

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



**SEPTEMBER 15, 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](http://www.bencaudill.com)

## From the Quarters of the 1st Lt. Commander September 15, 2011

The Childers Cemetery certainly looks more presentable since our Camp meeting took place there last month. Motorists on Rt. 15 may now be surprised to see the headstones clearly visible so near their daily travels. Thanks to every man who showed up early for the meeting to get this much-needed job done! Now, let's try to get this cemetery dedicated before it becomes overgrown again.

The Caudill Battery has been busy in September; "Yankee Buster" flew the Confederate colors and the Caudill banner over the Gingerbread Festival in Hindman on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and performed again on the 10<sup>th</sup> at Middle Creek, along with "Little Jesse". The two howitzers fought side by side, with neither misfire nor mishap, on a perfect, fall-like afternoon. It was a pleasure to observe the two crews as they worked their guns, especially from my advantaged position. Next weekend is the Barbourville event, and the week after that is West Liberty, where the Sorghum Festival will be in full swing. We have managed to place a couple of headstones since our last meeting, done a heap of research and processed a bunch of paperwork. If all goes as planned, we should have enough headstones on hand to keep us in the cemeteries well into the colder weather. A couple of updates regarding the [footnote.com](http://footnote.com) website: No sooner had I committed to the website, credit card and all, than I was notified that the name and format of the website had changed. It is now [fold3.com](http://fold3.com), named in honor of the third fold in the flag ceremony, which represents service. The new website ran very slowly for a few days, but is more 'user-friendly' now. And finally, the annual fee is no longer \$60; it is \$79.95. On the bright side, we just requested from V.A. the first headstone with Virginia service records extracted from this website.

There are some interesting questions before the Camp right now that should be dealt with in a timely fashion. One of those questions regards the recurring matter of a publication of verified information on the 13<sup>th</sup> KY Cavalry. It has been referred to as "the roster" and "the book" at various times. It is not simply a matter of whether or not a publication is appropriate at this time. Other matters, such as previously existing copyright, and what form a future publication should take, must also be considered. But, complicated matters are not solved in one step, but in many steps, taken one at a time. And the first step in this matter is to decide whether or not we want to publish such a document. If the answer is yes, then we can consider what form the publication should take, and who is willing to do the actual writing of the document. I would suggest that these decisions would best be made in meetings of the Executive Committee.

As we make further progress on the path that brings honor to our Confederate ancestors, I am 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 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 for current members to pay their dues of \$40. You have until November 1<sup>st</sup> to pay, then a five dollar late fee is applied.

The old cemetery that Abraham Childers and 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.

Several members of the Camp helped the Knott County DAV with their military salute that opened the Gingerbread Festival in Hindman last Thursday. We fired Yankee Buster to open and close the event. Camp members present were: Manton Cornett, Glenn Brown, Wendell Brown, Richard Smith, Carlos Brock and Richard Brown. Several Camp members assisted in making the Middle Creek reenactment a success. Britt Smith and Buster Whitt were infantry, while Willis Strong, Randall Haddix, Carlos Brock, Manton Cornett, Quenton Childers, Glenn Brown, Wendell Brown and Richard Brown fired Yankee Buster and Little Jesse. The artillery was also assisted by a cannon crew from Louisa County whose cannon did not arrive. Anthony Hawkins set up his book table, though being down in the back. The people putting on the event treated us very good, supplying food, water and ice. On Monday morning, September 12, Camp members Glenn Brown, Wendell Brown and Richard Brown fired three vollies with Yankee Buster in a ceremony honoring the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9-11 event. The school system asked us to participate. The event was taped by the School Channel and will soon be shown on Channel 46. Glenn's grandson, Mike Campbell, just back from Afghanistan, helped with the cannon.

The reenactment of the Battle of Leatherwood will be held on the weekend of October 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>. All Camp members are urged to participate in, or support this event. Not only is it local, the Leatherwood committee helped us with our Jenkins event.

### **Trivia Questions**

1. What were "Sherman's neckties"?
2. What city, angry at Lincoln's call for troops, cut off its telegraph lines to D.C. and tore up rail tracks?
3. What obstacle was unexplainably placed on the tracks of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in Point of Rocks, Maryland?
4. What did President Jefferson Davis propose as a source for the iron needed for ironclad ships?
5. What was the name of the Confederate train captured by Federals in the Great Locomotive Chase of 1862?

6. What did Union troops occupying northern Alabama do to keep Confederate guerillas from shooting at passing trains?
7. What Union general irked Tennessee residents by closing all the railways to civilian use?
8. What was the crew of the Confederate train the General doing when Union men seized the train?
9. What Confederate general's men were responsible for torching Atlanta's munition dumps and railroad yards before evacuating?
10. What was the fate of the bold Union men who seized the Confederate train "General"?

**Minutes of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629  
August 18, 2011**

The monthly meeting of the Colonel Ben Caudill Camp No. 1629, Sons of the Confederate Veterans, was held on Thursday, August 18, 2011 at the old Childers Cemetery at Red Fox in Knott County. In attendance were members Richard Smith, Mark Bowling, Manton Ray Cornett, Randall Haddix, Richard Brown, Quenton Childers, Carlos Brock, Okie Blair, Willis Strong, Wayne Watts and Danny Estep. Guest: Sam Hatcher

The Camp members worked hard at clearing and cleaning up the old cemetery where Revolutionary War soldier, Abraham Childers is buried. Also, his son Goolsby Childers, and two grandsons, all whom were Confederate soldiers, are buried. After the clean up was complete, Guest Sam Hatcher talked to the Camp about two issues: first, the trouble that the SCV is having in obtaining Confederate tombstones from the government for the Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond, and second, wanting the Camp to assist in recording all of the soldiers that the Camp has set tombstones for. The Camp told him that they would discuss it at the next Executive meeting and get back to him. The meeting was called to order by Wayne Watts, and then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and Manton led the Salute to the Confederate flag. Commander Smith 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.

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

Commander Smith welcomed everyone, and discussed the Phillip Hensley situation where he wanted his profile stricken from the Camp's website. Mark Carroll removed his profile, as well as anyone else that had one on there that did no longer belong to the Camp. He also said that his offer to help anyone find more of their Southern ancestors was still available. He said that in 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, Chapter 3, was some statements that applied to us (trust each other). He also noted that Tree Adams was to start his 33<sup>rd</sup> treatment soon for cancer.

The Lt. Commander thanked several people for helping set tombstones. He noted that several names (about 25) had been taken off the Camp's website. Also, he said that he

appreciated the Camp for the work done on making the Jenkins reenactment a success. He said that Ganell Marshall had shown him a website that you could join to obtain military records of Confederate veterans (website [www.footnotes.com](http://www.footnotes.com)) He has obtained the military records of Jasper Thompson, of the 25<sup>th</sup> Virginia, that is buried in the Sandlick Cemetery. Richard Brown made a motion for the Camp to repay Manton for \$80 that he had spent to join the website, Wayne seconded, motion passed. Manton offered to look up any soldier for Camp members, and will use it to obtain the records needed to obtain tombstones.

Carlos Brock suggested that we hold another dedication at the Sandlick Cemetery when we set some more tombstones there. Everyone agreed to do so. Richard Smith told Richard Brown that the Historical Society was going to set a tombstone for Mary Blair Brown Back at the Lewis Back Cemetery.

Randall Haddix gave the Blacksmith Report, they meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at Willis Strong's house. A new member is to do a knife making demonstration at the next meeting.

Carlos Brock gave the Stone-setting Report. He noted that the Camp had set 1,256 Confederate tombstones so far, of which 38 had been set this year. There are three on the ground to be set and have five stones on order.

**Under New Business**, Carlos made a motion that the executive council have a meeting to discuss the roster and to give them permission to obtain a copyright for the roster, Wayne seconded, motion passed. (the executive meeting will be one hour before the next Camp Meeting at the Museum) Randall announced that he and Willis would be taking Little Jesse to Middle Creek for a reenactment on the weekend of September 10. Danny Estep noted that he had discovered that James Bailey, Sr. of the 5<sup>th</sup> Kentucky, Co. C., was his ancestor. Manton made a motion to adjourn, Mark seconded, motion passed.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15 at 6:30 PM, at the Military Museum in Whitesburg.

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

1. Confederate rails, which Sherman's troops heated and wrapped around trees, making them unusable.
2. Baltimore, strongly pro-southern.

3. A 100 ton boulder, supposedly placed there by the Confederates, though no one knew how it was done.
4. Railroad rails. His proposal was never acted on.
5. The General. This was the name of the Buster Keaton movie based on the famous chase.
6. Arrested local pastors and placed them on each train passing through, assuming that the guerillas wouldn't want to accidentally kill a minister.
7. William T. Sherman.
8. Having breakfast off the train.
9. John Bell Hood. The destruction was vividly portrayed in Gone with the Wind.
10. Most of them were executed.

**From the Journal of Captain Edward Guerrant  
Thursday, September 15, 1864  
Near Jonesboro, East Tennessee**

Rained hard last night, and therefore not so cool as usual. Colonel brought back many newspapers, mostly filled with bad news. McClellan declared himself a War Democrat and disappointed all our fond hopes of the candidate of Peace Party. Its convention seems to have resulted in a sad and solemn farce in nominating a foolish, bitter, War man, who appears to think that war should be continued for the sake of the dead, instead of for the living, for the past and not the future. From certain dark hints we apprehend our disaster at Atlanta greater than acknowledged. Loss now estimated at 4,000. The tide of success which came laden in our favor all spring and summer, seems now naturally setting straight against us, but only temporarily I hope and believe. The prospect of four more years of war is truly disheartening when we hoped so fondly for it to close this year. Very many of the over sanguine are a little disheartened, but willing to fight it out.

**Financial Report**

The Caudill Camp has approximately \$1,111.03 in our checking account, but some of the checks from Thunder on the Mountain event has not been cashed yet. The savings account has \$719.03 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