



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



May Camp Meeting

**Finley's Brigade Camp 1614 will hold its monthly meeting on May 10th at the VFW.
Social time at 6:00 and meeting at 6:45.**



A Rededication of Gadsden County's Confederate Soldiers Memorial

On April 23, 2022, members of Finley's Brigade, camp 1614, met at Soldiers Cemetery in Quincy Florida for a rededication of the Confederate Soldiers Memorial. After standing on the Gadsden County Courthouse square for 138 years, the monument – *"sacred to the memory of the Confederate Soldiers from Gadsden County who gave their lives in the defense of their country"* – was removed. Thanks to the efforts of many local citizens and camp members, this silent sentinel now stands vigil over the graves of many fallen Confederate Soldiers.

At the conclusion of the opening ceremonies, including reading the names of those here interred, the rededication was offered by **Compatriot Douglas M. Croley**. Doug is a sixth generation Gadsden County native, a Tallahassee businessman and active in local politics for many years.

His remarks centered upon the person of **Rhoda Elizabeth Waller** who, almost single handedly, procured the funds for erection of the Memorial. Rhonda married William E. Kilcrease, a local planter. When she was widowed in 1860 at age 21, she and her 2-year-old son, Albert, moved into Quincy. (Her son would change his surname and later became **Albert Waller Gilchrist**, Governor of Florida.)



While living in Quincy, she met and fell in love with a young officer, Lt. Colonel James Barrow. Tragically, James was shot through the heart in the battle of Olustee (Florida) along with one of Rhoda's brothers. It may be honestly said that erecting this Memorial was truly a labor of love for Rhoda and a salve to her broken heart after losing her beloved soldier and 5 of her 7 brothers.

The Monument's messages are best expressed in Doug's own words, as follows:

The upright column is representative of life while the draped shroud covering the column signifies death. On the top north face of the Memorial, we see reversed, down turned, and sheathed crossed sabers along with the letters C. S. A. The sabers position signify the former Confederate States of America are now at peace. Below the sabers we see the carved image representative of a Confederate soldier with the Latin words "esto perpetua" meaning "let it be perpetual" inscribed above him. Note how the soldier is down cast and holds an inverted rifle musket in his left hand - a traditional symbol of surrender among 4 infantry - while his right-hand fingers are held inside his coat - an ancient symbol of respect towards others dating back to the ancient Greeks. Behind the soldier figure are dismounted cannons, drooped battle flags and a war drum on the ground - each item reenforcing that the fighting has ended. Below the soldier are the words "Our Fallen Heroes" which simply give honor to the fallen dead. The northside location of these images and text are typical of all Confederate Memorials and Monuments as was the orientation of the structures to commonly be placed facing North - just as such Union structures were typically oriented facing South. On the eastside of the Memorial, we see an image of the Florida Eagle Button. Eagle buttons were used on officer uniforms by some Florida units during the War. The image depicts a Southern bald eagle holding four (4) arrows in its dexter (right) talon and an olive branch in its sinister (left) talon. The eagle's head is turned towards its dexter indicating war. The four (4) arrows in its talon are said to

represent infantry, cavalry, artillery and naval forces. Above the eagle are thirteen (13) stars said to represent the eleven (11) Confederate States along with the two (2) additional border states of Kentucky and Missouri - both of which were occupied by federal authorities before secession. The eagle hovers above a bed of cactus signifying "it has no opportunity for rest." Turning now to the westside of the Memorial we find a right horned crescent moon and a five (5) point star surrounded by a wreath of rosemary. Rosemary is a traditional symbol of remembrance. Now commonly associated with Islam, the five (5) point star and crescent moon predate such usage. In earlier days, the five-point star was said to have been a Roman symbol of birth while the right pointed crescent moon symbolized a waning moon or the decline of life. ... The south face of the Memorial states the purpose of the Memorial and gives credit to those who erected it. It also contains the noted words of Theodore O'Hara, "On Fame's eternal camping ground their silent tents are spread, and Glory guards with solemn round the bivouac of the 5 dead." O'Hara, who served both in the Mexican - American War and later as Confederate officer during the War Between the States, is the author of the famous poem "Bivouac of the Dead" from which the words were taken. O'Hara's stanza captures not only the respect he had extended his fallen comrades at the Battle of Buena Vista in 1847, but his words give honor to those Confederate soldiers from Gadsden County, Florida who had died in the defense of their Country.

In conclusion, Doug relates that, "conservation of this Confederate Memorial and its rededication today takes place not in defiance of the present, but in honor and respect to the past. The sacrifice of those who erected this Memorial and, more importantly, those for whom it was erected, remain as past reflections of us. While certain present-day forces will continue to redefine our regional history and attempt to destroy our heritage, we must retain our values and traditions if we are to survive as free Americans. As the ravages of time and weather and, perhaps even the hand-of-man, wear away and destroy the stone of this Memorial, **let the honor and respect for those fallen heroes it represents - indeed be perpetual!**"

Note: While Doug's notes were extensively used for this article, his full remarks were not included. A full copy is available from the editor.



Commander's Guidon

Commander Ned Roberts



My Fellow Compatriots –

I appreciate all the Camp members who helped with setup and cleanup at the Memorial Service at Soldiers Cemetery. We had about 45 faithful Southerners show up for a beautiful service. Compatriot Stan Willis had a great dedication to Private John W. N. Boss; and Compatriot Doug Croley gave an insightful history lesson in the Rededication of the Confederate Monument. As usual, the Color Guard looked like a well-oiled machine. And boy, the Corporal can play Taps! Thanks to all – and a big thanks to my wife Rose Ann and daughter Torey for serving the food.

There is a lot to be done and we need a lot more people helping out. Therefore, I am calling for an organizational meeting to determine if we have enough support to create a local chapter of the **Order of Confederate Rose** (need 5 active members). Years

ago, the Mary Ann Harvey Black Chapter #5 was affiliated with Finley's Brigade, but it became inactive over time. The time has come for us to bring it back to life! I will be holding a meeting **May 12, 6 PM, at Faith Lutheran Church**, 2901 Kerry Forest Pkwy. This organization is open to women and men. This group can be a great asset and is something we very much need at Finley's.

Lastly, **Veterans Village Cookout** is scheduled for **June 25th**. We need a lot of people helping with this. This is a fun and fulfilling event so please mark this date on your calendar.

I hope to see you at the May Camp Meeting!

The Order of Confederate Rose (OCR) is an independent support group to the Sons of the Confederate Veterans (SCV). The OCR was founded in Alabama in 1993 and has quickly spread to other surrounding states. The Society in Florida was chartered in February of 2002. We are a nonprofit, nonracial, nonpolitical, and nonsectarian group.



We assist the SCV with their historical, educational, benevolent, and social functions. Special emphasis is placed on the preservation of Confederate symbols. It is our aim to ensure that our southern heritage and culture is deeply rooted in the hearts and minds of our future generations.



Grave Keepers Report – Remembering Our Ancestors

Cemetery Chairman: Mark Bess



The work is never done! **Compatriot Pat Adams** is working diligently in caring for Salem Cemetery. The Jason Gregory Cemetery rehab is moving forward, and the search for unmarked heroes chugs along. I will be submitting headstone applications for two more such Confederates (Captain Peres Bonney Brokaw and Dr. Peter Perkins Lewis). Cresset Editor Gerald Bell's application for Charles F. Sellier was approved and should be arriving soon. Great work Gerald.

In my recent email to the membership, I reported that the flagpole in Havana has suffered some damage in the form of metal fatigue consisting of cracks in the metal. These cracks were being monitored and have increased in size. As a precautionary measure, the flag was recovered while we research repair options. So, if you go by the site, and don't see a flag, do not be alarmed!

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



Color Guard

Compatriot Mark Bess

Finley's Brigade Color Guard once again demonstrated why they are the best. On April 23rd the Color Guard posted colors at the memorial dedication in Soldiers Cemetery in Quincy. **Compatriot Gerald Bell** tolled the bell as the honor roll of names was read by **Sergeant at Arms Jason Freeman**. **Compatriot Doug Croley** gave a highly informative history of the re-located Quincy monument, and **Corporal Rob Crisler** closed the ceremony with TAPS. We then enjoyed a wonderful Bar-B-Q meal prepared by our own **Commander Ned Roberts**.



On April 24th, the Color Guard was honored with assisting The Anna Jackson Chapter, of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, with their Confederate Memorial Day celebration in Old City Cemetery. **Florida Division Commander Kelly Crocker** was the key-note speaker.

It is always an honor and a privilege to support the ladies.

As always, we continue to seek new members for the Color Guard.



Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Keith Lassiter

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Psalms 91:1

Webster's Dictionary defines the word *dwelt* as "to live or stay as a permanent resident (reside)"; and "to live or continue in a given condition or state".

It also defines the word *abide* as "to remain; continue (stay)"; and "to have one's abode (reside)"; but also "to endure, sustain, or withstand without yielding or submitting"; and "to wait for (await)".

Now, let's reread the above verse with these meanings in mind. Let this sink in for a while. Meditate on this. "Chew on it" a while, as an old cow lies in the shade on a warm day chewing her cud.

In college, I read a book entitled Hudson Taylor's *Spiritual Secret*. In it, he discusses the years of striving in China without any converts to Christ. He recounts the agony of burying a wife and children in that foreign land that he longed to win to the Lord Jesus. All his work; all his efforts; all his financial difficulties; all the political difficulties... but where was his spiritual secret found? It was there all along. Below are a few copied and pasted paragraphs from one except from this marvelous book.

It was resting in Jesus now and letting Him do the work—which makes all the difference. Whenever he spoke in meetings after that, a new power seemed to flow from him, and in the practical things of life a new peace possessed him. Troubles did not worry him as before. He cast everything on God in a new way and gave more time to prayer.

It was the exchanged life that had come to him—the life that is indeed "No longer I." . . . It was a blessed reality "Christ liveth in me." And how great the difference! —instead of bondage, liberty; instead of failure, quiet victories within; instead of fear and weakness, a restful sense of sufficiency in Another.

"But how to get faith strengthened? Not by striving after faith, but by resting on the Faithful One." As I read, I saw it all! "If we believe not, he abideth faithful." I looked to Jesus and saw (and when I saw, oh, how joy flowed)! That He had said, "I will never leave thee."

"Ah, there is rest!" I thought. "I have striven in vain to rest in Him. I'll strive no more. For has not He promised to abide with me—never to leave me, never to fail me?" And . . . He never will.

The sweetest part, . . . is the rest which full identification with Christ brings. I am no longer anxious about anything, as I realize this; for He, I know, is able to carry out His will, and His will is mine. It makes no matter where He places me, or how. That is rather for Him to consider than for me; for in the easiest position, He must give me His grace, and in the most difficult His grace is sufficient . . . So, if God should place me in serious perplexity, must He not give me much guidance; in positions of great difficulty, much grace; in circumstances of great pressure and trials, much strength? No fear that His resources will prove unequal to the emergency! And His resources are mine, for He is mine, and is with me and dwells in me.

And since Christ has thus dwelt in my heart by faith, how happy I have been! . . . I am no better

than before. In a sense, I do not wish to be, nor am I striving to be. But I am dead and buried with Christ—ay and risen too! And now Christ lives in me, and "the life that I now live in the flesh, I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

*And it is all so simple and practical!
"But are you always conscious of this abiding in Christ?" Mr. Taylor was asked many years later. "While sleeping last night," he replied, "did I cease to abide in your home because I was unconscious of the fact? We should never be conscious of not abiding in Christ."*

*"I change, He changes not.
The Christ can never die:
His truth, not mine, the resting place.
His love, not mine, the tie."*

I love his last quote and the third line of the poem (both just above this). So, how does all this fit into us today? In what ways will it help us in today's world? I read a book by **Charles Stanley** years ago. Charles Stanley was wrestling with the question: Am I really saved? Can I lose my salvation? After much prayer and studying, he came to the conclusion that salvation is not something that can be lost. He discovered that one is born into the family of God and cannot be unborn. He also rationalized that if he could lose his salvation, he would be always

wondering and therefore ineffective for the cause of Christ. After all, how can one tell others that they need something (Someone), if one doesn't know for sure that they possess it (Him)? The Bible says it like this: "A doubleminded man is unstable in all his ways." Once a person is convinced in the truth and the righteousness of a cause, that person can move forward and make an impact on others. In the same vein, if one is not 100% convinced in the truth and righteousness of the cause for Southern Independence, how can that person convince others of the justness in that cause? I will answer that for you—they cannot! Gentlemen, it is imperative that we study! Study the Constitution. Study the Declaration of Independence. Compare those with the Ordinances of Secession from the several States. The Bible says to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God," and we should also "study to shew thyself" INFORMED in matters pertaining to our government. Without FACTS, we are only demagogues like pundits on the 6:00 news, or as the Apostle Paul put it, "as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." We do not have to manufacture reasons or manipulate facts to support our position, as I mentioned at the Lee-Jackson Banquet. No! We followed the truth; we followed the facts; we followed right, and we CAME to our conclusion! "The South Was Right", as the Kennedy brothers' book is entitled. While at this point, I highly recommend reading this book. It will certainly open your eyes regarding the Constitution.

So, let me try now to tie all this together. I have been circling the field; now, I'll try to find a place to sit her down. Hudson Taylor learned to trust in and rely upon the Lord to empower him to do the work and leave the results up to Him. He quit worrying about the results and grieving over them. His work was no longer laborious, his results no longer sad. He was relying on the Reliable One. As one who works in the cause of Christ, one who works in the cause of educating the populous on the justness of the cause of Southern secession needs to study (do one's due diligence), tell people the truth then, leave the results up to God. Rest in Him to get through to people. I have worried myself sick trying to get through to some people then, I was upset over the results. Let me say this. WE have always been in the minority. More than likely, we always will be. Remember though, God used Gideon and 300 men to defeat the Midianite army. God doesn't need numbers to fight. As a matter of fact, He prefers to NOT use large numbers or might. He wants us to know it is HIS doing and not ours. We are in good company being in the minority. Rest in this fact, my compatriots, but more than that, rest in Him!

Webster's Dictionary defines the word *dwell* as "to live or stay as a permanent resident (reside)"; and "to live or continue in a given condition or state". It also defines the word *abide* as "to remain; continue (stay)"; and "to have one's abode (reside)"; but also "to endure, sustain, or withstand without yielding or submitting"; and "to wait for (await)".



Tallahassee Veterans Village

Veterans Chairman: Chaplain Keith Lassiter
Compatriot Reggie Roddenberry



April was a good month for collections for the Veterans' Village. I would like to thank all who donated—you know who you are! Special thanks to **Don and Kathi Turner**, who are always busy in this enterprise, but who also check on the needs of the camp for me. **Eddie**, the maintenance man is requesting lots of Clorox bleach and Comet cleanser. There are occupants leaving and moving in continuously; therefore, there is always a need for these items. There is also the constant need for food. Below is a list of what was collected and dropped off at the Veterans' Village. Thank again to all who had a part in this!

I have been your liaison to the Veterans' Village for around three years now, and I have asked for someone (actually two men) to step up and work with me for a month or two and then take over for me. **Compatriot Reggie Roddenberry** has volunteered to shoulder this load for me. We will be going there to introduce him to Tori and get him acquainted with the place and the routine. I am still looking for someone to help Reggie in this worthy endeavor. It is not a lot of work; I simply have too much on my plate right now and need a break. Please consider working with Reggie to help OUR veterans!

40 meals--unsure of a value

\$40 cash

bag of canned food goods—value \$100

Toothbrushes and toothpaste, dental floss and pics and bottles of mouthwash

Deodorant/anti-perspirant (many sticks)

Boxes of band aids and first aid materials such as gauze, tape, antibiotic creams (all over the counter)

Over the counter large bottles of vitamins

Over the counter large bottles of pain relief (ibuprofen and acetaminophen to be administered by management)

Over the counter pain relief creams

Lotions and creams for skin softness and moisturizing

Bars of soaps and bottles of body wash and shampoo

Many razors/blades for both men and women

Kleenex

Cleaning products

List seems short compared to the many bags of items we had.

We went by the Discount Grocery and picked up frozen/cold food items (meats and milks) as well as boxed food and

snacks and fresh veggies totaling six to eight banana boxes of

items.

Value--\$600

10 blankets

15 towels and washcloths

Sweat pants and blue jeans

Suits and 15 dress shirts and ties for folks to use when going on interviews

Socks

Large garbage bag of T-shirts

Comforter set and sheet sets

Value--\$1000.

12 gallons of Clorox and 5 containers of Comet. Value--\$50.

50 coffee cups/mugs

Knives

2 crock pots

Set of plates

Pillowcases

Comforter set

Value--\$400.

May the Lord bless you ALL for your continued support,

Chaplain Keith Lassiter Deo Vindice

Chaplain Keith Lassiter

Dates in History of the War - May

May 6, 1861 – Confederacy recognizes state of war with United States.

May 10, 1863 – Confederate General Thomas ‘Stonewall’ Jackson is killed in action at Chancellorsville.

May 11, 1862 – CSS Virginia (Merrimack) is scuttled by Confederate forces off of Norfolk, VA.

May 7, 1864 – Union forces under Sherman begin march to Atlanta.

May 4, 1865 – Confederate forces under General Richard Taylor surrender in Citronelle, AL.



Upcoming Heritage Events and Opportunities

May 10th- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 pm with meeting at 6:45 pm.

May 12th- Order of Confederate Rose organizational meeting, Faith Lutheran Church, 6:00 pm.

Jun 4th - Florida Division Reunion, Trenton Florida, starts at 9:30am

Jun 14th- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 pm with meeting at 6:45 pm.

Jun 25th - Veteran’s Village Cookout

Jul 12th- Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 pm with meeting at 6:45 pm.

Jul 19-23 -SCV 127th National Annual Reunion – Cartersville, Georgia

Aug 9th - Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 pm with meeting at 6:45 pm.



Birth Days

Joe Moyer 5/4
Robert Crisler 5/11

Robert Ward 5/17
Earl Gramling 5-19

Samuel Bennett 5/24
Charles Boutwell 5/28





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.



