



The Conquered Banner

Newsletter of the

Father A.J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302

Sons of Confederate Veterans



VOLUME 26 NUMBER 6

November 2018

Civil War Chaplains

The word *chapel* is derived from the latin word *capella*, meaning a place of worship other than a church. During the past 150 years, the word *chaplain* has become attached to those who serve in the military. This includes rabbis as well as chaplains of all denominations including Moslems¹

For over a quarter of a century now, Camp 302 has had the distinction of being named after a remarkable religious figure, Father Abram Joseph Ryan, the Irish-American priest, Confederate chaplain/poet and Southern patriot. This namesake of our camp, whose likeness adorns the nameplate of our newsletter, was the brainchild of founding member and camp historian, Gene Armistead. Early in 1993 as the camp was being formed prior to its charter, Gene researched camp names throughout the SCV and found that no camp was named after Father Ryan or any Confederate chaplain for that matter. The founding members liked the idea, many of them remembering having to memorize Ryan's *Conquered Banner* poem in school. Camp Commander Gene Harper likewise approved, but insisted that San Diego be part of the camp name to signify its position within the California Division.² Thus today, we are identified as Father A.J. Ryan San Diego Camp 302. Because of Father Ryan's epic poem that our early members knew so well, understanding that it immortalized *The Lost Cause*, the September 18, 1993 issue of the camp newsletter carried the name *The Conquered Banner*. Today, fellow compatriots, we can all be proud that it still adorns the masthead of our newsletter, identifying our camp and reminding us of the man who faithfully served the Confederacy and gave the South, and the world, that immortal poem tying us to our Southern heritage. Of course, we are not here to talk only of Father Ryan and our camp, but to discuss Civil War chaplain corps of both sides, how they were organized and served the spiritual needs of Civil War soldiers. There's a plethora of books and other literature available today that go into the history of Civil War chaplains, but in this article, we'll discuss briefly a few of the army chaplains and their service during the War Between the States.

In the beginning, the massive number of men of all faiths who were called to fight for both sides and the necessary requirement to serve their spiritual needs were well known. Both presidents Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis, with their respective governments, called for, early on, volunteer chaplains to serve the troops. *"Of course, chaplains were not new to the United States military. They had served since the American Revolution, though not in great numbers. The Civil War would see an increase in their numbers, as well as their influence. The Confederate Congress was the first to authorize Civil War chaplains for service in the army..."*³ In May of 1861, the Confederate Congress passed a bill authorizing President Davis to appoint chaplains to serve in the Confederate Army. It would be in August of that same year that the U.S. Congress authorized chaplains for the Union Army. Unlike today, however, the chaplain corps of our military then, did not get off to a smooth start.

Early in the war, both Union and Confederate armies accepted ordained ministers from various Christian denominations such as Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians, Baptists and Catholics. Initially, the chaplains entered the service as privates with no command rank. Later in October of 1864, the U.S. Congress authorized Union Chaplains to hold the rank of Captain in the Cavalry and to wear the uniform and insignia commensurate with that rank. They were paid \$100 per month. Unlike their Union counterparts, Confederate chaplains held no rank and were paid as members of the military at the rate of one half the pay of a first lieutenant.⁴

(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 \$50.00 for members. Dues include the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and a newsletter.

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/Publisher	<u>Jim Stephens</u>

Minutes from the September 8, 2018 Meeting

Camp 302 conducted its bi-monthly meeting at the El Ranchero Restaurant in Vista on Saturday the 8th for a Brunch/Business gathering. The camp returned to the El Ranchero after a long absence. Members and guests in attendance were as follows: Jim Stephens, Jim Millsap, Steve Perdue, Steve Smith, Ernie Powell, Chuck Meadows and Ira Lack. The camp was pleased to have as guests Robert and Jane Zoch, Gene Armistead, Deanne Smith, and Gus Goetch. Lieutenant Commander Millsap lead off with the Invocation after which a great Mexican Brunch was served. To begin the meeting, attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Confederate Flag. Chuck Meadows addressed the gathering to offer his thanks to Camp 302 for the monetary assistance provided to his sister in Texas whose home was destroyed in a massive hurricane recently. He reported that she is doing well and has a new home. The camp welcomed back, after a long absence, former member and co-founder, Gene Armistead. He then took to the floor and discussed his new book, *An Arch Rebel like Myself*, the story of Dan Showalter and the Civil War in California and Texas. This was an excellent presentation on people and facts of the war in California and Texas and of the Mexican involvement many of us were not aware of. The book promises to be a good read and the camp purchased a copy for the camp library. Commander Stephens was pleased to give Jane Zoch her replacement camp shirt for the one she lost in her recent home fire.

Old Business: LCDR Jim Millsap continues to offer Camp 302 Challenge Coins for sale. Several were sold at the meeting. The members present were reminded of the Memorial service that Commander Stephens and Adjutant Adair attended for John Armstrong at Fort Rosecrans.

New Business: Commander Stephens told of the Division Meeting conducted on August 19th and some of the key issues discussed there, which included The Hunley Award pin to be given to all Hunley Award presenters, and the Civilian War Service medal that is being proposed by the division that will be presented to civilians of all wars that were in combat roles. Those present were reminded that each dues-paying member of the California Division will be presented a Gillis Flag that is coming soon. Everyone was told to start thinking about the 2019 Convention in Bakersfield and that H.K. Edgerton is being invited to attend. The 2018 Musket Shoot in October was brought to everyone's attention. E-mails will be coming soon to remind shooters of time, date and location.

The next scheduled VMC Color Guard will be on October 27, 2018

A location for the next camp meeting has not been decided as of yet. There being no further new business, Chaplain Powell provided the Benediction and the meeting was closed by the Camp Commander.

(Civil War Chaplains continued from page one)

Originally, the Confederate Congress authorized a chaplain's pay to be \$85 per month, but the amount was, by amendment, lowered to \$50 after one congressman complained that "all a chaplain has to do is to preach once a week." History and experience would prove the congressman wrong.⁵ When the War Between the States broke out in 1861, the military attitude toward religion reflected that of the general populace, which of course goes back to this country's beginnings as Christianity became America's

official religion. That, of course, was the reason why only Christian chaplains were permitted to apply as the army's spiritual advisors. Pictured at left and right respectively are images of a typical Confederate and Union chaplain. This now brings us to the Jewish-Americans who volunteered to fight for both the Union and the Confederacy.

Of the Jewish men who lived in the North and those who lived in the South in 1861, an estimated 120,000 would serve in the Union army and 2,000, or thereabouts, fought for the Confederacy. Several years ago, Camp 302 had a Jewish visitor give a presentation on Jewish Confederates; he gave a number of around 9,000 Jewish members in the Confederate Army.

When several Northern rabbis volunteered to join the Union army as chaplains, they were immediately turned down for the simple reason that only Christians could serve as chaplains. Anti-Jewish bias was prevalent in the North during those days, particularly in government institutions and the military. Ohio Representative Clement Vallandigham, himself non-Jewish, complained to the Lincoln administration that this restriction was "blatantly unconstitutional." This, of course, fell on deaf ears. Rabbi Arnold Fischel of New York, who was elected as chaplain of a Pennsylvania unit, would be rejected for that position by Secretary of War, Simon Cameron. Later, Fischel gained an audience with Lincoln pressing the case for Jewish chaplains. Finally, in 1862, Lincoln—with the approval of congress—would come around and appoint three rabbis to serve as chaplains in the Union Army.⁶

A completely different attitude existed in the south at that time—mainly because Southern fundamentalist Christians looked on their fellow Jewish citizens as "the chosen people." The Confederate Government had three prominent Jewish administrators: Judah P. Benjamin, Secretary of State; Abraham Myers, Army Quartermaster; and David de Leon, Surgeon General. Due to the paucity of Jewish soldiers in the Confederate army, as Rabbi Bertrom W. Korn says in his book, *Jewish Chaplains During the Civil War*, "The Confederate military establishment merely stipulated that they should be 'Clergymen' with no denomination specified. There were not a sufficient number of Jews in any one regiment to warrant the election of a Jewish chaplain."⁷ There would, however, be a few Jewish Rabbis that served the Confederate Army; one was Abraham Laser of Mobile, Alabama. He also was a close friend of Father Abram Ryan. New Orleans Rabbi Henry Weiss, many years later, would be a force behind the Abram J. Ryan Memorial in Mobile following Father Ryan's death in 1886.⁸

The low number of Catholic chaplains in both armies during the war and the reluctance of the church hierarchy to supply chaplains can be blamed, in part, on the large influx of Catholic immigrants at the time and the lack of priests in the various parishes throughout the country. However, a Catholic priest who would make a name for himself as a Confederate chaplain during the War Between the States was Father Peter Whelan (shown on the left). This Irish born priest, ordained at Charleston, South Carolina in 1830, would, at the beginning of the war, volunteer as a Confederate chaplain to serve the Irish-American unit at Fort Pulaski near Savannah, Georgia. When the war ended in 1865, Father Whelan had the distinction of having ministered to men of both Confederate and Union armies. When Fort Pulaski came under heavy bombardment during a thirty-day siege by Union forces, the Confederates were forced to surrender. Father Whelan, along with his fellow Confederates, were transported to a prison on Governors Island in New York. Amid horrible sanitary conditions, sickness and disease, Father Whelan did his best to obtain food and clothing for his fellow prisoners. When Confederate officers obtained a new uniform to present to Father Whelan, he felt that giving it to another needy prisoner was more appropriate. Later, when he and others were exchanged, he returned to his parish in Savannah.⁹ Upon hearing of the horrid conditions at

Andersonville, Father Whelan volunteered to minister to the Union prisoners there, many of them being Irish-Americans. The conditions being so horrible that other Catholic priests who were assisting Father Whelan would not return to the prison camp. His work at Andersonville would eventually cost him his health. Peter Whelan died in 1872. His funeral was the largest that Savannah had seen up to that time. Father Whelan would win the *sobriquet* "The Angel of Andersonville."¹⁰

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(Civil War Chaplains continued from Page Three)

Of course, the bulk of the Confederate Chaplain Corps consisted of many Protestant denominations as denoted earlier. While the exact number of Confederate chaplains and missionaries is unknown, existing records indicate the army was well supplied. President Davis is known to have approved 400 chaplains. It is estimated, however, that between 600 and 1000 chaplains served the Confederate Army. The Methodist and Episcopalian churches supplied approximately 300 chaplains. Pictured at left is the Right Reverend Alfred Magill Randolph of the Episcopal Church. Born in 1836 in Winchester, Virginia, Randolph was ordained in 1860 and became a Confederate chaplain in 1862, serving until the end of the war. Afterwards, he would serve his church throughout Virginia, becoming a Bishop in 1883. Bishop Randolph died in Norfolk, Virginia in 1918 and was paid the high honor of having a Confederate Honor Guard present at his funeral mass, and former Maryland Confederate soldier and fellow Episcopal Bishop Rev. Randolph McKim deliver his eulogy. Alfred Randolph is buried in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery.¹¹

The South had its fighting chaplains as well. Among them was Isaac T. Tichenor, a Baptist chaplain from Alabama. Reverend Tichenor showed his fellow Confederates his sharpshooting abilities during the Battle of Shiloh in 1862. After the war, Tichenor became President of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama that later became Auburn University. Isaac Tichenor died in Atlanta, Georgia in 1902. Pictured at right is a postwar photograph

of Tichenor.¹²

Some Confederate chaplains became distinguished line officers. General Robert E. Lee had as his Chief of Artillery, Brigadier General William N. Pendleton shown here at left. Pendleton, himself an Episcopal minister, liked naming his guns after gospel writers such as Matthew, Luke and John. He served in the Army of Northern Virginia until the end of the war. When Bishop Leonidas Polk was killed during the Atlanta campaign, President Davis proposed that Pendleton replace Polk. However, Lee objected saying that General Pendleton would be unsuited for the position. For the rest of his life, William Pendleton would defend the lost cause and the reputation of Robert E. Lee. After the war, Pendleton encouraged Lee to move to Lexington, Virginia and run the college that would eventually become Washington and Lee. At Lexington, Pendleton was rector of Grace Church that Lee attended and where he would conduct Lee's funeral. Pendleton, himself, died at Lexington in 1883.¹³

We mustn't forget the Confederacy's Black chaplain, Louis Napoleon Nelson. He had the distinction of being the first Black chaplain in either army. In 1862, the 7th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment was in need of a chaplain and at the time, there were not enough clergymen in the area; however, present in the regiment was Nelson, the body guard to two brothers in the unit. Being a man of God, Nelson volunteered to be the regiment's spiritual advisor. His sermons were so well enjoyed that the field

officers appointed him their regimental chaplain. What made this possible was that President Davis authorized field commanders the freedom to appoint chaplains. During this period of history in the South, black men of high ranking were called "Uncle." Thus, the men of the 7th Tennessee, out of respect, called him Uncle Louis. In 1863, a reporter for the Religious Herald wrote, "*Uncle Louis is heard with respectful attention and for earnestness, zeal and sincerity, can be surpassed by none.*"¹⁴

Pictured at left is Henry McNeal Turner, The first Black chaplain for the Union Army. He was appointed in September 1863 as chaplain of the 1st United States Colored Troops. Born in South Carolina in 1834, Reverend Turner was pastor of Israel AME Church in Washington D.C. at the start of the war. Later in life, he became a bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He also was a politician, being appointed to the Georgia Assembly during the Reconstruction period, and public theologian. He died in Windsor, Canada in 1915 and is buried in Atlanta, Georgia.¹⁵

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(Civil War Chaplains continued from Page Four)

In this article, we've discussed only a few of the chaplains who stand out among the hundreds who served their respective governments during the War Between the States, and the humanitarian and spiritual services they provided to the soldiers. Chaplains not only preached salvation and counseled soldiers on a host of issues, but they also comforted the wounded and prayed over the dying. One thing we can say here is that during the mid-nineteenth century, people readily accepted religion and death, perhaps more readily than we do now. Civil War soldiers were no different. They faced harsh living conditions and death as massive numbers of men engaged in bloody combat, much of it hand-to-hand, knowing that any moment they might face eternity. It was under these conditions that men were more than ready to absorb the preaching and welcome the salvation these chaplains offered. It was during the long periods between fighting that revivals took place. Thousands of soldiers, particularly Confederates, attended these revivals and were baptized as depicted in the painting at right on display at the National Civil War Chaplains Museum in Lynchburg, Virginia. It is no doubt that chaplains were kept busy.



In many cases, chaplains experienced the same conditions as the soldiers they ministered. It was not uncommon for chaplains to be captured several times over. Generally, they would soon be released and returned to their own lines. As we saw with Father Peter Whelan, some chaplains would find themselves ministering to troops on the opposite side. These conditions would not, however, apply to chaplains who were caught encouraging others to escape or showing themselves too dangerous to release. This applied to both Confederate and Union prison camps. Fighting chaplains often put themselves in imminent danger. Sixty-Six Union chaplains were killed in battle while Commander John L. Lenhart

became the first U.S. Navy chaplain killed. What could be considered cruel punishment would be applied to a courageous Confederate chaplain in 1864. After his capture, Albert Gallatin Willis was offered a chaplain's pardon to avoid execution by his Union captors. Chaplain Willis served with Colonel John S. Mosby's Partisan Rangers. Mosby's hit-and-run tactics played havoc on Union operations in an area of Virginia that has been termed "Mosby's Confederacy." During these raids, Union soldiers were bound to be killed. General Grant, tiring of this harassment, announced as his policy that for every Union soldier killed by Mosby's men, he would execute one Confederate whom his men captured. As it was to be, Willis and a fellow trooper were told to draw straws to see who was to be hanged. When his companion—a married man with children—drew the short straw, Chaplain Willis turned down his pardon and took his companion's place, declaring his Christian faith and stating that he was not afraid of death. Albert Willis was hung right after praying for his executioners. He is buried in the Flint Hill Baptist Church graveyard in Flint Hill, Virginia.¹⁶



Albert Gallatin Willis
Courtesy William S.
Burrell And Tom
Evans

The chaplains we've read about in these pages, whether Confederate or Union, truly deserve of the long-overdue recognition they have since received of their accomplishments during that monumental war of 1861-1865.

True, these men of God were, as should be expected, sectional in their political and cultural thinking. They and the Americans in their congregations, civilian and military, both South and North, prayed to the same God, but it was only natural that the Confederate Chaplain and the Union Chaplain should think that God was on their side? Today, our SCV chaplains play a more peaceful role in everyday camp functions but they do, offer spiritual guidance to the descendants of these fighting men of long ago.

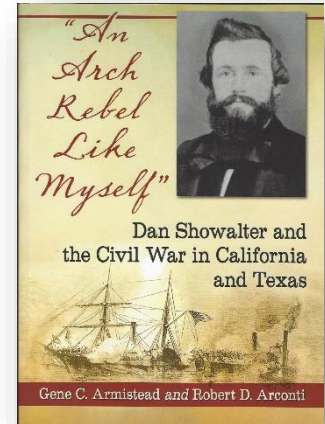
Jim Stephens

Notes:

- 1 Dr. Gerhard Falk, "Jewish Military Chaplains," jbuff.com, Jewish Buffalo on the Web.
- 2 Gene Armistead, "First Five Years (April 1993 – April 1998,) Camp 302 Compatriots Manual p.3 Sect. 3-15, Mar 27, 2000.
- 3 Richard G. Williams, Jr., "Chaplains in the Civil War," Essential Civil War Curriculum, p.3/11
- 4 ibid
- 5 ibid
- 6 Dr. Gerhard Falk, "Jewish Military Chaplains."
- 7 Rabbi Bertrom W. Korn, "Jewish Chaplains in the Civil War, p. 6-7
- 8 Donald Robert Beagle & Bryan Albin Gienza, "Poet of the Lost Cause," A life of Father Ryan, p.64, University of Tennessee Press.
- 9 John Burger, "Brother Serving Brother," Father Peter Whelan, p. 1-3, Knights of Columbus, Columbia On Line Edition.
- 10 Pearl River Ancient Order of Hibernians, "Fr. Peter Whelan, The Angel of Andersonville."
- 11 Wikipedia, "Alfred Magill Randolph," p. 1-3
- 12 Charles White, "Chaplains in the Civil War," p.2 cyberneticlight.com.
- 13 Wikipedia, "William N. Pendleton," p. 1-3.
- 14 Dixie Outfitters, "Louis Napoleon Nelson, The First Black Chaplain of the Civil War," p. 1-3
- 15 Wikipedia, "Henry McNeal Turner," The First Black Chaplain in the Union Army.
- 16 Richard G. Williams, Jr., Chaplains in the Civil War, p. 7-8

CAMP MEETING

Saturday, September 8th, Camp 302 members gathered at the El Ranchero Restaurant in Vista for our bi-monthly business meeting and to enjoy a tasty Mexican brunch. We were fortunate to have as guest speaker Gene Armistead, one of the camp's founding members. It is always nice to have him come back to visit his old camp. Gene gave the attendees an excellent talk on his recently published book with co-author Robert Arconti, *An Arch Rebel Like Myself*. It is the story of Dan Showalter and the Civil War occurring in California and Texas. Pictured here is the front cover with the likeness of Showalter, a pro-Confederate member of the California State Assembly. It promises to be a great read and a camp copy is available for loan. E-mail Commander Stephens for details.



Gene Armistead describes his new book to members and guests

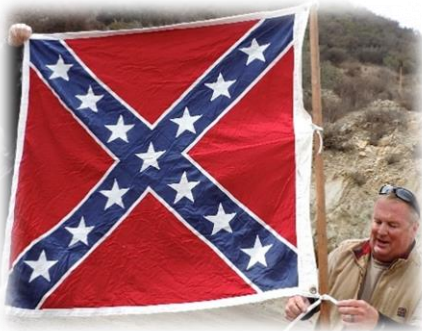


Jane Zoch shows off her new camp shirt presented by Camp 302 to replace her camp shirt destroyed in a home fire



Camp members and guests enjoy their food prior to the meeting

CAMP 302 MUSKET SHOOT – 2018



October rolled around and it was time once again for the camp's annual musket shoot at the South Bay Rod & Gun Club. On Saturday, October 6, 2018, compatriots and guest gathered at the gun club in Dulzura located in East County for the event we've participated in for the last several years. The day was perfect for shooting—a sunny day and the temperature just right. In the next few pages, we'll present a montage of photos, many taken by Joanne Frazier, a member of the range safety team who not only keeps us on the straight and narrow but also takes great photos. Along with her partner, David Boyle, who always gets us out of trouble, we had a safe and fun time.

Most importantly, Steve Smith (at left) prepared the flag to signify our presence. Besides Steve, there was Deanne Smith, Travis Smith, Stephanie Kazior, Selenne Martinez, Ira Lack, Jim Millsap, Jim Stephens, Steve Perdue, Dave Allyn, Beau Hollis and Robert Fowler who all

grabbed their muskets and tried their luck firing at 25-yard targets.

Below left, Stephanie Kazior and Steve Smith prepare the blocks that hold the five .58 Cal Minnie Balls, the caps and the powder each shooter will fire in the competition.



We wish to thank Dave Allyn, member and chaplain of the Sgt. William Pittenger Camp 21 of the SUVCW who loves to shoot with us, representing his camp. We were pleased to meet Stephanie Kazior, USMC, stationed at MCAS Miramar and soon to become a Chicago Police Officer when her tour is up. As always, it's great to see Davenia Cray, UDC, who brought her two grandsons Beau and Robert along for their try at



musket shooting. Robyn Adair dropped by to pay a short visit and deliver the shipment of Gillis Flags that will be distributed to all Camp 302 members.



Range Safety Officer David Boyle (at left) checks out the muskets prior to shooting to ensure they are clean and ready to go. As usual during the competition, there are a few glitches that occur such as jammed ram rods. At right, Steve struggles to remove the ram rod while Dave Allyn and Travis Smith hold on to the musket. Eventually, they, along with the help of David Boyle, were able to fire the rod out of the musket with powder poured in behind the nipple.



At left, David delivers his safety brief to all the shooters. This is the serious part of our gathering at the range as preparations for live firing are complete. Everyone fired off a couple of practice rounds prior to the actual competition that was soon to begin. Tom Fox of the rod and gun club dropped by just before we started; Tom has been very good to us at the range, making sure we are scheduled for the next year.



(Continued on Page Eight)

(Musket Shoot continued from Page Seven)

Plenty of snacks, soda pop and water was brought along for everyone to enjoy during the competition. Once the shooting began in earnest, things went along smoothly. As mentioned earlier, a jammed rod, a few misfires and some Minnie balls that were rejected as being oversized did not slow things down too much. The following photos depict the shooters aiming for the bullseye.



Travis Smith & Selenne Martinez on the line



Steve looks on as Deanne pulls the trigger



Stephanie Kazior is up for her turn



Ira gets ready



Jim Millsap goes for the black



Jim Stephens fires his musket for the first time in two years with a repaired trigger



Newest member Steve Perdue gives it a go



Dave Allyn goes for his bullseye as Steve Perdue checks it out

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UNITED VETERANS MEMORIAL SERVICE



VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, BALBOA PARK



The men of Camp 302 stand smartly for a photo after completing Color Guard duty at the VMC, Balboa Park on Saturday, October 27, 2018. Left to Right: LCDR Jim Millsap, Commander Jim Stephens and Compatriot Ira Lack. Thirty-six names of veterans who have passed away in the San Diego area during October were called out with “Taps” following. CDR Stephens works closely with John Vorhies of the Marine Corps League and “Skip” Thompson of the Coast Guard Auxiliary in providing color guard functions for this worthy event that occurs monthly to honor area military veterans who have answered the last roll call. Camp 302 and the Coast Guard auxiliary Color Guard alternate on a quarterly basis with one month in between left open.

(Musket Shoot Continued from Page Eight)



Beau Hollis gives it a shot



Fowler aims straight for the target



Steve Smith and Travis Smith proudly pose after the competition

The musket competition came to a close after a few hours with twelve shooters firing off their five rounds. It was evident that everyone present had a good time and all made a good effort to obtain the highest score during the shoot. Of course, there must be winners. The top shooter this day was Travis Smith, who won with a score of 49; he walked away with a \$50 prize. Second in line was Stephanie Kazior, one point lower at a 48. And, as usual, Steve Smith—with his trusty musket—made a respectful third place showing with a 46. Congratulations to all three. We could not leave South Bay rod & Gun Club this day without thanking our Range Officers, David Boyle and Joanne Frazier, for their expert help and valuable assistance. These folks were great. And of course, thanks goes out to Tom Fox of the gun club for working with the camp and ensuring that we have a slot here each year. To all who brought snacks and drinks, we are much obliged. A great big thank you goes out to our members and guest who made the effort to come all the way out to Dulzura to make this an outstanding yearly event. We'll see you next year.

Division Meeting – 27 October 2018

Sunday morning, the 27th, members from the California Division began gathering at the home of Lower South Brigade Commander Robert Williams home in Mission Viejo for the quarterly Division meeting. This get-together has proven to be a great way for division and camp officers to weigh in on financial and administrative issues that can be ironed out on the spot. Productive discussions were had and ideas thrown about, resulting in the creation of an effective agenda to be presented to the division for enactment during the annual “Re-Confederation” (as we now refer to the California Division’s annual convention).



At left, Division Commander Steve Smith conducts this month’s session. Besides Commander Smith, those in attendance were as follows: Division Adjutant Dr. Vern Padgett, Lower SoCal Brigade Commander Robert Williams, Quartermaster Ryan Williams, Webmaster Mike Climo, Division Color Sergeant Greg Frasier, Camp 302 Commander Jim Stephens, Division Lieutenant Commander Jon Fowler, Signal Officer Kevin Street, Camp 1770 Lieutenant Commander Greg Beckman and Upper SoCal Brigade Commander David Pyle via video.

Important budget issues were brought to the table. Adjutant Padgett reported the delinquency of three camps that have not paid their division dues, the need for the division to obtain more

donations for its challenge coins and the additional Gillis Flags now on hand, which can be seen at right as Adjutant Padgett holds it up for display. LCDR Fowler advised everyone that the Four Points Hotel in Bakersfield, which hosts the annual re-Confederation, is now under new ownership and that they are requiring the division to deposit \$500 in advance. Also, it was announced that there will be a slight increase in registration fees to cover the hospitality suite. As was the case for the past few years, four national officers will be invited to attend the division gathering on March 8, 9, & 10, 2019. Because of various division expenses, Webmaster Mike Climo suggested that to conserve division funds, contributions to many of the worthy causes such as out-of-state natural disasters and the like should be at the camp level where the division can concentrate on in-state causes.



A hot topic receiving much support on the division level is that of the draft resolution in support of SCV members who have served this country as civilian war fighters. This of course pertains to civilian DOD employees serving in war zones. They would receive the same SCV National Service medal as do SCV members who served in the military. The amended resolution will be submitted to SCV HQ via the chain-of-command on November 11, 2018. Camp 302 members will be shown a copy of the resolution at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Jim Stephens asked about the H.L. Hunley Award Pins that will be given to all Hunley presenters in the future. Jon Fowler responded by stating that they will be distributed at the Re-Confederation in March. Speaking of the Hunley awards, Commander Smith proposed a new scholarship award that will be titled “**The Dr. Vern Padgett Scholarship Award**” starting in 2020. Two JROTC school brigades will be presented \$250 each on an annual basis. More on this later. For the past few years, the division has been awarding “The Rebel of the Year” to a deserving member of the division who has contributed to, and shown dedication to, the SCV and the California Division. A proposal was made and voted on in the affirmative to rename this award “**The Chuck Norred Leadership Award.**” For those who have been a California SCV member for some time, understand that Chuck Norred, a former Division Commander and member of the General Tyree Harris Bell Camp 1804, Fresno, has been a driving force in the SCV and our division.

Plans are continuing to bring out to the Convention/Re-Confederation as guest speaker, H.K. Edgerton. This dedicated Black SCV member who has experienced physical harm in speaking out for our cause (he recently had a lot of teeth knocked out in South Carolina) would be a very welcome speaker and is, in fact, a person in demand. What a plus for us here in California to have him speaking to us. This is a great time for the division to encourage guests to attend his talk at the convention banquet, which can bring in additional funds for the division treasury. Camp 302 was pleased to contribute \$100 for this event.

The division is working to obtain a new California Division flag that will be placed on display at the National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs upon its opening. Thanks to Mike Climo for donating toward this. Mike, as Web Master reported that 15 attacks on the web had been stopped. This included attacks on the Texas/California sites. Signals Officer Kevin Street mentioned that Facebook is doing well with a lot of positive feedback. Heritage Month was discussed with emphasis on making this a more proactive affair with the Division Heritage Team working on programs to honor Confederate soldiers during this time.

The meeting wrapped up around noon and the division members adjourned. The next D.O.C. meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2019 at Compatriot Bob Williams home.

Jim Stephens

NEXT CAMP MEETING

DATE: November 10, 2018

TIME: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Mimi's Café, 10788 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-566-6667

Commander's Notes



As you all saw here, we've had a lot of activity during the last two months. This issue of *The Conquered Banner* closes out another year of reporting on your camp's activities. I hope everyone has had a good year and can look forward to the upcoming holiday period. Our next camp meeting is coming up in a few days—the final meeting of 2018. Let's have a good showing at Mimi's in Mira Mesa this coming Saturday, the 10th. I certainly will have a lot of important information to pass on to you that affects us now and, most importantly, in the upcoming year. We do have a few members away traveling at this time that will not be able to attend.

Camp 302 continues to contribute camp funds to worthy causes in the San Diego area. Adjutant Adair forwarded our annual \$150 check to the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument Foundation at Coronado to replace the Southern States Flags on display there. I sent in a check for \$50 to the RSF Foundation at Rancho Santa Fe for our annual contribution to Wreaths Across America to help purchase the beautiful live wreaths adorning the graves of our American veterans that lie at rest at Fort Rosecrans and Miramar National Cemeteries in San Diego.

This year has not been without disparaging news. We sadly said goodbye to longtime member Compatriot John Armstrong, who now lies at rest at Fort Rosecrans. We certainly will make an effort to lay a wreath at his gravesite. I must also report the loss of my brother Bob Stephens, a member of the Thomas Overby Camp 715 in Newnan, Georgia who passed away a few days ago after a long illness. My wife and I will travel back to Georgia for the memorial service but will be back in time for Saturday's meeting.

As seen in this issue, we had a good time at the annual Musket Shoot in Dulzura in October. Thanks goes out to all who attended, and you will have the photos taken there sent to you via E-mail. Finally, I want to thank all our members who continue to be a part of Camp 302, honoring your Southern heritage.

Jim Stephens