

NEWS FROM THE CAMP

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



JULY 21, 2011

An empty chair now and forever shall sit at our table in remembrance of those who 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 July 21, 2011

For many of us, the most difficult obstacle to overcome, when applying for membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans, is coming up with an ancestor who actually served. It's pretty easy when you're related to someone who is already a member, but what if you aren't? It's also easy if someone tells you who your Confederate ancestor was, but what if they don't? What if you have to figure it out on your own?

Once you get the hang of doing the simple research, you'll probably find that you have not just one, but many, uncles, cousins, and probably a great-great grandpa or two who served in one or more of the regiments that carried out their duties in Southeast Kentucky and Southwest Virginia.

So, how do you get started? You will never know who your Confederate ancestors were if you don't know who your grandparents, or even better, your great grandparents were. Even if you only know who your parents were, you can still discover much more than you ever imagined!

Whatever your starting point might be, you'll need to refer to census records to trace your family lines back to the time of the "War of Northern Aggression". Be sure to trace ALL of your family lines, not just the line of your last name. You'll find that MOST of your Confederate ancestors' last names will NOT be the same as yours. (My last name is Cornett, but one of my great-great grandpas who served was an Engle, and the other great-great grandpa was a Godsey!)

If you have a computer and internet service, you can find Kentucky census records from 1850 to 1930 for most counties. Go to <http://www.censusfinder.com/kentucky4.htm> for this invaluable service. If your ancestors had recent ties to Virginia, go to <http://www.censusfinder.com/virginia-census-records14.htm> for similar records. And, what if you don't have a computer? One researcher I know doesn't have one either, but he probably does more searches at the local library than most people do at home. You'll find computers readily available, and library staff members who are more than happy to help you get started.

Eventually, you'll find that you have many male ancestors, with a dozen or more last names, who were of the proper age to have served in the Confederate Army. You'll want to focus mostly on those who were born between 1825 and 1845, but there are some who were older and a few who were younger than that!

Now, take those names, one at a time, and determine whether he served or not, and if he did, in what unit he served. To do this, you'll need to go to the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors website at <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/regiments.cfm>. This website allows you to do searches by name or by regiment, and it even identifies the soldier by rank and Company. You can also see the entire roster of the regiments, and a brief regimental summary that tells when and where the regiment formed, who the officers were, and some of the places where the regiment saw action.

It is my hope that sharing this information will be helpful to someone, whether it happens to be a potential member or an experienced member who, like me, is always in search of still another Confederate ancestor! I submit these thoughts as your humble

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 fifty-two 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 to pay our dues of \$40.

Several Camp members participated in the Living History and reenactment at the Breaks Park near Elkhorn City on the weekend of June 25. Anthony Hawkins set up his book table and volunteered to help with the cannon if needed. Buster Whitt served as an infantry soldier (his first official battle). Richard Smith, Lawrence Cook, Glenn Brown, Mark Bolling, Okie Blair, David Brown and Richard Brown fired Yankee Buster several times for visitors, then fired it several times during the reenactment. Several visitors came by and asked questions about the cannon. Commander Smith had several old, hand made knives that he showed. A roster of Caudill's Army was on display and was widely looked at. Several people found common names in it.

Willis Strong and his cannon crew attended the Wise reenactment during the weekend of July 9th , firing Little Jesse. I hated to miss this event but was out of town on vacation with my grandkids.

I appreciate the stone-setting crew for allowing me to help set two of my Boggs' ancestor's tombstones that were Confederate soldiers. They are buried in the Eli Boggs Cemetery on Cumberland River, in the foothills of the Black Mountain.

The land owner where the Childers boys are buried at Red Fox, Wava Combs, has given the Caudill Camp permission to clean up that cemetery. It will require the use of chainsaws, mattocks and axes. The cemetery is not very large, but has three Confederate soldiers and a Revolutionary War soldier buried there.

The Return of General John Hunt Morgan reenactment at Pound Gap, near Jenkins will be held on the weekend of August 13 and 14. There will be an education day on Friday for local elementary schools. The Caudill Camp is partnering once again with the Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come Drama to bring back the reenactment. We have obtained funding from the Letcher County Tourism Committee. Greg Bentley has agreed to cook for the event again. I will supply some firewood. We will need some bales of hay. Stan Dalton informed us that he could not attend this year due to sickness. Jerry Parsons will be over-all commander. All camp members are urged to participate or attend.

Trivia Questions

1. What did North Carolina allow conscientious objectors do in lieu of fighting?
2. In what branch of Confederate service did hospital head Sally Tompkins receive her commission as captain?
3. Why were wounded soldiers sometimes allowed to go home to recuperate?
4. What valuable item did the CSS Florida capture from the Union ship Harriet Stevens in 1864?
5. What state's soldiers sometimes have to be separated from Virginia soldiers in Richmond's Chimborazo Hospital?
6. What Confederate hospital, with 8,000 beds, became the largest military hospital in America?
7. What group of people staffed the Wayside Homes and Hospitals?
8. What was the biggest complaint Confederate prisoners made about Union nursing chief, Dorothea Dix?
9. Why did President Jefferson Davis give Sally Tompkins a commission as captain of cavalry?
10. What famous nurse traveled often throughout the Confederacy as she attended the Union wounded?

Minutes of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629 June 16, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629, Sons of the Confederate Veterans, was held on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at the Military Museum in Whitesburg. In attendance were members Richard Smith, Anthony Hawkins, Mark Bowling, Lawrence Cook, Tim Shelby, Manton Ray Cornett, Randall Haddix, Buster Whitt, Richard Brown, and Wayne Watts. Guest: Dan Estep and Cody Shelby

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Watts. Randell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and Manton led the Salute to the Confederate flag. Chaplain Lawrence Cook took prayer request, then offered the opening prayer, after which Sergeant at Arms Watts stated that we did have a quorum and that we could conduct official business. Everyone present then took part in the Ancestral Roll Call.

Wayne read the minutes from the last meeting. Manton made a motion that the minutes be accepted, Lawrence seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Commander Smith welcomed everyone, including our guest, Dan Estep and Cody Shelby. The commander wanted everyone to know that the East Kentucky Commander a few years ago had him drummed out of the SCV but at the next Division meeting, that commander was voted out for doing so. The East Kentucky Commander did not like for the Caudill Camp to place a tombstone for any soldier that was listed as deserter. Our commander noted that he really likes the way we do the Ancestral Roll Call, being able to say something about our ancestor instead of just naming them. He said that he was trying to contact the author of a book entitled "Confederate Book of Arguments" which he really liked, so that we could order some. It was noted that God allowed the Irish to invent beer to prevent them from taking over the world. Lt. Commander Cornett noted that the website has been updated but that Mark Carroll wants someone else to take over

being web master Hopefully we can talk him in to keeping it. He noted that they had set six tombstones since the last meeting and have thirteen on the ground. He presented a preliminary drawing of a monument to place in the Wolfe Cemetery. He said that research was continuing on obtaining more information needed to order stones. He also gave the Stone Report for Carlos, stating that the 13th stone for 13th Kentucky Cavalry soldiers had been set in the Sandlick Cemetery. There were 13 stones on the ground, 2 at Rokie's for "In Memory" and 1,248 stones set so far, with 30 set this year so far. One is on order. Lawrence set two "In Memory" stones at Marion Branch in Pike County, both 13th Kentucky men. Randell gave the Blacksmith Report, the next meeting for them would be the third Tuesday at 6pm at Willis Strong's house. Richard Brown gave the Adjutant Report, stating that we have 52 members and asked for volunteers to help with the living history and reenactment at the Breaks Park on June 25. Under old business, Manton presented the proposed monument for the Wolfe Cemetery, after a few changes, Anthony made a motion that Manton be given permission to pursue the construction of the stone with Appalachian Monument in the price range of \$275, Richard Smith seconded, motion passed. An auction was held to raise money for the Camp, and Danny Estep paid his \$10 to be an Associate Member. A certificate for him is to be obtained by the Adjutant. The Adjutant is also to obtain Certificates of Appreciation to be given to people that help the Camp. Wayne made a motion to adjourn, Anthony seconded, motion passed.

The next meeting will be held on July 21 at 6:30 PM, at the Military Museum.

Answers to the Trivia Questions

1. Hospital duty or work in the salt mines.
2. The cavalry, of course of which she never actually served.
3. It relieved the government of the expense of nursing and feeding them.
4. Opium, desperately needed in the Southern hospitals.
5. Maryland's. Many Virginians had a snobbish attitude toward the Marylanders.
6. The Chimborazo Hospital in Richmond.
7. Women mostly.
8. That she only employed ugly women as nurses.
9. All hospitals in Richmond had to be run by military personnel, so to keep Tompkin's efficient hospital open, she had to have a military title.
10. Clara Barton, who later founded the Red Cross.

From the Journal of Captain Edward Guerrant
Return from Morgan's Last Raid
Wednesday, June 28, 1864
Saltville, Virginia

Went 12 miles to the Brigade today to relieve Col. Johnson of the Command of it, in Colonel Giltner's name, and organize it. Consolidated 4th Kentucky and 6th Confederate, also the two 10th Kentucky regiments (after most of the soldiers from these regiments made it back to Virginia after the battle at Cynthianna, they were allowed to resume their own regiments). Received news that Major Chenoweth of the 10th Mounted Rifles and Captain Morgan had been arrested and General Hobson released. (to his credit, General Hobson worked hard to get both officers released as he thought it wrong of his commanders of arresting them) Don't wonder at it! Colonel Johnson demanding an investigation of the bank robbery at Mt. Sterling. General Morgan writes officially that he "learns from Captain Everett his loss will not be over 300."
2600-900=1,700= missing!

Financial Report

The Caudill Camp has approximately \$832.88 in our checking account. The savings account has \$719.03 in it, as we have sent a check for \$4,211 to the State Headquarters for the license plates.

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