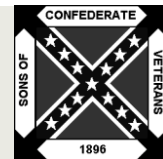


Kirby - Smith Camp #1209 Jacksonville, Florida EST. 1952 www.scv-kirby-smith.org

SHARPSHOOTER

JANUARY 2015

COMMON MEN UNCOMMON DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE



62nd Annual Lee & Jackson



As we start this New Year, your camp is not resting on the successes of last year. We are coming out in full charge with this year's Lee and Jackson Dinner on January 25, 2015 at Maggiano's at the Town Center. This event is our 62nd Annual Celebration of the births of two of our greatest Southern Heroes, Robert E. Lee

and Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson. Military historians consider Lee and Jackson to be the most gifted tactical commanders in the nation's history. It is important that if you are going to attend please send in your R.S.V.P. along with your check to allow us to plan for enough seating for this camp activity. We will be honored at this ceremony to have Wayne Jones as speaker. Wayne as been active in the S.C.V. for years. Compatriot Jones will portray Major General J.E.B. Stuart and we are fortunate that he has chosen our camp to speak at. This will be a milestone event and one you do not want to miss.

God Bless the South,
Commander Calvin Hart

For the dinner to be successful, we depended on the membership to be successful. I am proud to report that the event is now sold out. We look forward to seeing you and recognizing two of the greatest American Military leaders in it's history, and they are ours.



CAMP #1209 CALENDAR

- ◆ -Lee & Jackson Dinner
January 25, 2015
Starts: 5:00pm
SOLD OUT
- ◆ Executive Board Meeting
February 2, 2015
6:30pm @ Uncle Davey's
Americana
- ◆ Camp Meeting
February 17, 2015
7:00pm Museum of
Southern History



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CONFEDERATE SHARPSHOOTER - THE NEWSLETTER OF CAMP #1209

★ December Camp Meeting Review



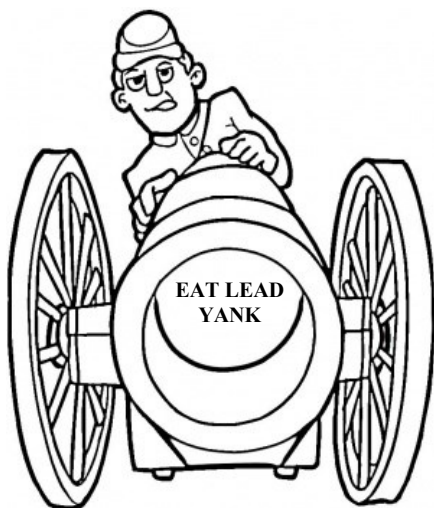
Camp #1209 Christmas Dinner was very successful. The food was great thanks to the membership bringing their favorite dish to the dinner. The membership also collected \$400 to donate to the Children's Home Society. The Children's Home assists with adoptions and the care of orphans in Jacksonville. This year is the tenth year that the camp has made a donation to the home.



Local History

The Union Army referred to it as the Skirmish West of Baldwin

The Confederate's called it Fight at Darby's



On August 12, 1864, two Companies of the 2nd Florida Cavalry under Major Scott, as section of Milton Artillery under Lt. Bates and some infantry under Major Daniels engaged the 102nd US Colored and a small number of the 75th Ohio Mounted Infantry that were engaged in destroying the railroad 5 +/- miles west of Baldwin. The Union reports show 1 man was killed and four taken prisoner in the fight. I could find no information on Confederate losses. I can say this is as far west as Union forces got in destroying the tracks.

I found this site a few years ago, after several years of looking for it. On this site, I found 16 friction primers from Lt. Bates guns, 12 in one location and 4 more in another location. I must say it was a thrill for me to stand on the hill looking east on the same spot where Confederate gunners had fired on the enemy so many years ago and to know they were the last ones to touch the friction primers I held in my hand.

These were the same guns that had fired on the Columbine back in May of the year and brought its life as a Union gunboat to an end.

This site is located 5 +/- miles west of Baldwin, 800 feet north of US 90 and 400 feet east of Allen Acres Road. If you ever find yourself passing by there, try to remember those men like Lt. Bates who stood on that hill and faced the invaders that August day in 1864.

Written by Compatriot Larry Skinner



Cemetery Clean Up January 24, 2015

After studying Old City Cemetery the following jobs have been planned out for January 24, 2015 .

1. Concrete replaced on knee wall around Hemming plot
2. Dead tree cut down in Old City Cemetery

3. Touch-Up paint for Confederate Grand Stand

Come on down and join us in these tasks or just come on down to show support. Old City Cemetery Work Days always start at 8:30am and done by 11:00am.

Kirby-Smith Camp #1209 Events Review of Cemetery Work Day



Camp Members repaired the knee wall surrounding the Hemming Family plot in Old City Cemetery . Also several trees that had fallen during a storm were cut up and located near the road so that city crews may remove them. All this work was done after the normal walk down picking up litter was completed.

Communications Officer

Compatriots,

As our camp begins a new year and we reflect back on 2014 we have a lot to be proud of. We have an active and growing membership who's accomplishments thru out the year have brought great credit to our camp as well as to the entire Sons of Confederate Veterans.

While 2014 was a good year for our camp we cannot rest on our past laurels. We must dedicate ourselves to accomplishing even more in 2015. The culture war which attacks our southern heritage has not slowed down and neither can we. Kirby-Smith Camp 1209 will continue to be in the front line of that battle. As we move forward into the new year we are guided by the words of

the "Charge" "To your strength will be given the defense of the confederate soldiers good name". Together we will continue to work towards fulfilling those words in 2015.

Respectfully, Hal Schemer
Communications Officer

Stonewall Jackson



It cannot well be denied that Jackson possessed every single attribute which makes for success in war. Morally and physically he was absolutely fearless. He accepted responsibility with the same equanimity that he faced the bullets of the enemy. He permitted no obstacle to turn him aside from his appointed path, and in seizing an opportunity or in following up a victory he was the very incarnation of untiring energy. ... A supreme activity, both of brain and body, was a prominent characteristic of his military life. His idea of strategy was to secure the initiative, however inferior his force; to create opportunities and to utilize them; to waste no time, and to give the enemy no rest. ... That he felt to the full the fascination of war's tremendous game we can hardly doubt. Not only did he derive, as all true soldiers must, an intense intellectual pleasure from handling his troops in battle so as to outwit and defeat his adversary, but from the day he first smelt powder in Mexico until he led that astonishing charge through the dark depths of the Wilderness his spirits never rose higher than when danger and death were rife about him. With all his gentleness there was much of the old Berserker about Stonewall Jackson, not indeed the lust for blood, but the longing to do doughtily and die bravely, as best becomes a man. His nature was essentially aggressive. He was never more to be feared than when he was retreating, and where others thought only of strong defensive positions he looked persistently for the opportunity to attack.

George Francis Robert Henderson in Stonewall Jackson and the American Civil War (1904), Ch. 25 : The Soldier and the Man, p. 480 - 481

General Robert E. Lee

Robert E. Lee had a flock of chickens. Confederate General John Bell Hood’s men ate all of them—except for one, who had survived by making her roost in a tree overhanging Lee’s tent. Lee took a liking to the chicken. He named her “Nellie” and raised the flap of his tent so she could come and go as she pleased. She began laying eggs nearly every day under the general’s cot. On the eve of the Battle of the Wilderness, Lee invited a group of generals to dine with him, but his cook, William Mack Lee, couldn’t find sufficient food to make a meal. Although he “hated to lose her,” the cook said he “picked her good, and stuffed her with bread stuffing, mixed with butter.” He said it was the only time in four years that Lee scolded him. “It made Marse Robert awful sad to think of anything being killed,” he said, “whether ’twas one of his soldiers or his little black hen.”

GIMME BACK MY BULLETS



ROBERT E. LEE



There is more to Robert E. Lee than just his being a famous Confederate Civil War general. He was also devoted to his family, an animal lover, had many friends, had strong faith in God, and as its president, he made Washington College in Lexington, Virginia a success after the War between the States.

Kirby-Smith Donates to Children’s Home

I have been up to see the Congress and they do not seem to be able to do anything except to eat peanuts and chew tobacco, while my army is starving.

Robert E. Lee



The Kirby-Smith Camp 1209 Jacksonville, Florida donated \$400.00 To the Children’s Home Society of Jacksonville on December 18 2014. The donation is part of the camps ongoing community outreach program and is timed to coincide with the Christmas Holiday. Pictured from left to right are, Jake Newman, Hal Schemer, CHS Director and Calvin Hart.

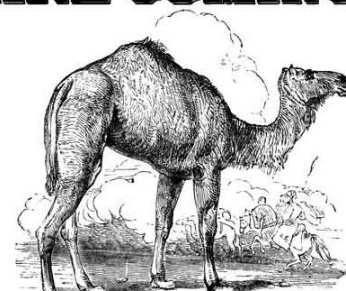


JEFFERSON DAVIS, THE CAMEL HERDER WHO BECAME PRESIDENT

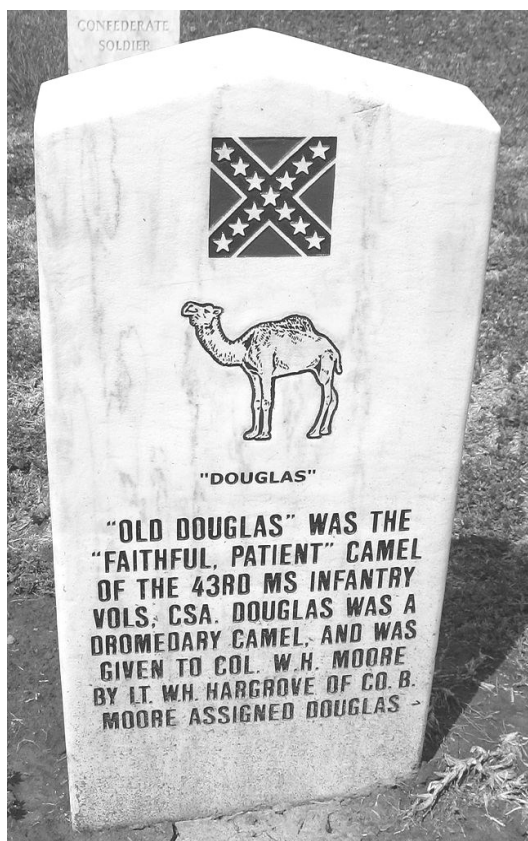
OF THE CONFEDERACY – PART 2 Written by Robert Fuller

THE CAMELS ARE COMING!

On February 28, 1861, Confederate forces captured Camp Verde, Texas, where many of the camels were based. With the lines to the Pacific suddenly cut and the impending war clouds concentrated in the East, nobody knew what to do with the animals. Commanders used them to give rides to local children. Some camels in Arkansas were lost in a conflict with Union troops, who sent them on to Iowa and then proposed that they be auctioned. Elsewhere Confederate soldiers pushed a camel off a cliff because they thought it was a nuisance. Eventually some were sold to the Ringling Brothers Circus. Others were made into jerky. Many were simply allowed to wander. In 1869 the first transcontinental railroad put an end to the “tyranny of distance” — and the need for camels. Still, why didn’t the South make more use of the camels? Davis surely had other things on his mind during the war, and his commanders evidently failed to share his enthusiasm for the project. More decisive may have been the fact that so much of the war took place east of the Mississippi. The camels languished in the West. We are left to wonder. What if the war had been fought differently? Would the camels have made a fine American cavalry? Would they have one day become as ubiquitous a symbol of the Wild West as the horse and cowboy?



Douglas the Camel



Douglas The Camel, or “Old Douglas,” was a domesticated camel used by Company A of the Forty-third Mississippi Infantry, part of the Confederate Army during the American Civil War. Because of Old Douglas, the 43rd Mississippi Infantry came to be known as the Camel Regiment. Douglas was originally part of a U.S. War Department program called the Texas Camel Experiment, which aimed to experiment with camels as a possible alternative to horses and mules, which were dying of dehydration in vast numbers. | Although the details are unknown, Douglas somehow made his way to Mississippi, and eventually died, fittingly enough, at Davis's hometown of Vicksburg. He was initially given to Colonel W. H. Moore by 1st Lt. William Hargrove. Besides being a mascot, Moore assigned Douglas to the regimental band, carrying instruments and knapsacks. Though the men tried to treat Old Douglas like a horse, the camel was known to break free of any tether, and was eventually allowed to graze freely. Despite not being tied up, he never wandered far from the men. The Infantry’s horses feared Old Douglas, and he is recorded to have spooked one horse into starting a stampede, which reportedly injured many, and possibly killed one or two horses. Old Douglas’s first active service was with Gen. Price in the Iuka campaign. He also participated in the 1862 Battle of Corinth. He remained with the regiment until the Siege of Vicksburg, where he was killed by Union sharpshooters. Enraged at his murder, the men swore to avenge him. Col. Bevier enlisted six of his best snipers, and successfully shot the culprit. Of Douglas’s murderer, Bevier reportedly said, “I refused to hear his name, and was rejoiced to learn that he had been severely wounded. According to legend, after Douglas was shot, his remains were carved up and eaten, with some of his bones made into souvenirs by Federal soldiers.



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Thomas Jonathan Jackson born Jan. 21, 1824

"The Institute will be heard from today"

These words were spoken by Jackson on the battlefield at Chancellorsville, VA, shortly before 5 p.m. on May 2, 1863. Ready for battle, he was surrounded by former students and colleagues from his years at the Virginia Military Institute; they were now his officers and comrades-in-arms. Overcome by emotion, Jackson said, "the Institute will be heard from today." A few hours later, Jackson received what would prove to be a fatal wound. This quotation is today inscribed on the base of the Jackson Statue located on the grounds of VMI. For those interested in trivia--the words on the statue ("the Virginia Military Institute will be heard from today") are inaccurate; Jackson said only "the Institute...." The date inscribed on the statue is also incorrect; it says May 3, rather than the correct date, May 2.

THE LEE & JACKSON BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IS SOLD OUT ON JANUARY 25, 2015