



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."



Crestview Battle Flag Still Flies Proudly

The special meeting regarding the removal of the Confederate Battle Flag that flies over Private William Lundy's memorial in Crestview was held on November 14. In attendance were approximately 100 people representing both sides of the issue. Two of the pro-Flag attendees were Finley's Brigade Marshall Carroll and Graham Smith. Their wives, Virginia and Libby, as well as several SCV brothers, numerous local citizens, and three descendants of Private Lundy, were also in attendance.



After an hour and a half of often impassioned speeches by Marshall, Virginia, Graham and many others; the Council meeting was adjourned without action being taken regarding the flag that flies at the "Uncle Bill" Lundy memorial. The Battle Flag will continue to fly proudly at the Confederate Park in Crestview, Florida. While we can celebrate in this victory, rest assured, many more battles to attack and destroy our Southern heritage and its symbols lie ahead.

(left: Monument to Private William in Confederate Park in Crestview. The pole with the Battle Flag atop is behind the monument)

Private Ancel Ferrell Headstone Dedication

On November 16, 2013 the Finley's Brigade Camp was invited to participate in a headstone dedication for Private Ancel L. Ferrell. Private Ferrell was a member of Campbell Siege Artillery CSA. The dedication was held at the Long Branch Baptist Church Cemetery in Cairo, Georgia sponsored by the Anna Jackson Chapter 224 UCD and assisted by the Ancel Ferrell Family.

Chaplin Kelly Crocker presented the Invocation and Finley's Brigade Color Guard posted colors. Mrs. Libby Smith and Mrs. Virginia Carroll read the poem "Jacket of Gray" and Commander Graham Smith recited "The Same Canteen" while members of Finley's Color Guard passed the canteen. The final salute was performed by Finley's Brigade Color Guard who fired a rifle salute and played Taps.

It was an honor to be invited to participate in this dedication and to keep "the charge" alive.



Representing Finley's Brigade and its Confederate Rose Society were (L to R) Kelly Crocker, Graham Smith, Virginia Carroll, David Cline, Jim Windsor, Libby Smith, Ellis Harvey, Marshall Carroll, and Drill Sergeant Richard Witt. In attendance but not pictured are Andy Gowan, Paul Kirby, and Richard White.

Chaplain's Comments

Commitment

John Howell, Chaplain

As a youth, my father told all of us kids (4 girls & 3 boys) "your word is your bond, and even if it harelipped the king, you would do what you agreed to do. Also, this could be defined as an oral contract. We soon figured out that he was talking about "commitment". Today we see prominent people who seemingly have no connection with the rationale, or concept, of commitment.

Charles Colson wrote in CHRISTIANITY TODAY "we've seen an almost uninterrupted march toward self-focus, affecting all of our institutions, but especially crippling work, marriage, and family. The basic building blocks of society simply erode without commitment. Any sensible society must address this problem by educating people that commitment is the very essence of human relationships."

Isn't this what God and Jesus did for us? God sent his only son to earth to forgive us for our sins. Jesus fulfilled his commitment by dying on the cross for us. Are you keeping your commitments?

Think about it.

GOD BLESS YOU.

LEE/JACKSON SOUTHERN HERITAGE EVENT

The 2014 Lee/Jackson Southern Heritage Event promises to be as grand an event as it has been in years past. This year's event will be held January 18, 2014 and will begin at 5:00 pm with the always popular social hour to enjoy outstanding Southern appetizers, fellowship, and music; and allow everyone an opportunity to bid on the items on the silent auction tables. Gospel and period music will be provided by "Joyful Noise", a band we have enjoyed for the past two years. The event will begin at 6:00 and a delicious meal will be served soon afterward. We are very close to determining a caterer and you can rest assured that we will have fabulous food just as we've had in previous years.



The guest speaker this year will be Compatriot Wayne Jones, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Wayne and his wife, Jan, who will be joining him, portray Mr. and Mrs. JEB Stuart. A couple years ago, Libby and Graham Smith thoroughly enjoyed his portrayal and performance at a re-enactment at Laurel Hill in Ararat, Virginia, the home of JEB Stuart.

The annual silent action and bidding items have begun to pour in and I think you will be in for some wonderful items and some surprises so don't forget your checkbook.

Because the rental of the ballroom at Mission San Luis and the cost of food increased considerably this year, we had to raise the ticket price another \$5 to \$40 each. **Tickets go on sale Tuesday**

evening at the December Camp meeting. Buy your tickets early because, as you know from past years, we sell out fast. We are very excited about this year's Lee/Jackson Southern Heritage Event and excited and anxious to visit with our friends and Compatriots from other Camps that turn out and support us each year.

Bring To reserve your tickets, call Libby at 850-877-9183

Y'all

It is with mixed feelings that, on Saturday November 30 I tendered, to the distinguished officers of our Camp, my resignation as Commander of Finley's Brigade, Camp 1614, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

As we near retirement, Libby and I are trying to simplify our lives. With all that's going on with our family, my job, and the duties and responsibilities associated with being Commander of a **DISTINGUISHED** Camp, I am unable to give full attention to, and do a good job with, any one of them. Most importantly, I've recently realized that I have not spent the quality time that I should have with my mom and dad, my daughters, and my grandchildren. My only regret is that this realization came so soon after the Camp elections.

I also realized that I have run out of new and fresh ideas to maintain an active, progressive, and growing Camp. I feel that I have run out of gas and can't seem to find a place to fill-up. Our Camp deserves better. The officers meeting we had last week proved to me that the operation of our Camp is in very capable and competent hands for the

foreseeable future. They are all good men and have the best interest of our Camp and members in mind and I have no apprehension or misgivings relinquishing my position to 1st Lt. Kelly Crocker. I feel that those officers who will “promote” to fill my vacancy would have been the ones elected last month to these positions had I not run for Commander.

At our last Camp meeting I expressed my pride and love to, and for, the members of our Camp that have done so much for me, my devoted and hardworking wife Libby, the Camp, the SCV, our honorable ancestors, and our Cause. I will always harbor these feelings. I am forever grateful for the honor you have allowed me by being the Commander of such a prestigious Camp.

I want to assure you that Libby and I will continue to be active members and support our Camp. However, for the reasons stated above, we will curtail our involvement, other than participation, in future duties, events, and activities. Good luck gentlemen.

Merry Christmas and God bless you and our South.

In Dixie Land I'll take my stand!
Graham F. Smith

Upcoming events

December 10 – Regular Camp meeting

December 14 – Cemetery Work-Day at Old City Cemetery in Tallahassee at 9:00am

Jan. 14, 2014 – Regular Camp meeting

Jan. 18, 2014 – Lee/Jackson Southern Heritage Event

April 19, 2014 – Decorations Day at Soldiers Cemetery 4:00 pm with Susan Hathaway, Virginia Flagger

For times, locations, and details for the following events please contact Graham Smith at GFSmith@embarqmail.com or 877-9183.

December Camp Meeting

The meeting will be dedicated to: Private Joseph Elias Brock, Company E 60th Alabama Infantry

I hope to see y'all there!

Our meetings are always held on the second Tuesday of each and every month at the Golden Corral restaurant on North Monroe Street across from Lake Ella. The program will start promptly at 6:45 so be sure to arrive early (6:00) to enjoy a fine meal and socialize before the meeting starts.

The Camp Cresset Newsletter is the official publication of Camp 1614, Finley's Brigade, Sons of Confederate Veterans. No content may be reproduced in part, or in whole, without the expressed written authorization from the Editor-in-Chief. All parts herein remain the sole property of SCV Camp 1614. ©2013