

NEWS FROM THE CAMP

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER For the COLONEL BEN E. CAUDILL CAMP NO. 1629



FEBRUARY 17, 2011

An empty chair now and forever shall sit at our table in remembrance of those that have gone before.

Mark Barger, Cecil Brown, Harold Cantrell, Jack Cantrell, Randy Cantrell, Greg Caudill, Vernon Cooper, Roy Crawford, Atlas Hall, James Hamilton, Johnny Osborne, John Wesley Roark, Jake Smith, Ben Buster Taylor, Henry Webb, William "Tom" Whitaker, Michael Wright



**Col. Ben Caudill Camp
P.O. Box 1102
Whitesburg, KY 41858
www.bencaudill.com**

From the Quarters of the 1st Lt. Commander February 17, 2011

My Webster's Dictionary defines *Eager* as sharp; ardent; keenly desirous; impetuous; earnest; intense. That same respected document defines *Anxious* as suffering mental distress; solicitous; concerned. Often, we say we are anxious when we really mean we're eager. But we never say we're eager when we're actually anxious!

For example, when I look at that big stack of Confederate headstones that have been in storage all winter, I am most eager to get some loaded up and on their way to their rightful destinations. It can safely be said that our faithful crew of old-timers who have placed most of the 1,218 headstones did so with an abundance of eagerness. And when I look at our battery of artillery, I am certainly eager to be behind them the next time they're pointed at the Yankees!

On the other hand, some things do make me anxious. For instance, our By-Laws state that our Camp Officers shall be elected at our annual meeting, which is to be held in the month of December. Of course, we had no such meeting in December, 2010, due to unfavorable weather. And, I must confess that I was AWOL at the January, 2011 meeting; so, forgive me if this issue has already been addressed.

Another item that makes me anxious is the condition of our Ben Caudill website. We made some improvements on the content last year, but there is still room for a great deal more. For instance, we have stated, for all the world to see, several Goals, which we are supposedly working toward. As a former teacher, I wonder what kind of report card we would get for our recent work in this area?

Finally, I feel that both anxiety and eagerness are useful in our lives and our actions regarding our camp. It takes a little anxiety to raise our level of concern to take action. Once a course of action is determined, we can be eager to see a favorable outcome. Let us work together this year to discuss what we are anxious about, to develop effective plans, and to eagerly use our resources to accomplish our goals. I respectfully and humbly submit these thoughts as your

First Lieutenant Commander

Manton Ray Cornett

Adjutant Report **Richard G. Brown**

The Colonel Ben E. Caudill Camp No. 1629 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans has sixty-three paid members at the present time. There are still several members who have not rejoined. The cost to join, or to rejoin, is now \$45 (\$35 to National Headquarters and \$10 to Kentucky Headquarters). The last date to pay our dues has come and gone. Anyone that has not paid by now will have to pay an additional \$5.00 to rejoin.

The Camp has been asked to help the Historical Society with the new Monument Park to be placed along the Whitesburg By-Pass at the truck pull-off. They want to establish a small park there with informative signs telling of the Battle of Whitesburg. The main

attraction will be a full size statue of Lt. Martin Van Buren Bates in his Confederate army uniform. Chairman Dr. Narramore of the Tourism Department said that work on preparing the site should start soon. The thirty foot extension of the Military Museum is scheduled to start in March.

I have replaced the flags at the Brothers Once More Monument at Pound Gap a couple of weeks ago. Kenny Cantrell's brother-in-law sent a new South Carolina flag for their flagpole. Camp member Tim Shelby picked up the garbage and emptied the garbage can during the same time period. The wind as usual has taken a toll on the flags, resulting in the use of many of our small supply. We need to buy a few flags in the near future, especially the 5' x 8' U. S. flag as we are out of them. I requested a Commonwealth of Kentucky flag from Representative Combs but have not received one. The South Carolina and Virginia flags have both been replaced. The stone-setting crew set two stones at the Sandlick Cemetery this Wednesday, then went to Deane to set two more. They are in the process of ordering more stones for Sandlick. Manton found a 25th Virginia soldier buried right under our noses at the Sandlick Cemetery. His grave needs to be cleaned as it is overgrown with brush, plus needs a Confederate stone. Please remember camp member, Danny Day in your prayers.

Trivia Questions

1. Why were the ironclads Georgia, Fredricksburg, and Charleston referred to as "ladies gunboats"?
2. What were niter beds?
3. What sort of people received "Sherman's Land Grants"?
4. What was "Oil of Gladness"?
5. What town bills itself as the "Birthplace of the Confederacy"?
6. What sort of soldiers were "Tories"?
7. For every soldier that died of battle wounds, how many died of disease?
8. At the start of the war, what sort of physical exam was administered to recruits?
9. What name was given to latrines (besides outhouse)?
10. What pestilent insect had the nickname of "gallinippers"?

Minutes of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629 January 20, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629 of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans was held on Thursday, January 20, 2011, at the Letcher County Military Museum in Whitesburg. Members present were: Richard Brown, Tim Shelby, Willis Strong, Okie Blair, Mark Bowling, Richard Smith, Carlos Brock, Randall Haddix, Quenton Childers, Tim Blair, Greg Bentley and guest, Mike Conley.

Richard Brown called the meeting to order. Tim Shelby led the Pledge of Allegiance. Willis led the Salute to the Confederate Flag. Richard Smith gave the opening prayer. Richard Brown noted that a quorum was present and that the Camp could conduct business. The Ancestral Roll Call was performed. Richard read the minutes from the previous meeting, Willis made a motion to accept them, Okie seconded, motion passed.

Commander Smith gave his opening comments, welcomed guest, Mike Conley, son-in-law of Greg Bentley. He noted that the bad weather has been the worst December that he can remember, which limited doing anything outside. Thanked members for their continual support and research of our southern ancestors. Manton could not be there due to a doctor's appointment, so Richard Brown read his Lt. Commander Comments. Willis gave the 2nd Lt. Commander Comments. Richard Brown gave the Adjutant Report and Financial Report. Commander Smith discussed the documentaries that Dean and Nina Cornett have made, regarding our Confederate heritage, including the one on Kingdom Come that has been shown several times on Channel 98. He noted that Owen Wright III reported that in his research, there were approximately 1,035 men from Letcher County that became Confederate soldiers, one of the highest per capital. Willis is doing research on the Looneys that were in the 10th Kentucky Cavalry. Under new business, placing a monument in the Wolfe Cemetery at Weber City was discussed. We could contact the DAR who set the stone there and ask if we can update the stone with more up to date information. Carlos gave the stone setting report, noting that no new stones were set since last meeting due to the bad weather. There are 25 stones on the ground waiting to be set, and probably nine to be ordered for the Sandlick Cemetery. Richard Smith thanked Carlos and the rest of the committee for their hard work. Okie donated \$10 to the Camp. Richard Smith has some steel stock to make cooking utensils. Confederate Kin II was discussed as was the Regimental History and Roster of the 13th Kentucky Cavalry. Carlos will approach Faron about his thoughts. Richard Smith said that the main goal of researching the Roster from the beginning was the plan on someday putting it in book form. The meeting was called early due to a snow storm hitting during the meeting. The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 17, at the Military Museum.

Answers to the Trivia Questions

1. They had been built from funds raised by the Ladies Gun Boat Society throughout the South.
2. Trenches and holes outside communities where people would dump urine, used in the making of niter needed for gunpowder.
3. Freed slaves, who could receive 40 acres of Union occupied land between Charleston and Jacksonville.
4. One of the many names for bootleg whiskey.
5. Abbeville, South Carolina, where the first organized secession meeting took place in 1860.
6. White Southerners who served in the Union Army. The name recalls the the Tories of the Revolutionary War who supported the British.
7. Three according to most estimates.
8. None. Not until the fall of 1862 was program for exams begun.
9. "Sinks".
10. Mosquitoes, a major problem for the Confederacy.

**From the Journal of Captain Edward Guerrant
Friday, February 17, 1865
Between Jonesville and Stickleyville, Lee County, Virginia**

A fine day, to enjoy the pattering of rain. Rain, rain, rain! Rained nearly all night and nearly all day. Issued two General Orders today, ordering Roll call three times per diem, drills, &c, & c, . Also to arrest all absentees, deserters, conscripts and bushwhackers and to arrest citizens who feed and harbor deserters or bushwhackers and feed their grains. Intend to put every man into the army who belongs there. Not less than 200 or 300 men in this county (Lee) and Scott who are improperly absent from the army. Colonel Pridemore here today enroute to his regiment (64th Virginia) Captain Scott and Lt. Adcock of the 4th Kentucky also. (next day) One man of the 10th Kentucky Mounted Rifles brought over some 12 applications for furlough, and also brought a splendid pair of No. 5 Yankee Cavalry boots for one "Capt. Guerrant". I owned my name and took the boots with emotions too deep for utterance. The courier said that someone brought them out of Kentucky for me. God bless Somebody, remember with kindness the benevolent heart that so appreciated my wants and met them so opportunely. I expect they were sent to me by my good old father. I shall wear them in memory of him!

Financial Report

The Caudill Camp has approximately \$802.88 in our checking account. The savings account has \$4,866.03 in but \$4,161 of this belongs to the Kentucky Heritage License Plate, leaving \$705.03 belonging to the Caudill Camp. Hardware for the flagpoles at Pound Gap Monument was purchased from Farmer's Supply using Okie and Richard donations.

AGENDA

1. Sergeant at Arms/Commander, Call the meeting to order.
2. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Salute to the Confederate Flag.
4. Welcome all members and any guest.
5. Ancestral Roll Call.
6. State if a Quorum is present.
7. Reading and Approval of the previous minutes.
8. Officer's Comments.
9. Committee Reports, if any.
10. New Business/Open Floor
11. Trivia Questions
12. Adjourn