



## Camp Cresset

Finley's Brigade  
Camp #1614  
Havana, Florida



**Recipient – 2011 and 2012 Dr. George R. Tabor "Most Distinguished Camp" Award**

*"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."*

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, UCV Commander General*



### February Camp Meeting

**Finley's Brigade Camp 1614 will hold its monthly Meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the VFW.  
Social time at 6:00 and meeting at 6:45.**



### Lee & Jackson Southern Heritage Event



On the evening of January 29, 2022, the Lee & Jackson Southern Heritage Event was attended by approximately 60 compatriots and their families.

The evening began with a social time devoted to making new friends and renewing old friendships. This time was also used to view the many offerings on the silent auction tables and to enjoy the appetizers. After opening ceremonies, including the invocation and pledges to the flags, the guests enjoyed a delicious buffet. Afterwards, our speaker of the evening, SCV Lt. Commander-In-Chief **Jason Boshers** was introduced.

Jason began his remarks by presenting some of the history of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. He asserted that these were deeply devout, religious men. They were genuinely devoted to the troops entrusted to their care. These were values shared by many of the soldiers fighting to preserve their way of life. This was illustrated by a few examples of individual soldiers, like **Sam Davis**.



Sam was assigned to a unit under the direction of E. Coleman. It was his mission to operate behind enemy lines and report all manner of intelligence including troupe movement. On one of his missions, he was captured by two Federal spies dressed as Confederates. Awaiting interrogation and trial, he was imprisoned with three other Confederate spies, including E. Coleman who was then using another name. Sam was repeatedly questioned about his activities but refused to give any information. The federal commander even offered to give him his horse and papers needed to get back home if he would simply identify E. Coleman. Sam refused even that offer relating that he would die many deaths before he would give up his friends. After the execution, his younger brother came to claim his body and received safe passage home after word of Sam's devotion had been spread though out the area.

Jason used these illustrations to point out that we must uphold the values for which our ancestors gave their last breath. We must keep alive the virtues of our Confederate forebearers, guard their histories and teach our children the principles that once made the south great. He ended his remarks with a fervent prayer: **"May God save Dixie"**!



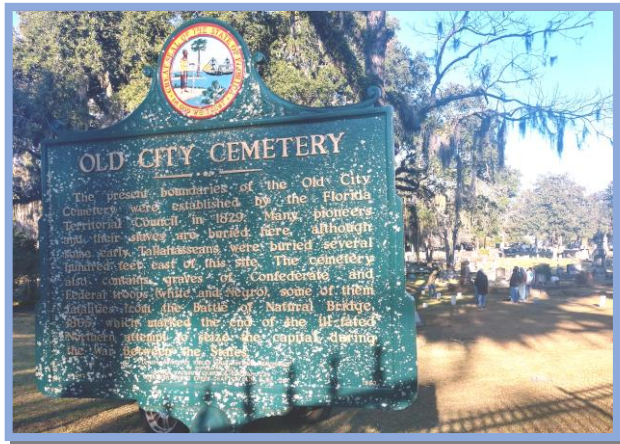
SCV Members with Jason Boshers





## Grave Keepers Report – Remembering Our Ancestors

Cemetery Chairman: Mark Bess



Early on Saturday, January 17, fourteen hardy souls braved the freezing temperatures to show up at the Tallahassee Old City Cemetery. With the work at the Quincy Cemetery nearing completion, the focus has shifted to the Confederate graves at the Old City Cemetery. The records have shown 186 are buried in that section of the grounds although only about 35 stones are present. Our goal, that day, was to identify what stones needed to be cleaned, repaired or replaced.

A marker was placed in the cemetery for **Herman Flint Damon**. He was born on December 28, 1847 in Tallahassee, the fifth of eight children. He and his brother Frank were cadets at the West Florida Seminary and were both present at the Battle of Natural Bridge. In the 1870 census, Herman was listed as a store clerk, probably in his father's furniture store in Tallahassee. He spent some years in Jacksonville but for most of his life he was in Tallahassee. On May 9, 1910, he passed away in his sister's boarding house in the 100 block of Clinton Street, now College Avenue.

Since Herman never officially served in the military, the U.S. Veteran's Administration refused to provide a proper marker for his grave. Felling that he needed to be honored for his Confederate service during the war, Compatriot **Randy Nichols** led the drive to seek the necessary financing. Randy was able to get the necessary funds from the Masons and designed a grave marker similar to the ones provided by the VA but with the added Masonic symbols. The marker was placed in the Old City Cemetery on January 17, 2022.



Finley's is anxiously awaiting the delivery of two more headstones. One for Pigot Cemetery and one for Old City. Three more have been applied for. Hopefully we will soon be very busy setting these markers. The work at Old City never ends. Our goal is to make these grounds the shining star of Old City and give those souls interred there, the honor they deserve. We will be establishing a "**Friends of Old City Confederates**" fund. All monies received will be solely used for the Confederate section. I need some fund-raising ideas. So put on your thinking caps and let's get started.

Please email Compatriot Mark Bess at [saafinleysbrigade@icloud.com](mailto:saafinleysbrigade@icloud.com) with any questions.

## Color Guard

Compatriot Mark Bess

January was a very slow month for the Color Guard. The big event was posting the colors at the Lee/Jackson banquet. Myself, Quartermaster Larry Thomas, and Cpl. Rob Crisler were present. Lt. Commander in Chief Jason Bosher commented that we looked every bit what a Confederate unit would be seen as. Both Quartermaster Thomas and Cpl Crisler did an excellent job. Sergeant at Arms Jason Freeman lead us in the 'Pledge of allegiance and the 'Salute to the confederate Flag. Cpl. Crisler performed the lighting of the candle at the "Generals table." Outstanding job by everyone.

The only issue was.....there were only three of us in uniforms. Finley's Brigade will soon be very busy. Natural Bridge, Woodville Founder's Day, Confederate Memorial Day, and headstone dedications are fast approaching. Please, if anyone has the desire to join, get with me asap so we can get uniforms started. Finley's Brigade is in possession of three Enfield rifles now. My goal is to have at least five more people for the Color Guard. That way we can post all the colors and fire volley salutes.



In the January meeting, Commander Ned Roberts presented **Jim Windsor** with a certificate commemorating his 25 years of service to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Jim joined the camp on January 9, 1997 and has served faithfully since. He has been a member of the Honor Guard for many years.

Congratulations Jim!

The camp's newest member was sworn in at the January meeting. **Matt Mortimer** joins in honor of his ancestors, Private Andrew Jackson Strickland and Private Gillum Blount Strickland with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Florida Cavalry, Company D.

Welcome Matt! We wish you many years of service. Best of luck in all you do.



## Chaplain's Corner

Chaplin Keith Lassiter



As we approach the annual Lee-Jackson banquet this weekend, my thoughts have been on reflection. Reflection is good, and the Word of God admonishes us to do just that. Let us reflect on at least one thing. May I suggest VIRTUE. Again, as we approach our banquet, let us reflect on the virtues possessed by these two men who we are remembering and honoring. What is it about these men that has endeared them to millions over the years? Why would even those who opposed our cause in general or Generals Lee and Jackson in particular have praise for them? In every way—demeanor; speech; attitude; conviction; etc....--they carried themselves as Christians. No one can doubt that they were followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In I Cor. 11:1, the apostle Paul exhorted the Corinthians to, “***Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.***” This was not an arrogant boast by Paul, but rather, as stated, an exhortation. Paul patterned his life after the Lord and was “sold out” to Him in EVERY way. Generals Lee and Jackson both took this exhortation to heart, and their lives bear witness to this fact. In every way, they conducted themselves as Southern gentlemen; courageous and moral leaders; model citizens, and most of all, as exemplary Christians. If we could hear them speak to us today, I have no doubt, they would echo the words of Paul.

*Father, may we live a life that mirrors the lives of two of the most respected men the sovereign State of Virginia--and the United States as a whole today--has ever produced. Help us to follow their examples, as they followed the example of the Lord Jesus.*

Deo Vindice,

Keith Lassiter



## **Tallahassee Veterans Village**

Veterans Chairman: Keith Lassiter

Hello compatriots,

I hope you are all doing well. With the Lee-Jackson Banquet fast approaching, and as I have asked you to please hold your donations until the banquet, as of today (January 27th), I have nothing to report. I did do one thing though; I put the Veterans' Village in touch with a program that Publix has for food donations. I will keep you posted on how that turns out and how long it will last. I encourage all of you to simply ASK. Supermarkets are doing this type of thing, but they have a limited amount to spend; therefore, they need to be asked early in the year.

With that being said, I hope to see you all at the banquet. Let us all be in prayer for our guest speaker and his wife—that God will grant them travelling mercies and health.

Thank you again, Finley's Brigade, for ALL you do! May the Lord richly bless you!

Deo Vindice

Keith Lassiter





## Commander's Guidon

Commander Ned Roberts

My Fellow Compatriots –

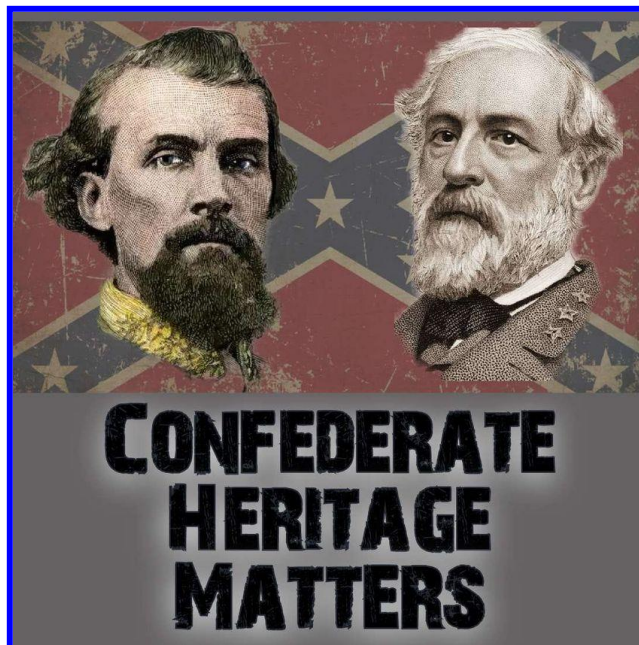
The 30<sup>th</sup> Lee-Jackson Southern Heritage Event was a huge success – due to your work and efforts. I am amazed by all the people who showed up to help set up Saturday morning and all who remained to clean up afterwards. Events like this can only be done when everyone helps out – THANK YOU!

We were truly honored to have Lt Commander in Chief Boshers and his wife, Linda, attend our annual event.

And now, the busy part of our year begins.

- Coming up this weekend, Saturday **Feb 5**, we will be cleaning the memorial at Natural Bridge State Park. We need lots of hands since this is a big monument.
- Then on Saturday, **Feb 26** we will be picking up trash along Natural Bridge Road.
- On Friday, **March 4**, we will be setting up the fly at Natural Bridge.
- We need all hands to turn out for Saturday and Sunday, **March 5 & 6**, to help man our booth at the Reenactment of the Battle at Natural Bridge. Come for one day or come for all – we need your help.
- On Saturday, **March 12**, we will have a booth at Woodville's Founders Day. We need your help on this one as well.
- In March we will start cleaning up cemeteries, which will last throughout the summer.

So, you can see that Finley's Brigade will be very busy. Please come out and help.



## Dates in History of the War – January

**February 4, 1861** – Delegates from Florida meet with other Confederate delegates in Montgomery, AL.  
**February 22, 1862** – Inauguration of President Jefferson Davis in Richmond, VA.  
**February 12, 1863** – The CSS *Florida* captures USS *Jacob Bell* with cargo valued at \$2 million.  
**February 17, 1864** – The submarine, CSS *Hunley*, sinks the USS *Housatonic* off Charleston, SC.  
**February 19, 1865** – Federal expedition to Milton, FL from Fort Barrancas near Pensacola, FL.  
**February 20, 1864** – Battle of Olustee (Ocean Pond) fought in Baker County, Florida.



## Upcoming Heritage Events and Opportunities

**Feb 8<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with meeting at 6:45 PM.  
**Feb 26<sup>th</sup>** - Natural Bridge Road Cleanup at 8:30 AM. Meet at intersection of Natural Bridge Road and Old Plank Road.  
**Mar 4<sup>th</sup>– 6<sup>th</sup>** – Battle of Natural Bridge Reenactment.  
**Mar 8<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with meeting at 6:45 PM.



## Birth Days

Richard Hardison, Feb 7

Joseph Rudd, Feb 10

Richard Witt, Feb 23

