



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



November Camp Meeting

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



The Immortal Six Hundred

Gerald Bell



The phrase, “**The Immortal Six Hundred**”, was coined by John Ogden Murray in his book by the same title, first published in 1905. It was written to preserve the record of this gallant band of six hundred Confederate prisoners of war confined on Morris Island at the entrance to Charleston Harbor, South Carolina. Its purpose was also to give the world a true history of the wanton mental and physical cruelty inflicted upon these helpless prisoners of war from one who witnessed it first-hand. J. Ogden Murray was one of the Immortal Six Hundred!

Early in the war, there were Southern diplomatic attempts to exchange prisoners of war. Although there was some success, in May 1863, the order came from Washington DC that, “no confederate officer will be paroled or exchanged till further orders.” During that time rumors persisted that there were six hundred Union soldiers, prisoners of war, who were housed under Federal fire in Charleston, South Carolina. Instead of corroborating these reports, the Federal authorities chose to take the words of runaway slaves, Confederate deserters, and Union scalawags as they planned in-kind retaliation. In August 1864, six hundred Confederate officers, prisoners of war, were taken from Fort Delaware prison and were shipped to Morris Island to be placed under the fire of the Confederate batteries in retaliation for an equal number of Federal officers who have been placed

in the city of Charleston. The Federal prisoners had already written letters relating that they were not under fire and were being humanly treated in their captivity.

During their imprisonment, until the end of the war, the Southern officers were repeatedly deprived of adequate housing, clothing, and food. They were transported in small, cramped vessels, their blankets were taken from them leaving only what little clothing they had to shield them from the freezing weather and often mistreated by the guards. They were housed in canvas tents or roughly constructed barracks and were always overcrowded. Water was obtained from puddles in the sand. Many of the men died for lack of medical care. They were moved to Fort Pulaski in Savannah Georgia harbor. While there, they were rationed “ten ounces of corn meal and on-half pint of onion pickle each twenty-four hours.” Water was available from the fort cisterns, but the meal was rotten--filled with black weevil bugs and worms. Hunger drove the men to catching and eating dogs, cats, and rats. On this starvation diet, many suffered dysentery and scurvy. This atrocity continued from October 1864 until March 1865 when the captives were returned to Fort Delaware where they remained until the end of the war.

Nine of the Immortal Six Hundred were from Florida, having been captured as early as November 1863. Captain William Bailey, Jr. was the son of a wealthy plantation owner in Jefferson County. He was transferred from Fort Pulaski to Hilton Head Island where he died and is buried. Second Lieutenant Alexander L. Bull was from Tallahassee and is buried beside his mother in the Old City Cemetery. His grave is marked with a gravestone obtained through the efforts of Finley’s Brigade.

This narrative gives only the briefest accounting of this brave crew. It is a follow-up to the excellent presentation given by Larry Thomas at our October meeting. Much more detail is available from the book. I highly recommend it.



Grave Keepers Report – Remembering Our Ancestors

Cemetery Chairman: Mark Bess



On October 15th, Commander **Kelly Crocker**, Finley’s Historian **Stan Willis**, and I, traveled to Marianna Florida to meet with Theophilus West Camp Commander **Robert Daffin** and Compatriot **Russell Moffat**, at the “Free Will Baptist Church Cemetery.” the goal was to set the headstone for **Alfred Nichols**” a CSA veteran of Company “C” 1st Florida infantry, CSA.

As I was still recovering from my surgery, I was not able to assist physically, but I was a great cheering section. To obtain this stone from the VA took the combined efforts of compatriots from Camp 1209 Kirby-Smith, Camp 1614, Finley’s Brigade, and Camp 1346, Theophilus West. That is a shining example of how it’s supposed to work. Working

together in support of each other, these compatriots accomplished a noble duty. After 118 years of anonymity, Private Alfred Nichols has a proper marker for his final resting place. Great job by all.

After bidding farewell to the other compatriots, Finley's intrepid band of adventurers went in search of another cemetery. Commander Crocker's research lead him to the 'Tipton family Cemetery' in Two Egg Florida. The cemetery is located on private property, on what was no doubt once a family Homestead. Commander Crocker had secured permission from the landowner to access the fenced and gated property.

Without any difficulty we located, nestled in the shade of a 300-year-old Oak tree, a small, well-tended, cemetery. The cemetery contained the family of "Jason V. Tipton, Co. I, 5th Florida Infantry CSA." The markers were badly in need of cleaning, so some TLC and D-2 later, all was good. WPA information leads us to believe that "Lewis Hyatt" 1st Florida Reserves, CSA is also interred there unmarked. That information is being actively pursued by Historian Willis.



On to the next adventure. We then traveled to Bainbridge Georgia, Oak City cemetery, to set the headstone for "**Capt. Thomas J. Bruton**, Florida Light Artillery." Captain Bruton had lain unmarked in the 'Harrell Family' plot for 146 years. This was another combined effort of Kirby-Smith and Finley's Brigade camps. I will not go into much detail as there will be a dedication and memorial service December 03, 2022, at 1:00pm in Oak City cemetery for Capt. Bruton. This will be a large affair with speakers, artillery, and re-enactors. Period dress is requested. The city of Bainbridge has authorized three volleys of salute to be fired in honor. This has been a long time in the works. I hope to see everyone attend.

On October 20th, Commander Crocker, Historian Willis, and I attended the monthly meeting of the Theophilus West Camp in Marianna. We enjoyed a fine meal at the Oaks Restaurant got to visit with old friends and made new ones. Historian Willis and I then gave a presentation to the camp on the new(and improved?) VA form #40-1330, application for memorial marker. Our experience with this form and work in obtaining markers

affords us insight to the 'Do's and Don'ts' of submitting this form and the pitfalls and remedies to avoid them. We were well received, and I hope we ignited the spark to entice these compatriots to continue the work.

As always, the work never ends.

There will be a workday announced for the Confederate section of Old City coming soon. Stay tuned.





Job well done by Compatriots **JR Miller** and **Pat Adams** of Finley's Brigade. Another Soldier marked.



Color Guard

1st Lt Commander Mark Bess

There were no Color Guard missions for October, however November is very busy.

The Color Guard is participating in the Monticello Veterans Day parade. Meeting time is 10:00am at the Piggly Wiggly store in Monticello on November 11th. Unfortunately, due to a family commitment, I will not be able to attend, but I have every confidence in our members.

The Color Guard has been requested to stand in silent respect for the headstone dedication for Peggy Mock. Peggy was a longtime member of the UDC and a Past President. The location is the "Revell Family Memorial Cemetery" on Stephen C. Revell Rd. In Sopchoppy Fl. The service is scheduled for November 19, 2022 at 11:00am.

Directions are: Follow US-319 to US 98 in Medart, turn right onto US-98, follow to intersection of 98 and 319, follow 319 into Sopchoppy. Continue through Sopchoppy to Rose St. Follow Rose St, to Smith Creek Road, bear right. Follow Smith Creek Road. To Greenbough Road (it's a dirt road from here on), bear right. Follow Greenbough Road to Stephen C. Revell Rd and bear right. Follow Stephen C. Revell Road to the cemetery, just past Clay Road. The cemetery is on the right, 100 yards from the road, in a fenced area. There is no address for the cemetery, the GPS coordinates are (30.1142417,-84.5084808)

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me





Chaplain's Corner



Years ago, I heard Bro. **Bruce Kelnhofer** preach a sermon in Trinity Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida. He took his text from the book of II Timothy—all four chapters—the entire book. Now, I cannot remember most of his sermon; however, I will never forget the title he gave it: ***Timely Truths, from a Transformed Tentmaker to a Timid Timothy, for Troublesome Times***. I know that is a mouth full, but it is profound. Look at it again closely.

I want to focus on a few key words: From; Transformed Tentmaker; To; Timid Timothy. The authorship of this epistle belongs to the apostle Paul. He had won the young Timothy to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ several years prior to penning this letter to him, who he often referred to as his “son in the faith.” So, the key words now are “From; Paul; To; Timothy.” From Paul to Timothy—from father to son. There is a valuable lesson in the title alone. Fathers need

to pass down the history of their families to their children. Even more importantly, fathers need to pass down their faith to their children. I will get to the latter in a bit, but first, I want to focus on the former.

As a high school teacher, I see it daily: students have no idea where their families came from, what they did for a living, or even what their names were. They have no clue where they are buried, if they were veterans, or really anything about them. What a pity this is! If one does not know where he/she comes from, it is hard to know who they are or where they are going. I am so very grateful for the men in the SCV and for the SCV as an organization. I’ve heard Commanders Kelly Crocker and Ned Roberts say, “When you buy a memorial for your ancestor to include in the Lee-Jackson Banquet program, you are keeping their memory alive.” That is true! In a sense, they never die. There was a time when history was passed down from generation to generation, and people had a sense of who they were. It is so sad to see that disappearing. Dialect; community; faith; certain foods; pride... all gone to make way for the new order of things. Losing one’s history is terrible, but as bad as that is, that is not the worst of it.

Studies over the last few decades have shown that fewer than 54% of people in America claim to be Christians. Even fewer, by a huge percentage, claim to attend church services on a regular basis. Millennial numbers are substantially lower, indicating a generational decline. Faith is not being passed down from generation to generation. How very sad! This once-great country was founded on the Christian religion. It was NOT founded on some generic god, but on the Christian religion! It is all throughout national papers in the National Archives; anyone is able to look at them for themselves. I wonder what the people from the founding of America would say of America today? I would venture to say that they would not even recognize it. People in the late 1800’s, would pack large auditoriums to hear a man of God preach. Today, churches sit empty. Some have closed! The beach, Disney World, and stadiums are full. As a result, souls are empty, our government is corrupt, and ungodliness abounds.

As I sit here writing this, I am cognizant of the date. Forty-five years ago today, friends boarded a plane in Greenville, SC and headed for LSU in Baton Rouge, LA. The plane never made it there. They had no idea that when they woke up that morning, a day like every other ordinary day, that they would be in eternity that evening. For the ones who survived, their lives would be changed forever. I say this for a reason and in a sense of urgency. The Bible tells us that, “Today is the day, and now is the time...” Life at its longest is very short. Eternity is just that—eternity! How important it is to know our history and where we came from, but it is immensely more important to know our future and where that will be. I urge you gentlemen to “make your call and election sure.” I love you men, and I want to spend eternity with all of you, fellowshiping with our Confederate ancestors. We will know everything about them at that time. I am looking forward to that great reunion.

Thought for the day:

*We can be good men without being good Christians, but we cannot be good Christians without being good men.
Pass down your Confederate heritage AND your Christian heritage to the next generation, or both will be lost.*

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

Happy Halloween Compatriots! Once again, our camp of dedicated compatriots has donated money and items of clothing to our veteran men and women at Veteran Village. We never seem to run out of gifts for our fellow veterans and it does my heart good to see all these items being dedicated to those that gave their service to our country. So many of us are veterans who served this country in its time of need.

Thank you, one and all, for your donations.

1. Men's clothing: Nine short sleeve tee shirts; two sleeveless tee shirts; two short sleeve polo shirts; six ties; one pair of men's pants & one short sleeve shirt.
2. Women's clothing: Seventeen pairs of pants; eighteen tops; one skirt; one sweater; one pair overalls; one robe; one pair panty hose; two half-slips; two camisoles; one jacket; one piece shorts & top; one pair of shorts.
3. Calendars and books
4. Cash - \$50.00

Deo Vindice



Commander's Guidon

Commander Ned Roberts

My Fellow Compatriots –

Finley's Brigade will be participating in the November 11th **Veterans Day Parade** in Monticello. The parade starts at 11 AM, so meet up with your fellow compatriots around 10 AM at the Piggly Wiggly parking lot. This is a fun event, and the crowd is always appreciative. We need Camp members to show up to help hand out flags. Come out, support your heritage, show the flag, and get some fresh air – it is good for you!

The 31st Annual Lee-Jackson Southern Heritage Event is less than three months away. If you haven't bought tickets, contact any Camp Officer for tickets. This event is scheduled for January 28, 2023. Mr. **Ron Rissler** will be discussing his best-selling book – "The Blood of Stonewall". This year's banquet will be held at the Jackson Lodge No. 1, on Apalachee Parkway. Ancestor memorials are available for \$10 for each Confederate ancestor you want to list.

We will be doing a food drive at the Lee-Jackson Event to benefit Veterans Village. Please bring some can or boxed food items, let's show support for the Veterans in need.



Dates in History of the War – November

- November 6, 1861** – Jefferson Davis was elected President of the Confederacy for a 6-year term.
November 21, 1862 – President Jefferson Davis appoints James Seddon Secretary of War.
November 19, 1863 – President Lincoln gives his Gettysburg Address.
November 8, 1864 – President Lincoln was re-elected and beat General George B. McClelland.
November 6, 1865 – CSS Shenandoah surrenders to British officials in England.
November 10, 1865 – CSA Capt. Henry Wirz, commander of Andersonville prison, is hanged.



Upcoming Heritage Events and Opportunities

- Nov 8th** Regular Camp Meeting at VFW. Social Hour starts at 6:00 pm, meeting at 6:45 pm.
Nov 11th Monticello Veteran's Day Parade, 10:00am
Dec 3rd Bruton headstone dedication, Bainbridge GA 1pm
Jan 28th Lee-Jackson Southern Heritage Event, Jackson Lodge, Tallahassee, 5:00 pm.



Birth Days

Jed Drawdy 11-9

Keith Lassiter 11-17



JOIN US FOR THE HEADSTONE DEDICATION FOR

CAPTAIN THOMAS J. BRUTON

COMMANDING OFFICER, BRUTON'S LIGHT ARTILLERY

ATTACHED TO, 2ND FL. INFANTRY (GEORGIA, ALABAMA, FLORIDA)



DEDICATION WILL BE HELD, 1:00PM, DECEMBER 03, 2022

OAK CITY CEMETERY, #420 CEMETERY STREET,

BAINBRIDGE GEORGIA.

The City of Bainbridge has authorized three volleys to be fired in salute by cannon or muskets.

Capt. Bruton has been without a proper marker for 146 years. Through the combined efforts and determination of SCV members in Florida and Georgia, Captain Bruton will have the honor he deserves. Period dress is encouraged

For any questions call:

1st Lt. Commander Mark R. Bess (239) 240-9086, Finley's Brigade.





31st Annual Lee & Jackson Southern Heritage Event



Sponsored by

**Finley's Brigade Camp #1614, Sons of Confederate Veterans
Mary Ann Harvey Black Chapter #5, Order of Confederate Rose**

January 28, 2023

Social Hour: 5:00 PM Supper/Program: 6:00 PM

**Jackson Lodge No 1
2818 Apalachee Pkwy
Tallahassee, FL 32301**

Tickets: \$35 in advance Door Prizes and Auction

Guest Speaker: Mr. Ron D. Rissler

Author of "The Blood of Stonewall"



For tickets contact:

Adjutant Thomas Williams, 850-942-2866,

Adjutant@finleysbrigadescv.com

or

Commander Ned Roberts, 850-591-9221,

Commander@finleysbrigadescv.com



The 53rd Annual Florida Division Reunion

220 NE 4th Ave Trenton, Florida – June 3, 2023

REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Fee: *Members Only*

If Postmarked by May 15th _____ X \$30.00 \$ _____

After May 15th _____ X \$40.00 \$ _____

Ancestor Memorials: _____ X \$5.00 \$ _____

Total remitted \$ _____

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.

We will have an Awards Luncheon and no Evening Banquet

NOTE: We will not be able to take meal reservations received after May 20th

NAME: _____

Guest: _____

ADDRESS: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Phone: _____

CAMP NAME & NUMBER:

Please Mail Registration Form & Check to:

Commander Calvin Hart

4884 Victoria Chase Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32257

Please Make Checks Payable To: SCV Florida Division Inc.

