SEPTEMBER 2016

September 27, 2016 - Monthly member meeting. Oak restaurant. Manchester, TN. 6:00 P.M. dinner, 7:00 P.M. meeting and program. The speaker will be our own Richard Dix on "General Scott's Anaconda: The Coastal Blockade."

Dates to Remember:

- Sep. 17, 1862 - Battle of Antietam.
- Sep. 19, 1863 - Battle of Chickamauga.
- Oct. 8, 1862 - Battle of Perryville.
- Oct. 19, 1864 - Battle of Cedar Creek.
- Oct. 20-24, 1861 - Battle of Ball's Bluff.
- Oct. 21, 1861 - Battle of Camp Wildcat.

Commander’s Comments...

Compatriots:

Well, I guess we’ve pretty much made it through the summer. There is better weather ahead, and it will be a good time to get out and enjoy the attractions of the area in relative comfort. I plan to visit my son and grand daughter in L.A. next month and am really looking forward to the trip. A short vacation always make one enjoy home the more. I hope all of you have the opportunity to get away for a bit.

Things are shaping up in several areas. I received an e-mail this week from Richard Dix with an attached list of planned programs for the remainder of the year. I know just how hard that is to do. Thank you Richard for the great job you are doing.

See you on the 27th.

Benjamin F. Cheatham
Major General, CSA
Born Oct. 20, 1820
Died Sept. 4, 1886

Be sure to attend the September Camp 72 meeting at 6:00 P.M. on Sep 27th at the Oak.
NOTE: Members should be thinking about buying an SCV license tag. It looks sharp and it benefits the SCV. Many thousands of dollars have flowed into the SCV treasury over the years from this win-win program. Ask our adjutant how to secure a tag.

The above image was sent to me by Sheila Williams. It reflects that Camp 72 contributed to the Cowan Fall Festival.

In years past, we always contributed to the Polly Crockett Festival, held at this time of year. One might say that the Fall Festival replaced Polly Crockett, and we continued our support.

CIVIL WAR ODDITIES
by
Jay Schroeder

The antipersonnel mine (booby trap) was first developed as a defensive weapon during the Civil War. It was conceived by Brigadier General Gabriel James Rains of the Confederate Army. An expert on explosives, he perfected the mechanism that caused the mines to explode upon contact. They were hidden under dead soldiers or buried in the roads and caused heavy Union losses.

The weapon was attacked by Federals and Confederates alike. Confederate commander General Longstreet prohibited its use, declaring it an inhuman device. He described it as "not proper."

But by the end of the war, it had been accepted as legitimate and was employed by both sides.

The Confederate army was the first officially to use the rapid-fire machine gun in battle. This gun was capable of firing 60 rounds per minute, a phenomenal rate at that time. However, the South soon discovered that lack of steel and manufacturing facilities curtailed its ability to mass-produce it.

The Northern army ordnance generals paid little attention to the machine gun until President Lincoln insisted that ten light models be purchased for testing. This model could fire at a rate of 120 rounds per minute.

A physician by the name of Richard Gatling perfected the gun so that it had a rapid-fire rate of 250 rounds per minute. It was not until after the war, however, that the United States Army officially adopted the Gatling gun as a standard weapon.

Aerial reconnaissance was first used during the Civil War. By means of inflated gas-filled balloons, both the North and South observed troop movements and directed field artillery to shell enemy positions accurately.

The first recorded antiaircraft fire occurred when artillery and snipers fired on these observation balloons.

A primitive version of an aircraft carrier was used to transport balloons to spy on enemy harbor fortifications. They were attached to flat riverboat barges which were then towed to strategic positions on open water, enabling observers to reconnoiter from the air.

The man who directed the Army Balloon Observation Corps was a self-styled professor, Thaddeus Sobieski Constantine Lowe. He was employed by the army as a civilian expert on lighter-than-air craft and paid ten dollars a day. His official title, as registered on army records, was "Chief Aeronaut."

ARMY BAND PLAYS DIXIE AT CONFEDERATE'S FUNERAL

The field artillery band of the 33rd Division, Camp Forrest, played "Dixie" at the funeral of Coffee County's last Confederate soldier, B. L. Sagely at Beech Grove last Thursday.

It was the first time in history that the United States Army had officiated at the burial ceremonies of a Confederate soldier. General Samuel T. Lawton obtained permission from the War Department, through Gen. Ben Lear, Commander of the Second Army, for the unusual procedure. The army also sent a firing squad to fire the traditional three rifle volleys over the grave of an honored soldier.

Editorials commending the army's action have appeared in many papers throughout the country, the general expression being that, regardless of the differences in the past, the country is now one people, one cause, and is fighting for a preservation of human liberties under one flag.

Judge Smartt Speaks
Judge Robert W. Smartt, speaking at the funeral, gave an interesting summary of events in the life of Mr. Sagely, and an appreciative delineation of his remarkable character. For many years Judge Smartt had made a practice of spending one day of Christmas week with Mr. Sagely, whose birthday was on Christmas day, and gained valuable information of the past and inspiration for the future from this association with Coffee County's last representative of the gallant Army of the South.

Active pallbearers were Claude Haithcock, Bill Bynum, Dennie Bynum, Horace Arnold, Rex Sagely, Tom Todd, J. L. Bush, Sydney Todd.

Honorary pallbearers: were Leighton and Justin Ewell, Dr. M. Winton, R. L. Ashley, Arch Moore, Grady Hall Messick, Lytton Rayburn, Hoyt Teal.

Among the relatives and friends from out of the community who attended the funeral were A. J. Sagely of Dover, TN, Rex Sagely of Asheville, NC, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Denton of Readyville, Mr. And Mrs. Willie Youree of Woodbury, Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Allman, Mrs. Frank Beasley, Mrs. Tommie Johns, Mr. and Mrs. Paty Johns of Murfreesboro, Miss Addie Crouch, Mrs. Joe Crouch of Bell Buckle, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. S. Ashley, Hugh Doak and others from Manchester.

ARMY BAND PLAYS DIXIE AT RITES FOR CONFEDERATE

Manchester, TN, April 17 -- With special permission from the War Department, a US Army unit yesterday officiated at the burial ceremony of Coffee County's last Confederate soldier.

The 129th Infantry band from Camp Forrest took part in the services for B. L. Sagely, playing "Dixie" as a requiem. The tune was played at his request.

The occasion was said by War Department officials to be the first in which the United States Army participated in the funeral of a Confederate veteran in Tennessee.

Mr. Sagely died at his home near Beech Grove Wednesday. He was 96 years old.

He enlisted in the Confederate Army at the age of 16, a member of Capt. Boyd's company of Starnes' 4th Tennessee Regiment—a unit of the Forrest cavalry. In the same company his older brother, John Sagely, was a lieutenant. John Sagely was killed in action.

Mr. Sagely fought in many of the heaviest battles of the Civil War—Murfreesboro, Shiloh, Chickamauga, and many smaller engagements throughout Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. Once he was captured by the Federals in Alabama, but escaped after five days and rejoined his company in Georgia.

(cont. on p. 4)
A LOOK AHEAD

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 OCT 16</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Dinner and meeting at Oak Restaurant, Manchester. Dinner at 6:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 7:00 P.M. The October program is not yet finalized.</td>
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<td>DEC 16</td>
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Starnes Brigade SCV Camp meeting dates & places

#72 – Cheatham Camp 4th Tuesday at Oak Restaurant, Manchester at 7:00 p.m. (6:00 p.m. dinner).
#152 – John Massey Camp 2nd Thursday at Fayetteville Municipal Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.
#155 – J.B. Cowan 2nd Tuesday at the Gondola Restaurant, Hwy. 55, Tullahoma at 7:00 p.m.
#297 – Marshall Rangers 2nd Saturday at the Marshall County Museum in Lewisburg at 2:00 p.m.
#386 – Cumberland Mountain Rifles 3rd Tuesday, Old County Building in Tracy City at 6:30 p.m.
#1411 – A.P. Stewart 4th Tuesday, Western Sirloin in Decherd at 6:00 p.m.
#1615 – McMinnville 3rd Tuesday, Magness Memorial Library at 7:00 p.m.
#2094 – Capt Abner S. Boone 1st Sunday Old House Hqtrs Hwy 231 N. Fayetteville in Belleville at 1:00 p.m.

When you can, please visit your brothers’ camp meetings. They will be glad to see you.

(cont. from p. 3)

After his return from the war, he moved from his home at Bradyville in Cannon County, across the hill to Beech Grove, where he established a stock raising and trading business on Garrison Creek for about three-quarters of a century. He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. L. C. Jacobs of Beech Grove. His wife died several years ago.