

Patriotic & Progressive™

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



"Beauvoir" - Last home of CSA President, Jefferson Finis Davis

Biloxi, Mississippi

Circa 1900

The Webfoot
An Official Publication
of the Samuel R. Watkins
Camp #29

Headquarters of the Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29

Columbia, TENN

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Mailing Address:

Sam Watkins Camp #29
C/o PO BOX 309
Mount Pleasant, TENN
38474

Officers:

Commander: Jason Boshers
Lt. Commander: J. Taylor
Adjutant: J. Smith
Chaplain: M. Bullock
Camp Surgeon: R. Shelton
Sgt. at Arms: Josh Boshers
Judge Advocate: C. Bates
Quartermaster: D. Walker
Ways and Means: K. Lovett

Compatriots,

As you can tell from last months meeting, the Sam Watkins camp is working to become visible in the community. We are looking into several project and community possibilities to get the word out about the SCV and our camp. If you want your voice to be heard come to the meetings with your ideas..

Randy Bishop will be the speaker at this months meeting. He has written two books. One book is titled Tennessee's Civil War Battlefields and is a guide to their history and preservation and the other book is titled The Tennessee Brigade.

The trip to Biloxi for the re-opening of Beauvoir was very memorable. The exterior of the house has been finished and it has been updated with more support to better withstand more storms. Only two rooms in the house have been finished. The main hallway and parlor and dining room remain. The painting on the ceiling in the main entrance and hallway are original to the home. It has not been damaged by any storms and has not been repainted and is still in very good condition.

I felt privileged to be able to fire in the salute. They drilled us for over an hour in full gear to prepare us for the Presidential Review and salute. It was around 20 men in the salute. They had three cannons that fired a salute also.

Even though it was very hot, especially in full gear, it was a great event and I was happy to attend.

On the way back, we stopped in Columbus, MS and visited Friendship Cemetery, which was the location of the first Decoration Day in 1866 and honored Confederate Soldiers. Decoration Day has now become Memorial Day. In Columbus it is still called Decoration Day and is celebrated on May 30th. The federal holiday is not celebrated.

The dog days of summer are upon us. We have gone from nice to boiling overnight. Be safe and be careful in the heat.

In Holy Bonds of the South,

Jason Boshers

Commander, Sam Watkins Camp #29



June 2008 Beauvoir Re-opening Celebration



Commander Boshers on the steps of Beauvoir



A volley in honor for the celebration

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

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May 20th Minutes

On May 20th, 2008, the Samuel R. Watkins Camp #29 assembled for the 5th meeting of the 2008 year. Camp meeting focused on business.

Meeting called to order at 7:05p.m. by Camp Commander, Jason Boshers; Sergeants at Arms, Josh Boshers, secured the door. Past Commander, Greg Atwell, gave the invocation. Following the prayer, Lt. Commander Taylor led the pledges to the U.S. flag and salute to the Confederate flag. Kenneth R. Bates, Col. Jack Moore Camp #559 Centerville, was noted as a camp visitor.

Due to the speaker canceling, General Camp Business meeting followed:

Lt. Commander Taylor discussed that speakers have been secured for the next three months and noted that most speakers are promoting a book. It was noted that the camp had cycled through the majority of local speakers and it was asked that if anyone knew of someone that might be of interest. Suggestion were a portrait of an ancestor, or speakers regarding the Union side, to let Taylor know.

Reading and acceptance of the minutes from last meeting as posted in the camp newsletter, motion made be Kenneth Lovett, seconded by Greg Atwell. No objections followed.

Adjutant Smith gave the treasurer's report. Currently the balance is \$515.48.

Special Communications –

Commander Boshers asked, "What direction does the camp want to go in"?

Taylor – camp needs new members

Lovett – December meeting is still needed, that way the members still keep on track

Standing Committees Reports –

If you have questions or would like to join Color Guard or Honor Guard, please contact the Commander.

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Special Committee Reports:

Fundraising – Lt. Commander Taylor has not had time, but he will be able to work on it now. Suggestions were made such as pancake breakfast at Applebee's, etc. Taylor will follow up on suggestions.

Old Business:

A) Rose Hill – Had a great turn out from the camp

B) TN Division Reunion –

1) Mike Spears elected as Sam Watkins Brigade Commander.

2) TN Division Judge Advocate will decide on the issue of email voting, as it could be a breach of Roberts Rule of Order.

New Business:

A) Dedication for ancestors of Judge Advocate Charles Bates – Still on hold due to medical issues

B) Adoption of event/marker/cemetery – People need to know the SCV, Elm Springs and Sam Watkins Camp is here.

1. Commander Boshers will check on a Banner for display in front of the Bowling Alley and Elm Springs fence.

2. Run ad in local paper regarding camp meetings.

3. Greg Atwell will take to different organizations about where we could put our name.

4. Adjutant Smith suggested Road-Adopt highway signage and talking with Bob Duncan regarding the Bicentennial celebration on July 28, 2008.

5. Past Commander Lovett suggested naming a bridge after Sam Watkins, and inviting his family to participate.

C) Reenactment -

A reenactment in Mt. Pleasant would have total supported by the City administrators and UDC. The camp still will need to consider the event.

Announcements:

Atwell announced the battle flag is still being flown in Knoxville and the Confederate flags and horse along I-65 in Brentwood is being restored.

June 3rd – The reopening of Beauvoir in Biloxi, MS

June 7th – 8th Jefferson Davis Bicentennial in Fairview, KY

In closing, Commander Boshers read a passage from Private: Front and Rear by William Fletcher

Motion to adjourn meeting – made by Lovett, Smith seconded.

Benediction by Greg Atwell

Meeting adjourned

MISSING: Civil War flags

Wednesday, June 11, 2008 10:40 AM CDT

WWW.claiborneprogess.net

As the Tennessee State Museum curators gathered information on historic battle flags for a forthcoming book titled "Volunteer Banners: The Civil War Flags of Tennessee," a mystery unfolded. Where are the banners that were carried by the Tennessee Union troops who fought in the Civil War?

At the beginning of the war, Tennessee found itself divided when the General Assembly voted to secede. Most people in East Tennessee were opposed to the Confederacy and many joined regiments to preserve the Union. Support for the Confederacy was centered in Middle and West Tennessee.

"The museum has located many Confederate flags and has photographs of color guards who carried their banners into battle, which will be included in the book," noted Greg Biggs, renowned Civil War historian, project director and lead author of Volunteer Banners. "Only eight Union regimental flags out of the 60 to 70 believed to have been in existence during the war have been located. As there is no known record of Union flags being destroyed by post-war Confederate sympathizers, there is the possibility that the flags were hidden."

The State Museum, known for one of the finest Civil War and battle flag collections in the nation, has been working on this project for several years. Because Tennessee was the primary western battlefield of the Civil War, with more than 400 battles and skirmishes within its borders, the state has vast holdings of military documents, firearms and uniforms. The institution holds some 60 flags, mainly Confederate in its permanent collection.

The West Point Museum, in Highland Falls, New York, just outside the gates of the United States Military Academy, holds seven Tennessee Union Flags as part of its collection. The 12th and 13th Regiment U.S. Colored Troops of Middle Tennessee carried three of these flags. These troops fought in the Battle of Nashville and were also responsible for building the railroad that ran from Kingston Springs to Johnsonville. These seven flags and their history are an example of the stories that will be included in the book.

"We are reaching out to the public to help us find Civil War battle flags and photographs of ancestors who may have been color bearers," Biggs said. "This also includes females who may have been involved in the production of battle flags. Portions of the book will be dedicated to the women behind the banners."

Women, who went to work in huge numbers during the Civil War, making flags, sewing uniforms, rolling bandages and working in arsenals, were responsible for the production of the community's regimental flag. They often selected the fabric and the design and developed the patriotic slogans which appear on many of the flags. If they did not actually sew the flag, they generally hired the company that did. The Flag Presentation Ceremony, where women presented the flag to their men, was considered to be the "social event" of season, as it was the symbol and the bond connecting the soldiers to their home communities.

If the public has any information to contribute to the Tennessee Civil War Flag Book Project, please contact by emailing museuminfo@tnmuseum.org or by telephoning Myers Brown or Ron Westphal at 615-741-2692. Proceeds from the sale of "Volunteer Banners, The Civil War Flags of Tennessee," will be used to preserve the Civil War Flag Collection of the Tennessee State Museum. For more information about the museum, visit www.tnmuseum.org.

STATUE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS PROPOSED**CONFEDERATE GROUP SEEKS SPOT NEAR LINCOLN STATUE AT TREDEGAR IN RICHMOND**

June 10, 2008—AP

A life-size statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis could stand with the one of Abraham Lincoln at Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is offering to donate a bronze statue of Davis for placement at the National Historic Landmark site to mark this year as the bicentennial of his birth.

The \$100,000-plus statue by Lexington sculptor Gary Casteel would help educate the public about the Confederate president and how his family took in a mixed-race orphan and serve as a counter to the Lincoln statue that was dedicated in 2003, said Brag Bowling, a Richmond resident and a board member with the national Southern-heritage group.

"There were two sides of the war," he said.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans fought the Lincoln statue, which depicts him with his son Tad on his visit to the burned-out Confederate capital in 1865. Bowling said the group isn't trying to cause an uproar but sees a need for historic balance at Tredegar.

"The acceptance of that statue would soothe some feelings of Southerners from a few years ago," he said.

Representatives of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are expected to meet next Tuesday with officials from the American Civil War Center, which controls the Tredegar site through an agreement with its owner, NewMarket Corp.

Museum President Christy S. Coleman said yesterday that it would be inappropriate to comment before the meeting.

"With anything, it's all about content and intent," she said.

The statue of Davis depicts him standing with his son Joe and with Jim Limber, who was a mixed-race child taken in by the Davis family, according to John M. Coski, historian and library director for The Museum of the Confederacy.

David Ruth, superintendent of the Richmond National Battlefield Park, said he expects the statue of Davis to be considered just as the Lincoln statue was when it was offered by the U.S. Historical Society.

Its placement would have to be approved by NewMarket, plus the board of directors for the American Civil War Center. The National Park Service could serve as a consultant in the process.

The now-defunct Richmond Historic Riverfront Foundation controlled the Tredegar property when the Lincoln statue was approved.

Ruth said whether the statue would be accepted at Tredegar could depend on such factors as its design; whether it's determined that another monument to Davis is needed in Richmond; and whether Tredegar would be the appropriate place. A monument to Davis was erected in 1907 at Monument and Davis avenues.

"I would hope for more discussion than it simply being a counterpoint to Lincoln," he said.

Ruth said the story of Jim Limber's association with the Davis family could be worth telling, although some details of the relationship aren't clear.

Bowling said the Sons of Confederate Veterans commissioned the statue with Casteel. The piece is expected to be finished this fall, and it could be placed to mark the 200th anniversary of Davis' birth or in the walkup to 2011 and the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. Contact Will Jones at (804) 649-6911 or wjones@timesdispatch.com.



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 camps 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**



RANDY BISHOP TO SPEEK ON TUESDAY JUNE 17TH!



**Next camp meeting is on Tuesday, June 17th 2008 at 7PM
Camp speaker will be noted author and lecturer, Randy Bishop
Mr. Bishop will be speaking Tennessee's Civil War Battle-
fields: a guide to their history and preservation and The
Tennessee Brigade...**