

# NEWS FROM THE CAMP

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



**JUNE 16, 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**



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## **From the Quarters of the 1st Lt. Commander June 16, 2011**

The past four weeks have been busy for everyone, and members of this Camp were no exception. Stone-setting trips were completed to Perry, Letcher, and Morgan Counties in Kentucky and to Scott County in Virginia. "Yankee Buster" and crew, led by Adjutant Richard Brown, made back-to-back appearances on Memorial Day weekend, first in the Sandlick Cemetery, and then at the Veterans' Museum in Whitesburg. Thanks to all who took part in these worthy activities.

Our website was recently brought up to date with the posting of the April and May 2011 Newsletters. Mark Carroll has been a good and faithful servant for many years as our Webmaster, and there is no doubt that we all appreciate his efforts. Since the website is our '24/7' link to the general public, we should do whatever it takes to maintain it and keep it healthy.

The stack of available headstones is shrinking now, and we are about to enter the 'quiet' part of the re-enactment season. This may be the best time we'll have to think about taking on some of those other 'projects' that have been on the back burner for awhile. Personally, I'd like to see the Camp take up the debate concerning the proposed monument to be erected in the Wolfe Confederate Cemetery in Scott County, Virginia. We have successfully placed 55 headstones there, all for Kentucky Confederates who died in the Holston Springs Hospital or in Camp Moccasin. Here's the question: Do we want visitors to that cemetery to wonder about the source of those markers, or do we want them to know it was the work of the Ben Caudill Camp? Other stalled projects include the Pound Gap cannon facsimile, the Childers Cemetery cleanup and dedication, and a variety of other potential Confederate dedications, including the 13 recent additions to the Sandlick Cemetery.

These thoughts are respectfully submitted, for your consideration, by 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 fifty-two paid members at the present time as the purge of members who have not rejoined has happened. The cost to join, or to rejoin, is now \$45 (\$35 to National Headquarters and \$10 to Kentucky Headquarters). Anyone that joins between now and August can pay a prorated price which will cover them for the following year.

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.

Camp member Tim Shelby cut the grass, picked up the garbage and emptied the garbage can at the Brothers Once More Monument at Pound Gap. The tombstones that have been added in the Sandlick Cemetery look great. Please keep Okie Blair and his mother in your prayers.

Several Camp members assisted in firing Yankee Buster for three volleys in honor of all veterans on Sunday, May 29, at the Confederate section of the Sandlick Cemetery. Several people were on hand to hear the cannon roar. Then on Monday, May 30, we assisted the DAV and VFW with their Memorial Day Observance at the Military Museum in Whitesburg. The Knott County DAV conducted the 21 gun salute. Several Camp members assisted in firing Yankee Buster to open and close the event. After the event, the DAV asked us to help them in September at Hindman, of which we agreed. They will contact us later with the exact date and time. They said that the people of Knott County loved having us last year and were looking forward to our return. They also said that when we shot Yankee Buster last year, it caused a lady to be rushed to the hospital to deliver her baby.

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.

There will be a living history at the Breaks Interstate Park, near Elkhorn City on the weekend of June 25 and 26. The Caudill Camp has been invited to attend and fire Yankee Buster. If anyone is interested in helping me with the cannon, please let me know. A small reenactment will also be conducted. The Battle of Wise reenactment will be held on the weekend of July 9 and 10. I will be gone on vacation but if anyone wants to take Yankee Buster, just let me know. 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.

### **Trivia Questions**

1. What sort of dance was the "Virginia Quickstep"?
2. What type of ailment was the "shakes"?
3. What did surgeons use silk thread for?
4. Why were most surgeons referred to as butchers"?
5. Where did the name "general hospital" come from?
6. What Confederate facility had a 400-keg brewery, a soap factory, ice houses, and a bakery that could produce 10,000 loaves of bread per day?
7. What had to be done with soldiers whose families wanted them reburied near home?

8. What were “hop, step, and jumps”?
9. What Virginia city was home to Camp Convalescent, a center where Union men were sent after discharge from army hospitals?
10. What common prison disease caused men to lose their hair and teeth?

**Minutes of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629  
May 19, 2011**

The monthly meeting of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629, Sons of the Confederate Veterans, was held on Thursday, May 19, 2011 at the Military Museum in Whitesburg. In attendance were members Richard Smith, Quenton Childers, Anthony Hawkins, Mark Bowling, Lawrence Cook, Tim Shelby, Manton Ray Cornett, Garland Kiser, Richard Brown, and Kenny Cantrell. Guest: Dan Estep

The meeting was called to order by Richard Brown. Quenton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and Richard Smith led the Salute to the Confederate flag. Chaplain Lawrence Cook took prayer requests, then offered the opening prayer, after which Adjutant Brown stated that we did have a quorum and that we could conduct official business. Everyone present then took part in the Ancestral Roll Call.

The adjutant read the minutes from the May meeting. Lawrence made a motion that the minutes be accepted, Kenny seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Commander Smith welcomed everyone, including our guest, Dan Estep. The commander talked about the areas of Eastern Kentucky that were mostly Confederate during the war, mostly Letcher, Floyd and Pike Counties. He also thanked Chaplain Cook for his work, saying it sounded like the chaplain was talking to God like an “old friend” when praying. He said that he had found a book entitled “Confederate Book of Arguments” which he really liked. He announced that Handsome Molly (reenacting musical group) would be playing at the end of the meeting. The commander said that he had been teaching classes to prisoners in jail, some of which really seemed interested in hearing of the Confederacy. Lt. Commander Cornett thanked everyone for their help in setting tombstones. He thanked Quenton for repairing the flagpole and replacing the flag at the Wolfe Cemetery. He noted that Mark Carroll has the website updated and that there will be a School of the Soldier at Barbourville on the weekend of May 21. He said that research was continuing on obtaining more information needed to order stones. He also gave the Stone Report for Carlos, stating that there were 18 stones on the ground, 2 at Rokie's for “In Memory” and 1,241 stones set so far. Richard Brown gave the Adjutant Report, stating that we have 52 members. Anthony asked about sending letters to potential recruits, which everyone thought was a good idea. John Back, Dorothy Back and Hugo Back (Handsome Molly) played several songs for the Camp.

The next meeting will be held on June 16 at 6:30 PM, at the Military Museum.

## **Answers to the Trivia Questions**

1. It wasn't. It was one of many names for a common camp complaint, diarrhea.
2. One of many names for malaria.
3. Tying off blood vessels.
4. About three of four battlefield operations were amputations.
5. They accepted men regardless of which regiment they served in.
6. The Chimborazo Hospital in Richmond.
7. The corpse had to be disinterred, embalmed, then transported home in a coffin, often an expensive process.
8. A name for Army ambulances. They gave a rather rough ride.
9. Alexandria. The camp was nicknamed "Camp Misery".
10. Scurvy.

### **From the Journal of Captain Edward Guerrant Return from Morgan's Last Raid Thursday 16, 1864 Owsley County, Kentucky**

Our journey today still lay up the Kentucky River, like our trip in 1863. We were all journeying leisurely along this evening, the Advance Guard in front, Col. Johnson, Col. Giltner and myself riding at the head of the column, and after the Guard had passed the mouth of Dry Fork, we came in view, a volley greeted us from a bald point on the left. We had been bushwhacked. It came like Death at the Feast, or like rain or thunder from a cloudless sky. We were waylaid by a dozen bushwhackers from Bull Skin, who took us for stragglers behind the Advance Guard. Colonel Giltner being a little in advance and exposed to full view, double quicked gallantly to the cover of a turn in the road. The rest of us dismounted without waiting for orders and returned fire from our pistols, at which the bushwhackers, proverbially cowardly, took to their heels, and ran away over the mountains. We went through the process of burning a couple of houses nearby, and were bushwhacked no more. This mode of fighting the bushwhackers is the only successful one. The only way they can ever be reached. Other wise they will assassinate you at pleasure. Colonel Giltner and most of the staff took up lodging on Mrs. Jones hospitable floor. Negroes, bummers, stragglers and ugly girls all around. I seceded with Colonel Alston and my two couriers and built out houses and fires in a fence corner of a wheat field. Had a very rough, hard bed, but thanked the Goodness that we had any.

## **Financial Report**

The Caudill Camp has approximately \$832.88 in our checking account. The savings account has \$4,952.45 in but \$4,161 of this belongs to the Kentucky Heritage License Plate, leaving \$791.45 belonging to the Caudill Camp.

## **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