



***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."***

**Camp Officers**

***Commander***

Graham F. Smith

***1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander***

Marshall Carroll

***2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander***

Bill Beckham

***3<sup>rd</sup> Lt. Commander***

Ellis Harvey

***Adjutant/Secretary***

Mike Grissom

***3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Commander/Chaplain***

Kelly V. Crocker

***Color Sergeant***

Anthony Harvey

***Color Guard Drill Instructor***

Richard Witt

***Past Commanders***

Bill Beckham

Marshall Carroll

Paul Nicholson

**Editor's Comments**

*David R. Cline*

Greetings Compatriots! I hope everyone took the time to remember their Confederate ancestors this past April 26<sup>th</sup>. As we all know Memorial Day was started in the South to honor our Confederate Soldiers. I spent the day reminding my boss and co-workers that Confederate Memorial Day is a legal public holiday according to Florida Statute 683.01. Of course some are in doubt when I tell them. I then complain that it should be a paid holiday. I do this every year, and for the Birthday of Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis which are also legal public holidays. They are used to it by now, but it reminds them that I am proud of my Confederate heritage. Thanks to Compatriot Chris Miller for wishing me a Happy Confederate Memorial day salutation via text.

On April 21, 2013, Finley's Brigade Color/Honor Guard represented the camp honorably at the United Daughters of the Confederacy's Confederate Memorial event at Old City Cemetery. I will include pictures throughout the newsletter. A new memorial

monument was dedicated by the UDC at the cemetery to honor our Confederate soldiers. It was very nice to see a new monument being dedicated to our heroes in 2013.



There are some upcoming events that are War Between the States related that look pretty interesting to attend that are mentioned below. I will have an update on the painting of the color/honor guard at the next meeting. Do not forget to bring donations for the Veterans Village. I hope to see you all there.

### **Welcome New Members**

#### **Aaron Gaither**

Aaron Gaither joins through the service of his ancestor Private Henry G. P. Gaither, Co F, 8<sup>th</sup> Alabama Cavalry. The regiment was organized in April 1864 at Newbern, by adding a company to the nine of Hatch's battalion, which had entered the service the previous winter. Ordered at once to Blue Mountain, the regiment was under General Pillow. Moving into north Georgia, the regiment was in the desperate encounter at Lafayette, with a loss of 30 killed and wounded and about 75 prisoners. Shortly after, the Eighth fought at Rome, losing about 20 men killed and wounded. It was ordered to west Florida soon after, and was in front of Steele as he moved on Pollard. The Eighth

surrendered at Gainesville, after some further operations.

#### **Richard Harrell**

Richard Harrell comes to us by way of the record of his ancestor Private John Jackson Harrell, Co B, Second Georgia Cavalry. The Second assembled at Albany, Georgia, in February, 1862. It moved to Chattanooga and after skirmishing in Tennessee was placed in Forrest's, Wharton's, J.J. Morrison's, Iverson's, and C.C. Crews' Brigade. The regiment participated in various conflicts such as Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Philadelphia, Campbell's Station, Bean's Station, and Mossy Creek. Later it was involved in the Atlanta Campaign, the defense of Savannah, and the campaign of the Carolinas. On April 26, 1865, the 2nd Cavalry surrendered with only 18 men.

#### **Lamar Cox**

Lamar Cox joins through his ancestor Private William Fletcher Cox of Co A, 53<sup>rd</sup> Alabama Partisan Rangers. The 53rd was organized by increasing the 1st Cavalry Battalion to regimental size at Montgomery on 5 November 1862. It proceeded in a few weeks to Mississippi. The battalion was in the fighting at Thompson's Station, and at Brentwood. The regiment was engaged in the fight with Union General Grenville Dodge at Town Creek and in the pursuit of Union Col. Abel Streight. It operated on the right of the army as it fell back towards Atlanta and was engaged in constant duty. When Union General William T. Sherman reached Atlanta, the 53rd was the principal force engaged in the daring raid in his rear, whereby a valuable train was destroyed. It was then at the heels of Sherman as he devastated Georgia and the Carolinas, and it took part in the last operations of the war in that quarter. It surrendered a small number with General

Joseph E. Johnston at Durham Station, Orange County, NC, on 26 April 1865.

### **Civil War Living History Weekend**

The Apalachicola Maritime Museum is coordinating a packed weekend of events May 17-19 to tell the story of the Civil War's impact here. This will coincide with the opening of a new Civil War exhibit at the museum. The exhibit and events at different venues in Apalachicola and on St. George Island will shed light on the military and civilian experiences during the war period. Although no major battles were fought here, there are still many interesting stories to tell. Our collaborators include the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, Georgia, the St. George Island Lighthouse Association, the Orman House Museum, the Raney House Museum, the Apalachicola Historical Society, The Panhandle Players theatrical group, Historic Apalachicola Main Street, the City of Apalachicola, and the Center for History, Culture and Art. Reenactors are coming to participate from neighboring communities and as much as eight hours away. We are also hosting lecturers affiliated with Florida State University, the University of South Florida, Albany State University, and the Naval War College.

Our new Civil War exhibit will officially open on Friday, May 17. This will be a major exhibit. We have accumulated an impressive collection of artifacts that covers the spectrum of naval weaponry that would have been used by the blockading forces, including a pair of naval cutlasses, a pistol manufactured for the U.S. Navy, and more. We also acquired a naval straw hat with an anchor emblem, which was worn by naval officers to provide protection from the sun aboard ship. We have several items depicting life aboard ship during the era. One of our more interesting pieces is a telescope with rope

neatly wrapped around it to provide a better grip in wet conditions. Authentic and reproduction items will be used to complete both a U.S. Naval officer and Confederate Infantry uniform. The Infantry uniform represents the Confederate forces that both enlisted from, and came to defend, Apalachicola Bay.



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Our keynote lecture will be held at the museum on Friday evening, May 17, at 7:00 p.m. The speaker will be Ken Johnston, Director of the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, Georgia. The lecture will be followed by a low country boil on the docks. We strongly suggest pre-registering for this event, which will undoubtedly sell out.

On Saturday, May 18, Apalachicola will be packed with events. Reenactors will represent Union and Confederate forces. Union reenactors will make an amphibious landing in a reproduction launch and come ashore in Apalachicola on Saturday morning, weather permitting. There will be a U.S. Marines "recruiting station," weapons displays, history displays, weapons and artillery drills, a discussion and demonstration by a surgeon, musket firing demonstrations, fun activities for children, educational handout booklets, and other living history demonstrations on military

matters. Reenactor groups participating so far include the USS Fort Henry Living History Unit, the crew of the USS Water Witch (affiliated with the National Civil War Naval Museum), and the USS Pawnee Marine Guard.



Other living history interpreters will depict civilian life of the era. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, in period dress, will re-enact the sewing of the regimental flag from Apalachicola as well as clothing and bandages for soldiers at the Raney and Orman House Museums.

Check out the following participating museums with Civil War history. The Maritime Museum is open daily from 8 - 5. Come see our new Civil War exhibit opening soon! The antebellum Orman House Museum and Raney House Museum will be open for tours. Both of these families had involvement in the war. The St. George Island lighthouse and the museum will be open that weekend: 10-5 on Friday and Saturday, noon-5 on Sunday. The history of the lighthouse as presented in the museum includes the Civil War, during which time the light was extinguished and the lens removed (and damaged in the process). See a Union cannon ball that was found near the lighthouse on Little St. George Island and is believed to have come from one of the ships in the blockade.



Don't miss the Civil War lecture series happening throughout the day on Saturday at the Cotton Warehouse, hosted by the Apalachicola Center for History, Culture, and Art. Presenters include historians, published authors, and university professors. Topics are Dr. David Gregory's "Skulkers and Deserters in Florida During the Civil War," Dr. Ed Wiser's "James Tomb, Confederate Torpedo Boat Skipper," Seam Klimek's "Monitor v. Merrimac," Mark Curenton's "First Florida Federal Cavalry," Dr. Jon Sheppard's "Edward Hopkins: On Duty at Apalachicola," and Dr. Maurice Melton's "Who Owns Moses Dallas?" Also, Apalachicola Mayor Van Johnson will read the Emancipation Proclamation at Riverfront Park.

At 8:00 p.m. Saturday, Panhandle Players will perform "Island Light: War and Reconciliation," presented by the St. George Island Lighthouse Association. The production is based on Alexander Key's classic novel based here in the aftermath of the war. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy some outdoor theater, and will be free of charge.

On Sunday, May 19, The Apalachicola Historical Society will conduct tours in the historic Chestnut Street Cemetery that focus on the Civil War era. Union and Confederate

flags will mark the graves of veterans. Tours will take place every half hour from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. At the Maritime Museum, archaeologist Dr. Nancy White will give a talk entitled, "An Archaeological Mystery of Confederate Forts on the Apalachicola River."

All weekend, the Maritime Museum will conduct its regularly scheduled educational boat tours with an added emphasis on Civil War history. These include an excursion to St. Vincent Island, estuary cruises, and historic waterfront tours.

Don't miss this exciting weekend full of educational and entertaining events! Shuttle vans will help move attendees around to the various venues and activities in Apalachicola so that everyone can enjoy as many events as possible without concerns about parking. If you are interested in volunteering or reenacting, please email Education Director Augusta West at [augusta.west@ammfl.org](mailto:augusta.west@ammfl.org).

### Veterans Village Report

Chris Miller, Chairman

Dear fellow camp members and Southern compatriots, here is a report about our Veterans Village program.

Each camp meeting we are focusing on specific needs for these veterans in need. This month, May, our target item will be wash cloths and bath towels. Keep in mind that these items (or other items you can donate) do not have to be new but please don't donate soiled or worn items. They are also in need of, and appreciative for, day to day necessities such as bath soap, shampoo, toilet paper, and any other miscellaneous items.

I plan on contacting Veterans Village each month to get more detail about what we can do to help these folks. Please remember that there are female residents at Veterans Village also.

I will see you folks at the camp meeting and **please bring your items.**

God bless you and God bless Dixie



### The Confederate Flag

by Henry Lynden Flash  
(1835-1914)

Four stormy years we saw it gleam,  
A people's hope...and then refurled,  
Even while its glory was the theme  
Of half the world.

A beacon that with streaming ray  
Dazzled a struggling nation's sight--  
Seeming a pillar of cloud by day,  
Of fire by night.

They jeer who trembled as it hung,  
Comet-like blazing the sky--  
And heroes, such as Homer sung,  
Followed it to die.

It fell...but stainless as it rose,  
Martyred, like Stephen, in the strife--  
Passing, like him, girdled with foes,  
From Death to Life.

Flame's trophy! Sanctified with tears--  
Planted forever at her portal;  
Folded, true: What then? Four short years  
Made it immortal!

## **May Camp Meeting**

Our guest speaker will be Compatriot Phil Walters, Fla Division Brigade Commander and Judah P. Benjamin Camp Lt. Cmdr. Compatriot Phil Walters has compiled a program titled "How to Gain Favorable Press in a Bias Media" featuring useful information such as how the media thinks, what triggers them to react and what tactics are useful to put our message before the masses. This presentation is based on his many years of gaining pro hunting, pro public access (boating, hunting) and Southern Heritage into the mainstream media on the local, state and national level.

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

2620 Sarawood Lane  
Tallahassee, Florida 32309

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.

## **Upcoming events**

For times, locations, and details for the following events please contact Commander Smith at [GFSmith@embarqmail.com](mailto:GFSmith@embarqmail.com) or 877-9183.

May 14 – Monthly Camp Meeting

May 17-19 – Apalachicola Living History Weekend

June 3 – Birthday of Jefferson Davis

