



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

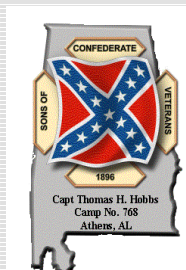
Commander **Phone #**
Jimmy Hill *256-233-3366*

1st Lt. Commander
Michael W. Kelley *256-230-0255*

2nd Lt. Commander
Donnie Stanford. *256-232-7418*

Adjutant
Mark Curley *256-679-9632*

Chaplain
Dwight Banta *256-233-3848*



Recruiting Efforts in Decatur

During the Labor Day weekend the Northeast Brigade set up a recruiting booth at the Battle for Decatur. The Hobbs Camp was represented by Buzz Estes, Charles Kilpatrick, Andy Jackson, Donnie Stanford and Jimmy Hill. They were joined by men from other camps in the Brigade. Also attending were Alabama Division Commander Robert Reames, 1st Lt Commander and AOT Councilman (and Hobbs Camp member) Tom Strain and 2nd Lt. Commander Gary Carlyle (Sylvania Camp Commander) came by to check on us.

We had a total of 9 men who signed our registration sheet looking for more information about the SCV. We gave out almost a case of Confederate Veteran magazines to folks as they came by the booth. Kids were given "Confederate money" to get their interest started.

Thanks to everyone for helping out at the event.

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,

Summer comes to an end in September and typically we see an increased attendance at the camp meetings. We had a good turnout for the August meeting even though we did not have a scheduled speaker. One of the best parts of being a member of the SCV is the ability to meet with people who share that common bond, of being a descendant of a Confederate soldier. Your soldier endured hard times over a five year span that we can only imagine. The Charge given to us by General S.D. Lee inspires us to remember and honor our Confederate Heritage. Over the next few months you will see a lot of new activity going on within the camp. We are planning a Christmas cemetery tour to include historical Athens citizens and our Confederate soldiers who are buried at the City Cemetery. We will be starting the Hobbs marker project and we will be participating in Confederate events wherever we can.

If you know someone who has a Confederate soldier in their family tree make sure you invite them to a camp meeting. As we move forward into 2009 we need to keep our camp strong and that requires members who are active in camp projects as well as recruiting.

Our camp has grown without a lot of specialized recruiting in the county. This year we are going to focus more on recruiting booths in Limestone County at different events and we are going to continue some of our tried and true recruiting methods.

Also new for this year is the Alabama Guardian Program. This is a Division project that anyone can participate in. It involves the upkeep of Confederate graves. More on the program can be found in this issue of the *Hobbs Journal*.

Jimmy Hill

Commander

Sesquicentennial Pins

The Camp purchased 20 of the Sesquicentennial Pins advertised in the *Confederate Veteran*. Adjutant Mark Curley has them and they can be purchased for \$10 each at camp meetings. To order by mail send a check for \$12 to the camp PO Box. The extra \$2 will cover postage and we will mail the pin to you. Also in the back of the *Confederate Veteran* were two static cling decals for the Sesquicentennial.

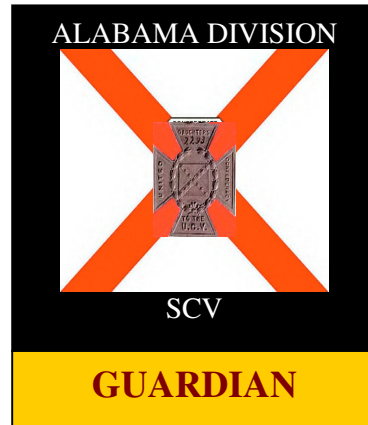
Camp Awards

The Hobbs Camp was awarded a Meritorious Service Award by the Alabama Division for their work on the Alabama Division Cemetery Project. All known Confederate soldiers buried in Limestone County have been registered and are marked with a stone denoting their service to the CSA. Along with the Camp Award several members of the Hobbs Camp received various awards from the Division, Jimmy Hill, Mike Kelley, Mark Curley, Bill Norton, Charles Kilpatrick and David Abernathy received certificates.

A very special award goes to the Hobbs Camp this year. In 2008 the Alabama Division did a recruiting drive in each Brigade. The Camp that recruited the most new members in each Brigade would receive an Officers sword. The Hobbs Camp was the recipient of the Recruiting Sword for 2007 – 2008. We had an increase of seventeen new members during that time period.



Alabama Division



Alabama Guardian Program

Designed to Honor the Confederate Soldiers Memory

1. **Purpose:** The program is designed to honor the memory of our Confederate ancestors and through its implementation will provide the preservation of their final resting places and will document for future generations their sacrifices.
2. **Eligibility:** Any Alabama Division camp member in good standing, who is at least 12 years of age and who has demonstrated his desire and ability to serve as a GUARDIAN.
All compatriots are encouraged to participate in the program to honor our ancestors and to protect their final resting place.
3. **DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**
 - (A) He shall care for and protect the grave(s) of a Confederate Veteran, ensuring that the gravesite is kept clean and well maintained year round. He shall perform these duties personally unless he is physically unable because of health reasons. At no time shall these responsibilities be passed on to another without the approval of the GUARDIAN committee for the Alabama Division.
 - (B) He will be responsible to appropriately mark the grave so it is designated as a final resting place of a Confederate Veteran. This can be by stone, plaque, Cross of Honor, etc.
He will also be responsible for replacing or repairing any marker that is worn, damaged or destroyed.
 - (C) He shall personally visit the grave a minimum of four times a year to include Confederate Memorial Day or at least one week prior. He shall place a wreath or a small Confederate flag or both on the grave.

4. **APPLICATIONS, REVIEWS & APPROVAL:**

- (A) Individuals who wish to participate in the GUARDIAN program must complete and submit the Guardian Application form to their Camp Commander. The Camp Commander will submit the form to the Guardian Committee of the Division.
- (B) **The application must be accompanied with a map showing the location of the gravesite along with written driving instructions to the cemetery. A before photo**
- (C) **must also be submitted before approval. An after photograph can be submitted for the file as work is completed.**
- (D) The applicant must also remit a one-time \$10.00 fee with the application to cover the cost of the GUARDIAN pin and certificate, which will be awarded upon the candidate's approval for membership in the GUARDIAN program. The fee is non-refundable.
- (C) Individuals who are not accepted into the GUARDIAN program will be given an explanation in writing by the Review Committee. The applicant can request an appeal of the decision. The Review Committee will review the applicants appeal and render a decision. The decision of the Review Committee is final.

5. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- (A) **Multiple Gravesites:** GUARDIANS may care for more than one gravesite and will be recognized by the Guardian Review Committee. Special certificates or indications on the Guardian pin may be authorized to signify the care of multiple veterans' graves. Normally no more than 25 gravesites will be authorized for a Guardian to care for. The Review Committee may authorize more than 25 on a case by case basis under the advice of the applicants Camp Commander.
- (B) **Forfeiture of Guardian position:** A Guardian who cannot meet the requirements of his position due to relocation, health or other reasons must notify the Review Committee. All fees are non-refundable.
- (C) **Bequeathing of GUARDIAN position:** A Guardian may transfer his responsibilities as a Guardian to another SCV member in good standing with prior approval by the Review Committee. There is \$10.00 fee for transferring the Guardianship. This fee will cover the new Guardian's membership pin and certificate. If he is already in the Guardian program there will be a \$3.00 fee to cover the certificate designating the new guardianship he is undertaking.
- (D) **Revocation of GUARDIAN status:** The Review Committee may revoke the status of a participant in the Guardian program if he fails to carry out his duties and responsibilities as outlined. The Committee reserves the right to inspect, with or without notice, any GUARDIAN'S Confederate Veteran's gravesite to confirm compliance with all of the rules and regulations specified in the program.
- (E) **Wilderness Gravesite:** This is a gravesite that is completely neglected or abandoned in a remote area. Application for this special designation must be accompanied with before and after pictures of the gravesite and the Guardian must meet all other requirements of the program. If this status is approved the applicant will be approved to wear a silver star on a ribbon attached to the Guardian pin.

ALABAMA GUARDIAN PROGRAM APPLICATION

Turn Application into Camp Commander

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone #: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____

Location: _____

GRAVESITE DETAILS

Confederate Veterans Name: _____

Rank: _____ Unit: _____ Co.: _____

Born: ___/___/___ Died: ___/___/___ Condition of site: Poor, Fair, Good, Excellent
(circle one)

Location of Grave: *(Include name of cemetery, city and county)*: _____

Marker on Grave denoting Confederate Service: _____ Cross of Honor? _____

Documentation of Confederate Service: *List book, service record, etc* . _____

I affirm that all the information here is true and accurate. I agree to faithfully care for and protect this Confederate Veteran's grave in accordance with the GUARDIAN PROGRAM rules for as long as I am able. In the event I cannot carry out my duties, I shall notify the Review Committee immediately. I also understand that the Review Committee can revoke my status as a GUARDIAN for good cause.

Signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Camp Commander: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Mail Application, Map and Photos to:

Alabama Guardian Program
P.O. Box 662
Athens, Alabama 35612

***** DO NOT WRITE ON LINES BELOW *****

1. Application Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Date ___/___/___
2. Wilderness Grave Status Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Date ___/___/___

Approval signature: _____



Around the Campfire



The August meeting of the Hobbs Camp was a business meeting designed to bring the camp up to date on a lot of things that we face in the coming year. Commander Jimmy Hill presented a review of camp expenses to the camp. For us to remain an active camp it showed the need for fundraising on a larger scale.

Something we enjoy doing and never get tired of is the presentation of new members. At the August meeting we presented Matt Palmer with his membership certificate. Matt has just graduated from Sparkman High School and will be a valuable asset to the camp. Along with Matt we presented a membership certificate to our youngest camp member, Cameron Coggin, age 12. Don't let the age fool you. Cameron already has plans on becoming an Alabama Guardian and wants to participate in Camp activities.

Already members but taking that extra step were Compatriots Barry Watters, Dewey Spears, David Griggs and Buzz Estes. They have applied for and were accepted for life membership in the National SCV. Barry has also sent in for the Division lifetime membership. Along with Mike Kelley and Mark Curley we have added to our growing list of life members at the Hobbs Camp this year.

A discussion was held on a proposal to participate with the Chamber of Commerce and Limestone County in a reenactment being planned by a group from Lauderdale County. A committee to study our participation was formed and the members are Buzz Estes, Richard Martin and Tom Strain, Chairman. You will hear more about this project as it unfolds. We are looking at 2010 for the first shots to be fired.



Pictured above is the official license plate from the State of Alabama for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The tag is \$50 above the price of your normal plate and can be personalized. The Alabama Division receives over \$40 per plate to go towards its operating budget. Show your pride and wear your colors!

Upcoming Camp Events

September 14- Grave dedication,
Arab, Al. 1 PM

September 18 - Hobbs Camp Meeting
Veterans Museum
7 PM



Camp Activities



Hobbs Marker

The Camp voted to begin the preliminary phase of the Hobbs Marker Project. A committee was formed at the August meeting to study what we can do at the cemetery in Virginia where Captain Hobbs is buried and to make contact with the local SCV camp to see if we can count on their participation. The committee consists of David Abernathy, Don Frost, Tom Strain and is being chaired by 1st Lt. Commander Mike Kelley.

They will be making reports to the camp membership on their progress. We will also be looking into an appropriate way to honor Captain Hobbs in Limestone County. One suggestion was to erect a historical marker in front of his boyhood home.

If you have any suggestions for either phase of the project or you would like to volunteer to help then please contact Mike Kelley at 230-0255 or auac@bellsouth.net

Fiddlers Convention

We will be doing a scaled down version of the Fiddlers Convention this year but we will still need volunteers to make it happen. With the change in policy of the Fiddlers Convention we will have one tent instead of two. Our menu will change to a simpler variety that is less time consuming to prepare before the event and less time to put together at the event. We will be focusing on fair food. Hot dogs, hamburgers, corn dogs, etc. as our mainstay. We will also have bottled water and soft drinks to sell. We will need volunteers for Friday and Saturday. We will be setting up the tent on Friday morning and we will start grilling around 10 AM. This will still be the major source of revenue that we have for the camp. Contact any of the camp officers to sign up or sign up on the sheet that will be at the September meeting. The dates for the Fiddlers are October 3rd and 4th.

Appointment

Those of you that were at the August Camp meeting know that Tom Strain tendered his resignation as 2nd Lt. Commander of the Hobbs Camp. Tom was elected 1st LT. Commander of the Alabama Division and the AOT Councilman. These two positions will keep him busy but he has graciously volunteered to be on two committees within the Camp.

To fill the position vacated by Tom I have asked Donnie Stanford to fill the remaining part of Tom's term. Donnie has been involved in a lot of camp activities and has shown a desire to become more involved within the camp. Donnie will be the Chairman of the Membership Committee. He will be looking for a couple of men to serve on the committee with him. I would hope if he comes to you that you will consider serving. This committee will look over the prospective member's application, insure that all forms are there and submit it to the Adjutant for processing. They will also be in charge of recruiting and retention.

Congratulations Donnie on the appointment and thanks for serving.

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