

The Fighting Joe Wheeler Dispatch



Volume XLVI, Issue 7

July, 2026

Camp Officers:

Commander: Spencer Harris

1st Lt. Commander: Barry Cook

2nd Lt. Commander: Joe Payne

Adjutant: Dave McCombs

Chaplain: Tim Whitfield

Color Sergeant: Pat Acton

Quartermaster: David Knight

Sergeant At Arms: Pat Acton

Camp Surgeon: Dr. Rick Price

Dispatch Editor: David Fisher

Commander Emeritus: Dr. Ira West

Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372,
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Please send articles or other
information for inclusion in
"The Dispatch" to
David Fisher
810 Saulter Road
Birmingham, Alabama 35209
Or e-mail fisherda@mac.com

Tuesday, July 14, 6:00 pm

The Confederate Navy

Speaker: Brent Goodwin

**!!! NEW MEETING TIME
6:00 PM !!!**

This Month During the War Between the States (1861-1865)

July 21, 1861	War's first major battle erupts at Manassa (Bull Run), Virginia
July 27, 1861	Major General George McClellan put in command of the Federal Division of the Potomac
July 31, 1861	Ulysses S. Grant promoted to brigadier general
July 12, 1862	John Hunt Morgan's Confederate raiders capture Lebanon, Kentucky on their first raid
July 13, 1862	Garrison at Murfreesboro, TN captured by Nathan Bedford Forrest
July 22, 1862	Lincoln presents the Emancipation Proclamation to his Cabinet
July 1-3, 1863	Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
July 4, 1863	Lee's forces begin to retreat from Gettysburg
July 17, 1863	Engagement at Honey Springs, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma)
July 9, 1864	Battle of Manocacy, Maryland
July 14, 1864	Battle of Tupelo (Harrisburg), Mississippi
July 22, 1864	Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
July 30, 1864	Battle of The Crater at Petersburg, Virginia



<http://www.fightingjoewheelercamp.org>



SCV Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372



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Alabama: We Dare Defend Our Rights

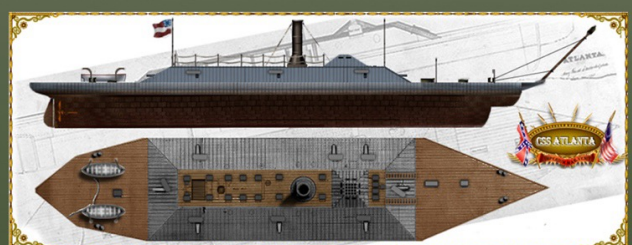
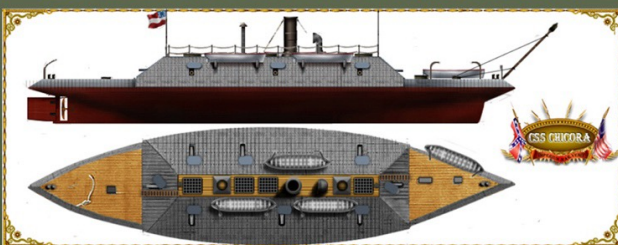
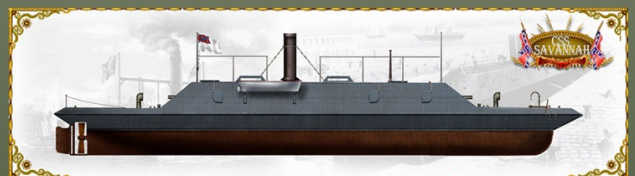
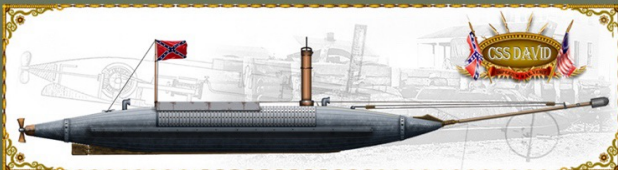
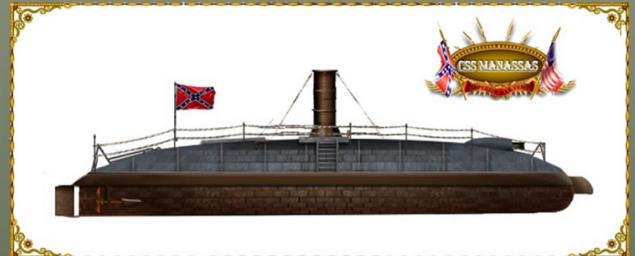
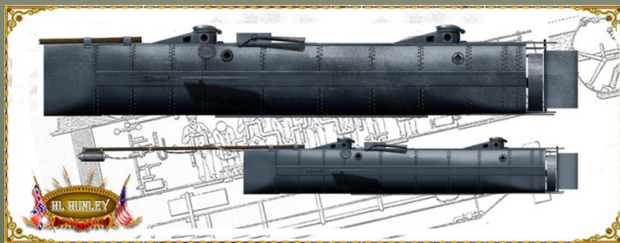
"The principal for which we contended is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form." - Jefferson Davis, May 1865

The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp presents

The Confederate Navy

by

Brent Goodwin



July 14, 2026
New Merkel House
6:00pm



July 2026

Brothers, Friends, Compatriots,

We have a lot of patriotism around this time of the year! Fireworks, American flags on anything and everything, and bar BQ! Let's not forget that on July 4th, 1863, many of our brave ancestors lay wounded and dying in a field hospital outside of Gettysburg. One of my own grandfathers died on July 4th in just this situation and is buried in a mass grave somewhere near the battlefield. These men were the true patriots. They loved their state and were willing to defend it from foreign invaders. Now, many people hate not only America, but especially the South because we have patriotism to the America our forefathers created. A union of sovereign nations committed to each other's common defense and wellbeing but not committed to controlling one another. I'm so thankful to be united with you men in our love of our ancestry as well as our love of the concepts and ideals that our ancestors passed down to us.

I'm looking forward to our speaker this month, brother Brent Goodwin! He's coming to us talking about the Confederate Navy.

We also have an opportunity to get our name out on July 25th and 26th. If you love guns and our cause, I encourage you to jump in, even if it's only for a few hours. As a volunteer you get in for free, and we still have a few slots left that we need to fill. Brent Goodwin has offered to arrange for the field howitzer to make another appearance at our table and we have a new gun show set up with a lot of new merchandise that would likely interest you as well.

Our speaker schedule for the year is rounded out with 4 additional excellent speakers, 3 of them being our own camp brothers. We also got some exciting news just this week. Jason Boshers, the former Commander of the SCV, is going to join us to be our speaker at the Lee-Jackson banquet.

Please remember to invite someone to this meeting. Growth is our future! And I'd love to see the Fighting Joe Wheeler camp be the largest in the state!

I hope that everyone is healthy and well and that your families are also. Please remember to utilize the GroupMe prayer request link to send out any prayer needs if you have them. This doesn't need to just be a history club, but a brotherhood and, if we can't pray for one another, then what are we?

As always, thank you for the opportunity to act as your Commander to this illustrious organization,

Deo Vindice

Spencer Harris

Commander Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372



Chaplain's Report



Reading from Ephesians 4:32: “ *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*”

No Northern politician in the 1850's, 1860's and 1870's detested the South more so than Charles Sumner, the Senator from Massachusetts. There was a lot of venomous anti-Southern sentiment with Northern politicians back then, but I don't think there was anyone more provocative and intolerant as Sumner.

Sumner was intent on punishing the South economically. That was further proven after the war via his radical reconstruction policies. Sumner and his Northeastern allies pretty much didn't like anybody that wasn't like them. They detested Immigrants, Catholics, Blacks and Native Americans besides detesting Southerners.

While his family were members of the Unitarian Church, Sumner apparently never joined or attended church. Ulysses Grant was once asked if he thought Sumner believed in the Bible and Grant said “*No, because he didn't write it.*” Sumner was at odds with Lincoln during the war and Grant after the war because he didn't think either was hard enough on the South.

The Bible was written by a number of Godly inspired writers and not by Charles Sumner as Ulysses Grant pointed out. We should strive to adhere to the Bible's word with kindness and compassion rather than intolerance as the Apostle Paul calls for in Ephesians 4:32.

Deo Vindice
Tim Whitfield,
Chaplain FJW Camp 1372



Reader's Corner



June Meeting



Melanie Perry
“Friend of the Camp”
Vote at camp meeting, 6/9/26



Reader's Corner



June Meeting



**Amanda Warren
Author and Speaker**



Reader's Corner



Event Schedule:

- i. Gun Show – **July 25-26**
- ii. Gun Show – **October 10-11**