



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



July Camp Meeting

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



Florida Division SCV Annual Reunion

Commander Ned Roberts

On Saturday, June 4th, the Florida Division SCV held its Annual Reunion in Trenton, Florida.

Elections were held for the Division Commander, all five regional Lieutenant Commanders, 15 Brigade Commanders, the Division Adjutant, and the Treasurer.

After four years of being Division Commander, **Kelly Crocker** decided not to seek re-election. His leadership and guidance will be missed at the Division level. Fortunately, we will have him around the Camp. I would like to thank Commander Crocker personally for everything he has done, and especially for his mentorship.

The Office of Commander was a contested election - three individuals were under consideration, but the Camps present at the Reunion elected **Calvin Hart**, Commander of Kirby Smith Camp 1209, as Commander of Florida Division SCV.

The regional Lt Commanders elected were:

- Southwest Region, 1st LT Commander **David King**
- Central Region, 2nd LT Commander **Daryl Ratterree**
- Southeast Region, 3rd LT Commander **Roy Hudson**
- Northeast Region, 4th LT Commander **Christopher Bunton**
- Northwest Region, 5th LT Commander **Ned Roberts**.



Commander Hart

The Brigade Commanders elected were:

1st Brigade Commander **Randall Crooke**
2nd Brigade Commander **William Platt**
3rd Brigade Commander, **Randy Nichols**
4th Brigade Commander **James Taylor**
5th Brigade Commander **Byron Peavy**
6th Brigade Commander **Harold Schemer**
7th Brigade Commander **Clement Lindsey**
8th Brigade Commander **Terry Beasley**

9th Brigade Commander **Richard Gray**
10th Brigade Commander **Al Massey**
11th Brigade Commander **Leon Arthur**
12th Brigade Commander **James Odell**
14th Brigade Commander **David Nash**
15th Brigade Commander **Sean McFall**
16th Brigade Commander **Paul Norris**

Mark Sizemore was reelected as Division Treasurer, and **Rick Roberts** was elected Division Adjutant.

Florida Division SCV has some very good leaders. I look forward to working with them to keep Florida the **Best Division in the SCV**.

Please keep all the Division Officers in your prayers.



Photo by G Bell

This is only a portion of the 106 SCV members who attended along with 25 women representing the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) and the Order of the Confederate Rose (OCR). Lt Gov Jeffrey Kottkamp and Senator Dennis Baxley reported on their activities in the Florida legislation. We were also honored to have Jimmy Hill, Department Commander of the Army of Tennessee with us. -ed-



RICHARD MARSHALL WITT

2/23/1946 – 6/30/2022

It is with a very sad heart that we inform you that Compatriot **Richard Witt** has crossed over the river and is now resting in the shade of the trees.

Richard was an Army veteran serving in Viet Nam 1964-1965. He was a Master Machinist for Maxwell House in Jacksonville, Florida. After retiring he worked as a volunteer with the Florida Park Service. **He was a life member of the Florida SCV and a cannoneer with the North Florida Artillery re-enacting group.** As a member at Seminole Baptist Church in Tallahassee, he serving as a Deacon from 2018-2021.



Interment will be at the Tallahassee National Cemetery, July 26, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

Grave Keepers Report – Remembering Our Ancestors

Cemetery Chairman: Mark Bess

Finley's Brigade, Camp 1614, was hard at it again exemplifying why we are **"DIVISION STRONG!!"**

On Monday, June 20, 2022, we set three new headstones in Old City Cemetery in Tallahassee.

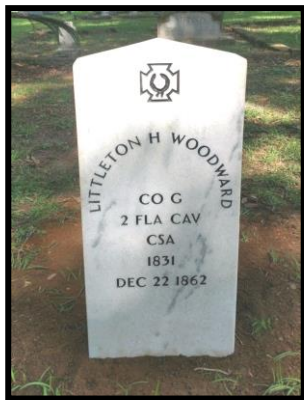
The first was for **Capt Peres Bonney Brokaw**, Company D, 2nd Florida cavalry.

Peres Bonnie Brokaw enlisted as a Captain in Company D, 2nd Florida Cavalry in Tallahassee Florida on March 5, 1862.

Married:

- (1) Cornelia O. Tatum on 04/18/1850
- (2) Elizabeth Amanda "Tatum" Keen, 12/20/1865, sister of Cornelia O. Tatum.

Next was **Littleton H. Woodward**.



Littleton H. Woodward was born in 1831 and married Mary Ann Groover on August 16, 1854.

- He enlisted in the 2d Florida Cavalry, Company G, at Chattahoochee FL as a private, and died of disease on December 22, 1862, at Tallahassee. His wife received a Florida Confederate pension.
- The original headstone was damaged and broken into 3 small pieces. A replacement headstone was applied for, approved by the VA and installed on June 20, 2022, by members of Finley's Brigade Camp 1614, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Lastly, **Dr. Peter P. Lewis**.

Son of Zebulon Lewis and Meeky Gill.

- Enlisted as a Private in "Dykes Company, Florida Light Artillery".
- He was discharged after providing a "substitute."
- Married Rachel Jackson Butler on Nov 20, 1851 in Leon County, Florida.
- Rachel was the daughter of Rachel Hayes and Robert Ormond Butler. Her father was the first Surveyor General of Florida (Territory) appointed by Andrew Jackson.

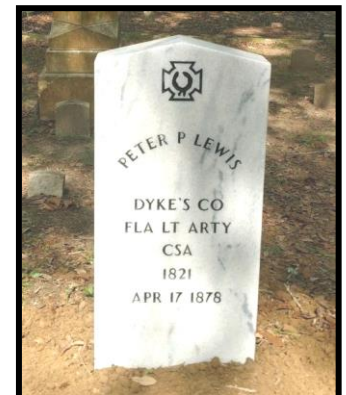


Photo by Wilma Schofield

After we set the stones, past Florida Division Commander Kelly Crocker and I traveled to Wewahitchka to search out more Confederates at the neglected 'Iola' cemetery. After battling the heat, engaging in "hand to hand" combat with Skeeters, Ticks and Chiggers, searching for "Iola, "we called it a day. (Note to self! Short pants are not recommended for traversing Blackberry brambles)

We then stopped by "Jehu" cemetery to follow some leads, confirm some suspicions, and clean some Confederate Veterans headstones. It was truly a great day in Dixie.

Many thanks to Past Florida Division Commander Kelly Crocker and Finley's Historian Stan Willis for all the hard work and dedication researching and identifying these men.

We have one more headstone enroute, two awaiting approvals, two more to be submitted, and a long list of names to researched.

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



VA Headstone Replaced

By Stan Willis

For some years now, Finley's Brigade has been involved with the the graves of confederate veterans in the "Old City Cemetery" in Tallahassee. While the "Confederate Section" of the cemetery is primarily under the care and control of the Anna Jackson Chapter of the UDC, Finley's has long assisted them in the cemetery.

Past Commander of Finley's Brigade and the Florida Division, Kelly Crocker has long had a passion for locating and marking confederate graves in the area in and around Tallahassee. Commander Crocker has inspired a number of Finley's members, past and present to get involved in this endeavor, me included.

Over the past two years or so, much work has been done and discussed about the confederate section. 1st Lt. Cmdr. Mark Bess has removed, repaired and re-installed several of the old style markers that were damaged. In addition, over the past year or two, over twenty VA headstones have been researched, ordered, approved and installed in Old City Cemetery with three of them going in the confederate section.

About a month or so ago, Past Commander

Crocker suggested we try to obtain a replacement headstone for Littleton Woodward who currently had an old style marker that was broken into three small pieces. At that point, I spoke up and volunteered to take care of it. I soon began collecting the required information, printed copies of Littleton's military records and completed the Veterans Administration application. The application was sent to the VA and on May 9, 2022 I was informed the application had been approved and would be shipped soon. On June 7, I was informed the headstone had arrived and I picked it up the next day.

The new headstone for Private Littleton H. Woodward (1831 – 1862) of Company G, 2nd Florida Cavalry was installed in Old City Cemetery, Confederate Section by members of Finley's Brigade Camp 1614, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The installation occurred on the morning of June 20, 2022, along with two other recently obtained VA markers. Those markers, for Captain Peres Bonney Brokaw and Dr. Peter Perkins Lewis, were obtained by 1st Lt. Cmdr. Mark Bess and were placed in other areas of the Old City Cemetery.

We were joined by Linda Grantham and Wilma Scofield of the Anna Jackson Chapter of the UDC. We were also joined by Mrs. Betty Ashler and her husband Phil. They both volunteer at the St. John's Episcopal Church Cemetery and came to observe our process for installing these headstones.

The headstone for Private Woodward is the first "replacement" VA headstone ever submitted and approved by Finley's Brigade to the best of our knowledge.



Chaplain's Corner

I recently saw a commercial on TV advertising a new show that will be coming on soon. In it, a girl, who I am assuming is the protagonist, declares, "I don't want to fight and die for people who hate me!" Immediately, my mind was drawn to the Lord Jesus. That is exactly what He did! It also reminded me of a story I heard in church.

As the story goes, a man who was responsible for raising and lowering the drawbridge for the train track had one son, whom he adored. The little boy begged his daddy to let him go with him to his job. The daddy finally allowed the son to go with him on a particular day. Soon, the boy grew bored and asked his daddy to let him go play. He agreed. After some time, the daddy heard the train whistle and knew it was time to lower the drawbridge to allow the oncoming train to cross the river. He called for his son. Finally, the daddy saw the child playing in the gears of the drawbridge. The daddy called fervently for the boy to get out of there but, the child could not hear him for the noise of the oncoming train. It was now almost at the last second to lower the drawbridge before the train would derail, possibly killing hundreds. With unimaginable pain, and eyes full of tears, the daddy threw the switch allowing the tracks to lower. He had to turn his head so as not to see what the son would endure. As the train passed, the daddy saw people reading newspapers; drinking coffee; talking; laughing; etc... All the daddy could think was, "Don't these people know? Don't they care? My son! My only son!" God is asking the same questions and, He has been for the last 2,000 plus years. What a picture which illustrates what took place at Calvary over 2,000 years ago! He did this for us. Doesn't anyone know? Doesn't anyone care?

As we were setting headstones in Old City Cemetery a week ago, cars were driving by us; people were walking and talking to each other; life was going on as usual and, this story came to mind. Don't people know what the Confederate soldier did to preserve the Constitution and the way of life our forefathers secured in the Revolutionary War? Don't they care about the liberties these men, whose headstones we are setting, fought against overwhelming odds to secure? I am thankful that there is a handful of us who refuse to let the memories of these brave men die with them.

May God bless the South!

My duties as Chaplain include assisting members in need. With that in mind, please let me know if you are aware of any who are sick, bereaved or in need of any services we may offer. Contact me as indicated below.

Chaplain Keith Lassiter
(850) 567-0645
greynole01@yahoo.com
Deo Vindice

Tallahassee Veterans Village

Veterans Chairman: Reginald Roddenberry



Photo by Stan Willis

Greetings compatriots! I want to thank each of you for giving your time and energies for the cookout at the Veteran Village on Saturday, June 25th. We had a grand turn out of compatriots and our ladies in the Order of Confederate Rose. This was a very successful event that fed many of our hallowed veterans residing in the village. It will be my continued honor to provide assistance for our veterans located there.

I am asking each of our compatriots to donate at least \$10.00 each camp meeting towards the Veteran Village. Also, it would be greatly appreciated if our compatriots would find some items to donate to the village. I will be glad to collect any money &/or items you make available at our camp meetings.

Deo Vindice



Commander's Guidon

Commander Ned Roberts

I want to thank all who showed up for the Veterans Village cook-out. The support and help from the members of the Mary Ann Harvey Black Chapter, Order of Confederate Rose, was outstanding and very much appreciated. The rain fortunately stayed away, and even though it was very hot, everyone had smiles on their faces. We served over 60 hamburgers and 60 hot dogs, along with coleslaw, chips, desserts and goodie bags. Everything was well received by the veterans.

It is that time of year for your SCV membership renewals. The \$68 renewal fee is broken down as the following - \$35 for National, \$15 for Florida Division and \$18 for Finley's Brigade. Renewals are due by end of July. If not received by then National Headquarters charges an additional \$5 reinstatement fee. For those members who are National Life members, please remember you still need to remit your Division and Camp dues. If you are National and Florida Division Life member, then you still need to pay your \$18 Camp dues. Being a Life member does not preclude you from owing Camp dues.

During June's Camp meeting, we briefly reviewed the proposed Constitutional Amendments which will be voted on at the National Reunion, to be held later this month. I asked members to look over the proposed amendments and be ready to discuss the merits or lack thereof during our July Camp meeting. I would like to know the Camp's opinion. Based on our camp enrollment, Finley's Brigade has 7 delegate votes to cast.



Photo by G Bell

Brett William Vinopal was sworn in at the June 14 SCV meeting. He joins under his ancestor Private Joshua Jackson Gillett, Company A, 9th Regular FL Infantry. Great thing ahead!

Compatriots **Mark Bess** and **Robert Crisler** received Certificates of Distinguished Service to the camp, including work with gravestones and the color guard, from the SCV Florida Division. Commander **Ned Roberts** presented the awards at the June 14 SCV meeting.



Photo by G Bell



Photo by G Bell

For their research and work related to securing Confederate Gravestones, Compatriots **J R Miller** and **Stan Willis** each received a Certificate of Distinguished Service from the SCV Florida Division. Commander **Ned Roberts** presented the awards at the June 14 SCV meeting.

Dates in History of the War – July

July 21, 1861 – First Battle of Manassas, VA and ended in a Confederate Victory.

July 17, 1862 – U.S. President Lincoln signs the Confiscation Act.

July 1-3, 1863 – Battle of Gettysburg, PA.

July 4, 1863 – Vicksburg, MS surrenders to Union forces under Grant.

July 11, 1864 – CSA General Jubal Early and his troops enter Washington D.C. suburbs.

Upcoming Heritage Events and Opportunities

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.

Sep 13th - Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 pm with meeting at 6:45 pm.

Birth Days

Joe Murphree Jul 8

William Connell Jul 20

Jr Miller Jul 27

Robert Stinson Jul 20

Stan Willis Jul 27

