

THE WEBFOOT

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION IN THE INTEREST OF
CONFEDERATE VETERAN DESCENDANTS AND KINDRED TOPICS

Official Organ Of The
Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29
Sons of Confederate Veterans



'Elm Springs' - Our Home

Mule Day Re-enactment April, 2008

Headquarters of the Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29

Columbia, TENN

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Compatriots,

I would like to thank Ruth Hill McAllister for coming to speak at our last camp meeting. It was wonderful for an ancestor of the soldier our camp was named after to be with us. It was a good talk and the information really told about the man.

This month we will have Dr. Steve Murphee. He is currently the Chaplain of Murfreesboro Camp #33. He is also the Past Commander and Lt. Commander of that camp. He will be speaking on "Insects and Diseases in the War Between the States". It is going to be interesting because this is a subject not covered very often.

The workday on March 15th was rained out but David Van Dyke and some from the Rawdon-Spears camp showed. Chaplain Mike Bullock called. Even though we could not do much; I really appreciate these people for their support.

At our March camp meeting we set March 21st as the make-up work day and the weather cooperated. We had Chaplain Mike Bullock, Judge Advocate Charles Bates, Compatriot Steven Wyatt and Compatriot David Van Dyke from our camp. Commander Mike Spears from the Rawdon-Spears camp had several from his camp up to work the grounds and figure out Mule Day parking and traffic. If I left anybody out I apologize. We picked up and stacked limbs and picked-up trash. I would like to thank Past

Commander Greg Atwell for coming out the next day and working on the grounds. I would like to also thank Compatriot Jackie Boshers for bringing refreshments.

Mule Day weekend. I would like to thank Compatriot Steven Wyatt who came out in the rain Thursday, Friday and Saturday to help us set-up. David Van Dyke looked good in his uniform. It was nice to see Chaplain Bullock and Adjutant Jay Smith in their uniforms. The three of us marched the nearly 2 miles in the parade. After being wet and cold for 2 days, the 2 mile walk really warmed us up. Chaplain Bullock and I got to play Confederate Soldier during the fight on Saturday. Chaplain Bullock was wounded and fell and I got to kill one Yankee. We captured their flag. There were about 20 re-enactors. The Color Guard was from Alabama and the re-enactors were from all over. We had about 70 people marching in the parade and re-enacting. We had around 100 spectators on Saturday. Compatriot Jackie Boshers dressed out in his new uniform. By the way, Past Commander Greg Atwell looks good in his mountain man uniform.

Sunday was a beautiful day. A fog had set in and to see Elm Springs wake up in that fog was breath taking. To see the mansion, camps and cannon through the fog was a site I will never forget. We had a smaller turn out with re-enactors and spectators on Sunday but they saw a good skirmish. The Yankee I killed on Saturday, who was the young lad who double loaded and took a seat when he pulled the trigger, was supposed to kill me on Sunday. His gun kept missing firing and I had to take him in a charge with the flag. Compatriot Josh Boshers wore his colors and was the flag bearer. He took several shots and finally fell after a valiant effort.

I would like to thank the re-enactors from the 13th Alabama led by General Clay Turner. I would like to thank the Color Guard from Alabama for displaying the colors during the parade and staying around for the weekend for the re-enactment and some fun. I would like to thank Martin Frost and Zack Malpass for making the trip and marching in the parade and then re-enacting. Thanks gentlemen.

A HUGE thank you goes to the good folk at the Rawdon-Spears camp. They are a hard working group of people and a pleasure to spend the weekend with. They had a big turn out from their camp. A lot of their members showed support of their camp, Elm Springs and the Tennessee Division. A tip of the slouch hat goes to the Rawdon-Spears camp.

Last but certainly not least is Elm Springs. Ben Sowell, Bryan Sharp and the rest of the cast and crew at Elm Springs deserve a HUGE thank you for allowing the event to happen and being wonderful to work with. They are wonderful people doing a hard job and they have my utmost respect. Thank you Elm Springs. We are truly blessed to be where we are.

I am extremely happy and proud of the gentlemen of Sam Watkins camp #29 who made the effort and showed support. The camp could not make it without the people who step-up and make a difference. I have mentioned all the men that I could remember from the events leading up to and at Elm Springs. They are a very small group of people and I love and respect them for their effort.

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Likewise, I am EXTREMELY DISSAPPOINTED in the turn out from the other 60 members of this camp. We have 64 members and only 6 or so turn out. All you had to do was show up just to let those of us who are in the trenches know you are there. If anything just to acknowledge someone is trying. If it had not been for a few people I would have though no one in my camp knew where I was. We had around 10 percent participation at an event that last 3 or 4 days and that is not counting the clean-up day(s). More people showed up from a camp in Alabama than showed from one of the local host camps US. I got asked several times, "Where are your guys?". All I could do was shrug my shoulders. It was the same thing at the monument dedication. Only a hand full of people did anything and it was the same people at the monument that was at Elm Springs. WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO FURTHER THE CAUSE, TO SUPPORT YOUR CAMP AND BRIGADE?????

These are events coming up that your camp is involved in. Show some support. You do not have to have a uniform to participate. Just show.

Saturday, April 12th - Ross Moore concert at the Mt. Pleasant Middle School.

This is a fund raiser for our camp and the Marshall Rangers
Camp. The concert starts at 2:00 PM and the opening act is
The Coleman Scouts. Several kids from the "Kids on Stage"
program will be performing with Ross.

Saturday, April 19th - Confederate Memorial at Rose Hill Cemetery at 10 AM. Hosted
by the Capt. James Madison Sparkman Chapter UDC.

Bradshaw Cemetery in Giles County at 3:00 PM. Hosted by the
Giles County Chapter UDC.

Saturday & Sunday, April 26 & 27 - Tennessee Division Reunion held in Knoxville.

Saturday, May 10th — Marker service for the ancestors of Judge Advocate Charles
Bates. He has 4 Confederate ancestors in one cemetery.

Saturday, May 17th — Historical Days in Dickson.

In Holy Bonds of the South,

Jason Boshers

Commander, Sam Watkins Camp #29

The Webfoot: March 18th—April 15th 2008 issue. Copyright 2008 Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29. All Rights Reserved.

Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29 — PO BOX 309, Mt. Pleasant, TN 38474

THE WEBFOOT is published monthly by the Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29 headquartered in Columbia TN. Cost of publication is free to members and 15.00 dollars a year for non members. Publication is free via Internet.

The Samuel R. Watkins Camp is a not-for-profit entity with 501c3 status. All contributions are tax deductible.

March 18, 2008 Camp Minutes

On March 18th, 2008, the Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29 assembled for the 3rd meeting of the 2008 year. Camp speaker was Mrs. Ruth H. McAllister—Great Grand-daughter of Samuel R. Watkins

Meeting called to order at 7:02p.m. by Camp Commander, Jason Boshers. Sergeants at Arms, Josh Boshers, secured the door. Commander Boshers reported that member, Burt Franklin, was currently in St. Thomas Hospital with injuries sustained in a 4-wheeler accident. He asked everyone to keep him in their thoughts and prayers. Mike Bullock gave the invocation. Following the prayer, Lt. Commander Taylor led the pledges to the U.S. Flag and salute to the Camp Confederate flag.

The following guests were welcomed to the camp meeting:

Eric F. Lazarescu, originally from Romania, moved to Nashville

Ross Moore and Kay Muse

Ruth Mallonnee, Coffee County UDC, in progress of moving to Columbia

Wes Pullen, Adjutant, Marshall Rangers

Commander Richard Rust and wife, Sam Davis Camp in Brentwood

Commander Mike Spears, Susan Hicks, Vicky Garland, and Andy Hall, Rawdon-Spears Camp

Ross Moore promoted his concert scheduled for April 12 at 2:00pm at Mt. Pleasant Middle School of the Visual and Performing Arts Auditorium. The concert benefits historical preservation in Maury and Marshall counties. Wearing of period clothing is encouraged during the event. Everyone is encouraged to get out and promote the event.

Commander Boshers introduced our guest speaker, Ruth Hill Fulton McAllister. She is the great-granddaughter of Sam Watkins and writer of the “new edition” *Co. Aytch*. She told of how Sam Watkins edited and revised *Co. Aytch*, intending to republish it. Watkins died before accomplishing his goal. This edition contains additions and revisions by Sam himself. Mrs. McAllister also added 65 historic photos, many never before published. It took her three years of meticulous work to produce this book. Mrs. McAllister answered questions and signed books for the members who purchased them.

After a short break, at 8:10pm the General Camp Business meeting followed.

Reading and acceptance of the minutes from last meeting as posted in the Webfoot newsletter, motion made by Kenny Lovett, seconded by Stephen Wyatt; no objections.

Adjutant Smith gave a treasurer’s report including account balance and expenditures of the month

Special Communications – To save camp funds, the Commander wants more newsletters sent out in email, instead of mailed. Each month the camp spends approximately \$20 for envelopes and postage. Printing cost is free at this time. Email Commander Boshers if you want the newsletter in email format. The email is jasonboshers@charter.net

Standing Committee Reports – Color and Honor Guard drilling will begin during Mule Day at Elm Springs.

Special Committee Reports – N/R

Old Business – Mule Day Weekend activities were discussed at length.

1. Commander Bradley has allotted \$600 for event (port-a-potties and insurance)
2. 2. Volunteers are needed for booth at Maury County Park and Elm Springs (recruiting for SCV)
3. Participates need to be assembled at Elm Springs and ready to depart for the parade by 9:30am
4. Workday rescheduled for Friday, March 21
5. Re-enactors and parade walkers will be feed after the parade

Fund Raising Committee – Ross Moore event, think about what we can do for other fundraisers.

Announcements of upcoming events –

March 29 – Centerville Skirmish

April 12 - Ross Moore performance

April 19 - Rose Hill Event at 10:00am

April 19 – Bradshaw Cemetery, Giles County, Dedication of confederate markers at 3:00pm

April 26 & 27 – TN Division Reunion Knoxville, TN

May 10 – Charles Bates, Beaver Dam in Hickman County, dedication of confederate markers

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:40pm. Benediction by Chaplain Bullock.

REPORTS FROM SCV HEADQUARTERS

MEMBERSHIP:

SCV Membership is currently 28,423 including 3,233 Life Members and 52 Real Sons, and new cadet members. The SCV also has 58,303 dues delinquent former members, some number of whom you know and who would be willing to reinstate if someone reminded them of the fine fellowship and opportunity to honor our ancestors that is currently a void in their lives. An-other easy way to strengthen the SCV is to persuade former members of your camp to reinstate. If you would like a mailing list of your camp's dues delinquent former members, please contact the GHQ staff. Please vigorously recruit new members and encourage current members to make the commitment to be long term members which is the best way to grow the SCV member-ship. Life memberships are a great value at only \$500 up through age 64, \$250 for age 65 to 79, and \$125 for age 80 and up.

These rates will increase on August 1, 2008 as the rates are tied to a multiple of annual dues.

Grand Reopening of Beauvoir

The grand unveiling of the newly rebuilt Beauvoir will be held on June 3, 2008, the 200th anniversary of the birth of Jefferson with festivities beginning at 10:00 AM CDT. Make your reservations now as motel rooms in the Biloxi area will be scarce.

Contact info:

Beauvoir

2244 Beach Blvd, Biloxi MS 39531

For tax deductible donations, please send to:

Beauvoir Operations/Recovery

2244 Beach Blvd.

Biloxi, MS 39531

Jefferson Davis Celebration in Fairview KY

The Bethel Baptist Church in Fairview KY will be the site of the Kentucky Division Reunion the weekend of June 6 to 8, 2008 with numerous activities all weekend as thousands of Southerners come to the area to pay their respects to President Davis on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of his birth. ~ **SEE PAGE 6**

Nathan Bedford Forrest Boyhood Homecoming

The annual fund raising celebration will be held all day on Saturday June 21, 2008 at the Forrest Boyhood Home near Chapel Hill TN. Please come to this event to see the progress on the restoration of this unique early 1830s structure, join the fun, and helped support the efforts to raise additional funds to speed up the restoration work.

DNA Service Offered to SCV Members

If you are interested in furthering your own genealogical research, the SCV has made arrangements to allow our members to do this research using their DNA through a company called Family Tree DNA. Genetic genealogy through the use of DNA is growing rapidly. It allows us to connect with other people who perhaps may have more information to add to your family mys-tery. Family Tree DNA has set up a group program, offering us discounts and profit sharing for the SCV. Please visit Family Tree DNA's web site <https://www.familytreedna.com> and look it over. If you decide you would like to join the project you can do so from this link: https://www.familytreedna.com/surname_join.aspx?code=K17699 Family Tree DNA has offered excellent discounts to SCV members, and the process is very simple should you wish to participate.

Not getting your Confederate Veteran?

The CV magazine is mailed at Non Profit bulk mail rates and the US Postal Service will not forward them if you have a change of address. Please report address changes as soon as they are known. If you have any question about GHQ having your correct information, you can check it by entering your SCV ID number and your last name in the box at the following link: [http:// www.scv.org/checkData.php](http://www.scv.org/checkData.php) . If a correction needs to be made, you will see a form for that purpose, which will notify Elm Springs to update their records.

If you do not have Internet access, please contact your camp leadership and they'll be more than happy to help you.

Jefferson Davis' 200th Commemoration Will Be June 7-8

FAIRVIEW, Ky. (March 7, 2008) – Jefferson Davis State Historic Site will commemorate the 200th birthday of the Confederate president with an array of activities on Saturday, June 7, and Sunday, June 8.

The annual event will include living history camps, period demonstrations and vendors, special guest speakers, Davis family members, book signings, period music and many other educational events.

Born on this site on June 3, 1808, Davis served as a military and political leader not only during the Civil War, but also as a West Point graduate, Mexican War hero, Mississippi congressman and senator, and secretary of war during the Franklin Pierce administration. The Jefferson Davis 200th Birthday Commemoration is an event designed to interpret the role and impact this Kentuckian made on the nation's history. The mission of the Kentucky State Parks is to, in part, preserve and interpret the Commonwealth's significant natural, historical, and cultural heritage.

The 351-foot monument to Davis constructed on this site marks Davis' birthplace and rests on a foundation of solid Kentucky limestone. The site's visitor's center features exhibits detailing Davis' political life before and after the Civil War, and offers Kentucky handicrafts, souvenirs, books and Civil War memorabilia.

Here is a schedule of events at Fairview:

Saturday, June 7, 2008

- Gates open at 8:00 a.m. Encampments and sutlers open at 9:00 am.
- 9:00 a.m. Opening Ceremonies - by Park Manager Mark Doss and Bertram Hayes-Davis.
- Monument Tours: Tours every one-half hour beginning at 9:00 a.m. with break from 12 – 1 p.m. Last tour goes up at 8 pm.
- 9:30 a.m. Period Music by Saxton's Cornett Band.
- 10:00 a.m. Varina Davis' Memories – by Joan Howard.
- 10:30 a.m. Lunch Basket Auction for "the Cause".
- 11:00 a.m. TBA
- Noon: Emilie Todd Helm – by Betsy Smith.
- 1:00 p.m. Artillery Demonstrations – by Byrnes KY Battery.
- 1:30 p.m. "The Image of Jefferson Davis" – Book Signing by Ron Bryant.
- 2:00 p.m. Miss Confederacy Event – (ages 2-24) – Wee, Little & Jr. Miss - \$10 advance and \$20 after May 31. Miss and Ms. - \$15 advance and \$30 after May 31. Call park for more information.
- 3:00 p.m. The Life of Jefferson Davis – by William C. Davis.
- 3:45 p.m. "Jefferson Davis Biography" – Book Signing by William C. Davis.
- 4:00 p.m. Musical Instruments of the Civil War – by Saxton's Cornett Band.
- 7:30 p.m. Reenactor Ball – Music by Saxton's Cornett Band.
- 8:30 p.m. Night Firing Program – by Byrnes Kentucky Battery.
- 9:00 p.m. Reenactor Ball continues.

Sunday, June 8, 2008

- Gates open at 9:30 a.m. Encampments and sutlers open at 10:00 am.
- 10:15 a.m. Period Music by Saxton's Cornett Band.
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service – Bethel Baptist Church.
- Noon "A Distant Light" – Book Signing by Judge Bill Cunningham.
- 12:30 p.m. Period Music by Saxton's Cornett Band.
- 1:30 p.m. "Then & Now" – Book Signing by local historian William Turner.
- 2:00 p.m. Artillery Demonstrations and Cannon Firing – by Byrnes KY Battery.
- 2:15 p.m. Birthday Commemoration.
- 3:00 p.m. Period Music by Saxton's Cornett Band.

Press Release**Contact: Megan Stagg****(804) 649-1861 ext. 13****Flag Unveiled at the Museum of the Confederacy****Members of the Flag Conservation Program Commemorate the 13th Virginia Infantry**

On Wednesday, April 2, 2008 The Museum of the Confederacy hosted an unveiling ceremony for the donors to the 13th Virginia Infantry silk battle flag conservation effort. Fundraising for the \$12,775 project began in December 2003 and the restoration was recently completed after more than 60 hours of work. The Museum welcomed over twenty-five donors to the Flag Conservation Program for breakfast and the short ceremony.

Museum records and research sources have associated Gen. A.P. Hill's wife, "Dolly" with making two flags that were presented to and carried by the 13th Virginia Infantry. The white material of the border, edging and stars is said to be from Mrs. Hill's wedding dress. The first flag was captured at the battle of Cedar Creek in October 1864 and was returned to Virginia and the Museum in 1905 by the US War Department. The flag was sewn to a linen background in the 1940's and less than half of the original silk material remains. Fundraising has begun for the evaluation and conservation of the first flag.

The second silk flag was presented in December 1864 and remained with the regiment until the end of the war. Col. Thomas Crittenden donated the flag to the Museum in January 1892 stating, "I have the honor herewith to present to the Ladies of the Confederate Museum... the flag of the 13th Virginia Infantry. This flag was made of the Bridal Robes of Mrs. Genl. A.P. Hill and was presented to the regiment... in the winter of 1864..." The second silk flag has remained completely intact, but is very fragile and needed conservation and framing in order to be displayed.

Waite Rawls, Museum President and CEO, stated, "There are few flags more important than a flag sewn from a wedding dress of a notable Confederate general's wife for a famous regiment like that of the 13th Virginia. We are honored to have the flag in our collection and now available to the public." The 13th Virginia Infantry flag is now on display on the lower level of the Museum of the Confederacy.



The members of the 13th VA reenactment unit, Co. H and Pat Falci, an actor who portrays Gen. A.P. Hill, pose with the newly restored flag.

The Museum of the Confederacy is a private, nonprofit educational institution. The Museum and White House are located in downtown Richmond in the historic Court End neighborhood. Free parking is available in the MCV/VCU Hospitals Visitor/Patient parking deck adjacent to the Museum.

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1201 E. Clay Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219



The Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29 is seeking new members to join us and help continue our effort.

As current members of one of the greatest camp's in the entire organization, it is your duty to actively seek out quality members for the camp. Please do your part in recruitment and try to remember that we are trying to save our history and our heritage from an ever changing world. If not you, then who?

If you would like recruitment material or need help with someone's genealogy, the camp has many volunteers to help out. Please E-mail or send your request by the following means:

Commander Jason Boshers— jasonboshers@charter.net

All camp communication, inquiries and payment of dues to :

Adjutant, James Smith

PO BOX 309

Mount Pleasant, TENN 38474

Dr. Steve Murphee will present

“INSECTS AND DISEASE IN THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES”

This Tuesday, April 15th at 7PM

Don't miss this exciting presentation and slide show!