



THE THOMAS H. HOBBS JOURNAL

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp No. 768
P.O. Box 662
Athens, Alabama 35612
www.scv768.org

In Memory of
Capt. Thomas H. Hobbs
Co. F, 9th Alabama Infantry

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Serving the South



Capt. Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Officers

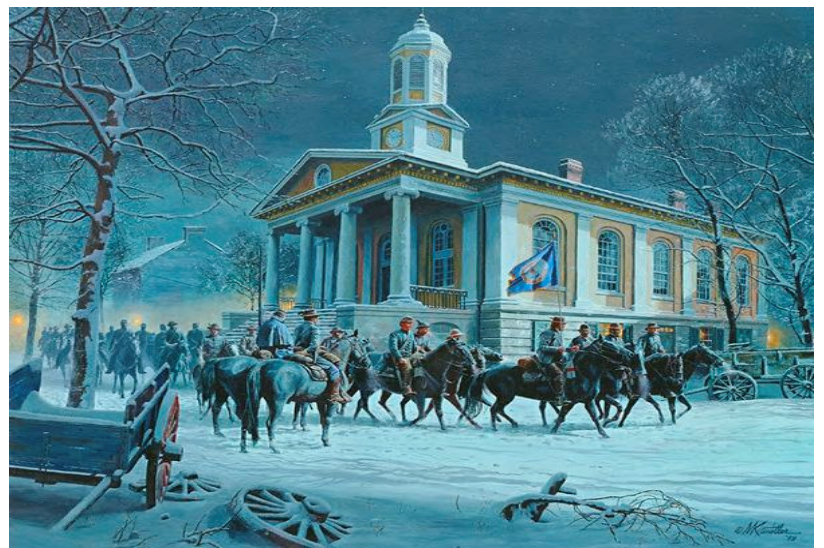
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Merry Christmas from the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp

The Thomas H. Hobbs Journal is the official newsletter of the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

It is available online at www.scv768.org or by e-mail from the distribution list. If you would like to have the *Journal* sent to you please e-mail the editor at: www.CSA54thAla@aol.com and your name will be added to the list. If you have submissions for the *Journal* then e-mail them to the same address and we will try to publish your submission. All submissions become the property of the *Thomas H. Hobbs Journal*.

Editor

Around the Camp

Commanders Corner

Compatriots,

The holiday season is in full swing now. We have just finished Thanksgiving and in a blink of the eye it will be Christmas. 2009 is right around the corner and we hope it will be an eventful year. All across the nation there will be celebrations for the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. Unlike the coverage for President Jefferson Davis, the media will have a field day in covering every aspect of Lincoln's life, reshaping history to satisfy the masses. We will be running some articles and quotes along the way to counter the Lincoln shock and awe campaign.

I encourage each of you to contribute to the newsletter to help fill our space on Lincoln.

The Alabama Division has proclaimed 2009 the year of Admiral Raphael Semmes. We will be doing some features on Admiral Semmes and we hope to be able to have a descendant of the Admirals come speak to us at a camp meeting.

There are several camp activities coming up in early December. The Camp Christmas dinner will be held on the 5th and it looks to be a full house. Invite your friends and family to come celebrate with us. If you have not signed up yet please do so; we need an accurate head count for the food. On the 6th is our annual camp trip to the Nashville Relics Show and on the 7th we will be participating in a grave dedication with the Virginia Clay Clopton Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy. Check the newsletter for more information on these and other events.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Merry Christmas. I hope 2009 brings you a happy and prosperous New Year. Remember our troops fighting overseas and pray for their safe return.

Jimmy Hill

Commanding

Capt. Thomas H. Hobbs Camp

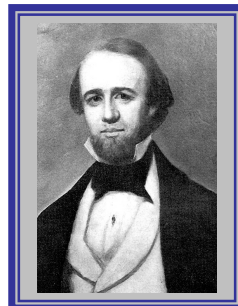
Thomas Hobbs Journal

Excerpt from *The Journals of Thomas Hubbard Hobbs*.

December 23rd 1861 – Was summoned today to act as Judge Advocate of a Gen. Court Martial of which Judge Benning, of Geo. (Col. Of 17th Geo.) is President. We met in Centreville and organized the Court. I was appointed in lieu of Capt. Caldwell, who goes home as escort for Col. Martin's body.

December 25th 1861 – Court did not meet as it is Christmas-----and how different from any Xmas most of us ever saw before! No family reunions, no happy children, no Santa Claus, no old & long tried friends to shake your hands and wish you joy. Last night was the anniversary of my proposal to Anne, and ... I thought much of her and those circumstances. How I would like to see her and those little boys tonight! There is a good deal of drinking in camp, altho' the soldiers have to give \$5 a quart for whiskey.

This would be the last Christmas that Captain Thomas H. Hobbs would ever know. 1862 brought the battle of Gaines' Mill where Captain Hobbs was wounded. He was moved to Lynchburg, Virginia on July 18th to be near his wife and four days later would die. Captain Hobbs is buried in the Spring Hill Cemetery.



Around the Camp



The November meeting of the Captain Thomas Hobbs Camp was held on November 20th at the Veterans Museum. The meeting was called to order and we went directly to our program. The program was presented by camp members, Adjutant Mark Curley and Michael Mumaugh. Michael is the Captain of the 51st Alabama reenactors and Mark is the Quartermaster. The program was on “Vittles”, rations that the Southern troops had to live off of during the war. Mark presented some statistics on the population of the areas and where the food was coming from.

It was interesting to find out that there were large storehouses of food available to the troops but the major problem was in the transport of the food to the battle areas. The South had a poor rail system of odd gauges and the road system left a lot to be desired. Michael brought with him examples of hard tack, tea, and coffee and described how the men were down to eating rats and considering that a delicacy.

During our business session we announced the formation of a new cemetery crew that will begin work on December 20th, weather allowing. We will clean the Tillery cemetery at Ardmore. We will meet at the First Baptist Church Community Center parking lot at 9 AM.

We also discussed the roadblock concerning the placement of a new stone for Captain Hobbs gravesite in Lynchburg. We were given limited options on what we could do by the Spring Hill Cemetery.

Adjutant Curley gave the financial report and noted that the camp had sent another \$500 check to National for the Jefferson Davis Statue fund. This raises our contribution this year to \$1000. We will continue to collect money for this worthwhile project.

Did you know?

Fighting did not stop for Christmas

December 25th 1861- Fighting continued at Cherry, Virginia and Fort Frederick, Maryland

December 25th 1862 – Glasgow, Kentucky is seized and occupied by Confederate forces.

December 25th 1863 – skirmishes break out at Fort Brooke, Florida and at Ft. Gaston, California

December 25th 1864 – Skirmishes continue as the Southern army moves away from Nashville. The battle for Fort Fisher comes to an end with the Union forces retreating.

December 1865

Just like today, Congress should go home in December. In December 1865 Congress convenes and begins the task of undoing the conciliatory policies of President Andrew Johnson towards the South. It forms the Joint Committee on Reconstruction.

The Congress rejects the Senators and Representatives elected by the former Confederate States.



Around the Confederation

S.D. Lee Institute – Charleston, South Carolina

JEFFERSON DAVIS v. ABRAHAM LINCOLN
THE 2009 STEPHEN DILL LEE SEMINAR

The Sons of Confederate Veterans are now taking registrations for the Stephen D. Lee Institute seminar on February 6-7, 2009 at the Hotel Francis Marion in Charleston, South Carolina.

The cost for a registration is \$150 per person. The cost for SCV members and spouses will be a discounted rate of \$125 for a limited period of time.

Registration will include breakfast, lunch and banquet on Saturday, February 6.

Friday evening February 6, 2009 -Edwin C. Bearss - A Conversation with Ed Bearss: The Assassination of Jefferson Davis—The Dahlgren Raid. 8pm.

Saturday February 7, 2009 at 8:30 am. Thomas DiLorenzo Host and Moderator Clyde Wilson A Sacrifice for his people: Jefferson Davis's Persecution and Imprisonment

Brian Cisco - Davis, Lincoln and the Rules of War

Marshall DeRosa - The Confederate Experience in Constitutional Government.

Kent Masterson Brown - Jefferson Davis, Constitutionalist

Donald Livingston - Davis, Lincoln and Liberty

Samuel C. Smith - Davis, Lincoln and Christian Faith

Please register today. You can register by calling The Sons of Confederate Veterans at 1-800-MY DIXIE (1-800-693-4943).

Hotel reservations at a discounted rate can be made by calling the historic Hotel Francis Marion at 1-877-756-2121 or 1-843-722-0602 or by visiting their website at www.francismarioncharleston.com.

Thanks for your support of Southern history.

Brag Bowling
Event Chairman

Alabama Guardian Program

*Designed to Honor the Confederate Soldiers
Memory*

Check it out on the Alabama Division Website!



Got Yours Yet?

Camp Activities

Christmas Dinner

The annual Camp Christmas Dinner will be held on December 5th. It will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in the Fellowship Hall where we held it last year. We will open the doors around 6 PM and we will start serving at 6:30 PM. We have booked Shane Adkins, a local award-winning musician to perform for before and after the dinner. Check him out at www.Shaneadkins.com, He will perform Southern music and Christmas tunes as well. There will be door prizes given away as well. The Camp will provide ham and turkey along with green beans, corn, drinks and bread. It will be a pot luck dinner, each family is requested to bring a dish or dessert so that there will be plenty to eat. The Order of Confederate ladies will coordinate the menu through RSVP's.

This year we will be doing something different than in the past. In these difficult times many people are having to struggle and are not as blessed as others. We are setting up boxes inside the hall to collect food items to be donated to the local food bank. Three years ago we did this as a separate camp project and we collected a huge amount of food. Now it is needed more than ever. Canned goods, flour, sugar and other staples are needed especially this time of year. Please help us so we can help others.

The Christmas Dinner is also the time of year we present the Camp Awards. Each year we present the Camp Member of the Year Award and the Compatriot of the Year Award. The latter goes to someone outside the camp that is nominated by a camp member for something that they contributed to the Hobbs Camp or to promote Southern Heritage.

Please make plans to attend; this is the one-month we try to put all the SCV business aside except for the awards portion and some simple announcements. This is a time for us to fellowship with each other and reflect back on the year. Please RSVP to Jimmy Hill at www.CSA54thAla@aol.com or 233-3366 or to Donnie Stanford at www.StanfordDonnie@yahoo.com or at 232-7418.

Include your name, number in your family that will be attending and what dish you will bring. Invite friends and family to attend, the more the merrier!

Food Drive

Please remember to bring a few can food items or staple foods such as flour, meal or sugar to the Christmas dinner. We will be donating these items to the local Food Bank for distribution. If you are unable to come to the dinner and still want to contribute through the camp contact Jimmy Hill at 233-3366 and arrangements will be made. You can also donate money and the camp will go purchase food items to go in the boxes.

Grave Dedication

The Hobbs Camp has been asked to participate at a grave dedication service at Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville on December 7th at 2 PM. The Virginia Clay Clopton Chapter of the U.D.C. will be hosting the service. We will post the colors and provide the firing line. If you are able to participate or would like to attend the service, contact Jimmy Hill at 233-3366 or email at CSA54thAla@aol.com

We will make transportation arrangements if needed.

Upcoming Events

Nashville Relics Show

The annual Nashville Relics Show will be held on December 6th and 7th at the fairgrounds. We will leave from the First Baptist Church Fellowship Center parking lot at 7:30 AM on the 6th. We need to get a semi accurate head count on those wanting to attend so we can arrange the transportation.

The show is billed as the largest relics show in the United States and has museum quality pieces down to junk. Everything related to the 1860 – 1865 time period and memorabilia from the early UCV can be found.

Respond back to Jimmy Hill by e-mail at www.CSA54thAla@aol.com or call 233-3366. The trip is open to anyone who wishes to go. We will arrive in Nashville around 9 AM and we will leave Nashville heading home around 1 PM. This should avoid SEC Championship coverage. The cost to get in is \$6. Food and drinks are available at the venue.

Invite someone to go with the group, it is a good way to recruit new members.

Candlelight Service

The Col. Egbert J. Jones Camp #357 holds a candlelight service each year at the Confederate section of Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville.

On December 13th they are having a grave dedication service in Gurley at noon and then will hold the candlelight service at 4:30 PM back at Maple Hill. Everyone is invited to attend. Anyone with a uniform who would like to participate in the 4:30 service needs to be there by 4 PM for instructions.

Maple Hill Cemetery can be reached by taking U.S. 72 into Huntsville and continue on it (University Dr.) until you get to Andrew Jackson Way. Cross Andrew Jackson and go two blocks. Turn right and the street will dead end at the cemetery.

Calendar of Events

- December 05 – Camp Christmas Dinner, 6 PM. There will not be another camp meeting this month.
- December 06 – Nashville Relics Show, 7:30 AM leave for Nashville
- December 07 – Cemetery dedication, Hobbs Color Guard, Maple Hill Cemetery, Huntsville.
- December 13 – Candlelight Service Maple Hill 4:30 PM
- December 20 – Cemetery Work Day, Tillery Cemetery
- December 25 – Christmas Day

Limestone County Soldiers



Dear Madam,

I heartily endorse the acts of your association (U.D.C.) in your endeavor to inculcate into the minds of the young of our sunny South the deeds of valor and heroism of those who cheerfully left their comfortable homes and loved ones, and took their places in the ranks of the most gallant Army, the world knows any thing of; namely the Confederate States Army. The privations and hardships of those who followed the Stars and Bars, can never be fully comprehended by those who did not participate therein. The struggle was too fierce and hardships endured too many, for either pen or tongue to fully portray.

I kept no diary, had no time for doing so and all that I give you is from memory alone and many scenes and incidents have escaped beyond my recall. In the latter part of the year 1862, I enlisted as a private in Company "B" of the 54th Regiment Alabama Infantry. This Company was organized at Athens Limestone County Alabama in 1861 and had been at the front for a year and at the time I enlisted, they had sent back to Athens Ala Lieut. James J. Turrentine as recruiting officer for the Company and I enlisted and went to the Company with Lieut Turrentine.

Our officers were

C.W. Raisler Captain
Jas J. Turrentine 1st Lieut
A.J. Williamson 2nd Lieut
W.H. Story 3rd Lieut
Alpheus Baker Colonel
John A. Minter Lt. Colonel
Joseph Shakleford Major
 Bowers Brigadier
Loyd Tilmans Division
Gen Pembertons Corps
Department of Mississippi

My first engagement with the Yankees was near Bakers Creek, where I was one of about a dozen men detailed for scout and skirmish duty under Lieut J.J. Turrentine. We met the enemys large forces and opened fire on them, they continued to advance and we stood our ground and continued firing, we (11 men) were very nearly surrounded when we were relieved by our forces advancing on the enemy and then we took our places in our command and participated in the great Battle of Bakers Creek – I was in many skirmishes about Vicksburg, was in the Georgia Campaign from Dalton to Atlanta with Joseph E. Johnstons Army, Battles of Atlanta, Peachtree Creek – Lick Skillet- Marietta, and various other engagements and skirmishes around Atlanta. I was in North Carolina with Joseph E. Johnstons Army and took part in the Battle of Bentonville, where we fought hard for two days.

I was in several skirmishes at and around Jackson Miss – Our Regiment, the 54th Alabama. Was transferred from Bowens Brigade to Bufords Brigade and Lorings Division a short time before the Battle of Bakers Creek. I did not have a furlough or leave of absence – I was at my post of duty from the date of my enlistment until our Bonnie Blue Flag was furled in April 1865 when we were surrendered in North Carolina by General Joseph E. Johnston – I was paroled at Greensboro, N.C. If I am worthy of the Southern Cross of Honor and should I be the recipient of one from so noble an association, I will wear it with pride.

Jno. E. Fielding

Taken from Southern Crosses of Honor, Joseph E. Johnston Chapter No. 198, U.D.C. Athens, Alabama

General Stephen D. Lee's
Charge to the
Sons of Confederate Veterans

New Orleans - 1906

“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will submit 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 he loved and which made him glorious and which your also cherish”.

Salute to the Confederate Flag

I Salute the Confederate Flag
with affection, reverence, and
undying devotion to the
Cause for which it stands.



The Thomas H. Hobbs Journal is the official publication of the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp No.768 Sons of Confederate Veterans. The views expressed in the publication are those of the editor. The editorial staff reserves the right to accept or reject any article or advertisement