

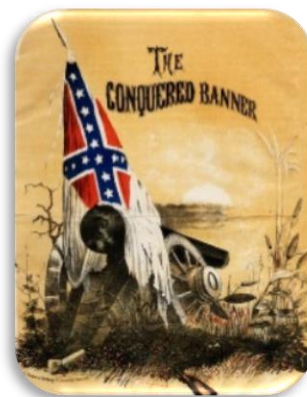


The Conquered Banner

Newsletter of the

Father A.J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302

Sons of Confederate Veterans



VOLUME 26 NUMBER 1

January 2018

Spotlight on Camp 302 Members

Wes Scarbrough

From time to time, it's good that our members provide a short bio we can publish in the camp newsletter, allowing him to share with his fellow members a little of his background and that of his Confederate ancestors. As Sons of Confederate Veterans, this is what we are all about. Comradery and fellowship amongst our members are part of the glue that holds a camp together. In this, the first issue of "The Conquered Banner" for 2018, we put the spotlight on our compatriot Wes Scarbrough.



Wes was born in Richmond, Contra Costa County, California on September 27, 1937. His parents, William Edward Scarbrough and Mary V. Dutra Scarbrough, named him Earl Lee. When his father passed away in 1988, Wes went to the Superior Court in Oakland, California and legally had his name changed by Decree of Court to Wes L. Scarbrough in honor of his dad's initials which happened to be: W.E.S.

Wes worked as a firefighter with the City of El Cerrito, California. He worked in Suppression, Prevention, Investigation and Training, and became a certified California State Master Fire Instructor and Deputy State Fire Marshall. Wes retired as a battalion fire chief in 1990 with 31 years of service. Wes was also a police academy instructor at Los Medanos Community College in Pittsburg, California teaching Arson, Investigation, Bombs and Explosives, Hazardous Materials and Unusual Circumstances. Wait a minute! We're not done yet.

After retiring from the Fire Service, Wes was a seasonal archaeology crew leader for the U.S. Forrest Service for 3 years (Wes had a minor in archaeology from college). He spent some of this time as a Fire Lookout high in the Southern Cascade Range, covering one National Forrest, a Wilderness area and a National Park. He held other part-time jobs such as security guard, armored car driver and offset printer.

Wes is an active member in the Modoc County Sherriff's Posse, volunteering as a receptionist of the county jail and directing traffic when requested for parades and forest fires. A member of the Boy Scouts for 31 years, he attained Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver and other awards. He is a member of the Eagle Scout Board of Review and a member of the Elks Lodge No. 1756 in Alturas, California.

(Continued on Page Three)

International Headquarters
 Sons of Confederate Veterans
 P.O. Box 59
 Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0059
1-800-MY-DIXIE

Salute to the Confederate Flag

I salute the Confederate flag with affection, reverence and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands.

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"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 the ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen D. Lee

Newsletter

The Conquered Banner is the official newsletter of Camp 302 and is published each odd-numbered month. Permission to reprint material contained in the newsletter is freely given to SCV, MOSB and UDC organizations. Commentary and articles are solicited and should be mailed or e-mailed to the Newsletter Editor. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the preceding month. Consideration of space may require editing.

Meetings

The camp meets the 2nd Saturday of each odd-numbered month at various locations which are announced in the newsletter.

Correspondence

Membership applications, dues renewals, changes of address and other business should be directed to the adjutant.

Dues

Annual dues are billed each August and are \$45.00 for members. Dues include the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and a newsletter. A red "X" in the following box indicates your dues have not been received. { }

Camp officers

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Commander | <u>Jim Stephens</u> |
| LCDR | <u>Jim Millsap</u> |
| 2 nd LCDR | <u>George Faircloth</u> |
| Adjutant/Treasurer | <u>Roy Adair</u> |
| Chaplain | <u>Jim Coulsby</u> |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | <u>Steve Smith</u> |
| Historian | <u>Vacant</u> |
| Newsletter Editor | <u>Jim Stephens</u> |

Minutes from the November 11, 2017 Meeting

A luncheon meeting was conducted at Anna's Family Restaurant in La Mesa and called to order at approximately 12:15 PM. Chaplain Jim Coulsby led off with the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate Flag. There were no new members to swear in and no awards to present. Attending members were Ira Lack, Jim Coulsby, George Faircloth, John Armstrong, Jim Millsap, Mike Schooling, and Steve Hughes. Wes Scarbrough, who has applied for membership, was a guest. With the camp adjutant/treasurer not present, Commander Stephens noted briefly that the camp had \$46,000 in the camp treasury and that camp taxes had been filed for the year.

Old Business: The attending members as well as the entire camp were thanked for the \$500 donation to the SCV Hurricane Relief Fund for the damage in Texas as well as the \$200 donation to Compatriot Chuck Meadows for his sister whose home was destroyed in the same storm. Cdr. Stephens told the attendees of the successful Musket Shoot and said that he would forward photos to those who participated in the shoot. The suggested change in the camp newsletter format was again voted down with a resounding vote to keep it as a PDF attachment. Cdr. Stephens told the members that the proposed \$500 contribution to the Santa Ana Monument is on hold.

New Business: Members were reminded once again of the Wreaths Across America event occurring on December 16, 2017 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Also, the attending members voted overwhelmingly to make an annual \$50 donation to that worthy cause. The 2018 Camp Calendar was gone over and the meeting date for March was changed to Saturday, March 3rd due to the Division Convention occurring the following weekend. All attendees were encouraged to make plans for attending. The next item on the agenda was the proposed Camp Challenge Coin which Jim Millsap volunteered to take for action. Cdr. Stephens mentioned that he is trying to get the USS Midway admin staff to provide names of military veterans working on the ship who have passed away so that they can be recognized during the monthly ceremony at the VMC. Everyone was advised that the camp website is back up. A discussion was held regarding the proposed \$100 donation to the Civil War Trust. The vote was withheld for the present time as a determination to the frequency of the donation will be brought up at the next meeting. Jim Coulsby and Steve Hughes acquired their new camp shirts with Steve ordering an additional shirt. A very important agenda item that was discussed and voted on and approved during the business portion of the meeting was that of the proposed changes to the camp bylaws. They were as follows: deleting the reference to 1st Lieutenant Commander in lieu of Lieutenant Commander; changing Section C of Article VI to allow camp officers to serve consecutive two-year terms until that office is challenged; and changing article XI to specify that all camp funds and property will be turned over to National Headquarters in the event the camp is dissolved for any reason. Also, regarding the camp's Standing Rules, the attending members voted unanimously to grant the camp commander approval to authorize an expenditure of \$100 without the camp's approval. Cdr. Stephens asked for and received a *yea* from the camp's color guard to stand in for the 82nd Airborne for the November 25th ceremony at the VMC. Everyone present was reminded of the next camp meeting to be held at Mimi's Restaurant in Mira Mesa on January 13, 2018. The business portion of the camp meeting was brought to a close and Chaplain Coulsby gave the Benediction to conclude the meeting.

(Spotlight on Camp 302 members continued from page one)

Wes served in the U.S. Air Force from 1956 to 1958 as a crash rescue firefighter. He was assigned to the 93rd Bombardment Wing (B-52's), Strategic Air Command. Honorably discharged from the Air Force, he joined the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve in 1976, retiring as a Senior Chief Petty Officer in 1997. Throughout this time, he was an underway Coast Guard firefighting instructor on the American President Lines container ships in the ports of San Francisco, San Diego, and Valdes, Alaska and was later assigned to the U.S. Navy firefighting school at Treasure Island. His education is impressive. Wes earned a BA degree in U.S. History from San Francisco State University in 1975 and has two lifetime teaching credentials in Fire Protection and the Administration of Justice. He was a certified Emergency Medical Technician for approximately 30 years. *What is interesting here is that as a trained Bomb Disposal Technician during his time with the Berkeley Police Bomb Squad, he worked intelligence gathering on people who bought black powder that could be used to make IEDs, the very same powder we purchase to use in our Civil War Muskets.*

Wes Scarbrough's desire to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans, especially Father A.J. Ryan Camp 302, is just as important as his personal and professional background. Dividing his time between his homes in Northern California and Carlsbad and having as a good friend Lieutenant Commander Jim Millsap, Camp 302 was the obvious choice. Wes's association with Camp 302 goes back farther than any of us that are presently members. Timothy Scarbrough, Wes's son, attended a couple of Camp 302 meetings back in 1995—only two years after the camp was chartered. At that time, the late Eugene Harper was the camp's commander. Let us now take a look at Wes's Civil War ancestor.

Wes's family roots lie in the Deep South and center around the State of Alabama. His second great granduncle, Aven Scarbrough Jr. of Watoola, Russell County (now Lee County), Alabama, served as a private in Company F, 39th Alabama Infantry Regiment. He was 45 years of age at the time of his service in the Confederate Army in 1862. According to Wes's research, Aven was wounded during the Battle of Resasca, Georgia and died of his wounds on June 11th 1864 and is buried in the vicinity of the battle.

Wes recently discovered that his second great grandfather, Simeon Orr, served in the 13th Alabama Infantry Regiment as a sergeant in Company D. Sergeant Orr was present at the Battle of South Mountain and Sharpsburg, Maryland. He was severely wounded at Chancellorsville. His final battle seems to have been at Bristow Station on September 19, 1863. Wes found it very strange that Simeon Orr was transferred to the Confederate Navy in April of 1864 (*Editor's Note: This may not be so strange. Case in point – Due to its hazardous nature, and the skills and volunteers needed to complete the task, Army Lieutenant George Dixon commanded the C.S.S. Hunley on its fateful mission to sink the U.S.S. Housatonic in 1864.*)

Wes, like many of us, had more than one ancestor that served the Confederate military. I think everyone reading this will agree that Wes's personal background as well as that of his ancestors is very striking and is something that he and his family can most certainly be proud of. I'm certain that our camp members join me in welcoming Wes Scarbrough to our ranks.

I want to thank Wes for allowing me to edit and present his Bio for Camp 302 and its readers.

Jim Stephens

Camp Meeting, November 11, 2017

Camp 302 conducted its November Luncheon and Business meeting at Anna's Family Restaurant in La Mesa. As noted on Page Two of this newsletter, much was discussed and, due to a quorum being present, voting was conducted on several important issues facing the camp with unanimous approval coming forth. Much appreciation goes out to Compatriot John Armstrong for arranging the camp's gathering at Anna's. The attendees welcomed upcoming member, Wes Scarbrough, to the camp.



LCDR Jim Millsap, Wes Scarbrough and John Armstrong awaiting lunch prior to start of business

L to R: Steve Hughes, George Faircloth, Chaplain Jim Coulsby and Ira Lack chat during lunch (note: not pictured, Mike Schooling)



EXPLORING OUR SOUTHERN HERITAGE

From time to time, I like to go through my collection of Southern Folklore and read stories and tales of the period that are both heartwarming and informative, tying us to our Southern roots. This is such a story. Now I know as Sons of Confederate Veterans, many look upon Abraham Lincoln as a pariah. But he did have his soft touch and many times during the war, he granted passes and favors to Southerners who came to him. *The following story is from "Weep No More, My Lady," by Alvin F. Harlow, pp. 164-165. Copyright, 1942, by Alvin F. Harlow. New York and London: Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. as published in "A Treasury of Southern Folklore, B.A. Bodkin, Crown Publishers, Copyright 1949.*

"The Not Uncivil War"

Of course some of the most beautiful episodes were supplied by the gentle son of Kentucky who sat through four years of soul-agony in the White House, and whose finest trait was his humanity, his love for his fellow men. Enemies made much of the fact that the wives of two Kentucky Rebels, Mrs. Ben Hardin Helm and Mrs. Clement White, were guests in the White House, although they were both sisters of Mrs. Lincoln. The former, the beautiful Emilie Todd, was a favorite of the President, and after her husband, General Helm, had been killed at Chickamauga (the third commander of Kentucky's "Orphan Brigade" to fall, Hanson dying at Murfreesboro and Albert Sidney Johnson at Shiloh), Lincoln invited her to visit her sister. He sent her passes, and she reached Baltimore without trouble. But there, Federal officers insisted that she must take the oath of allegiance to the United States before she could proceed to Washington. Much distressed, she refused; it would be treason to the South, to her husband's memory. The officers insisted; it was a general order which they could not disobey; but she was equally firm in her refusal. At last, one said, "We will telegraph the President." Back came a curt order, "Send her to me. A. Lincoln"; and so she went without taking the oath.

J. Stoddard Johnston, the future historian of Louisville, and his wife were young married folks with a new baby when he, after long and painful deliberation as to his course, went away to join the Confederate army. Two and a half years passed without his coming home, and the parting was insufferably long. Finally one winter when he was in camp in the Shenandoah Valley and the armies were inactive, his wife took the baby and reached Washington at a time when the oath was not required. She went to Secretary of War Stanton for permission to cross the lines, and as might be expected was barked at; he wasn't extending any favors to rebels.

"Why waste time on that ruffian," said a friend to her. "Go to the President." She went and was received, of course; Lincoln saw everybody. He rose and seated her courteously.

"It is a most unusual request," he said gently, when she had told her story, "coming from a wife of one who is at war against the Nation. But I can understand the circumstances--a faint smile touched the sad, rugged countenance--and I'm going to grant it." He leaned forward and wrote a pass--not only sending her as far as the railroad could carry her, but giving her an army ambulance to take her the rest of the way to the Confederate lines. Nobody thereafter could utter unchallenged in the presence of the Johnston family any derogatory thing about Abraham Lincoln.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA - 2017

Much appreciation goes out to Adjutant Roy Adair, the UDC's Robyn Adair and Compatriot George Faircloth for attending and representing Camp 302 and the UDC Chapter 476 in this year's Wreaths Across America celebration at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery on Saturday, December 16th. In recent years, this event has become so popular that parking and access to Miramar and Ft. Rosecrans National Cemeteries has made it virtually impossible to park anywhere close to the sites making walking or shuttle rides the only way to access the cemetery. Many national organizations plus local citizens participate in this worthy event to honor our fallen veterans buried at these locations by placing fresh wreaths at the graves of these folks. This event takes place at most of our national cemeteries nationwide. Once again, thanks to Roy, Robyn and George for representing the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Camp 302 now donates \$50.00 annually to this worthy cause. Timothy Campion, head of the WAA here in the San Diego area announced that 13,000 wreaths were placed this year.



Compatriot George Faircloth, Adjutant Roy Adair and the Stonewall Jackson Chapter 476 of the UDC's Robyn Adair at Fort Rosecrans for the 2017 Wreaths Across America on Saturday December 16, 2017



Roy and George placing wreaths at the gravestones



These fresh wreaths decorate the hundreds of gravesites of our veterans throughout Fort Rosecrans as well as Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, honoring all those here for their service and sacrifice to our great country.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

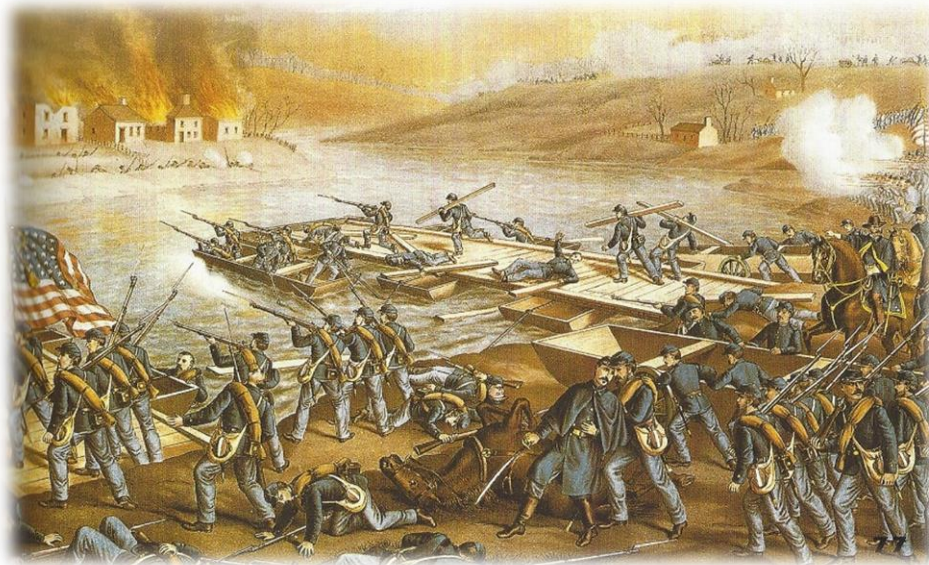
December 1862/January 1863

As 1862 draws to a close, we see fighting in Tennessee, Arkansas and Virginia, but most significantly in Maryland. The loss at Gettysburg in July, 1862 would deprive the Confederacy of its ability to mount any strategic offensive for the remainder of the war. During January 1863, there would be a few scattered Confederate victories. The following was taken from *Civil War Day by Day* by Philip Katcher, Chartwell Books, Inc. 2010, pp 76-83 (abridged):

December - 7 **The Battle of Hartsville.** Union Troops guarding the Hartsville Crossing on the Cumberland River are over-whelmed by a large scale Confederate attack. The Union defeat allows more extensive Confederate raiding into West Tennessee and Kentucky.

December – 13 **The Battle of Fredricksburg/Marye's Heights.** Eager to prove his aggressiveness as the commander of the Army of the Potomac, Burnside planned a winter offensive toward Richmond, Virginia, aiming to cross the Rappahannock River at Fredricksburg. Burnside had an army of 120,000 men. He reorganized it into three Grand Divisions-Right, Center, and Left-each of

two army corps plus attached cavalry. By November 19 the Union Army was occupying Falmouth to the north of Fredricksburg and the Stafford Heights overlooking the river. It was a great achievement to get such a large army moving so fast; but once at the Rappahannock, the Union forces halted. The bridge had been destroyed, and Burnside's army had to wait a month for pontoon bridges to arrive. Lee's Confederate army took full advantage of the delay. On November 19 James Longstreet's corps (41,000 men) arrived on Marye's Heights, a ridge overlooking the city, and began digging in. "Stonewall" Jackson's corps of 39,000 began to arrive and were posted to Longstreet's right flank, extending the Confederate position 7 miles (11km) south to Prospect Hill. Lee



was assembling an army of 90,000 men entrenched on heights from which they could fire on almost every inch of ground to the river. (*The lithograph above depicts Union troops crossing the Rappahannock River.*) Not until December 11 was Burnside able to bridge the river. His forces built six pontoon bridges under fire from Confederates in the city. By nightfall they were occupying Fredricksburg. On December 12 Edwin V. Sumner's Union Right Grand Division formed up among Fredricksburg's streets, while William B. Franklin's Left Grand Division marched downstream to cross. Franklin makes an assault today with the aim of taking Prospect Hill. By 09:00 hours just two small divisions have advanced. Only to be pinned down by Confederate fire. By the afternoon they are still at the foot of the ridge. A counterattack drives the federals back. Franklin's assault is over for no gain. Burnside's second attack is toward Longstreet. From 12:00 hours brigade after brigade of Sumner's Grand Division advances out to the city, trying to cover the 800 yards (730m) of open ground to the Confederate guns on Marye's Heights positioned behind a stone wall. There are 14 successive charges, but not one Union soldier gets within 100 feet (30m) of the wall. By evening 6,500 Union troops lay dead and dying.

December 14 – **The Battle of Fredricksburg/Marye's Heights.** Burnside orders renewed attacks, but is persuaded by his officers that they would be futile. He orders his troops back across the river. His losses are awful. Over 12,000 are killed or wounded. Confederate losses are 4,700. The battle proves to be one of the South's most overwhelming victories. Once again the Union army's advance to Richmond has failed. The defeat lowers morale in the army of the Potomac and throughout the North.

December 19 – **The Battle of Jackson.** General Nathan Bedford Forrest attacks Union railroad supply lines near Jackson. (*At Right: The Confederate cavalry commander Nathan Bedford Forrest. His attack at Jackson was little more than a feint while two other mounted columns destroyed railroad track north and south of Jackson.*)



(Continued On Page Eight)

(War Between the States continued from page seven)

December 26 – 29 – **The Battle of Chickasaw Bayou/Walnut Hills.** The Union assault towards Vicksburg is stopped and suffers 1,776 casualties when it runs into Confederate defenses in the Walnut Hills.

December 31 – January 2 – **The Battle of Murfreesboro/Stones River.** In December 1862 Rosecrans ordered his Union Army of Cumberland out of its winter quarters near Nashville to advance south to Murfreesboro, where Braxton Bragg's Confederate Army of Tennessee was assembled. By December 30 the two armies faced each other near Stones River. Each general planned to attack the other's right flank, hoping a successful assault would lead to the rout of the opposing army. The Confederates struck at dawn the next day, and enjoyed considerable success as seven brigades fell on two Union brigades guarding Rosecrans' flank. But the spirited attack did not lead to a rout; instead, the Union army conducted a fighting retreat. Throughout today the Army of Tennessee repeatedly assaults the Union forces, while Rosecrans and his staff desperately try to hold their ground. By the time darkness falls, the Confederates have succeeded in driving their opponents back more than 2 miles (3.2km) Bragg wires to Richmond that the Union army is in retreat. But to Bragg's surprise the dawn's light reveals Rosecrans' army waiting to renew the fight. Little happened on New Year's Day, but fighting resumed on January 2, when Bragg ordered a frontal assault on an isolated Union position. An initial success turned into the repulse of the Confederates. Bragg ordered a retreat on the morning of January 3, although his decision was swayed by the false impression that the Union army had been reinforced. The battle was among the hardest fought of the Civil War. Of Bragg's 35,000 troops, 27 percent were killed or wounded. The Union forces lost 23 percent of their 41,400 men. The battle was a strategic victory for the Union forces, which secured control of Kentucky while increasing their hold on Tennessee. It also boosted morale after the disaster at Fredricksburg. Lincoln telegraphed his battered but unyielding troops a heartfelt "God bless you."

January 8 – **The Battle of Galveston.** Galveston, garrisoned by three companies of the Union 42nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment under the command of Colonel Isaac S. Burrell, is recaptured by a combined land/sea assault by the Confederates. But the Union blockade remains in place.

CIVIL WAR WEAPONS

Model 1861 Rifle Musket – One of the most widely issued rifles was the U.S. Model 1861 Rifle Musket, of which over a million were produced, most of them at the Union Arsenal at Springfield, Massachusetts. They were issued to the Union army, but the Confederates got hold of huge numbers of them after some of the Union's worst defeats. During July and August of 1862, Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia picked up 55,000 new rifles after beating the Army of the Potomac during the Seven Days' Battles and the Second Battle of Bull Run, when Union soldiers threw away their weapons in retreat.

Editor's Note: Fighting occurred in many other locations around the Confederacy during this period. Perhaps, however, two major events taking place during this time would forever seal the fate of the Confederate States Government. Earlier we talked about the Battle of Gettysburg (The high tide of the Confederacy). Also, President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation came into effect in January of 1863. It would add a civil rights/racial aspect at this point, mid-way through the war. The South had, from the beginning, set its hopes on foreign intervention to shorten or even halt the war, forcing the Union to sue for peace. However, many of the nations who formerly favored the Confederacy would not dare go to war with any country fighting to end slavery.

Facts and Trivia:

"Doctor Livingstone, I presume?" Who doesn't know these famous words as uttered by journalist/explorer Sir Henry Morton Stanley in November of 1871 when he found the sickly doctor in the Arab slave-trading town of Ujiji along the shores of Lake Tanganyika. As a young man, this Welsh-American worked as a clerk in a dry-goods warehouse in New Orleans in the late 1850s. When the Civil War broke out, he joined the Confederate army and served in the Sixth Arkansas Volunteer Infantry, Company "E" as a private. He fought during the Battle of Shiloh in April of 1862 and was later captured and sent to Camp Douglas outside of Chicago. As a prisoner, he served as an amanuensis (writing letters) for illiterate soldiers, many of whom were veterans of the Mexican/American war of 1847. Due to his organizational skills and orderly manner—and his achievements in record keeping and inventory—he was able to ration out the meager rations given to his fellow Confederate prisoners despite the harsh conditions they experienced during captivity. His Union captors noticed these attributes and, also due to his British nationality, released Stanley from confinement providing he take the Oath of Allegiance to the Union cause and serve in the Union army, which he did for a short while in light artillery until he collapsed during drill and was deemed unfit for service. He would later join the Union Navy and serve as a clerk and admiral's secretary on the warship Minnesota where he sent out many war dispatches. Becoming bored with this way of life, he and a shipmate took unauthorized leave at Portsmouth, New Hampshire and, after a time, while working in New York, he ventured out west, becoming a journalist. Later, Stanley's world travels as a journalist and explorer, particularly his exploits in Africa (especially in the Congo), would make him world famous and overshadow his four short years living in the South and his service in both the Confederate and Union militaries. He would later have to relinquish his American citizenship when serving in Parliament and being knighted by Queen Victoria. (*Twain & Stanley Enter Paradise* by Oscar Hijuelos, Grand Central Publishing, New York, November 2015 Pg. 1 – 150)

Next Camp Meeting

Date: January 13, 2018

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Mimi's Restaurant, Mira Mesa. Located at 10788 Westview Pkwy at the corner of Mira Mesa Blvd just west of I-15. Phone #: (858) 566-6667.



VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, BALBOA PARK



*Camp 302's Color Guard stood in for the 82nd Airborne Division Color Guard on November 25th due to their prior commitments
L to R: Commander Jim Stephens, Compatriot Wes Scarbrough, LCDR Jim Millsap & Compatriot Ira Lack*

GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER



Ladies and Gentlemen, another year has slipped past us—much too fast as I'm sure you all will agree. Here we are at the beginning of 2018 and, hopefully, ready to face its challenges. First, let me say that I hope all of you had a great Christmas and New Year's with your family and friends. Our first meeting of the year is coming up on the 13th of January and I look forward to seeing everyone at Mimi's in Mira Mesa. As usual, we'll have a lot to talk about regarding the past and future. Of course, the passing of our friend and fellow compatriot Stu Hoffman was our camp's sad *nadir* for the 2017.

As noted in the minutes of the last meeting, the attending members voted overwhelmingly to approve three changes to the camp's bylaws. (1) The official designation of the second-in-command of the camp will be Lieutenant Commander vice 1st Lieutenant Commander. (2) Camp officers will be allowed to serve consecutive two-year terms until that office is challenged. (3) In the event of camp dissolution, camp property, records, and funds will be turned over to the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. In the Standing Rules for the camp, an approval vote carried to allow the Camp Commander to authorize the expenditure of \$100 vice \$40.

Thanks to Roy and Robyn Adair along with George Faircloth for attending the 2017 Wreaths Across America event at Fort Rosecrans. Your camp has voted to approve a \$50 annual donation to this worthy cause.

Camp 302's Color Guard will post the colors at the UDC's Southern Luncheon in Pomona on the 20th of January. Camp members have been forwarded registration forms and are encouraged to attend. We have the 2018 California Division Convention to look forward to in March. As of publication time, we are still awaiting word on the registration fees for the convention, but I have sent out the hotel registration forms for the Four Points in Bakersfield. We hope to see a good number attending this year. The camp calendar is complete for 2018 and dates and events will be noted at the next meeting. I encourage everyone to check out our camp website that has been updated with all the events for 2018.

Jim Stephens

