

The Sentinel



Secession Camp # 4 Charleston, SC

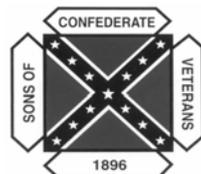
DECEMBER 2007 "Winner of the 2005, 2006 & 2007 Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award" VOLUME 7 NUMBER 12

PASSING ON THE TORCH By Editor Bill Norris

As most of you know I will soon have the honor of serving the camp as Commander and this will be my last newsletter as Editor of The Sentinel. I'm passing the torch to Compatriot **Rob Nance**. Rob will take over as Editor starting with the January 2008 issue and I will continue to help Rob serving as his Assistant Editor, working with him to assure a smooth transition. I know that I am handing The Sentinel over to an able and talented Compatriot and I request that each of you give Rob the same support and help you have given me as Editor. I know he will do an excellent job for the camp and as you have already seen Rob has some excellent ideas for new columns and articles and he is a talented writer. I took over as Editor of The Sentinel in July of 2001. It has been my pleasure to serve my fellow Compatriots of Secession Camp in this position for the past six and a half years. During that time I have developed an even greater appreciation for the mission that every SCV member pledges to uphold, to see that the true history of our Confederate ancestors is told to future generations. It has been my pleasure to serve with many fine Compatriots and camp officers, and I have learned from all of them. As Editor I have been fortunate enough to see our newsletter win the Divisions Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award for the past three years and finish close to the top in the national awards. Sometimes getting the newsletter out on time was quite a job but for the most part it has been a labor of love. I have received a deep sense of accomplishment when I've completed a newsletter and got it out to the membership and I must thank Compatriot **David Rentz** for the many hours he spent assisting me with the chores of printing, folding, and mailing as many as 300 newsletters a month. David's labors saved the camp a great deal of money in printing cost over several years. I'd also like to thank all those Compatriots that submitted articles and photos and let me apologize for the many mistakes I've made over the years. Be assured that if I misspelled or left someone's name out of an article it was not on purpose. In closing I'd like to thank the compatriots of Secession Camp for allowing me to serve in this capacity for the past several years and I look forward to serving in my new role.

*The Charge
To you Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought: to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate Soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.*

*Lt. General Stephen D. Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans
New Orleans,
1906*



GENERAL LEE AND SANTA CLAUS

The following story was submitted by Commander **Bill Baber**.

A story of a little girl named Minnie in Mississippi after the war who had lost her father in the conflict and her two sisters Lutie and Birdie.

"It is time to sleep now," said Aunt Sarah. "Dream about Santa Claus. He will arrive in a few weeks." Minnie said, "I don't want to give any of my dreams to Santa because he wasn't a Rebel. He didn't care about any of us. He didn't bring presents to the Southern children for four Christmases. He probably only cares about the children in the North."

"There was a blockade during the war," said Lutie her sister. "People and supplies could not get through because the Union troops were blocking them. Santa Claus could not get through either."

"Oh yes he could, if he really wanted to," snapped Minnie. "He can fly onto rooftops and go over the whole world in one night. He is a mean old thing, I don't like him."

Perhaps he had a good reason," said Aunt Sarah. "Maybe we shouldn't be angry at him until we find out. Tomorrow we will write to General Lee. Maybe he can tell us where Santa has been."

The next day the girls told Aunt Sarah all the things that they wanted to ask General Lee, especially about Santa Claus. She began to write the letter.

Dear General Lee,
We think you are the best man that ever lived. Our Aunt Sarah tells us you will go straight to heaven when you die because you are such a good person. We want to ask you a question, it's something that we want to know the truth about, and we know you always tell the truth.

Please, General Lee, tell us if Santa Claus loves the little Rebel children. We don't think he does. He did not come to the South for four Christmas Eves. Aunt Sarah thinks that you did not let him cross the blockade lines, is that true?

We all love you dearly. You are such a hero to all the people in the South. We want to send you something, but we don't have anything nice enough. We lost all our toys during the war. Birdie wants to send you one of our new kittens, the

Continued on page 3.

Camp Officers

Commander
Bill Baber 843-552-2007

1st Lt. Cdr.
Bill Norris 843-849-9924

2nd Lt. Cdr.
Open

Adjutant
Elmore Marlow 843-762-2430

Treasurer
Woody Weatherford

Chaplain
Sy Mabie

Color Sergeant
Gene Patrick

Judge Advocate
Fred Tetor

CHT Representatives
Randy Burbage, Elmore Marlow, Gene Patrick, Wayne Dukes

Camp Guardians

Randy Burbage
Walter Carr
John Evans
Clarence Kuykendall
Andy Langdale
Elmore Marlow
Philip Ramsey
Michael Ratledge
Clyde Rogers
Louie Warmoth
Jimmy Wheeler

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

AWARDS

Clay Martin

EDUCATION / HISTORICAL

Open

GRAVES & MONUMENTS

David Rentz

HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

Jimmy Wheeler

HERITAGE RIDE

David Rentz

MEDIA / PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bill Norris

SAM DAVIS YOUTH CAMP

Bobby Shealy

RECRUITING & RETENTION

Andy Langdale

GENEALOGY

Andy Langdale

FUND RAISING

Open

CONVENTION

Open

LEE JACKSON

Open

HERITAGE DEFENSE

Open

GUARDIAN

John Evans

VOLUNTEERS

MESS CORPORAL

Don Pace

MICKEY DAVIS FUND

Woody Weatherford
(Acting)

WEBMASTER

David Rentz

ENGRAVING ENGINEER

Benny Slay

QUARTERMASTER

David Rentz
John Blackwell

The Sentinel is the official newsletter of Secession Camp No. 4, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Charleston, SC. It is published monthly and is distributed to the members of Secession Camp at no charge to them. An individual not having membership and organizations not associated with Secession Camp may receive the newsletter for an annual subscription price of \$10.00 to cover the cost of printing and posting. For more information contact the editor.

The Official Secession Camp Website is: <http://www.scv4.org>



SECESSION CAMP WILL HOLD IT'S NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH AT THE KNIGHTS OF PHYTHIAS BUILDING LOCATED AT 1820 BELGRADE AVENUE NEAR SAM RITTENBURG BOULEVARD (HWY. 7), IN CHARLESTON. DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 6:30 PM AND THE MEETING WILL GET STARTED AT 7:00 PM.

The editor of The Sentinel is **Bill Norris**. The Associate Editor is **Rob Nance**. Unless otherwise noted, all articles in this newsletter are written by the editor. Address all correspondence regarding this newsletter to:

The Sentinel
362 Splitshot Circle
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
E-Mail elvisreddog@bellsouth.net

FROM THE COMMANDER

Compatriots,

I hope this letter finds you all in good holiday spirits and in good health. We have a few events coming up in the near future that I hope to see you all at. The Camp Christmas Party and short Camp meeting December 18 at 6:30 pm, Please bring your family and a covered dish, then there is The Lee Jackson Banquet January 19th at the Washington Light Infantry with a possible tour of their museum. You should all try and attend both of these events.



As you all should know by now the elections for new camp officers has taken place and the new officers will be inducted at the Lee Jackson Banquet. It has been a pleasure to serve as your commander the past two years and I feel that the new camp officers will do a good job for you. Please give them your support the next two years.

I hope that all of you have a great Holiday Season and that Christmas and Hanukah are what you make them. Remember that our ancestors made the best of the situations that they were in. Also remember our soldiers, who are serving and those who have served, they all have sacrificed so that we may live our lives in peace.

Your Obedient Servant,
Bill Baber, Commander
 Secession Camp # 4

"General Lee," continued from page 1.

white one with black ears. Aunt Sarah thinks maybe you don't like kittens.

We say our prayers for you every night, dear General Lee. We ask God to make you happy. We know you must be sad that you had to surrender to the Union.

Please let us know about Santa Claus as soon as you can.

Your little friends,
 Lutie, Minnie, Birdie.

In about two weeks, they squealed with delight when General Lee's letter arrived. Aunt Sarah settled them down, then began to read:

My Dear Little Friends,

I was very glad to receive your kind letter. It is nice to know that I have the good wishes and prayers of three little girls named Lutie, Birdie, and Minnie.

I am very glad that you wrote about Santa Claus for I am able to tell you all about him. I can assure you that he is one of the best friends that the little Southern children have. You will understand this when I explain why he has not been to visit in the last four years.

The first Christmas Eve of the war, I was walking up and down the campground when I thought I heard a noise above my head. When I looked up, I saw the funniest looking old fellow riding in a sleigh through the air. When I looked closer, I realized it was Santa.

"Stop! Stop!" I shouted. The funny fellow laughed but didn't seem as if was going to obey me. I cried again, Stop! At that point he drove down to my side with a sleigh full of toys.

I told him he could go no further South. He looked disappointed.

"Oh what will my little Southern children do?" he said. I felt sorry for him. I want little children to be happy too, especially at Christmas time. But I was certain of one thing. I knew my little friends would want me to do my duty rather than have all the toys in the world. "Santa," I said, "take every one of those toys back as far as Baltimore. Sell them and use the money for things the soldiers need. Our soldiers have been fighting so hard to protect their homeland and their families. They never complain or ask for things. They consider it an honor to fight for the Confederacy. However, the sick and the wounded need medicines, bandages, and ointments. The other soldiers could use good food, warm clothing and even some new boots. The children will understand someday. I will explain it to them."

Santa Claus jumped into his sleigh and saluted me. "I always obey orders, General Lee," he shouted. And off he went to do his duty.

In a few hours he came sweeping down into camp again. Not only did he have everything I ordered, but also many other things our poor soldiers needed. And every Christmas, he took the toy money and did the same

Continued on page 6.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Compatriots:

The year 2007 is nearing an end; the time for feasting and party is at hand. As I write another Thanksgiving Day has passed and become history. We had an opportunity to gather with loved ones, and give thanks for the many blessings that are ours. We must always keep in mind the blessings we enjoy are through the grace of God! We are his stewards, he is the Master. We will soon celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. May we focus on the significance of this event, it is often lost in the commercial emphasis many now have associated with it. As we enter this season of joy may we remember:



“She brought forth her first son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in the manger” (Luke 2:7.

For unto you is born a Savior which is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:11).

This is what Christmas is about it is a time of joy and fellowship and celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, the greatest gift we could ever receive. It is my wish that each of you and your families has a Merry Christmas!

This is also a time for us to remember the Compatriots in our prayers who are unable to share with us due to illness. May they have a blessed Christmas and return to good health.

Compatriot **Wayne Dukes** has been hospitalized with pneumonia. Please continue to remember Compatriots **Dickinson, Jacobs,** and **Heidtmann** in your prayers.

I am always available at 843-871-9713 or by e-mail, smabie@earthlink.net. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sy Mabie
Chaplain

In Memory of My Confederate Ancestors

Private Wesley P. Beach
Co. G 4th SC Cavalry
Private Robert O. Jaques
Co. G 4th SC Cavalry
Capitan George W. Way
11th SC Infantry
Corporal Beverly Rodgers
Co. F 1st Local Troops, GA (Augusta)

Deo Vindice
Clyde W. Rogers

CAMP SUPPER

That terrific supper we feasted on at the November meeting was prepared by Mess Corporal **Don Pace** and his crew. Last month Compatriots **Don Petty, Bob Dandridge,** and **Joey Dixon** gave Don a hand. Just as usual these men came in long before the meeting to cook for us (and clean-up after us) and we owe them our thanks for another fine meal. Remember without volunteers like these we would not be able to enjoy a good supper together at camp meetings so please let them know how much we appreciate what they do for us and think about volunteering to help Don’s crew sometime. Everyone should try and help with camp duties when they can.

At the December meeting Don and the crew will be cooking roast pork for our annual Christmas party and compatriots are asked to bring the side dishes. This is some guaranteed good eating and you can bring the whole family.

DIXIE AND THE CONFEDERATE FLAG IN PHILADELPHIA

By Compatriot Elmore Marlow



The annual meeting of the Centennial Legion was held on November 2, 3, & 4 in Philadelphia, Pa. The Centennial Legion was organized in 1878 and is comprised of historical units from the thirteen original colonies. One of the events which took place at this years meeting was the placing of a wreath on the monument to the unknown soldiers of the Revolutionary War. The tomb is located in Liberty Square in the heart of the historic city. The tomb has an eternal flame and flags from the thirteen states in a u- shape around it, with the South Carolina flag anchoring one end. The units met at the Old City Inn for lunch and a talk about the history of the building.

The units then marched about a mile through the city of brotherly love to the square for the ceremony. Two historical units representing the state of South Carolina were the Sumter Guard (1849) and the Washington Light Infantry (1807) both of Charleston. The Washington Light Infantry lead the procession with one of the members of the Color Guard carrying the Confederate Battle flag. As the units entered the square, the fife and drum corps band of the 2nd Regiment of the Governors Foot Guard of New Haven, Conn. began playing Dixie followed by The Bonnie Blue Flag. A crowd of about two hundred, mostly Yankees had gathered by this time listening to the sounds of our most reveled song until the last unit had entered. That night, the annual banquet began with the playing of Dixie, which brought everyone to their feet with clapping, singing, and napkin waving. Three members of Secession Camp # 4(SCV) took part in the weekend festivities as members of the Washington Light Infantry. **Elmore (Sonny) Rourk** and **Perry Patrick** were members of the WLI Color Guard and **Elmore Marlow** was also present in uniform.

COMPATRIOT POLSTON CARRIES FLAG TO IRAQ



A while back Compatriot **Fred Polston** spent about a year in Iraq and carried our flag with him. Here is Fred on a M113 APC at the vehicle checkpoint in Camp Doha. Fred was a force Protection Officer with Combat Support Assoc. (CSA.) At-a-boy Fred!



At the November meeting Compatriot **Herb Antley** spoke to the camp about the Confederate hero, Sam Davis. Herb was also a counselor at this years Sam Davis Youth Camp and filled us in on the actives and events that took place there this past summer.

"General Lee," continued from page 3.

thing. The soldiers and I thanked him again and again. He gave clothing and food to many a poor soul who otherwise would have been cold and hungry.

Santa Claus is a good friend. I think of him as a hero of the war just like all the soldiers have been. I hope you will think about him that way, too.

I would be pleased to hear from you again, my dear little girls. I hope you will always consider yourself children of the South.

I want you always to consider me your true friend,

R. E. Lee

P. S.

I do like kittens, Birdie, but I already have two of my own, so I don't need another one.

"Hurrah! Hurrah!" shouted the girls when Aunt Sarah finished reading the letter. They all looked over her shoulder to see where General Lee had written his name.

Lutie said "This is so exciting, Let's go read the letter to Mama. Wait until my friends hear that General Lee wrote to us. I must tell them about Santa Claus and the good things that he did."

"Santa probably gave food and clothing to Papa one of those years," said Minnie. "I will never be angry at Santa again. He is a good person just like General Lee."

"Now that the war is over, do you think Santa will be here this Christmas, Aunt Sarah?" asked Birdie.

"We will have to wait and see," said Aunt Sarah. "In the meantime, we must be proud of General Lee and Santa Claus for all they did for the brave soldiers."

"God bless them both forever!" hollered Minnie, Lutie and Birdie shook their heads in agreement.

On the day before Christmas the girls saw someone coming up the pathway. "Maybe it's Santa," hollered Minnie, "He doesn't come to the door," Lutie reminded her.

All three girls began to run up the pathway and stopped as they saw a big man in wrinkled and torn clothing. He was grinning from ear to ear through his dark brown beard and mustache. "Papa" Minnie hollered as she threw her arms around his neck, then all three girls were hugging their Papa.

Papa came inside. He hugged Mama and Aunt Sarah as tears flowed down their cheeks. Once everyone recovered from the shock, they sat by the fireplace to hear his story.

"I was in Virginia," he said, "trying to get back to the Confederate lines after an attack when I was hit by something that knocked me out." When I woke up, I was in a small farmhouse. A family had found me, but I could not remember who I was or where I came from."

"Didn't you remember us?" asked Minnie.

"Not at the time," Papa said. "The family gave me food and a place to sleep until my old memories had returned and I could come home."

"Then a few weeks ago a funny looking fellow that had white hair, a beard, and rather stout with a big belly, came to visit me. After we talked for a while all of my memory came back to me and I started on my way home."

As they sat there Minnie gave Papa a gigantic hug. "I surely believe that Santa loves us now," she exclaimed. "He brought us the best present ever."



YARD SALE

Secession Camp is planning a yard sale. The date has not yet been determined but it will likely be around the first of the year. Compatriots are requested to search your garages and attics, find stuff, and once a date is determined, bring it to a drop off location to be included in the yard sale. Compatriot **Louie Warmoth** has volunteered to head up the project and Compatriot **Bill Norris** will assist him. More information will be made available in the near future. Let's all pitch in and make this project a big success!

LEE - JACKSON BANQUET

The main social event on the calendar of every SCV camp is the annual Lee-Jackson Banquet, celebrating the birthdays of two great Southern leaders. Secession Camp will hold it's annual Lee-Jackson Banquet on January 19th at the Washington Light Infantry Armory at 287 Meeting St., downtown. The event will start at 7 PM and on the menu is herb encrusted prime rib. There will be door prizes, beer and wine, and the speaker will be the noted author Gordon Rhea. Tickets are \$30.00 each and they are not expected to last long. Contact Lt. Cmdr. **Bill Norris** for tickets and info. All Compatriots should try to attend.

FORT SUMTER CAMP 1269
 SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
 ANNOUNCES ITS TOPICS FOR THE
ANNUAL COL. J.J. MAHONEY
CONFEDERATE HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST
 For
ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
 WINNER RECEIVES

\$1,000 US Saving Bond
 Publication of Essay in The Charleston Mercury
 One Year Subscription to The Confederate Veteran Magazine For Student
 And For Student's School
 Lesser Prizes for 2nd and 3rd Place Essays

The Essay Topic May Be Either
**WADE HAMPTON; SELF TAUGHT OFFICER
 IN THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA**
 OR
**WADE HAMPTON; THE RESCUE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
 FROM FEDERAL OCCUPATION AND RECONSTRUCTION RULE**
 For Rules of the Contest, Criteria for Award or Questions Contact

Mr. Price Oulla
 5205 Chaplins Landing Rd.
 Hollywood, SC 29449
 Tele: 843-556-6386
 E-Mail: cbdland@bellsouth.net

or

Mr. Michael Willson
 1235 Kensington Dr.
 Charleston, SC 29407
 Tele: 843-556-0828
 E-Mail: randm@knology.net

BATTLE OF SECESSIONVILLE

Photos submitted by Compatriot Mike Burbage



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 12-4 Secession Camp Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 12-18 Secession Camp Meeting and Christmas Party, 6:30 PM
- 12-20 Secession Day

January 2008

- 1-8 Secession Camp Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 1-12 Charleston Civil War Relic Show
- 1-13 Charleston Civil War Relic Show
- 1-15 Secession Camp Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 1-19 General Robert E. Lee's Birthday
- 1-19 Secession Camp's Lee-Jackson Banquet
- 1-20 General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's Birthday

Meeting Dates for Camps of the 6th Brigade

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Secession Camp # 4, Charleston | 3rd Tuesday of the Month |
| Moultrie Camp # 27, Mt. Pleasant | 3rd Thursday of the Month |
| Pvt. John S. Bird Camp # 38, N. Charleston | 2nd Thursday of the Month |
| Wee Nee Volunteers Camp # 58, Kingstree | 1st Monday of the Month |
| Linchfield Camp # 132, Conway | 3rd Tuesday of the Month |
| H. L. Hunley Camp # 143, Summerville | 4th Thursday of the Month |
| Gen. Ellison Capers Camp # 1212, Moncks Corner | 3rd Thursday of the Month |
| Star of the West Camp # 1253, The Citadel | (irregular) |
| Ft. Sumter Camp # 1269, Charleston | 2nd Thursday of the Month (irregular) |
| Battery White Camp # 1568, Georgetown | 2nd Tuesday of the Month |



Uncommon Valor: Stories of Brave Confederates by Rob Nance

This months brave Confederate is Sgt. Richard Kirkland, CSA. Richard Rowland Kirkland was born in August, 1843 in Flat Rock, Kershaw County, SC, the fifth son of John and Mary Kirkland. Kirkland would gain the rank of Sergeant in Company G, 2nd SC Volunteer Infantry, Kershaw's Brigade, McLaw's Division, Longstreet's Corps, ANV. By December 13th, 1862, the Battle of Fredricksburg, Kirkland had become a battle hardened veteran having seen action at 1st Manassas, Savage Station, Maryland Heights and Antietam. One can only imagine the impact of having seen the horrors of war at these heavy engagements early in his service. However, fate would have Sgt. Kirkland fighting with honor at the Stone wall at Marye's Heights, Fredricksburg, on Dec. 13, 1862, meeting the frontal assaults of Union soldiers whose bravery was the only thing greater than the futility of the attack. The continuing frontal assaults left thousands of dead and injured Union soldiers trapped in a 19th Century "No Man's Land" between the strong Confederate lines and Union positions toward the town. Freezing December temperatures added to the suffering, causing many injured, as had been reported, to use dead fellow soldiers as a shield from Confederate fire and warmth. The next day brought to light the carnage wrought from the previous days battle. The cries of injured Union soldiers pinned down in great pain and thirst were tremendous, and stirred a young Confederate not to fire his musket, but to show a compassion and benevolence, rarely if ever seen in the theatre of war. Sgt. Kirkland wanted to help the fallen enemy. As you can imagine under the circumstances, such an endeavor seemed foolish at best, but Sgt. Kirkland was able to get approval from Gen. Kershaw to carry water to the suffering Union soldiers. After filling many canteens, Kirkland crossed the wall, to the astonishment of Confederate and Union soldiers. Cries went out, "Hold your fire!" as Kirkland, arms raised, moved towards the injured Union soldiers giving them water and whatever means he could offer. Once Union soldiers came to realize Kirkland's mission, they reportedly began tossing over their own canteens so this Confederate could help their fallen comrades. Kirkland reportedly continued this great act of mercy throughout most the day of the 14th. By Dec.15th, Burnside had ended this great offensive and recrossed the Rappahannock. Kirkland would go on to distinguish himself at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He would meet his demise at the Battle of Chickamauga on Sept. 20, 1863. His final words were, "Tell my Pa I died right." His body would be returned home for burial, but moved to Quaker Cemetery, Camden in 1909, just paces away from his commander and great South Carolinian, Gen. Joseph Kershaw. On a dark day in December, 1862, Richard Kirkland became more than just a man or a soldier, he became the Angel of Fredricksburg. Let us all remember this act of benevolence shown toward fellow man, whether friend or foe, this Holiday season. And so goes the story of another brave Confederate.....

MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 20TH MEETING

Recorded by Adjutant **Elmore Marlow**

| | Yes | No | |
|--|-----|----|----------------------------|
| Appropriate Flag Displayed | X | | |
| SCV Charge Read | X | | |
| Invocation | X | | Program Sam Davis |
| Presentation of Colors | X | | |
| Reading and Approval of Minutes | | | Speaker Herb Antley |
| Reading and Approval of Financial Report | | | |

Remarks: 47 members and 5 guest for a total of 52 in attendance

- SCV Charge was given by Commander **Bill Baber**.
 - Invocation given by **Sy Mabie**.
 - Salute to the Flags given by **Bill Norris**.
 - The cooks were then recognized for the meal. Head chef **Don Pace** was assisted by **Perry Patrick**, **Robert Dandridge**, and **Don Petty**.
 - Introduction of guest.
 - The speaker was Compatriot Herb Antley of the Moultrie Camp. He spoke about Sam Davis, who went to the gallows rather than betray a compatriot. Herb also attended the Sam Davis Youth Camp, as a counselor. The camp was held in July in Leesville, S. C. and had 72 boys and girls in attendance. The students attended classes for seven hours each day for a week and listened to speakers, who spoke about the War and our Southern Heritage. Herb said he was surprised by the attention given by the students and recommends the camp highly.
 - Treasurers Report - **Woody Weatherford** reported a beginning balance of \$7,471.63 with deposits of \$9,280.00. Expenses were \$25.00 for National dues, \$86.15 for the printing newsletter, \$3,670.88 income from the Heritage Ride, \$600.00 was put into the Quartermasters fund which came from the State of South Carolina from an old bank account of the camp. \$50.00 for the guest speaker for September., \$57.40 for postage, and \$1.13 for etcher material. Total expenses were \$4,490.56, which left a balance of \$12,261.07.
 - Committee Reports: Sy Mabie reported that camp member **Ray Swagerty's** father had passed away. He was a veteran of submarine service during World War II. Sy also asked that we keep our home bound members in our prayers especially during the holiday season. **Andy Langdale** reported that three candidates were ready to be voted on.
 - By Laws Committee - **Louie Warmoth** reported that the By Law change was printed in The Sentinel. The former By Law stated that any changes be mailed out to the camp members. The new change states that changes may be e-mailed to those members who have access and sent U. S. mail to others. This was approved by members present.
 - New Business: Candidate, Robert Belton Shealy, Jr. was voted on and will be inducted at the next meeting. Two other candidates who were voted on were not present. Robert McCerney from Silver Springs, Md. Attended the Heritage Ride and requested to be a member of Secession Camp Also, Kevin Strong, who is in border patrol training, requested to be a member of Secession Camp, even though he is being transferred to Georgia. Both candidates were approved by the membership present.
 - **George Naumann** gave a report on the Battle of Secessionville and thanked everyone who helped. This years school day was held on Friday the 9th and was a great success.
 - Nominations were taken for the officer of treasurer. **Buck Perry** was nominated and accepted. Other officers nominated at the October meeting were approved and will be installed at the Lee-Jackson Banquet. Compatriot of the Year was voted and will be announced at the Lee-Jackson Banquet in January.
 - The Lee-Jackson Banquet will be held on January 19th at the Washington Light Infantry Armory at 287 Meeting Street. Tickets are available for \$30.00.
 - Commander, Bill Baber spoke about the resolution by S. C. Methodist to take the flag down from the Confederate flag on the state house grounds. A petition was available for Methodist members to sign who were against the resolution.
 - Mess Sgt. Don Pace announced that he participated in the Bar-BQ cook off held at the American Legion Post 147 on James Island and finished in fourth place..
 - A motion made to adjourn and seconded.
- The benediction was made by Sy Mabie followed by the singing of Dixie.

NEW CAMP OFFICERS

It's been two years since we elected officers for Secession Camp so elections were held at the November meeting. The following Compatriots were elected to office: **Bill Norris**, Commander, **John Genes**, Lt. Commander, **Elmore Marlow**, Adjutant, **Buck Perry**, Treasurer, and **Loren O'Donnell**, Color Sergeant. These new officers will be sworn in at our Lee-Jackson Banquet on January 19. Also voted on was Compatriot of the Year which resulted in a three way tie. There will be a run-off vote held at the December meeting between Compatriots **Andy Langdale**, **George Nauman**, and **Loren O'Donnell**. Congratulations men and thanks for your service to Secession Camp.

MICKEY DAVIS FUND

At the October meeting the membership of Secession Camp voted to approve Compatriot **Jamie Park's** request that \$1000 from the Mickey Davis fund to be given to Compatriot **John Dangerfield** for repairs or replacement of the van used to transport the Hunley mobile exhibit. John lost the engine in his van on a recent Hunley trip. The replacement cost is about \$6000 and he does not have the resources to repair or replace his van. He has over \$20,000 invested in his exhibit and has earned over \$30,000 and logged over 115,000 miles for the Friends of the Hunley. His van had 240,000 miles on it when the engine went out. Anyone who knows John knows how much time and energy he has devoted to this traveling exhibit and he has become a roaming ambassador for our Confederate Heritage. This is money well spent and we hope you get back on the road soon John!

CAMP CHRISTMAS PARTY

The next camp meeting will be December 18th and it will be our annual camp Christmas party. We will not have a speaker and only a brief business meeting but what we will have is some fine home cooking and good fellowship. Mess Corporal **Don Pace** and his crew will be cooking lots of roasted pork and iced tea. All Compatriots are asked to bring a side dish or desert to go with Don's roast. Compatriots are also invited to bring their wives and families, and wear your holiday finery. With all the good food and great people at these parties they're always a good time and it should put everyone into the Christmas spirit. Make sure you're there on the 18th!

HERITAGE WATCH by Rob Nance

December's Heritage Watch brings up a recent article by the Southern Poverty Law Center about the general state of membership in the SCV. According to a Oct. 24, 2007 article written by Heidi Bierich of the SPLC, SCV membership is down by almost 50 percent from last year due to "infiltrations" of hate groups into our heritage based organization. In her article she states that the SCV is "only sure of receiving dues from 18,600 members, a stunning drop from 30,000-plus members it claimed a year earlier". How she can quote our membership numbers before dues are required to be turned in is a mystery to all. My guess is her source must be a crystal ball or Ouija board! Apparently the SPLC is grasping at straws to malign us, again. On other fronts, in a statement released by Christopher M. Sullivan, Commander-in-Chief, SCV, said that recent comments about Confederate symbols made by Rev. Al Sharpton deserve an apology. According to wire reports, a photographer for the New York Daily News snapped a picture of a Confederate Battle flag in the garage of a private hunting lodge where Vice Pres. Dick Cheney happened to be hunting at the time. When Rev. Al was asked for his 2 cents worth about the photo, he said the Confederate symbol represented "lynching, hate and murder of black people." In the letter, Mr. Sullivan states outrage at the "bigotry" and "disparage" toward the "Confederate Soldier's flag". He also states that if Mr. Sharpton wants to "play politics", he should refrain from using "hate toward Confederate veterans and their symbols". Thank you, Commander Sullivan! Hard to believe VP Cheney is still out there hunting after last year's mishap. Maybe Rev. Al should go hunting with the VP sometime! Don't mess with Dixie!

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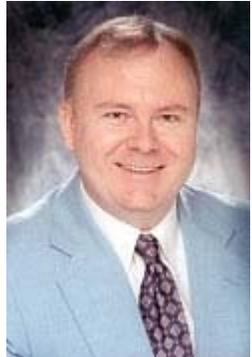
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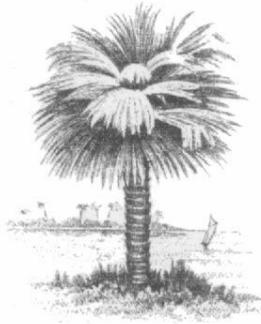
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The Sentinel

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THE NEXT CAMP MEETING WILL BE DECEMBER 18TH ANNUAL CAMP CHRISTMAS PARTY



Ruins of Fredricksburg in aftermath of Burnside's attack on Dec. 13th, 1862. The sacking and pillaging of Fredricksburg was a disgraceful act by the Army of the Potomac and it's officers and Commanders, only to be surpassed by Sherman's March to the Sea.