



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



April Camp Meeting

**Finley's Brigade Camp 1614 will hold its monthly meeting on April 12th at the VFW.
Social time at 6:00 and meeting at 6:45.**

WATCH US GROW!



The Natural Bridge Reenactment weekend and the Confederate Monument provided the ideal venue and background for swearing in two new members.

Thomas Jackson White, seen here on the right, was inducted into Finley's Brigade, Camp 1614.

Jason Freeman, seen at left, was inducted into the SCV Mechanized Calvary, 3rd Battalion, Company D.

Congratulations and welcome to each of you.



Commander's Guidon

Commander Ned Roberts



My Fellow Compatriots –

April is CONFEDERATE HISTORY MONTH, and on **Saturday, April 23** the Camp will be holding its annual Confederate Memorial Day Remembrance at Soldiers Cemetery in Quincy. The Memorial Service will start at 11:00 AM.

Soldiers Cemetery is a major project and endeavor for Finley's Brigade, we have spent a lot of hours, blood, sweat and tears over the years fixing up the cemetery.

We need all Camp members to attend this event. Food will be served after the Remembrance and Re-Dedication.

The Anna Jackson UDC Chapter will be holding its Confederate Memorial Service on the following day, **Sunday, April 24** at the Old City Cemetery in Tallahassee. Again, I am requesting that all Camp members attend so we can show Tallahassee some Confederate Pride. Service starts at 3:00 PM.

Adjutant Richard Roberts, Kirby-Smith SCV Camp 1209 located in Jacksonville Florida, will be opening a second Facebook page for the Florida Division of the SCV. The current page will continue to be a recruiting tool but this new one will be strictly for SCV members in good standing. Here we may share plans and activities of interest to division members but not necessarily to the general public. This will provide a venue for members throughout the division to see what other camps are doing so they can join in or duplicate the event.

If you care to view or join, go to *Florida Division SCV Members*. There you will be asked to provide the name of your camp and your SCV number.

April is a good time to rededicate ourselves to The Charge given to us by Lt General Stephen Dill Lee. *Always remember that to your strength will be given the defense of their name and guardianship of their history.*

We can make a difference if we emulate our beloved ancestor's virtues.



Grave Keepers Report – Remembering Our Ancestors

Cemetery Chairman: Mark Bess



March 20th was a day long awaited. It started out cold and rainy with the threat of strong thunderstorms. An intrepid band of adventurers that included Florida Division Commander Kelly Crocker, Commander Ned Roberts, 1st Lt. Commander Mark R. Bess, 2nd Lt. Commander John Bess, Historian Stan Willis, and compatriot Mark Rominger, met at Old City Cemetery and installed the headstones for five unmarked Confederate Veterans.

Commander Crocker has been scouring records for years in search of these lost souls. He spent countless hours poring over dusty books, staring at computer screens, and doing lots of genealogical sleuthing. Armed with his information, the V.A. applications were submitted for, approved, and shipped. We were finally in possession of the headstones! The soldiers honored were **Robert Berry Gorman, Thomas Young Maxwell, Alexander Bull, Richard A. Shine, and Major Glover A. Ball.**

Each of these men were loyal Confederate soldiers and had a major impact on Tallahassee history.

Robert Gorman was a Tallahassee Mayor and Postmaster. Alexander Bull was one of the ‘Immortal 600.’ Richard A. Shine was a prominent businessman and engineer. Major Glover A. Ball was a field grade Confederate officer, and Thomas Maxwell was a “Florida Territory” pioneer.

At future camp meetings we will dedicate the meeting to one of them and relate their story. So, if you want to know more about them.....you have to come to a meeting!!!!



As Commander Crocker is fond of reminding us, in fifty years, no one will remember who did this research or got these stones, but they will know that they were Confederate Soldiers and that they lie here in peace.

I encourage every camp member to apply for at least one headstone. It is very satisfying, to say the least. Every time I get a stone approved, I hope one day to meet that Confederate in heaven and shake his hand! It was indeed an honor to identify the final resting place for these men.



Please email Compatriot Mark Bess at saafinleysbrigade@icloud.com with any questions.



Color Guard

Compatriot Mark Bess



March has been a very busy and productive month. The Color Guard once again demonstrated their superpowers in support of the Anna Jackson Chapter of the UDC, at their memorial during the Battle of Natural Bridge weekend. There were periods of strong wind gusts during the event and there was serious concern that Mother Nature might embarrass us by toppling the colors if we used the usual in-ground stanchions. The UDC made us aware of their concerns, so, we made the decision to post the colors in mobile stanchions at each corner of the monument, and each guard member would hold the colors for the entirety of the memorial.



This scenario has not been performed before, at least not that anyone I spoke to could recall. The positive reviews we got afterwards were many.

Finley's Color Guard outdid themselves once again, and demonstrated that if you want it done right, Finley's Brigade will make it happen. I am very proud of the Color Guard members present that day. **Cpl. Jim Windsor, Cpl. Rob Crisler, Quartermaster Larry Thomas**, you are heroes in my book.

Our next Color Guard event will be April 23rd at Soldiers Cemetery and April 24th, at Old City in support of the Anna Jackson UDC ladies. As always, we need new Color Guard members. Please consider joining our unit. Contact me for details.



Chaplain's Corner

March 24, 2022



Much has been said lately about Russian President Vladimir Putin and his dictatorial leadership style, not only regarding events in Ukraine, but also in Russia. Putin is KGB. Everyone knows that his desire is to restore the old Soviet Union. Every US president since 2012 (when Putin became Russia's leader) has been keenly aware of this fact. He has blatantly targeted and "murdered" civilians in Ukraine and imprisoned—or worse—his own people (who oppose him) in Russia. There is an obvious disregard for any semblance of law or morality in his Machiavellian mindset. No one dares oppose him; he has all the power of the government at his disposal. All that matters to him is the restoration of the USSR.

Surely, I cannot be the only one who recognizes the distinct parallel between Russia's Vladimir Putin and America's Putin—Abraham Lincoln. It is so obvious and cannot—and MUST NOT be missed! Lincoln was a tyrant in every sense of the word. He set out to dismantle the Constitution—article by article and clause by clause. His sole object (as he stated [laughable, were it not nauseating]) was to “save the Union.” Lincoln imprisoned or banished people in the North who disagreed or dare to speak against him or his policies. Lincoln targeted and murdered multiple thousands of civilians in the South, labeling them as enemies and traitors. Wait a minute! Didn't he say that this was one and not two separate countries? If that was the case (and it wasn't), that would mean Lincoln was killing his own people, and civilians at that! Oh, the hypocrisy! How Machiavellian! All this for the purpose of “saving the Union.” I find it inexplicable that this is not on every television and radio station. Why hasn't it been taught in every school? How can anyone castigate Putin yet glorify Lincoln? How can anyone say they love the Constitution and hold up Lincoln as a champion of representative government and civil liberties?

The Bible tells us that we should beware when men call evil good and good evil. Gentlemen, that is the world in which we live. It is no wonder that politicians say and do despicable things, and the major media outlets are complicit. There is no wonder that revisionist history has been taught in our government schools for years upon years. Sadly, even our secular and Christian schools embrace the heretical doctrine of what is referred to as “established truth.” The ungodly song *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* is played every Sunday in Christian churches across the United States. What a travesty! One only need research the origins of the song or its writer to ascertain the intended meaning. It too, just like the “established truth” in our history books, is embraced as wholly American and oh so patriotic. Compromisers have watered down the truth of the gospel; accepted immorality as just an “alternative lifestyle”; established works in place of faith; placed pedophiles in pulpits; and replaced the preaching of the Word of God with dramas and something called “interpretive dance.” In place of repentance and faith, recipes and full bellies are the norm today.

With the indoctrination completed, is there any wonder why a nation of sheep follow the shepherd (politician; school board/superintendent; preacher) straight to the slaughterhouse? The “dumbing down” of the populous through politics, communication; education; and even religion has led us to this point. Anyone who dares to call this EVIL (which it is) is labeled a troublemaker, conspiracy nut, or worse. Anyone who dares to speak the truth is today a purveyor of hate, a racist, or some other hurtful term. Gentlemen, **We** are the holdouts. **We** are the modern-day Jose Wales of this country. **We** are the ones who love our country (not the government). **We** are the ones who still believe the truth. **We** are the ones who are trying to teach this truth to others. May God help America if **We** fail!

I want to say something here, and I trust you all will be in agreeance with me on this matter. I am so very proud to be a Southerner and a descendent of a Confederate soldier. I am so very honored to be a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and in particular, a member of Finley's Brigade Camp 1614. I am so very humbled to serve all of you as the chaplain of our camp. Even more than this though, I so very grateful that on Tuesday, September 5, 1989, God reached way down, heard my prayer, and welcomed me into His family. More than anything else, I am happy to be a Christian first. As a Christian, I could not be part of this wonderful organization called the SCV if I did not believe that it is Christian based, just as the Confederacy was. The Confederacy was dedicated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the Constitution. The perversion of the Holy Bible and the Constitution in the North could no longer be tolerated, and the South left—legally—constitutionally. When Lincoln commenced hostilities, the South was defending more than just its homeland. The South was standing on the righteousness of the Word of God and the best form of government any nation

has ever known—the Constitution (as it was in 1861). Let us pledge ourselves to this same proposition. Let us commit ourselves—more than ever—to teaching the truth to all who will hear.

Deo Vindice

Keith Lassiter

Thought for this month: God never told the lost man to go to church, but He commanded the church to go to the lost man.



Tallahassee Veterans Village

Veterans Chairman: Keith Lassiter

March 25, 2022

Gentlemen,

I hope y'all are enjoying the cool mornings and evenings and the warm, sunny afternoons. As of today's date, we have not collected anything for Veterans' Village. There are still six days of March remaining though. I talked with "Gunny" here at Leon High School yesterday. He said that the MCJROTC would probably be donating a lot of boots again very soon. Hopefully it will be before the end of this month.

I want to remind everybody of a couple of things: First is our next monthly meeting on April 12th. Please bring \$10 worth of food or \$10 cash. This is and has been my monthly challenge to the camp. We average between 20-25 at our meetings. That would mean \$200-\$250 per month to the veterans who live at the Veterans' Village. It would go a long way. Please come prepared to help these men and women who served our country.

Second is our tentative BBQ at the Veterans' Village the last weekend in June. I am sure Commander Roberts will have more information about it at April's meeting, as well as the meetings in May and June. If you can help us set up and feed these folks, it would be a tremendous help. Many hands make light work. Last year's BBQ was a HUGE success. Three military organizations put in all the money for the food (thanks to the efforts of Finley's own Compatriot Randy Nichols), and there was SO many uncooked hamburgers and hotdogs left over! Of course, they were all donated to the Veterans' Village. Commander Roberts did the cooking for the event and did a great job as usual. On a sad note, it was the last event I was able to take part in with our friend and compatriot, Chaplain John Howell. I say this to leave you with something to think about this month: Will this be my last opportunity to see my friend? Will this be my own last event to attend, and if so, who will I talk with, and what might I say to them that will leave them with a precious memory?

Deo Vindice

Keith Lassiter



Dates in History of the War - April

- April 12-13, 1861** – Ft. Sumter, SC, fired upon and surrenders to Confederate officials.
April 6, 1862 – Battle of Shiloh, TN.
April 17, 1863 – Union Cavalry raids into MS known as Grierson's Raid and leads to famous John Wayne movie called Horse Soldiers.
April 12, 1864 – Confederates led by General N.B. Forrest capture Ft. Pillow, TN.
April 2,, 1865 – Federal troops capture Selma, AL.
April 9, 1865 – General Lee surrenders the Army of Northern Virginia to General Grant at Appomattox Courthouse in VA.
April 12, 1865 – Federal troops capture Mobile, AL.
April 14-15, 1865 – President Lincoln is assassinated by John Wilkes Booth. VP Andrew Johnson of TN is sworn in as President.



Upcoming Heritage Events and Opportunities

- Apr 12th**- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with meeting at 6:45 PM.
May 10th- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with meeting at 6:45 PM.
Jun 14th- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with meeting at 6:45 PM.
Jul 12th- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 with meeting at 6:45 PM.
Jul 19-23 -SCV 127th National Annual Reunion – Cartersville, Georgia



Birth Days

Reggie Roddenberry – Apr 3

John W. Bess – Apr 8

Marshall Carroll -Apr 13





GEORGIA 2022



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS 127th National Annual Reunion



The Atlanta Campaign Battlefield Tour Reunion July 19 to 23, 2022

Clarence Brown Conference Center
Cartersville, Georgia

Hosted by: William J. Hardee Camp #1397
and Kennesaw Battlefield Camp #700

THREE DAYS OF BATTLEFIELD TOURS FOLLOWING THE 1864 ATLANTA CAMPAIGN WITH SOME OF THE MOST INTACT TRENCHES AND FORTIFICATIONS IN THE COUNTRY. FOURTH DAY CLIMAX SEE THE 1886 CYCLORAMA THE BATTLE OF ATLANTA.

July 20, Battlefield Tour of Chickamauga.



July 21, Battlefield Tour of Ringgold Gap, Resaca & Dalton.



July 22, Battlefield Tour of Kennesaw Mountain & Cheatham Hill.



July 23, Personal Tour of the 1886 Cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta.

