

The Fighting Joe Wheeler Dispatch



Volume XLVI, Issue 5

May, 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,
Inc. C/O Adjutant
P.O. Box 43362
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

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, May 12, 6:00 pm

Use of Fife and Drum During the War
Speaker: Calvin Chappelle

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

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

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| May 3, 1861 | Lincoln calls for volunteers to join the Union Army for a three-year term |
| May 21, 1861 | The Confederate Congress agrees to move the Confederate capital from Montgomery to Richmond |
| May 23, 1861 | Virginia voters ratify the State Convention's decision to secede |
| May 24, 1861 | Federal troops seize Alexandria, Va. |
| May 5, 1862 | Battle of Williamsburg, Va. |
| May 11, 1862 | Confederate sailors blow up the <i>CSS Virginia</i> to keep her from falling into Union hands |
| May 20, 1862 | Lincoln signs the Homestead Act |
| May 31, 1862 | Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks), Va begins |
| May 2, 1863 | Stonewall Jackson accidentally shot by his own men during Battle of Chancellorsville |
| May 10, 1863 | Death of Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson |
| May 19, 1863 | First assault on Vicksburg, Mississippi |
| May 7, 1864 | Sherman begins his Atlanta campaign |

 <http://www.fightingjoewheelercamp.org>



SCV Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372



FJWCamp1372@yahoogroups.com

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 Use of the Fife and Drum During the Civil War

by
Calvin Chappelle



May 12, 2026
New Merkel House
6:00pm



Commander's Report



May 2026

Gentleman, Brothers, Compatriots,

I hope that you all had a wonderful Confederate History Month! Welcome to May, and the beginning of Summer.

Confederate Memorial Day was a success with 111 people in attendance at the Capital and our own Larry Muse speaking on behalf of the MOSV. We followed that up with an excellent event at Elmwood on Sunday afternoon.

We've also had 3 applications turned in for new members, and I look forward to bringing them into our camp officially as soon as possible. Please remember to continue to invite your friends and family and let's get the numbers up!. I'd love to see the Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp be the largest in the state! To this end I'd like for us also to facilitate our local UDC chapters. If you know of any ladies in the UDC who are having trouble with their organizations, please give them a call and invite them to come and join us.

Camp finances are better today than they were in January and that is thanks in part to our gun show performance, but mostly due to your contributions at the camp meeting. \$5.00 doesn't go very far these days, but \$5.00 from everyone at the camp is making a huge difference in our ability to support camp initiatives around our area. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

At our Officers Mess meeting on Monday the 27th we discussed some Camp activities for the whole family. We'd like to have a camp trip to the Birmingham Stallions game, a Barrons game, and I'd like to host a football party this Fall. As always, our camp meetings are open to the wives and kids. Getting the families involved is the best thing that we can do to grow the camp.



Commander's Report



I'm excited about our speaker this month, Calvin Chappelle is a wonderful friend to our camp and to the history of our country, managing the Confederate Memorial Park. He's coming to us this time to speak on the use of the fife and drum in the war. Being the descendant of a Bugler Private Henry Clay Boone of the 818 Alabama Calvary this is a topic that has special interest to me. We do have openings in October and November if anyone has a topic that they'd like to speak on.

GroupME – I can't stress enough how helpful this app has been in organizing the camp. Being able to pass information quickly to the whole group while coordinating events is excellent. I myself narrowly missed showing up an hour early to the Elmwood event but due to a GroupME discussion I was corrected and showed up on time. If you don't have the app, don't know how to use the app, or having any trouble with it, please see me at our camp meeting on the 12th.

Thank you all for your friendship and support of this cause. This group of men clearly shows the character and honor that our forefather's passed down to us.

With love and respect,

Deo Vindice

Spencer Harris

Commander Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372



Chaplain's Report



Reading from Luke 21:24- *They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles is over.*

Luke 21:24 is a prophecy by Jesus, foretelling the scattering of the Jewish people and their loss of Jerusalem which came true in 70 AD when the Roman General Titus destroyed the Temple, burned the city and exiled the Jewish inhabitants. Jesus, in addition to prophets from the Old Testament predicted this, but also that one day the Jewish nation would regain control of Jerusalem.

It is amazing that a culture scattered all over the world over 2,000 years ago today could still retain its identity, customs and religion. And just as astounding....to come back together as a nation in its ancient homeland 2,000 years later! But that is what happened in the mid 20th century with the forming of the modern nation of Israel in 1948. But prophecy regarding control of Jerusalem was not yet fulfilled in 1948 because Jerusalem was still under Arab control just as it had been for most of the last 2,000 years.

Last month I talked about audacity in the way the Israel defeated Syria, Jordan and Egypt in the 1967 Six Day War. On June 7, 1967 Bible prophecy was fulfilled when Israeli forces took control of Jerusalem including the Temple Mount. From June 7, 1967 until this day Israel now controls Jerusalem militarily. It is regarded as the capital of Israel by the Israeli government as well as by the United States and some other countries, just not countries that hate Israel.

Next month I'll talk about some other Bible prophecies that are coming true in our lifetime.....Bible prophecies that didn't make any sense in the 1800's during the American Civil War are making sense now. The Bible may be a very old book, but praise God its relevance is very real in the times we live in and events to come.

Deo Vindice

Tim Whitfield,

Chaplain FJW Camp 1372



Reader's Corner



Recent meetings



Hank Arnold



Leigh Ann Courington



John McGraw



Reader's Corner



Confederate Memorial Day





Reader's Corner



Confederate Memorial Day



Event Schedule:

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