

NEWS FROM THE CAMP

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



JANUARY 19, 2012

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, Dan Day, Sr., Dwight Frazier, Atlas Hall, James Hamilton, Johnny Osborne, John Wesley Roark, Jake Smith, Ben Buster Taylor, Henry Webb, William "Tom" Whitaker, Michael Wright



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From the Quarters of the 1st Lt. Commander January 19, 2012

It seems to me that this first month of the New Year is a good time to be looking ahead and trying to set some goals for our Camp. Sure, we can look back at the preceding year and feel good about what we got done. Perhaps the most important accomplishment was the placement of another 58 Confederate Veteran headstones. Of that total, Letcher County was the chief beneficiary with 22! Morgan County was a distant second with 5; Elliott, Magoffin, and Menifee Counties got 4 each; Breathitt and Johnson Counties received 3 apiece; Floyd and Wolfe Counties, as well as Scott County, VA got 2 each; and Carter, Greenup, Knott, Lee, Perry, and Rowan Counties; along with Sullivan County, TN, got 1 headstone apiece. While that's a lot of driving and quite a bit of digging, let's not forget about the research that made it all possible!

Of course, there were a double-hand-full of reenactment opportunities enjoyed by the Camp faithful, topped off with our own "Thunder on the Mountain", which could not have happened but for the dedication of our Adjutant, Richard Brown. There were several 'living history' activities that helped students better understand what "it" was all about. We cleaned up the Childers Cemetery at Redfox; placed a nice informative monument in the Wolfe Cemetery; and, we started work on the long-awaited 13th KY Cavalry book!

But, let's not dwell too long on past accomplishments; let's consider what we can do in 2012. Even though Veterans' Affairs seems to keep tightening the screws and making every request a suspense adventure, we need to stay positive; to keep searching and researching for our lost Confederate ancestors. And, whenever we locate one of these forgotten men, we need to attempt to honor his grave, just as we have honored his comrades in previous years. Currently, we have applications for 26 headstones at Veterans' Affairs. Of these, only 2 have been approved; most of the rest are "under review", and we are just plain anxious about the remainder.

Whatever V.A. decides to do about the headstone requests is beyond our control. But, there are lots of other goals that we can work toward. How about dedicating the Childers Cemetery before the leaves get bigger than a mouse's ear? Could we get a crew together and clean up PVT Jasper Thompson's grave so the bushes don't grow back every summer? And, why not get a 'rough draft' of the 13th KY Cavalry book done before we sit down to our Thanksgiving dinner? Now, what would YOU like to see this Camp do this year?

By the way, the most pressing business before the Camp right now is the election and placement of new officers. I personally would like to see one of you step up and offer yourself as my replacement. Until I am replaced, I may not be able to be 'there', but I will always be 'here'; and, I will be honored to be 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 forty-seven paid members at the present time. The cost to join, is now \$45 (\$35 to National Headquarters and \$10 to Kentucky Headquarters). It is now time for current members to pay their dues of \$45, as a late fee of five dollars has now been applied.

The old cemetery that Abraham Childers, his son, and grandsons are buried in looks good from the road now. I am very proud of the hard work achieved by the Camp in cleaning it up. I would like to schedule a dedication for the soldiers buried there this fall or winter. When a date is decided on, we should contact the DAR and Knott and Letcher Counties' Historical Society.

I was on the WTCW Round Table on Tuesday, January 10. I told what all the Camp had been up to in the last few months. Also told about some of the upcoming events this year, such as Memorial Day, and the 150th anniversary of Middle Creek, Pound Gap and Leatherwood. If we ever need to be on the show to tell of a Camp event, they said that we had a standing invitation. As it was the 150th anniversary of Middle Creek that day, I told a little about the battle.

The reenactment at Ivy Point and Salyersville on the weekend of April 13 thru 15 should be a good one. The original letter from Colonel Hawkins to Colonel May is at the Omni Gallery to be matted and framed at a cost of \$70.

Trivia Questions

1. How many newspaper photographers were there in the Civil War?
2. What did Missouri artist George Bingham accomplish with his painting "Order No. 11"?
3. What noted photographer covered the operations of the Union Army in the South, collected the most valuable war photography ever made, then died in poverty?
4. English born artist James Walker produced one of the war's greatest artworks in his huge painting of a Tennessee battle. Which one?
5. What English newspaper artist traveled with the Army of Northern Virginia and smuggled his sketches to England via blockade runners?
6. What Confederate soldier became famous in a painting by William Washington, an art professor at the Virginia Military Institute?
7. What contribution did Frank Leslie's Illustrated newspaper make to the Civil War?
8. What role did photographer George Barnard play in the Confederacy?
9. One of America's greatest artists became famous for his painting of a Union general questioning Confederate captives. Who is he?
10. What member of Stonewall Jackson's famous Foot Cavalry Brigade went on to become the Confederacy's most renowned artist?

Minutes of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629
December 15, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629, Sons of the Confederate Veterans, was held on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at the Letcher County Military Museum in Whitesburg. In attendance were members Richard Smith, Mark Bowling, Richard Brown, Carlos Brock, Okie Blair, Wayne Watts, Randall Haddix, Anthony Hawkins, Quenton Childers, Willis Strong and Buster Whitt.

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Watts. Carlos then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and Richard Smith led the Salute to the Confederate flag. Commander Smith took prayer request, then offered the opening prayer, after which Wayne stated that we did have a quorum and that we could conduct official business. Everyone present then took part in the Ancestral Roll Call.

Richard Brown read the minutes from the last meeting. Wayne made a motion that the minutes be accepted with minor corrections, Anthony seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Commander Smith welcomed everyone, and said that he still is hearing good reports from the community about the Camp. He thanked Okie for donating a flag pole and flag for the Nancy Back Cemetery. The commander read a letter from Lochlain Seabrook, an author and camp member, wanting to see about listing his books on our camp website. Richard is to check with Mark Carroll about it. The commander also contacted Buford Caudill and J.B. Francis about helping with the Camp book on the 13th Kentucky Cavalry.

The Lt. Commander was not present therefore his comments were read. Manton has paid for the monument at Wolfe Cemetery out of his own pocket.

Second Lt. Commander Strong gave his report. He handed out flyers for the Ivy Point and Salyersville event which will be held the weekend of April 13 thru 15. Anthony told some of the back ground and history about the event and area. We also talked about the Williams gun being stolen around Salyersville, though Anthony said that some report it was actually in Breathitt County. Also discussed was the actual location of the Middle Creek battlefield; is it really where the reenactment is held?

Adjutant Brown gave the adjutant report. Randall gave the Blacksmith Report, noting that their meeting is at Willis Strong's house at the head of Combs' Branch near Dwarf. Their meeting has a pot luck dinner; meeting on third Tuesday of each month. He noted that the Leatherwood committee needed more members and invited anyone from the Camp to join. He discussed the progress of the blacksmith shop to be located at the Leatherwood Battlefield. Carlos gave the book committee report, noting that they had two meetings so far at the Perry County Library, on every other Tuesday at 1:30 pm. They are adding parents and wives but Faron suggested no children in the book. Carlos gave the stone report, 1,276 stones set, 58 this year, nine on the ground and 20 ordered (14 for the Sandlick Cemetery), since last meeting four stones set. It was noted that there were three blank Confederate stones now available. He called Kim Bernard with the VA tombstone office about the Sandlick stones; they might be brought back up for a review but have been turned down as for now. It is looking bad for the acquisition of tombstones from the government, getting a descendent to sign is appearing to be only chance.

Carlos also noted that it is hard to get land owner or cemetery care taker's signature on the forms. Anthony noted he had made progress in obtaining the copyright of the roster of the 13th Kentucky Cavalry. The cost would be approximately \$75; the camp wants Anthony to be the contact person pertaining to the copyright "Annotated Roster of the 13th Kentucky Cavalry". Anthony noted that the Lee/Jackson Dinner at the Breaks Park would be Saturday, January 14 at 5:30 pm. He and Randall Osborne will be the speakers. An interesting question was brought up; when was the first photograph taken in our area. The date of 1873 was mentioned. Carlos made a motion that nominations for Camp officers to be held at the next meeting in January, Wayne seconded, motion passed. An auction was held to raise money for the Camp. Richard Brown asked the Trivia Questions. Randall made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, Willis seconded, motion passed.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19 at 6:30 PM, at the Military Museum in Whitesburg.

Answers to the Trivia Questions

1. None, Photographs could not be reproduced on the printing presses of the 1860s.
2. Created sympathy for the Confederacy. The painting showed Missouri residents driven from their homes by Union troops.
3. Mathew Brady, whose photographs are a national treasure.
4. The Battle of Lookout Mountain.
5. Frank Vizatelly, one of the most famous Civil War artist.
6. Captain William Latane, killed by Union troops and left to be buried by strangers. The painting The Burial of Latane depicted the touching scene and increased sympathy for the South.
7. It published war stories with woodcut illustrations usually within two weeks of a battle. It gave the world its first look at the war.
8. As the first man to photograph such places as Chattanooga and Lookout Mountain, he gave people their first views of such beautiful places.
9. Winslow Homer, who painted many pictures of camp life during the war. His later seascapes and woodland scenes are what made him famous.
10. Allen Redwood, who drew on his personal experience for his many Civil War paintings.

From the Journal of Captain Edward Guerrant
Thursday, January 19, 1865
Abingdon, Virginia

“Who would have thought that I or any other man, would have written a war record of 19 January, 1865. But so it is. The 19 January, 1865, sees no prospect of an early termination of the dreadful war which has for four years wasted our blood and treasure, and destroyed our homes and happiness. We see no hope of its termination short of another four years, except by the total and mutual exhaustion of both parties. Sent Van to town this morning on Em after my new overcoat. He returned by dinner. (you never knew a soldier to come after dinner, always before dinner) \$100 damages (to use a popular phrase) for sewing it up. Am at least \$100 (C.S.A.) wiser. Shall make my own coats after this, or go without, or marry a tailor.”

Financial Report

The Caudill Camp has approximately \$392.03 in our checking account. The savings account has \$811.22 in it.

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. Old Business.
11. New Business/Open Floor
12. Trivia Questions
13. Adjourn