



***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."



Committee Appointment: Veteran's Village Chair

From Compatriot Chris Miller,

I am very proud to announce Keith (Lassiter) as the new chairman of the subcommittee for Veteran's Village. I believe that Keith is the right guy to take over the chairman position and I know he will do great. I will still help-out for the subcommittee as needed. A couple weeks ago we went to Veteran's Village to introduce Keith to everybody and gave him a rundown on how to take care of the donations. I want to give thanks to the Camp for allowing me to be the chairman for so long and a special thanks to past commander Graham Smith for asking me to do so

Congratulations to Keith Lassiter on your new position! We look forward to your contributions as you help lead our ongoing charitable endeavor. Additionally, thanks to compatriot Chris Miller for your past service as chair of our Veteran's Village project.

Trivia Question of the Month

An act of the Confederate Congress passed, which despite even gaining the approval of General Lee was never implemented, called for every regiment in the Confederate Army to have two companies of what kind of soldier?

Last month's trivia question: What Confederate general was famously known as the "fighting bishop" for the ecclesiastical office he held over the Diocese of Louisiana prior to joining the war? The answer: *Leonidas Polk*

Confederate Flag of the Month

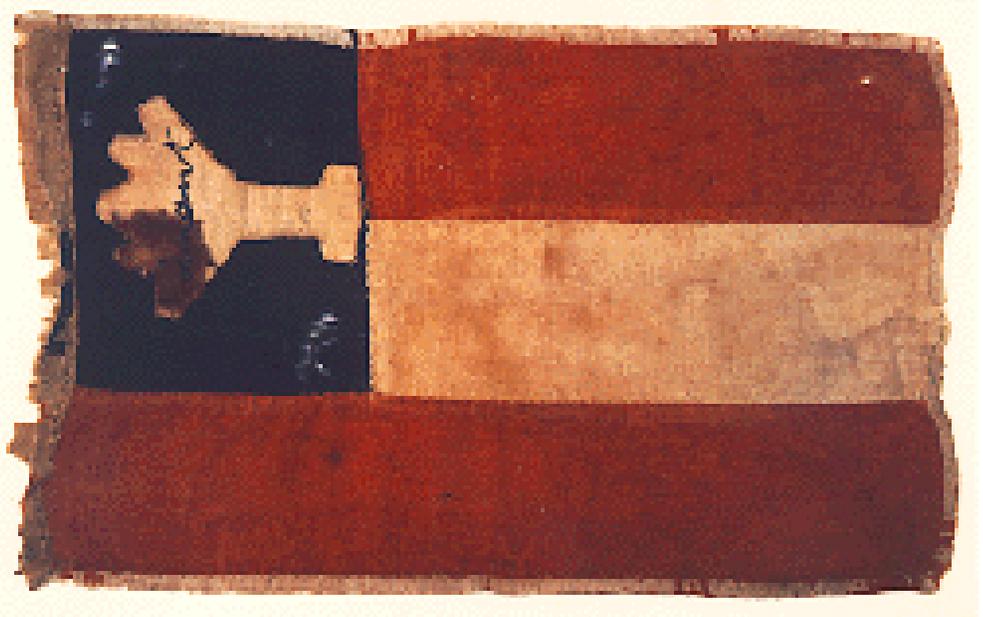
This month's Confederate Flag of the Month is a flag *confirmed* to have been carried by Quantrill's Raiders of Jesse James fame. The flags of William Clarke Quantrill are a controversial topic among war historians and it is a common scholarly consensus that the black flags now often attributed to him in post-War legend have little basis to possibly no basis in fact. This flag was dropped during a late-night raid on Olathe, Kansas in 1862 when Confederate guerillas killed about half a dozen men and marauded several businesses and residences. It is particularly perplexing due to its size being just seven by thirteen inches, about the size a sheet of modern printer paper.

It seems unlikely that it would have been a battle standard for Quantrill as its small size would have made it hard to see on a battlefield. Additionally, Quantrill's bushwhacking guerilla fighting style was not one where the use of flags was necessary or even optimal. The numbers he possessed made every man valuable and to use a man as a flag bearer when he could have carried a saber or firearm would not have been ideal or in Quantrill's style.

Its small size indicates that perhaps it could have been a personal flag made by a soldier, his sweetheart, or a mother, sister, or daughter and presented as a gift before going off to war. If this is the case it may have been carried in a bible, haversack, or jacket and the losing of it likely grieved one of Quantrill's raiders. It is a first national pattern with what appears to be a palmetto in the canton. While there is some writing embroidered on the palmetto time has faded it to a point where it is no longer legible.

You may not be able to find this flag for sale, but you can find it in Kansas. It was picked up by a resident of Olathe and kept in the family until 1930 when it was

donated to the Kansas Historical Society. It is maintained by them along with about 75 other flags from the War to this day and can be seen if you ever visit Topeka. If you are interested in helping preserve it for the future, the society has a fund accessible on their website where 100% of donations will go towards the upkeep of their flag collection.



We are updating our web-site! Check it out at:
<http://www.finleysbrigadescv.com/>

Fighting on Ochlockonee Bay.

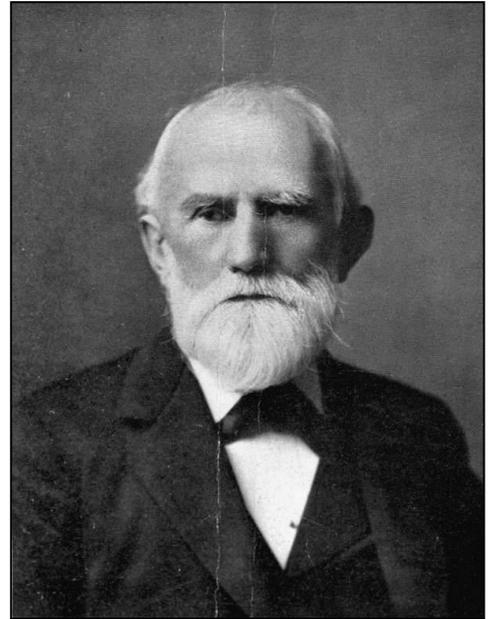
By Compatriot J.R. Miller

Possibly the largest pitched fight around Ochlockonee Bay during the war occurred in March 1863. Armed boats went up the Ochlockonee River to capture the loaded CS Sloop *Onward*. The sloop was captured and taken in tow. The very capable Capt. G. W. Scott of the old Rangers, Guards, and Independents now reformed as the 5th Fla. Cavalry (pictured left) heard the news and left Newport quickly enough to find the sloop still in the river.

Some CS soldiers were already on the scene when Scott arrived to finish filling up the tree studded river bank to a force of nearly 200 troops. Federals must have seen a Reb behind every tree! The almost 2-hour battle that followed involved grapeshot and shrapnel shells from a howitzer on one of the armed boats. The Federals left with 1 dead and 6 wounded. There were no casualties in Scott's company.

On 15 July 1863 the screw steamer *gunboat USS Stars and Stripes* and wooden side-wheel steam ferryboat *USS Somerset* attacked the salt works at Mashes Sands.

In December 1863 the US Steamer *Stars and Stripes* came upon the schooner *Caroline Gertrude* and, finding it aground on a bar in Ochlockonee Bay, attempted its capture. They soon found they would not be able to capture and refloat it because of heavy musket fire from the Confederate Cavalry on the beach. One Cavalryman was killed and one wounded in the several hour exchange of gunfire. Realizing they would not be able to leave with this valuable prize schooner, the Federals set the schooner ablaze as they finally beat a hasty retreat (without recovering the ship's cargo of cotton but with the dozen, or so, crew as prisoners).



On 19 and 20 October 1864 the *Stars and Stripes* destroyed an extensive Confederate fishery at Mash Island (Mashes Sands) and captured the troops stationed there as guards.

Photo above: Post-War photo of Lt. Col George Washington Scott

Photo left: Veterans marker for Julius Robison of the Wakulla Rangers who was in the action around Ochlockonee Bay



The Legend of the Stars and Bars

Submitted by Compatriot Ned Roberts from Ultimateflags.com

After its birth the First National Flag of the Confederacy became known as the Stars and Bars. Now some



may raise their eyebrows, believing that term applies to the Confederate Battle Flag. I don't want to upset anyone, but the Battle Flag was known to soldiers as the Southern Cross.

We say "First National" because this was the first of three official national flags of the Confederate States of America. Its design was presented to the provisional congress of the Confederate States by the flag committee on March 4, 1861 – about five weeks before Ft. Sumter was fired on (that is Ft. Sumter in the first photo of this

article, the Stars and Bars flying). The records show no recorded vote: it was adopted by just writing it into the congressional journal.

There are two common stories about who designed this flag, and a lot of folks have debated and fussed over which is right. The disagreement has never reached the level of the Hatfield's and McCoy's feud, but there have been some raised voices, and we can assume a black eye or two.

One of these tales says that the flag was drawn by Nicola Marschall, a successful artist of the era. In fact, Marschall painted a portrait of President Jefferson Davis himself. Marschall joined the Confederate army, rose to be a Lieutenant in an engineering regiment, and chief draftsman for various maps and fortifications during the war.

Marschall wrote that he did three different designs for the flag, one of which resulted in the Stars and Bars. Details are written up in an interview he did for a 1917 newspaper article. One can read this information in many works from university and government sources (particularly Alabama, where Marschall lived at the outbreak of the war).

One might be convinced by this scholarly work. Of course, the sentences and wording do seem to repeat a great deal, as if these writings were going along in a series, one copying another. Marschall is commonly described as a German-American or a Prussian, and it is often stated that he was inspired by the Austrian flag. Well, the Austrian flag had three bars, red on top and bottom and white in the middle. Makes for good story-telling, but as evidence it has discard value only.

Another story revolves around a [tombstone](#) in Henderson, North Carolina, marking the burial spot of Orren Randolph Smith. This stone has an inscription, “Designer of the Stars and Bars.” Smith claimed (in his later years) that he had designed the original national flag of the Confederate States of America. Let’s take a look at what the wartime records show.

The [National Archives](#) has the flags book of the Confederate Congress, all the letters and documentation, and many of the design submissions for the various Confederate national flags during the war. While not everyone provided a name on their proposal, all those that did are in the records.

Neither Smith’s nor Marschall’s name appear anywhere in the book, nor in the notations of the Confederate Committee on Flag & Seal. On the contrary, the chairman of the Flag Committee, William Porcher Miles, was very clear on this matter. He wrote that the flag design presented to the Confederate States Provisional Congress was not chosen from any of the submitted designs but was created by the flag committee itself.

None of the period newspapers of the time (March 1861) ever stated anyone as being the designer. If there had been a name circulated at all, it most certainly would have made its way into the press. And I think we can count on the fact that the reporters would have been looking for one (especially that of a prominent person such as Marschall). Those newspaper accounts that mention the details of how the flag came are unanimous that it was created by the flag committee.

In truth, design proposals had flooded in from all over, including many from the North. With so many designs there were bound to be some that had one or more similarities to the final product, bringing about situations where various people might claim they designed the flag.

In fact, we know of such a design in the records of the Committee on Flag and Seal of the Confederate States Congress, submitted by someone from South Carolina. That design resembles the First National, with some differences. The stars are on a red field, instead of a blue field. There are three bars, but instead of top and bottom bars of red, they are blue.

So, the best evidence is that the Confederate Congress Committee on Flag and Seal came up with the design, as Miles reported. But some individuals presented designs that were close enough to the final result that they could have believed they were the actual designer. Any number of folks may have thought this was the case, but never made a case for it. And we can be pretty sure others than Marschall and Smith spoke up, but we just don’t have a record of it. (Bear in mind that both Nicola Marschall of Alabama and Orren R. Smith of North Carolina made their claims *after* the war was over – in the case of Smith way after the war.)

On the other hand, who am I to get in the way of a good feud?



Check us out on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/235023710735/>

Commanders Comments

Compatriots, you may have already heard that I was elected the Florida Division Commander in June. It has been a very busy month and will continue to be for the next two years. Many challenges have already presented themselves! You may not know...that I am not the first Division Commander from Finley's Brigade. Past Commander Doug Dawson was a member of Finley's when elected, but later transferred to the Stephen Mallory Camp in Pensacola. I will not be going anywhere. I will be relying on Finley's Lieutenants more. 1st LT Thomas, 2nd LT Cotton, and 3rd LT Windsor will be running the Camp.

We are in the dues collection cycle again! This is a time to honor your Confederate Ancestor by submitting your dues to the Adjutant PRIOR to August 31. We need everyone of you, now more than ever.

We will be moving our meeting place. The Golden Corral will be undergoing a renovation beginning in August. We will still meet at the Golden Corral in July! We need your help finding a new place. Please contact one of our Lieutenants if you have a suggestion. We would like to stay on the northside of Tallahassee, but its not a deal breaker to go elsewhere.

Many thanks to the members who helped with the Adopt-a-Road on June 23rd. There was a poor turnout and we need to do better. Consider helping us out.

The National SCV Reunion is coming up this month. 1LT Thomas and Jane, myself and Mary Etta, and Compatriot JR Miller will be attending. The 2019 Reunion will be a short drive away in Mobile, AL, and the 2020 Reunion will be in our backyard at Jacksonville, FL. It won't be any closer to us again for many years. If you've never been, plan on going to one of these. We need maximum participation for the 2020 in Jax.

In the bonds of the South

Kelly



(Street mural in Northern Ireland)

**YEP! OLE'
BEDFORD'S HAVIN'
ANOTHER PARTY!!!**



*You are cordially invited to attend the 19th Annual Birthday Celebration of
Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest!*

Saturday July 14, 2018

3:00 PM

At

“FORT DIXIE”

Home of Butch & Pat Godwin

10800 Co. Rd. 30

Selma, Alabama 36701

***Guest Speaker – Dr. Samuel Mitcham
Author of: Bust Hell Wide Open***

Live Music by:

Tallassie Armory Guards 1921 Band

Southern Fried Catfish Supper w/ all the fixin's served at 6:00PM

***Auction, door prizes, ice cold watermelon served all day long –
Drawing for NBF Hot Cast Bronze Mini Bust***

HOTELS: (Area Code 334) - ** **Quality Inn- 874-8600**; Hampton Inn- 876-9995;
Comfort Inn-875-5700; Holiday Inn Express –874-1000; America's Best-872-1900;
**Quality Inn is the Endorsed hotel for Friends of Forrest, Inc. – Ask for FOF Special Rate

***For more information call: Pat Godwin@334-875-1690; 334-419-4566 (cell) e-mail:
oldsouthrebel@zebra.net – please call for reservations for headcount purposes
only.***

***All proceeds go toward Confederate Memorial Circle, Live Oak Cemetery, Selma,
Alabama for historical narrative markers to be placed at points of interest within
Confederate Memorial Circle. DONATIONS ONLY***

Happy Birth-Month!
Captain William Clarke Quantrill



July 31st, 1837

Heritage Opportunities

July 10 – Regular Camp Meeting

July 14 – General Forrest Birthday Party Selma, Alabama

July 18-21 – SCV National Reunion in Franklin, TN

For times, locations, and details for the following events please contact Commander Crocker at kvcroadking@yahoo.com or 850-339-3051.

For comments, questions, concerns, or submissions to the newsletter please contact the editor at timothy.d.cotton.27@gmail.com

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.

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