp # 2016

1580 Ridgeland Dr.

Sparks, NV 89434-1616

## Our 2014 Lee / Jackson Dinner

This is a sampling of the pictures from our Lee / Jackson Dinner. As usual, I don't have pictures of everybody. The Sands Casino took good care of us. They always do. The food was good. Everyone had a grand time. About 36 were in attendance. There were some videos. I will try to find a way to share these on the net.





## Our Confederate Memorial Day 2014

Our service was held at the Escorial Masonic Lodge in Virginia City. The CCWR provided us an ‘Honor Guard’ of both blue and gray. Graves were decorated in Virginia City. The Confederate grave shown in the picture below is in Silver City, which is about three miles beyond.

Shown standing from left to right:

Jim White, Mike Libke, Lee Cross, Charles Tadlock, Keith Schaal, Fred Holt, Mike Tocci, John Libke



"A free people ought not only to be armed and disciplined but they should have sufficient arms and ammunition to maintain a status of independence from any who might attempt to abuse them, which would include their own government."  
George Washington.

What does this have to do with us? The Yankees are still out there; and now they want to disarm us. Compatriots! Arm yourselves!

## Confederate Ancestors

William M. Stanley was the great-great grandfather of Compatriot James Robert Blow. Stanley served in the 57<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry. Remarkably this was the same ancestor that our deceased compatriot, Hampton Brady, named when he became a charter member of our camp in January of 2003. Hampton has been dead now for many years.

William M. Stanley was killed at the Battle of Peachtree Creek, one of the four big battles fought around Atlanta where John Bell Hood wrecked the Army of Tennessee. While still under General Joe Johnston's command, the Army of Tennessee whipped Sherman to a standstill. Regrettably that wasn't President's Davis' style. He wanted a fighter. And he had that person in the form of General Hood. Hood had been an able Brigadier and was instrumental in winning several battles. He was brave to the point of recklessness and had lost an arm and a leg in Virginia. He also used laudanum to deal with pain. Laudanum is opium based; thus, Hood walked around in a drug-induced haze. Hood had only one guiding principle in war; attack! In a series of four battles around Atlanta, he attacked, and lost 20,000 men. Then he had to abandon Atlanta to Sherman's tender mercy. William M. Stanley was from Pike County, Alabama.

## Loyalty Oath

Mary Stanley, widow with several children, was required to sign this loyalty oath / women couldn't even vote in those days.

~~114-10~~ No 1140

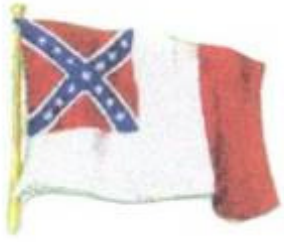
**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

I, Mary Stanley of the  
County of Pike State of Alabama do sol-  
emnly swear or affirm, in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully  
support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the  
States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by, and faithfully support all  
laws and proclamations which have been made during the existing Rebellion with refer-  
ence to the emancipation of slaves. So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before me at Prag  
this 14<sup>th</sup> day of Sept, 1865. } W. H. Stanley Picture

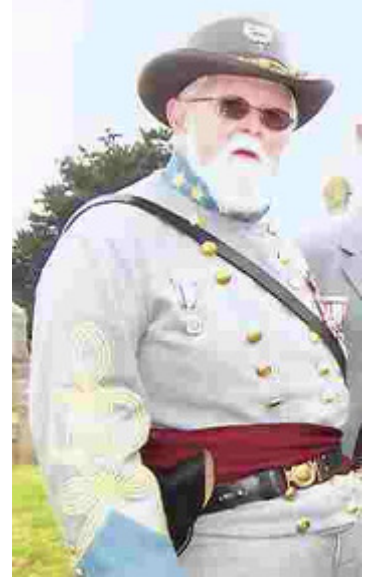
Robert A. Stearns  
capt. 5<sup>th</sup> Ala. Inf. Regt.  
I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and truly support the  
Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder, and will  
obey the laws of the United States, and will support all laws and proclamations which  
have been made during the existing Rebellion with reference to the emancipation of  
slaves.

Complexion Dark hair, and Black eyes; and is 5 feet 5 inches high.



## *Sons of Confederate Veterans*

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



Wednesday, June 04, 2014

Memorial Hall  
929 Camp St.  
New Orleans, LA 70130

Mssrs:

Please accept the enclosed donation in the amount of \$250 made on behalf of our departed compatriot and brother, Joseph Scamihorn, by Mr. Ralph Covington of SCV Camp # 2016 of Sparks, Nevada. Joe Scamihorn was an avid supporter of Memorial Hall and in his capacity as a camp officer he enabled us to raise numerous donations over these last years until he passed away. Mr. Covington requested that this donation be made in accordance with Joe's wishes.

Joseph Scamihorn was a remarkable man. He served over thirty years in the U.S. Navy in three wars: WWII; Korea and Vietnam. He was in four battles in the Pacific including Okinawa. After a life-time of service he refused to retire and gained his BA from a university in Indiana. He was hired by AMVETS and was a service officer with them here in Nevada for over twenty-five years. He headed AMVETS here in Nevada for most of that time. He helped thousands of veterans get their benefits and acquired about a dozen vans for the VA Hospital here in Reno. In his final years, he was honored as a distinguished senior-working citizen in Washington D.C. One such individual was honored from each state. At his retirement dinner, representatives of both Nevada Senators were in attendance as well as dozens of AMVETS Officers from around the country.

Joe is buried in the Veterans Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada. He requested that he be buried in his Confederate Colonel's uniform. He was the proud descendant of a Confederate Colonel from Georgia. Indeed, ten thousand years from now some archaeologist from a future civilization may exhume his grave was stare in wonder, possibly remarking that he didn't know the Confederacy extended this far west.

In Memory to Joe

The Men of the Lt. Dixon – CSS Hunley Camp of Sparks, Nevada