

# NEWS FROM THE CAMP

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



**MARCH 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**



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## **From the Quarters of the 1st Lt. Commander March 17, 2011**

**What a difference a month can make! Not only has the weather improved considerably, but the reenactment season is right around the bend, our stone-setting trips are becoming more frequent, and our Camp website has had an appropriate face-lift. Thanks are in order to Mark Carroll for his work on the website, and to all those who have made contributions as we continue to identify, locate and honor our Confederate ancestors.**

Nothing is ever perfect though. For instance, when we made our trip to VA and TN on February 23, the weather was perfect, and there was nothing standing between us and our mission. We placed three Confederate headstones and one family marker for the wife of one of those who served. But, we discovered, after the newest headstone in the Wolfe Cemetery was placed, that the engraving included a major error, and would have to be replaced. We now have the replacement headstone on hand and are both eager and anxious about making a return trip! Our most recent trip was to Johnson County, where we found further frustration when we failed to connect with the person who was expected to take us to the location of the veterans' graves. After thoroughly scouring the area for any available clues, we reluctantly returned, with the headstones, to Perry County, having effectively 'struck out'.

So, our newest plans are to head out in the opposite direction! By this time next month, you can expect to hear of successes being made in Wolfe, Morgan and Elliott counties. We also expect to make major progress on our latest project in the Sandlick Cemetery. With hopes of seeing you, either on the battlefield or near a gravesite, I respectfully submit this 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 forty-nine paid members at the present time as the purge of members who have not joined has happened. 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. 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. 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.

Camp member Tim Shelby picked up the garbage and emptied the garbage can at the Brothers Once More Monument at Pound Gap. He also repaired the cable on one of the poles. We need to schedule a day to clean up the grave of the 25<sup>th</sup> Virginia soldier that Manton found buried just a few feet away from the Confederate soldiers buried that died in the nearby hospital. The grave is in the Sandlick Cemetery. His grave needs to be cleaned as it is overgrown with brush, plus needs a Confederate stone. Please continue to remember camp member, Danny Day in your prayers, though he had a good report.

The trip to Elkhorn City to set a Confederate tombstone for Pvt. Eli Adkins went very good. West Care sent a van-load of young men to help. They muscled the stone up the hill and helped set the stone. Three of them were recently in the military and asked to help in the dedication. We allowed them to fold the flag and present to the next of kin of Pvt. Adkins. We also dedicated the grave of another nearby Confederate soldier as well. Richard Smith played Taps (borrowed the Museum's bugle) and we fired three volleys. Small brochures were handed out, one lady sang a period song, another read a poem and everyone sang Dixie. A large crowd of both families were there and many thanked us for our participation.

There will be a reenactment of the Battle of Puncheon and Half-Mountain near Salyersville during the weekend of April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. I have registered one of the cannons as well as Glenn Brown, Tim Blair, Okie Blair, Quenton Childers and Wendell Brown. I can register others as well at the reenactment as we will need some help and would love to have several people on the cannons. Registered these men as I had to register someone with the cannon, doesn't cost anything. I believe Willis and the other crew are registering as well. Anyone that is interested in attending, just holler at me.

### **Trivia Questions**

1. Soldiers attributed malaria not to mosquitoes but to what?
2. What pest went by such colorful names as “grayback”, “tigers” and “Bragg's bodyguards”?
3. What childhood disease was especially common among soldiers from rural areas?
4. What common and now easily remedied affliction caused a tenth of its victims to die in the Confederate Army?
5. What type of disease inevitably increased for soldiers stationed near cities?
6. What distasteful ingredient was often added to drinking water as a disease preventive?
7. What would soldiers wear to ward off the bad effects of chill and damp?
8. What personal grooming measure was recommended as protection for the throat and lungs?
9. As a home remedy for cold, what sweet ingredient was added to water?
10. What primitive medical method was still used to cure pneumonia in the Confederate Army?

**Minutes of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629  
February 17, 2011**

The monthly meeting of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629 of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans was held on Thursday, February 17, 2011, at the Letcher County Military Museum in Whitesburg. Members present were: Richard Brown, Tim Shelby, Manton Ray Cornett, Okie Blair, Mark Bowling, Richard Smith, Carlos Brock, Anthony Hawkins, Quenton Childers, Leathan Whitaker, Lawrence Cook and guest, Tim Kelley and Buster Whitt.

Richard Brown called the meeting to order. Anthony led the Pledge of Allegiance. Quenton 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. Manton read the minutes from the previous meeting, Okie made a motion to accept them, Anthony seconded, motion passed. Commander Smith gave his opening comments, welcomed guest, Tim Kelley and Buster Whitt. He noted that the weather has now began to be good enough to do any outside work. Thanked members for their continual support and research of our southern ancestors. Talked about Texas Jack Vermillion, ex-Confederate soldier, buried at Mendota, Virginia. He was from around Big Stone Gap. Manton gave the Lt. Commander Comments, saying the camp's website was looking good, said that the website is sometimes the first impression that people have of the Camp. The list of reenactments are to be updated, many now nonexistent. The goals of the Camp are the setting of tombstones, cleaning cemeteries, dedications, living history in schools, articles, reunions and scholarships. Richard Brown is to send him a new list of Camp members. Richard Brown gave the Adjutant Report and Financial Report. Lawrence Cook asked for help setting a tombstone for Pvt. Eli Adkins in the Elkhorn City Cemetery on Saturday, February 19. Everyone that is going to help, meet him at Mother Nature's Water plant at Ashcamp at 10 am on Saturday, bring your gun. Richard Brown is to borrow the bugle from the Museum. Richard Smith offered to take his van.

**Elections:**

Carlos made a motion to hold Camp's officer elections, Lawrence seconded, motion passed. Carlos nominated Richard Smith as Commander, Quenton seconded. Lawrence made a motion for nominations to cease, Anthony seconded, motion passed. Anthony nominated Manton Ray Cornett for 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander, Leathan seconded. Lawrence made a motion for nominations to cease, Carlos seconded, motion passed. Manton nominated Willis Strong for 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander, Lawrence seconded. Carlos made a motion for nominations to cease, Quenton seconded, motion passed. Carlos nominated Richard Brown for Adjutant/Treasurer, Leathan seconded. Lawrence made a motion that nominations cease, Manton seconded, motion passed. Carlos nominated Wayne Watts for Sergeant at Arms, Manton seconded. Anthony made a motion that nominations cease, Quenton seconded, motion passed. Commander Smith used his authority to appoint

Tabby Back and Lawrence Cook as Chaplains, Quenton Childers as Quartermaster, and Faron Sparkman as Camp Historian.

Richard Smith, Manton Cornett and Richard Brown are to serve on the scholarship committee. Carlos gave the stone setting report, set four stones in Letcher County as the weather finally cooperated (two in Sandlick Cemetery and two at Deane). Four stones have been ordered with twenty-one on the ground. Several are to be ordered for the Sandlick Cemetery, all 13<sup>th</sup> Kentucky soldiers. Tim Kelley will check with the Wise Library about data on Virginia soldiers. Carlso has records of 14 men who died in Wise, Virginia. It is thought that a small stone would cost \$80 if the Camp has to buy one. Anthony brought and showed an Austrian rifle that had been found closed up in the wall of an old house. Okie auctioned off a DVD of Gettysburg, Lawrence bought it for \$7, money to go into the scholarship fund. John and Dorothy Back and Hugo Back played War Between the States songs for the Camp. Everyone loved the music. They hope to play at reenactments. Meeting closed, next meeting on Thursday, March 17, at the Military Museum.

### **Answers to the Trivia Questions**

1. The miasma, or swamp mist. They were at least correct in that there was a connection between swamps and malaria, since swamps breed mosquitoes.
2. The all-too common body lice.
3. Measles, which attacked in epidemic proportions and led to thousands of deaths.
4. Dysentery and diarrhea. Men afflicted composed from one-sixth to one-fourth of all hospital admissions.
5. Venereal diseases, naturally.
6. Tar.
7. Flannel bands around the waist. They were no more effective than the tar in the water.
8. Letting the beard grow long, which was easy to do with little soap and water available for shaving.
9. Molasses.
10. Blood letting, which was of no help at all.

### **From the Journal of Captain Edward Guerrant Sunday, March 19, 1865 Jonesville, Lee County, Virginia**

A very pleasant, beautiful day! Rather warm for the season however. Mr. and Miss Larmer came down after their horse. Mr. L attacked the Colonel and the young lady "tackled me". Was truly sorry I was unable to return her horse but the "decisions of the law and the custom of the service prevented me". The Colonel couldn't give it up. Racked our horses back. Rumor reached Headquarters at night of an advance of Enemy through Harlan. Orders were sent Captain Rogers to take his regiment, 10<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Mounted Rifles, and 25 men of the 64<sup>th</sup> Virginia and go without delay into Harlan to ascertain the truth of the report. Some signs of rain in the blue, smoky atmosphere and hazy night.

## **Financial Report**

The Caudill Camp has approximately \$817.88 in our checking account. The savings account has \$4,874.03 in but \$4,161 of this belongs to the Kentucky Heritage License Plate, leaving \$713.03 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. New Business/Open Floor
11. Trivia Questions
12. Adjourn