

~ Official Newsletter of the DILLARD-JUDD CAMP 1828 ~

HIGHLANDER

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County
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DISPATCH



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Sons of Confederate Veterans

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THE HISTORY OF SLAVERY

The program for the February meeting of Camp #1828 will be “The History of Slavery in America”. Tim Morrison, a member of the Holman-Boone Camp #152 in Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tennessee will be the speaker, bringing his knowledge of the subject to share with us. Tim completed his undergraduate work at the University of North Alabama in Florence, AL and graduated in 1976 with a double major in English and History and a minor in Speech and Communications.

In August, 1995, Tim earned a Secondary Teaching Certificate from Middle Tennessee State University. After several years as a teacher, he went to work for Jack Daniels Distillery in Lynchburg where he is currently employed. He denies that teaching drove him to drink.

Tim is married to a Fayetteville native who is a Family Practice physician in Fayetteville. He has a daughter who is a student at Tennessee Tech and a son who lives and works in Auburn, Alabama. Tim has been a member of the SCV since the mid-1990's and has served in the Holman-Boone Camp in nearly every capacity.

In “The History of Slavery in America”, Tim will discuss the origins of slavery in America and share some little known/seldom discussed facts that you will find most interesting. See you at the Golden Corral on Tuesday, 27 February. Join your fellow compatriots at 6PM for a meal, if you wish, and then the meeting starts at 7PM.

Lee-Jackson Banquet

The Lee-Jackson banquet was held 20 January, 2007, at the Cookeville Community Center. A crowd of nearly ninety enjoyed a potluck supper and fellowship. Calvin Dickenson and Jeannie Ivey talked about their upcoming book on teenager in Tennessee during the WBTS. Walter Anderson was given special recognition for his many years of service to the camp. New officers took the oath of office. Steve Marcrom, outgoing commander, was given the Dillard Award and Jim McKinney, newsletter editor, received the Judd Award.



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 27, 2007- We resume regular 4th Tuesday night meetings at the Golden Corral. Dinner at 6pm if you wish and meeting starting around 7pm.

March 27, 2007- Regular monthly meeting at the Golden Corral. Details later.

KROGER CARDS

Commander Bradley reminds us that using our Kroger gift cards is a painless way to support the SCV. Kroger gas is generally very competitively priced and 5% of our gas and grocery purchases these days would bring in a lot of revenue for the organization.

LET ME KNOW

I am coming up on two years as newsletter editor. If there is something that you would like to see in the newsletter, please let me know. Also, I need your histories about your ancestors for the "Our History" section. These stories, handed down from our parents and grandparents, will be lost if not recorded. I don't need polished scholarly theses, just your notes about what your ancestor did in the war. Don't let our forefathers be forgotten. Drop me a note at jmckinneymd@charter.net or talk with me at some future meeting. Thanks for your help.

OUR HISTORY

This month, we resume our continuing (I hope- if you give me some of your ancestor information) series on the history of the ancestors of Camp 1828 members. This month, Jim Kannon of Brentwood, Tennessee shares his personal family history.

Merritt Booker Tomlinson was born in Culleoka, Maury County, Tennessee in 1840 and died there in 1939, a few weeks short of his 100th birthday. Merritt was the product of a family with a proud military tradition. His grandfather Jesse Tomlinson and his great-grandfather Charles Allen had served in the War of 1812, in companies from Maury County. His parents were Charles A. and Sallie Foster Tomlinson.

Before the Yankee invasion of the South, Merritt was a farmer and surveyor. He had attended school at the Old Brick Academy at Pleasant Grove and later graduated from Wesleyan University in Florence, Alabama. At the beginning of the war, he and his three brothers all enlisted in the Confederate service, but in different units. Merritt joined Brown's (later, Clark's) Third TN Infantry, Company F. This regiment was captured at the surrender of Fort Donaldson, and its members were later paroled or exchanged. After the Third was reorganized, Merritt transferred to the 48th TN Infantry, Company F (Voochries' 48th), where he served until the surrender of the Army of Tennessee at Bentonville, North Carolina. He reached the rank of Captain. During the Battle of Pine Mountain, Georgia, in 1864, Captain Tomlinson was only 100 yards away from where General Leonidas Polk, also from Maury County, was killed by a cannon ball. The major battle involving the 48th was the Battle of Nashville. The 48th served as rear guard for the retreating Army, under General Forrest. Captain Tomlinson was the Provost Marshall of Walthall's Division, under General Stewart at the close of the war.

Following the war, Merritt returned to Culleoka and married 16 year old Sally (Mildred) Dillard, daughter of Richard M. Dillard. Mister Dillard had been a member of Coleman's Scouts of the 9th TN Cavalry and was wounded, captured and "allowed" to die for refusing to take the Union Oath of Allegiance. Captain Tomlinson and his wife had nine children, one of whom, Willie Tomlinson Cochran Corey was the great grandmother of Jim Kannon, our compatriot.

It is said that Captain Tomlinson walked home at the end of the war, arriving on a Friday. By Monday, he was out plowing with a team of oxen, as there were no horses left in the area. He was later asked by some of the neighbors if he would teach school if they did his plowing. There had been no school during the war and parents wished to give their children an education. Captain Tomlinson did teach school for several years but eventually returned to farming. When he reached his nineties, Captain Tomlinson was interviewed every year by a reporter from the local paper. He was always asked the secret to his long life, and he gave different answers each year. When he was 98, he told the reporter he had lived so long because he disobeyed all rules and orders of doctors. He may have been joking.

At his death in March of 1939, Captain Tomlinson was the oldest Veteran in Maury County, one of the oldest in the state and he may have been the oldest Mason in the US at that time. There is a display of some of Captain Tomlinson's artifacts at Elm Springs, the SCV headquarters.