



***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."



Veterans Village

Tallahassee Veterans Village needs our help! The Village needs food! Please bring can-goods to the next meeting. The person who brings the most to the next meeting will receive a new book entitled “The Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Natural Bridge Re-enactment Weekend

Come out and celebrate your heritage with the Camp this weekend. Finley’s will have our Recruiting booth up and will also be selling some Confederate items. Finley’s member Stan Willis will be the Key-note Speaker at the Memorial Service at 1pm on Sunday and Finley’s Color Guard will be posting the Colours. We will have The Florida Confederate Memorial Wall set-up and we will be manning the Natural Bridge Diorama built by Finley’s member Allen Gerrell. AND...Finley’s will be swearing-in members John Bess and Lee Norris at the monument on Sunday. Come on out!



The March meeting of Finley’s Brigade will be dedicated to the honor and memory of General William Miller of Florida troops

THE COLUMBIAN.

LAKE CITY:

Wednesday Morning, M'ch 15, '65.

From the Floridian & Journal.

Battle of the Natural Bridge.

Our city has been in a considerable state of excitement for the past few days. At nine o'clock on Saturday night last, news was received in Tallahassee that the Yankees, 1,400 strong, had landed from their fleet at the St. Marks Light House, and were marching in the direction of Newport; that the Confederate forces in that neighborhood, under the command of Col. G. W. Scott, were gallantly opposing them and checking their advance, and that their object was probably to make a forced march upon Tallahassee and burn and destroy the place, or turn the batteries at St. Marks and take permanent possession and establish themselves there.

The alarm was given and the note of preparation sounded throughout the whole city and county, and was extended to the other counties. The Militia were ordered out and an unanimous and invincible response was made to the call. Every man and boy capable of bearing arms was at his post. Never, since the first commencement of the war, have the people exhibited a greater spirit. One company of cavalry marched nearly sixty miles in twenty-four hours. Others marched on foot thirty and forty miles to overtake their companies who had gone ahead, and in a very short time a sufficient force was on the way to the scene of action to meet any force the enemy had there.

Col. Scott was hardly pressed by the enemy and retired to Newport and burned the bridge there. The enemy finding it impossible to force a passage of the river at that place, marched in the direction of the Natural Bridge.

Reinforcements having arrived, at daylight on Monday morning our forces encountered the enemy at the Natural Bridge, about seven or eight miles above Newport, on the St. Marks river. The action lasted for several hours, when the enemy were completely repulsed and driven back to their gunboats, with a loss of 400, killed, wounded and prisoners.

In the action we lost three killed and twenty-two wounded. Among the killed, we are sorry to mention Capt. H. K. SIMMONS, of the 2nd Fla., Cavalry, a brave and skilful officer. The names of the other killed and wounded will be found in another place.

Gen. SAM'L JONES was early upon the field and has proven himself an able officer. That brave veteran Gen. WM. MILLER in command of the Reserves, took a prominent part in the action and contributed materially to the victory.

We would like to mention the services of several other officers and the various forces that took part in the affair, but we are admonished that it might give useful information to the enemy. Suffice it to say, that we have ample forces to meet any such attack of the enemy; that the men behaved with unflinching and enthusiastic courage; that no distinction could be gained by any one for gallantry, so perfect was the courage and zeal of all.

We have beaten the enemy again in Florida and driven them from our soil, and with the help of God, if it is in the power of man to keep them from ravaging our homes, our men will not permit them to do it.

At the time of our writing the Yankees have re-embarked on their transports a few of which remain in the bay opposite the Light House.

We write under a press of circumstances, and will give a more detailed account of the battle in our next issue.

LIST OF CASUALTIES IN THE FIGHT NEAR NEWPORT, FLA.

KILLED.

Capt. H. R. Simmons, Co. G, 2nd Fla. Cav.
Private John Grubb, Barwick's co Reserves; shot through heart.
Private Eli Triplett, 5th Fla. Battalion, shot through head.

WOUNDED.

Corpl. M. B. Hawkins, Co K, 2nd Fla. Cav., right thigh, severe. (Since dead.)
Sergt. J. T. Thigpen, Co A, do., right leg, severe.
W. W. Felkell, Co E, do., contusion right eye—shell.
James H. Roebuck, Co I, do., right hand, two fingers amputated.
L. D. Smith, Co I, do., left leg, flesh.
N. P. Jelks, Co I, do., fore finger, slight.
O. D. Jones, Co I, do., left hip, severe.
C. Lipscombe, Co I, do., shoulder severe.
Corpl. W. Hewlett, Co I, do., right knee, severe.
Col. J. J. Williams, Militia, groin, painful.
Col. Oscar Hart, Florida Militia, right cheek, flesh.
G. W. Hinson, Co. A, 2nd Fla. Cav., thigh, flesh.
J. T. Putnam, Kilcrease Artillery right leg, flesh.
G. D. Griffin, Milton Artillery, left arm amputated.
W. R. Minton, Abell's Battery, right leg severe—shell.
S. Odum, Co F, Reserves, right groin, slight.
J. W. Simmons, Hodge's Reserves, left arm and side.
J. L. Anderson, Co A, Reserves, right leg, flesh.
J. B. Ellis, Co C, Reserves, left arm and right lung, probably mortal.
H. T. Mash, Co C, 5th Fla. Battalion, right leg, broken by shell.
T. F. Morgan, 1st Fla. Militia, thigh, slight.
Capt. Lee Butler, shot through right arm.
Sergt. Jas. Denham, leg flesh.
— Wyche, wounded.
Total—3 killed, 24 wounded.

INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE

The enemy were commanded by Gen'l Newton.

Two deserters were shot, after trial by court martial, who were captured in Yankee uniforms. One of them was recognized as the man who shot the Adjutant of the 2d Florida Cavalry at the time of his desertion.

Col. J. J. DANIEL had a leg and arm injured by a fall from his horse.

The number of the enemy were variously estimated at from 1,400 to 2,000, four hundred of whom were whites, among them about 100 deserters.

The Kilcrease Artillery, Captain PATRICK HOUSTON, and Dunham's Battery, Capt. DUNHAM, acted in the most gallant style, dealing death and destruction to the invaders, and contributed largely to the result of the battle.

The Cadets from the Florida State Seminary were in the fight, and behaved in the most gallant manner. Their praise is on the lips of all who took part in the fight.

Twenty-four prisoners were brought to this city last Wednesday evening.

CELEBRATE BATTLE OF NATURAL BRIDGE

SECOND MONUMENT IS UNVEILED

Letter is Read from General Partridge Describing the Battle

TALLAHASSEE, March 10—(Special)—The celebration held at Natural Bridge in connection with the fifty-fifth anniversary of the battle at that place in the Civil War, and the accompanying unveiling of monument commemorative of that historic event, were largely attended in spite of the unusual cold for this season of the year.

The veterans and those who desired to attend were transported from Tallahassee to Natural Bridge, sixteen miles by automobiles.

The monuments on the battleground, one on each side of the road leading to the Natural Bridge, have been erected by Comrade J. B. Fletcher of River Junction, with the assistance of Mrs. George W. McKeown of Quincy. The spot where the monuments are erected mark the place where Houston's artillery was stationed on the morning of the fight. The first of these monuments was dedicated on July 4, 1819.

In the program which was carried out, Gen. Newton A. Blich, commander of the Florida division, United Confederate Veterans, presided, and in his preliminary remarks gave an interesting account of his participation in the battle. Among the talks made were those by J. B. Fletcher, Hon. H. Clay Crawford and Hon. William H. Ellis, justice of the supreme court, the latter being the orator of the day, and made one of his usual splendid addresses. At the conclusion of Judge Ellis' talk, Mrs. McKeown was called to the stand and introduced to the audience, after which she gracefully unveiled the monument to the accompanying applause of those assembled.

The program was not further prolonged on account of the extreme cold. It had been expected that addresses would be made by Veteran W. E. McGahagin, commander of Marion County Camp, No. 56, Ocala, and Col. William A. Rawls, adjutant of the division commander of Pensacola, but these gentlemen asked to be excused on account of the weather.

At the conclusion of the program a most bounteous picnic dinner was spread, a particularly pleasing feature of which was a plentiful supply of steaming hot fresh water fish, the gift of Hon. G. W. Rhodes of Woodville.

March 11,
1920
Tampa
Tribune

Twelve Survivors of the Battle Attend

After the dinner all the veterans were requested to stand in line to be counted. There were found to be twenty-two present, twelve of whom were in the battle.

Much credit is due to those in charge of the program on this occasion for the excellent manner in which the exercises were conducted.

It had been expected that Gen. Ben W. Partridge of Monticello, former general commanding the Florida division of the United Confederate Veterans would be present and take a prominent part in the program. Illness, however, prevented.

The following interesting letter from him was read:

Monticello, Fla., March 5, 1920.

"Gen. Newton A. Blich, Com. Fla. Div. U. C. V., Tallahassee, Fla.

"My Dear Friend: Your kind personal letter of Feb. 16, inviting me to be present at the celebration of the 55th anniversary of the Battle of Natural Bridge came into my sick room, where I had been desperately ill since Feb. 2 with the dread enemy, "flu."

"It came at the period when loving sympathy was worth more than gold or jewels and spoke of the thoughts of my comrades dear whose personal touch has been worth so much to me for these long years.

"I am at last up and convalescent, and although most rapidly recuperating, I realize that a battle for patience for returning strength is to be my daily test.

"Much as I most naturally desire to be with you, and all those who attend the celebration of this anniversary, I yield to the inevitable and if I may be allowed brief space on your program, I send an affectionate greeting to my old comrades and a brief statement of some personal incidents—the memory of which makes me acutely interested in this celebration.

"In the year 1865, late in the month of February, I was a member of the 15th Confederate Cavalry—an atom of the Department of the Gulf. Gen. Dabney H. Maury commanded with headquarters at Mobile, Ala. His jurisdiction extended from Milton, Florida, on the east to the Mississippi river south of Port Hudson, La., on the west.

"The regiment to which I belonged, was in Camp West of Mobile. I was granted a leave of absence to visit my home, after an absence of twenty-one months. In company with Major Robert H. Partridge of the 15th Cavalry and my captain, John Ulmer of Co. A., we rode our horses from Mobile to the homes of our loved ones. I found my mother and sisters living temporarily in Leon county—thirteen miles north of Tallahassee.

"The stirring events about Mobile hastened the desire of my Major and Captain to join their commands. The freshet conditions through the usual line from this section of our state were unprecedented and blocked all possibility of our return to our horses until the waters abated. There be some still among us who will recall the Geneva, Alabama, flood and destruction of the little town in a night.

"The result of a council was the leaving of the two officers by railroad train and detailing of the writer with orders to bring on the horses as soon as it was possible to rejoin the regiment.

Continued...

Describes the Battle

"And now I come to the event which after fifty-five years, we celebrate. About midday March 6, 1865, we were startled in our country home by the distant booming of cannon. Our only thought was an attack upon Tallahassee. I saddled my companion of three years' continuous cavalry service, packed my haversack with rations consisting of boiled ham and good pone corn bread and from the Bradfordville neighborhood, followed the road into Tallahassee. There I learned for the first time of the landing from the fleet of the Yankee expedition that threatened so seriously the capital of our state. I reported to Lieutenant Houston who armed me with a rifle and supply of ammunition and directed me to report for duty in the trenches about the city. I have never seen the trenches yet. I learned that a cavalry company from Jefferson county composed of old men and boys, commanded by Gen. William J. Bailey, was encamped on the St. Augustine branch, awaiting orders to march to the front. Orders came about ten p. m. to report at Newport. We marched through the night, reaching Newport about sunrise on the morning of the 7th. After a brief rest to feed our men and horses we received orders to proceed to Shell Point and bivouac on Spring Creek.

"All observations confirmed the belief that the Yankees, badly beaten in battle, routed and sorely disappointed in their high hopes of retrieving their lost fortunes at Olustee, had taken refuge aboard their fleet.

"The memory of the event is well worth while. The expedition was well planned, the surprise feature of it a remarkable success, the mobilizing of the fragments that met the invasion, a military wonder, based upon that desperate courage peculiar to the confederate men and boys of the 60's.

"All honor to those few organized troops who met the invasion at the water line and stormed the tide, awaiting the consolidation of the gathering fragments; all honor to the old men and boys who became veterans in a day; all honor to the corps of cadets from the seminary at

Tallahassee who were quick to form ranks and march to the front. I shall always feel an interest in this corps and its history when I remember that its commander, Captain John Wesley Wethington, was my comrade in Co. H, Third Florida Infantry, that he was desperately wounded at the battle of Perryville, Ky., before he was sixteen years old; that he was discharged on account of his disability and that he showed up in the right place when men were in demand.

"I might close this rambling effort right here—full of the consciousness of its human frailty, its egotism if you please—but fair play is a jewel so let me attempt a sequel to the narrative.

"There be some living—very few—and there be the children and the children's children who at the name of Bellair will rise up and say "God Bless Her." Bellair is four miles south of Tallahassee and eight miles north of Natural Bridge. Before the war it was the home of culture and refinement, the all of social joy of some of the most distinguished families of our state. It was the homes of business and professional men of Tallahassee, that peaceful village center where the planter turned for rest after the weary day on the plantation. There were the homes of Ex-Governor Brown, the Maxwells', the Footmans', the Burroughs', the Chaires', the family of Judge James T. Archer, Judge Douglas, the Screvens', Col. George T. Ward, the Crooms', Randolphs', the Denhams', the Houstons', the Adams', the Duvals', the Parkhills', the Beards' and kindred souls that have demonstrated Florida in every field of worthy achievement.

"The booming of cannon awakened this slumbering village to vigorous consciousness and that spirited action that is the peculiar glory, especially of Dixie's daughters. Under the leadership of Dr. James H. Randolph and the matrons of the village, inspired by the nearby noise of battle, maidens and matrons met at the little railway station and with prayers to God and hope in Him, plied their busy fingers in the work of scraping lint and rolling bandages. And are they less veterans? All honor and God bless the memory of Bellair and these noble people whose lives gave it a name so wonderfully fair, and an unforgettable place in the lives of their children and their children's children.

"As I sit in this chamber and pen these thoughts, I turn to one of these former Bellair girls—one of these Relief Corps Veterans of March 6th, who honors me by bearing my name and has followed me now for forty-seven years always on duty, responsive to the call for service as wife and mother. She should be with you if I could accept your cordial invitation.

"Yours most cordially,
(Signed) "BENJ. W. PARTRIDGE."

C.S.S. Spray

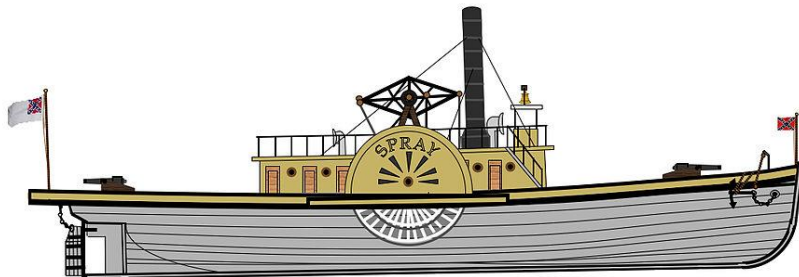
By Compatriot JR Miller

The gunboat C.S.S. Spray was originally designed as a mercantile shipping vehicle. The hull was laid in New Albany, Indiana around 1850 as a side paddle wheel vehicle. She was purchased by Daniel Ladd of Newport, Florida and used to haul general mercantile items. She was also known to haul cotton and tobacco as far west as New Orleans and as far north as Columbus, Georgia and as far south as Cedar Key, Florida. She was also used as a tugboat and her home port was Port Leon.

During the war she was converted into a small gunboat consisting of two to three cannons and operated out of St. Marks Naval Station and Port Leon. She drew a lot of attention from the yankee blockading vehicles in the St. Marks river area.

According to reports there were two major attempts to seize or destroy the Spray as well as to destroy Fort Ward in February 1864, but they failed. There is also reports from the captain of the USS Stars and Stripes in 1863 that he had fired on the Spray but was unsuccessful in stopping her.

In March 1865 there are reports that a crew of 25 Sailors and Marines from the Spray acting as infantry participated in the Battle of Natural Bridge. What happened to the Spray is up to speculation. Some reports say that she was sunk by the confederates sometime after Natural Bridge, other reports from the Ladd family said she survived the war and was used for several years after the war. Of interest to note there are two known muster rolls for the C.S.S. Spray which is rare thing since Confederate Navy muster roll records are so incomplete.



B&T SMALL ENGINES

Sales & Service

1100 N. Monroe Street ■ Tallahassee, FL 32303

(850)222-5067

Scag Commercial Mowers • Echo • Briggs & Stratton
Lawn Boy • Snapper • Shindaiwa • Ariens



Woodville 850-421-5295
Crawfordville 850-926-5559
Monticello 850-997-2519

Gulf Coast Lumber & Supply

Full Service Lumber & Building Materials
Windows, Doors, Pole Barns, ETC.

9141 Woodville Hwy. • P.O. Box 597 • Woodville, FL 32362
1400 S. Jefferson St. • Monticello, FL 32344
3361 Crawfordville Hwy. • Crawfordville, FL 32327
email: gulfcoastlumber@hotmail.com

Hamp Stoutamire

Estimator

(850)528-1174

hamp@jenkinsroofinginc.com

O: (850) 514-2225

F: (850) 514-2278

GA: (229) 563-1823

5347 Gateway Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32303

62 Old Leary Rd.
Leary, GA 39862



DOUG CROLEY | SINCE 1978
INSURANCE SERVICES

Phone: (850) 386-1922

Fax: (850) 385-1685

Douglas M. Croley, CPCU
President/General Agent
DougCroley@DougCroleyIns.com

2814 Remington Green Circle
Tallahassee, FL 32308

www.DougCroleyIns.com



Feed, Seed
Hardware
Garden Supplies
Plants
Animal Health Products

Stan Gramling

1010 S. Adams St.

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 222-4812

Kenny Small



MACHINE SHOP & POWDER COATING

Since 1942 • 1220 Lake Bradford Road • Mon.-Fri. 8-4:30 pm

ksmall@tallawelding.com
www.tallahassee welding.com

Phone: 850-576-9596 • Fax: 850-576-1100
P.O. Box 2472, Tallahassee, FL 32316



Residential • Commercial
Licensed & Insured CMC1250096

Giddens

Air Conditioning, Inc.

Ben Giddens
Owner

Office **850.562.0300**
Cell **850.570.9436**
Fax **850.514.3030**

3365 North Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32303 giddensac@comcast.net



DOOR PRODUCTS LLC

Contract Hollow Metal & Builders' Specialities

P.O. Box 20004 • Tallahassee, FL 32316-0004
3704 Crawfordville Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32305

E Mail Address: doorproducts1@gmail.com

Jerome Cox

Phone
(850) 681-0849

Fax
(850) 222-2951



**125th Annual National Reunion of the Sons
of Confederate Veterans
2020 Reunion Held in Florida**

**Ancestor Memorial (Recognition in the 2020
Reunion Program)
\$10.00 each
Your name and your ancestor's name and
unit will be printed in the National
Memorial section of the 2020 SCV Reunion
Program**

Your Name: _____

1. Ancestor's Name: _____ **Rank:** _____

Ancestor's Unit: _____

\$10.00 each

2. Ancestor's Name: _____ **Rank:** _____

Ancestor's Unit: _____

Ancestors Registration Quantity _____ **x \$10.00 = \$** _____

Make Check payable to Kirby-Smith Camp #1209 2020 Reunion

Mail to Calvin Hart, 4884 Victoria Chase Ct Jacksonville, FL 32257



The 49th Annual Florida Division Reunion

Ocala, Florida – June 7-9, 2019



Motel Reservations

This year's Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn &



Conference Center located on the west side of I-75 & S.R. 200 in Ocala. The address is 3600 SW 38th Ave., Ocala, Florida 34474

For reservations call 352 629-9500 or 877 622-5211 by May

20th and please reference the SCV Convention for special convention room rates of \$95.00 per night for double occupancy.

The 49th Annual Florida Division Reunion
Ocala, Florida - June 7-9, 2019



Ancestor Memorial for the 2019 Division Program

*Ancestor memorials are \$5.00 for the 2019 Florida Division Reunion program. Please complete the memorial information below and forward this form along with your check to S.W. Region Lt. Commander David King
11206 Partridge Dr. Tampa Fl. 33625-4971*

Your Name:

Ancestors Relation:

Ancestors Name:

Ancestors Rank:

Ancestors Company & Regiment:

Ancestors Branch of Service:

Qty: _____ X \$5.00 = Total: _____

Deadline for memorials is May 20, 2019. Please make checks payable to the SCV Florida Division Inc.

The 49thth Annual Florida Division Reunion
Ocala, Florida - June 7-9, 2019



Reunion REGISTRATION FORM

Quantity Total

Registration Fee: *Members Only*

If Postmarked by May 20th _____ X \$35.00 \$ _____

After May 20th _____ X \$45.00 \$ _____

Luncheon on your own

Awards Banquet: note chicken or pork _____ X \$38.00 \$ _____

The banquet meal includes – Herb Crusted Chicken or Sliced Pork Loin with salad, mixed vegetables, roasted potatoes, rolls and butter, dessert, tea and coffee.

Total Remitted: \$ _____

NOTE: We will not be able to take meal reservations received after May 20h
Special Note: Friday night Social Under the Oaks a \$5 donation at the event is
appreciated but not required.

Please do not park on the north side of the Oaks area- New hotel’s lot.

NAME: _____

Guest: _____

ADDRESS: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Phone: _____

CAMP NAME & NUMBER:

Please Mail Registration Form & Check to:

SW Region Lt. Commander David King 11206 Partridge Dr. Tampa FL. 33625-4971
Please Make Checks Payable To: SCV Florida Division Inc

Heritage Opportunities

March 1-3 – Battle of Natural Bridge – Finley's will have our Recruitment/Information display

March 12 – Regular Camp Meeting at VFW

April 6 – Soldier's Cemetery Confederate Memorial Day Service 3pm Quincy, FL

April 9 – Regular Camp Meeting at VFW

April 19 – Hunley Award presentation Holmes County High School

April 21 – Confederate Memorial Day Service at Tallahassee Old City Cemetery 3pm

May 14 – Regular Camp Meeting at VFW

Jun 7-9 – SCV Florida Division Reunion in Ocala, Florida

Jun 11 – Regular Camp Meeting at VFW

July 9 – Regular Camp Meeting at VFW

July 10-13 SCV National Reunion in Mobile, AL

Nov 10 – Annual Captain Henry Wirz Memorial Service, Andersonville, GA 3 PM

For times, locations, and details for the following events please contact Commander Crocker at commander@finleysbrigadescv.com or 850-339-3051.

Confederate Generals Sam Jones and William Miller

