

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Lt. Commander Edward Lea U.S.N. – Camp Number 2



Harriet Lane

Fall 2007

Volume 14

Number 3

From the Commander's Tent

Fall is upon us with all its activities and celebrations. Children have returned to school and before we know it Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be upon us. (Hopefully by then I will have last Christmas's bills paid off. Well I can dream, can't I?)

We have arrived at the busy time of year for the Camp too. It has already started off with the dedication of the new Monument at the Sabine Pass Battlefield commemorating the Union casualties suffered in that battle. This is also the first event for our newly formed (and as yet unofficial) SVR unit. (The paperwork has been submitted and we are awaiting official word from the SVR Commander that the unit has been enrolled.)

One disturbing thought. The last time the Camp conducted a ceremony at Sabine Pass was in 2005, 2 weeks before Hurricane Rita devastated the community. Now we hold another ceremony and four days later another Hurricane, Humberto, literally pops up from nowhere and hits the community again. I wonder if they'll ever invite us back?

November 11th is the Veteran's Day Parade in Houston. The Camp and SVR unit are discussing how we can participate. We'll keep everyone informed by E-mail.

November is also the month for the annual Civil War Weekend at the Liendo plantation outside of Hempstead, Texas. This year we've invited the Sisters of the *Sara Emma Edmonds Camp, Daughters of Union Veterans* as well as the ladies of the *Emma Seelye Auxiliary*. If both groups show up it could be a very interesting weekend, try to make it if you possibly can.

Lastly we have our annual commemoration of the *Battle of Galveston* in January. We will install our new slate of officers after the ceremony.

As you can see it's going to be a busy fall. I hope that as many Brothers as possible will be able to participate in at least one event and you are of course welcome to as many of them as your time and schedule will permit.

See you in October.

Yours in F. C. & L.

Steve Schulze Camp Commander

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Membership Muster

Camp Member

Mr. Stephen D. Schulze - Camp Commander
Mr. James S. Hackett - Sr. Vice-Commander
Mr. David K. LaBrot - Jr. Vice-Commander
Mr. Gary White - Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Randall D. Scallan - Chaplain
Mr. Harrison G. Moore IV - Patriotic Instr. **
Mr. Dale H. Leach - Camp Historian
Mr. Gregory R. Stafford - Graves Registration

Mr. Mark H. Andrus
 Mr. Patrick W. Anthony
 Mr. Michael Boyd
 Mr. William David Burdette
 Mr. William D. Campbell **
 Mr. Clifford Dale Cates ^^
 Mr. Patrick R. Conley
 Mr. Thomas M. Eishen
 Mr. Stephen D. Forman **
 Mr. James M. Foster
 Mr. Daniel Andrew Nelson Gillaspia
 Mr. Glenn Clayton Gillaspia III
 Dr. Albert Gunn
 Mr. Albert Gunn III
 Mr. Andrew R. Gunn
 Mr. Samuel F. Hampton
 Mr. Olin E. Hartley
 Mr. Harrold Henck Jr. ~ **
 Dr. Stevenson T. Holmes
 Mr. Thomas A. Jackson
 Mr. Thomas I. Jackson
 Mr. Robert Julian ~ **
 Rev. Hubert J. Kealy
 Mr. Erik Z. Krause
 Mr. Michael L. Lance
 Mr. Jared S. Lenes
 Mr. John P. Lenes
 Mr. Dean Letzring **
 Mr. Kurt A. Letzring
Mr. Robert Lockwood ++
 Mr. Randall S. McDaniel
 Mr. Frank S. Moore ~
 Mr. James R. Perry
 Mr. Peter V. Pederson
 Mr. Jay M. Peterson
 Mr. Lee A. Phillips
 Mr. C. John Powers ~
 Mr. Zachery Powers
 Mr. Henry W. Satterwhite
 Mr. John Schneider Sr.
 Mr. John Schneider Jr.
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Schurwon
 Dr. Harold E. Secor
 Mr. Scott D. Shuster
 Mr. Brian Sinainejad ^^
 Mr. Bartley N. Stockton

Mr. Stephen W. Tanner
 Mr. Chapman Traylor
 Mr. Nash Traylor
 Mr. Kenneth W. Vaughn
 Mr. Glenn A. Webber
 Mr. Charles B. White
 Mr. Robert E. Wickman
 Mr. Patrick M. Young
 Mr. Edward Cotham - Author ##
 Mr. Charles Mitchell - Camp Web Master ##

Civil War Ancestor

Pvt. Henry Ludwig Schulze
 Cpl. Thadeus Hendrickson
 Hosp. Steward Louis LaBoret
 Commissary Sgt. William Judson
 Chaplain Francis M. Byrd
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. Sylvester Leach
 Pvt. John Berry
 Pvt. Matthew Barth
 Pvt. Jesse Landrum
 Pvt. Thomas Howey
 Pvt. Nathan R. Price
 Cpl. William Moore Campbell
 **

Pvt. Ethan Allen Holcomb
 Pvt. Andreas Pfothenhauer
 Pvt. John Henry Arnold
 Pvt. Xavier Henkel
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard
 Pvt. Edward Gunn
 Pvt. Edward Gunn
 Pvt. Edward Gunn
 Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton
 Pvt. William Gass
 Pvt. Philip Jacob Appfel
 Pvt. Warren W. White
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Sgt. Isaac Newton Stubblefield
 Pvt. John Walter Stoker
 Pvt. Richard James Kealy
 Sgt. Burton Millard
 Pvt. Finas Euen Lance
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Pvt. Alexander McLain
 Pvt. Alexander McLain

Pvt. Chauncey A Lockwood

Pvt. Fernando Cortez Nichols
 Pvt. William Moore
 Pvt. James R. Cook
 1st Lt. Royal B. Decker
 Pvt. William Herbert Trull
 Cpl. Isaiah Green
 Pvt. James Albert Powell
 Pvt. Wilson Keffer
 Lt. Gen. Wesley Merritt
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Lt. Col. Casper Carl Schneider
 Pvt. Martin V. B. Leonard
 Pvt. Isaac Secor
 Pvt. John S. Darling
 **

William R. Reck

Cpl. Jacob John Tanner
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Cpl. John Anderson Laws
 Cpl. Newton B. W. Vaughan
 Pvt. George D. Webber
 Cpl. John Henry White
 Pvt. Hugh Alexander Hoy
 Pvt. William Young

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Service Unit

Co. D, 9th Illinois Volunteers
 4th Kentucky Mounted Infantry
 Co E, 12th-Co L, 5th MO State Milit. Cav
 Co. D, 1st New York Mounted Rifles
 184th Ohio Infantry
 Co. K, 63rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. H, 8th MO State Militia Cav.
 Co. B, 52nd Illinois Infantry
 Co. D, 118th Illinois Infantry
 Co. A, 38th Illinois Infantry
 Co. H, 122nd New York Vol. Inf.
 Co. I, 12th Illinois Infantry
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Co. A, 126th West Virginia Militia
 Co. F, 4th Missouri Infantry
 Co. C, 20th Indiana Infantry
 Co. C, 2nd Illinois Light Infantry
 Nelsons 19th Indep Batt OH Lt Arty.
 Nelsons 19th Indep Batt OH Lt Arty.
 Co. C, 74th NY Inf & Co. G, 40th NY Inf.
 Co. C, 74th NY Inf & Co. G, 40th NY Inf
 Co. C, 74th NY Inf & Co. G, 40th NY Inf
 Co. G, 47th Missouri Infantry
 Co. A, 168th Penn. Militia Infantry
 Co. A, 46th Iowa Volunteer Inf.
 Co. K, 44th U.S. Colored Infantry
 2nd Regiment Texas Cavalry
 2nd Regiment Texas Cavalry
 54th Indiana Infantry
 Co. K, 52nd PA Vol. Infantry
 Co. G, 5th Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. F, 12th IN Inf. - Co. E, 59th IN Inf.
 Co. B, 8th West Virginia Infantry
 Co. B, 8th West Virginia Infantry
 Co. E, 7th Michigan Cavalry
 Co. E, 7th Michigan Cavalry
Co. H, 14th Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. A, 7th Indiana Infantry
 Co. K, 63rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry
 Co. C, 3rd Wisconsin Infantry
 Co. B, 20th Maine Infantry
 Co. D, 26th Massachusetts Infantry
 Co. C, 37th Indiana Infantry
 Co. C, 146th Illinois Infantry
 Co. B, 8th West Virginia Infantry
 Commander 3rd Brigade (regulars)
 103rd New York Infantry
 103rd New York Infantry
 Nelsons 19th Indep Batt OH Lt Arty.
 Co. D, 28th Massachusetts
 Co. F, 171st Pennsylvania Infantry
 **

Co F, 74th NY, Co H, 40th NY Inf, Co. F,
 5th Regt., Excelsior Brigade
 1st Nebraska Infantry
 Battery B, 1st Btn Tenn. Lt Artillery
 Battery B, 1st Btn Tenn. Lt Artillery
 Co. E, 3rd MN Inf. & Trp K, 2nd MN Cav.
 Co. E, 133rd Illinois Vol. Infantry
 Co. G, 47th Missouri Volunteers
 Co. D, Bracketts Btn, Minn. Cavalry
 30th Regiment, Penn. Militia

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Editor's Message

This issue includes historic articles pertaining to the Union gunboat, *Harriet Lane*, the namesake of this newsletter, and some of its crew (see pgs 9-13). I think you would agree that first-hand accounts of any Civil War action is always interesting. The living conditions and state of technology back in the mid-1800's are sometimes hard to identify with today. But, reading the words written by those personally involved seems to add a touch of flavor to accounts of the events portrayed.

This editor is especially proud to learn that the *Harriet Lane* newsletter was honored with the *Marshall Hope Award* for Best Camp Newsletter for 2007 at the 126th National Encampment at St. Louis (see back cover)! Obviously, this award was earned by all the Brothers who worked tirelessly attending functions, taking photographs, doing research, and writing articles! A tip of the kepi to you all!

Also, I have decided to use a slightly larger font size in this issue. I had previously decreased the size in order to include more information on fewer pages. However, I am aware that a few visually-challenged Brothers prefer the larger print.

In F. C. & L,

Michael L. Lance - Editor

Correction: The Membership Muster on page 2 of the e-mail version of the June 2007 newsletter shows the name for new member Jared Scott Lenes was incorrectly spelled as Jaret S. Lenes. I regret the error but have it corrected on the SUCVW website version and on all printed copies.

Camp Calendar		
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
8 Sep 2007	Sabine Pass Monument Dedication: 1:30 p.m.	Sabine Pass Battleground State Park
11 Sep 2007	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, Texas
9 Oct 2007	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Susan Salm – President Sara Emma Edmonds Tent, DUVCW Topic: DUVCW & Future Tent Activities Nominations for 2008 Camp officers	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, Texas
13 Nov 2007	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Edward Cotham Jr. – Author Topic: T.B.A.	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, Texas
16-18 Nov 2007	Civil War Weekend	Liendo Plantation, Hempstead, Texas
11 Dec 2007	Monthly Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Dale Leach Topic: History of the G.A.R.	Spaghetti Warehouse, Houston, Texas
12 Jan 2008	Battle of Galveston Commemoration and Monthly Camp Meeting – 10:00 a.m. 2008 Camp Officer Installation	Galveston, Texas

The ***Harriet Lane*** is published quarterly. Please send questions, letters, suggestions or corrections concerning the newsletter to Michael Lance, 6303 Craigway Rd., Spring, TX 77389 (E-mail mlance1963@charter.net). Deadlines are: Spring issue – Feb 15, Summer issue – May 15, Fall issue – Aug 15, Winter issue – Nov 15.

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Senior Vice-Commander – Mr. James S. Hackett	281-495-4235	jim.civil@hotmail.com
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Secretary/Treasurer – Mr. Gary E. White	281-890-7823	gwhite18@houston.rr.com
SUCVW Edward Lea Camp #2 website:		http://www.txsv.org/lea/index.htm
SUCVW Department of Texas website:		http://www.txsv.org
SUCVW National website:		http://www.sucv.org

New Member Profiles

Introducing - Jared S. Lenes

I am the son of Jeffery Scott Lenes and Grandson of John Peder Lenes. I was born on Galveston Island, Texas on February 22, 1984. I spent most of my life growing up in Rusk, Texas. When I turned 17, I moved to Lewisville, Texas where I graduated with my High School diploma. One year after that I joined the United States Air Force to do Avionics on the B1-B. I did my basic training at Lackland AFB near San Antonio. I left there and went to Kessler AFB near Biloxi, Mississippi for tech school (training). After that I was transferred to Wichita, Texas (Sheppard AFB) where I finished the rest of my training and met my wife, Cara Lenes.

Soon after getting married, we were given orders to Rapid City, South Dakota (Ellsworth AFB) where we were stationed for 3 years. During that 3 years there I became a father to my son, Jordan Scott Lenes, took some college classes at Black Hills State University, and also finished up my 4 year enlistment.

I am currently living in Little Elm, Texas with my wife and son. I also go to school at Collin County Community College so that I can finish up my associates degree. I will most likely get my bachelors at UNT for my BA in Electronics Engineering.

Note: Jared Scott Lenes was introduced in the previous newsletter. This bio was subsequently received and reprinted here.



Introducing - Robert Lockwood

Robert Lockwood joins the Camp based on the service of his Civil War ancestor great-grandfather Chauncey A. Lockwood. Chauncey served as a Private with Company H, 14th Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry.

Robert Lockwood
Liendo Plantation
Hempstead, Texas
17 Nov 2006

Ancestor Profile – Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton

On March 23, 1845, Joseph and Jane Hampton of Blount County in East Tennessee became the parents of a son. They named him Samuel Pate Hampton. Young Samuel and his family soon migrated to live in Missouri. In 1861, Samuel was about sixteen years old when the Civil War erupted. His young age prevented him from enlisting into the Union Army but in 1863, at age 18, he enrolled in a Missouri militia unit. Unfortunately, while serving with the militia, he was seriously injured.

"I have a feeling that [my great-grandfather], Private Samuel P. Hampton, served in a unit of the Missouri State Militia before serving in Company G, 47th Regiment, Missouri Infantry. He as much admits this in an August 10, 1895 Affidavit. The governor of Missouri required men to serve [in the State Militia] before being authorized at the federal level. The injured soldiers were denied support by the U.S. Government."¹

"He joined some Organization Called Mo. State Militia, in 1863, but he got badly hurt before he rendered any service, and was exempted from further service in that organization; that all the papers in regard to that organization got burnt; therefore, he is unable to remember the name of Company or Regiment."²

"In the year 1863 all able bodied male citizens subject to do military duty in Iron County, Missouri were enrolled in the 'Enrolled Missouri Malitia' [sic] to assist in the suppression of the rebellion by order of the

(Continued on next page)

Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton *(continued from previous page)*

department commander. A portion of said enrolled militia [sic] was called into service. A portion was not. I cannot state if said soldier was called out or not. I was not. Have never known of any organization to which said soldier belonged other than government service in the suppression of the rebellion."³

Getting injured and discharged from the state militia did not dampen young Samuel's desire to become a federal soldier. By September, 1864, he was living in the town of Ironton in Iron County, Missouri and had recovered sufficiently from his injury to finally enlist in the Union army. "He was enrolled on the 9th day of September, 1864, he was enrolled in Co. G, 47, Reg't Mo Inf'y. Vols."²

Living conditions in the field were definitely a challenge for young Samuel. He quickly contracted small pox and also suffered much from exposure. He was given leave of absence to recover but, "He was last discharged the 29th day of March, A.D. 1865, at Benton Barracks, Missouri."² "He states that a Captain Mace, due to his sickness, released him from duty. I have found on the roster for Company G, 47th Regiment, Missouri Infantry Vols., a Captain Morgan Mace listed."¹

After his 1865 military discharge, Samuel P. Hampton focused on resuming life as a civilian. He was awarded a pension of twelve dollars per month. The basis of his pension was "disability from total blindness of one eye and partial blindness of [the] other, result of Small Pox incurred in the Military service of the United States, while serving as a Private (in) Co. G 47th Regt. Mo. Info. Vols."⁴ He worked as a blacksmith in Ironton and soon married Virginia Wallace. But, his marriage quickly proved to be a rocky one and it was dissolved in Ironton in 1867 (or 1868) by divorce. On October 19, 1871, Samuel married again - this time to Martha E. Abrams. They eventually became the parents of seven children.

On August 10, 1895, Samuel Pate Hampton was fifty years old and living in the town of Ellsinore in Carter County, Missouri. He visited the local office of Notary Public Joseph Pace and filed an *Original Invalid Claim* and dictated a sworn affidavit in an attempt to increase his pension.

On May 30, 1898, Samuel finally got around to responding to a May 1895 questionnaire received from the Commissioner at the *Bureau of Pensions* in Washington, D.C. regarding his personal family situation. His response included the fact that his 2nd wife, Martha, had passed away the year before - on December 4, 1897. And he also reported that he was the father of six children by his 2nd wife, including: Florence Hampton/Farris (b. 1873); Joseph H. Hampton (b. 1875); Uri Dow Hampton (b. 1877); John W. Hampton (b. 1878, deceased); Minnie M. Hampton/Daniels (b. 1881); and Della C. Hampton/Colyott (b. 1891).

On January 29, 1907, Samuel was sixty-one years old and living near the town of Annapolis in Iron County, Missouri. On that day, he appeared before a Notary Public and swore out a statement again appealing for an increase in his pension allowance. He reported that the small pox that he had contracted during his military service had severely affected his eyesight and of other service related maladies.

*"That he believes himself to be entitled to an increase of pension on account of Increased disabilities resulting from pensioned causes; Blindness Totally in Right Eye; and Visible in Left Eye; and Cattarah of the Head; and Bronchital tubes of the Lungs; and also Kallises under the Bottom of Both feet, But worse in Right foot; Also age and general Disabilities. And that He were not treated at any Hospital; that He were given Leave of absence By Captain Mace and was taken Home until He were duly well of Small Pox; and while on Line of Duty at Pilot Knob Battle and fever High just setting in with Small Pox; and not being able to go with the Command is the Reason He got the Leave of the absence; and Being Exposed to the weather on the day of the Battle of Pilot Knob; and diseased with Small Pox is the Cause of the Loss of Eye Sights."*⁴

On May 6, 1907, Samuel was sixty-two and still living in Annapolis when he petitioned once again for a pension increase before a Notary Public.

"He Claims increase of Pension on account of Small Pox; that 4 days Before the Battle of Pilot Knob, He was released from Duty on account of fever; and the Day of the Battle, the 26th day of September 1864 or about that, He was called in Line of Duty; and on or about 27th day September 1864 was Released to take care of Himself as best He could; and found that His ailments were Small Pox of the Very Worst stage; and He were Held in the Rain all day in that Battle was Causes for the disease of Being more Severe on Him; and that from said exposure the Disease attacked eyes and Put one out and the other unfit for to see to do

(Continued on next page)

Pvt. Samuel Pate Hampton *(continued from previous page)*

*Manual Labor; also Has Caused Him severe pains in the head; and that said pains in moving downward and has been going down for the past ten years; and for the past eight months, He has been unable for to do anything on account of said disease contracted in the Line of Duty in the U.S. Service; and that He Claims Higher Rating.*⁵

On October 29, 1907, Samuel was still 62 years old and had relocated to the town of Des Arc in Iron County, Missouri. On that day he appeared before a Notary Public in Wayne County, Missouri to again plead further for a pension increase.

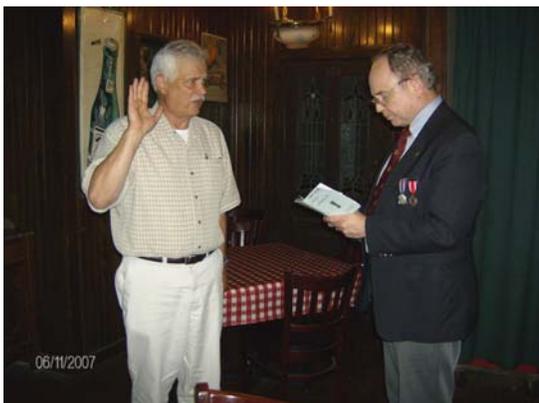
*"On or about the 24th day of September 1864, I was siezed with a violent feaver for which I was releaved from all manner of duty and was assigned to my tent for treatment until further developments of my diseases. And on or about the 26th day of September 1864, while in line of duty at the Battle of Pilot Knob, Missouri, I was exposed to a very heavy rain fall and got very wet with Small Pox feavor. And in the Retreat Being to sick to travel, I was 'Inroled' to take care of myself the best I could. I made my way home the next morning. I was broke out with a very severe case of Smallpox. And as soon as I was able, I returned to the Command in February or March 1865. I was treated in the Hospital at Collumbia, Tenn. for a Pain in my head and right Eye. Further in 1865 about June while in the field hoeing corn I lost the hearing in my Right Ear which I believe was caused by the feaver I had while in The Service. In 1867 one Dr. I. M. Raney treated me at Des Arc, now dead. In 1877 also by Dr. Harrison, who address was Lesterville, Mo., and also one Dr. McKinsey who is also dead ???? During more treatment - I lost the use of my Right Eye. Dr. McKinsey address was Centerville, Mo.*⁶

On April 2, 1915, Samuel was living in the town of Hunter in Carter County, Missouri when he responded to a questionnaire from the *Bureau of Pensions* about his family. On the questionnaire, Samuel acknowledged that he and his wife, Martha, also had a seventh child - Samuel Jefferson Hampton (b. 1884)⁷. In 1919, Samuel was still living in Hunter. In 1923, after many years of battling his various health issues, the final ailment occurred. He bravely fought a seven-day attack of acute nephritis. But, he finally passed away at 7:00 a.m. on July 6, 1923. He was 78 years and 3 months old. The old soldier was laid to rest at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Hunter on the following day.⁸

1. Memo by great-grandson Samuel F. Hampton Jr. of Pasadena, Texas, 19 Jul 2007.
2. Affidavit by Samuel Pate Hampton, State of Missouri, County of Carter, Claim No. 1135262, Co. G 47th Mo., Vols., filed by Wm. P. Grove, Solicitor of Pensions at Washington, D.C., 10 Aug 1895, pension file record.
3. Affidavit by William A. Fletcher, State of Missouri, County of Iron, pension application of Samuel P. Hampton, Co. G, 47th Mo. Inf. Vols., 1900, pension file record.
4. *Declaration for the Increase of an Invalid Pension*, State of Missouri, County of Iron, by Samuel P. Hampton, 29 Jan 1907, filed by Soule & Co. Attorneys, Washington, D.C., pension file record.
5. Affidavit by Samuel Pate Hampton, State of Missouri, County of Iron, 6 May 1907, pension file record.
6. Affidavit by Samuel Pate Hampton, State of Missouri, County of Wayne, 29 Oct 1907, pension file record.
7. Questionnaire from Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D.C., 2 Jan 1915, to Samuel Hampton, pension file record.
8. *Certificate of Death*, Samuel Hampton, MO State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, No. 20963. Reg. 145, File No. 12.

Edward Lea Camp #2 Monthly Meeting – 12 Jun 2007

The highlight of the Camp meeting at the Spaghetti Warehouse restaurant in downtown Houston on June, 12, 2007



Swearing-in of Robert Lockwood

was the swearing-in of two new Brothers by Commander Stephen Schulze. Brother Robert Lockwood was newly accepted that evening (*left*) and Tim Eishen (*right*) was had been accepted the previous month. Both are now officially Camp members. Both men were warmly welcomed!



Swearing-in of Thomas M. Eishen

Edward Lea Camp #2 Monthly Meeting – 10 July 2007

With the strike of the gavel on July 10, 2007, the Camp was called to order at 7:22 p.m. by Cmdr. Steve Schulze in the upstairs dining room at the Spaghetti Warehouse Restaurant in downtown Houston. Fifteen Brothers and seven guests had assumed seats around two long dining tables, including: Cmdr. Schulze, SVC Hackett, JVC LaBrot, Secr./Treas. White, Brothers Hampton, Leach, Lance, Lockwood, Lenes, K. Letzring, D. Letzring, Shuster, Burdette, Schneider Sr., and Forman; and guests Mark Pike, Bill Vance, Caroline Vance, Sue Lenes, Bill Boyd, Betty Hampton, and guest speaker Jim Jobling. The Commander asked all to rise for the *Pledge of Allegiance* to the American Flag. Brother Leach followed with an opening prayer. Immediately afterwards, the order to resume seats came forth. Commander Schulze then welcomed everyone and asked each attendee to introduce themselves to the group in order.

Brother White then took the floor to present the Minutes from the previous meeting. A motion to accept the Minutes as presented was sounded by Brother LaBrot and seconded by Brother Shuster. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote of "Aye". Brother White followed with the presentation of the financial report for June 2007. His report indicated that the Camp remains in solid shape financially. Following a motion to accept the report by Brother Forman and seconded by Brother Hackett, another chorus of "Ayes" rang out. Brother White then announced that Brother Whitlock recently moved to Laramie, Wyoming and had requested a transfer to the Department of Colorado/Wyoming. All wished Brother Whitlock the best of luck with his relocation.

SVC Hackett, representing the Speakers Committee, reported that a full slate of guest speakers has been scheduled for the rest of the year. They include: September – Professor Angela Holder, President of the *Buffalo Soldiers National Museum*; October – Susan Salm – President *Sara Emma Edmonds Tent, DUVCW*; November – Author Edward Cotham Jr.; and December – Brother Dale Leach on the history of the *G.A.R.*

Commander Schulze then resumed the floor and opened discussion about the 126th National Encampment scheduled for August 9-12, 2007 in St. Louis. He reviewed the accommodations, credentials, forms, and other details. The Commander also happily reported that he recently received a fax listing the *Sons of Veteran's Reserve* applicants from north Texas. In all, twenty-one names have been submitted with the probability of additional applicants stepping forth. The Commander will submit the entire stack of applications to the national organization just as soon as hard copies arrive from the northern part of the State.

Brother Burdette followed by announcing that a sister organization has developed a Camp coffee mug as a fundraiser. He passed a beautiful example around and noted they were available at \$8.00 each. Guest Mark Pike then soundly thanked SVC Hackett for having recently given an excellent and informative talk at his SCV Camp. The talks by Brother Hackett concerning the fighting ships of America and his numerous handmade model ships are always a highlight at any meeting. The praise directed at Brother Hackett was rightfully earned!



After a short break for dinner, the meeting was reconvened at 8:05. Brother Dean Letzring was given the floor (*photo at left*) to inform the Camp about an upcoming monument dedication ceremony at *Sabine Pass Battleground State Park*. The ceremony is scheduled for September 8, 2007 to dedicate a fine monument honoring the Union men that died during the *Battle of Sabine Pass*. Our Camp has been invited to participate in the activities. Several Brothers expressed an interest in traveling the park to participate in the Honor and Color Guards. The park has not fully recovered from hurricanes Rita and Katrina and has not yet been re-opened to the public. However, the dedication scheduled for the Union monument, and a couple other historical monuments, will take place as planned. The activities are being sponsored by the *Jefferson County Historical Commission*. After discussion, a motion was put forth and seconded which formally

acknowledged the Camp's desire to participate in the September 8th activities to honor the Union heroes that fell during the *Battle of Sabine Pass*. The motion carried unanimously!

Before offering the closing benediction, Brother Leach passed around an amazing photograph which he shot at the Episcopal Cemetery in Galveston. It was taken during the height of the daisy bloom and the grounds were completely ablaze with color. The flowery scene was in stark contrast to the cemetery conditions each January when we traditionally conduct our annual *Battle of Galveston Commemoration Service*. At 8:30 p.m., Commander Schulze wielded the gavel once again to formally close the July Camp meeting. He then gave the floor to our guest speaker, underwater archeologist and conservationist Jim Jobling. Mr. Jobling then thrilled the Camp with an interesting and thought provoking talk entitled: *CSS Alabama – The Other Story* (*see page 14*).

News from the Western Front - By Chap Traylor - Sonora, Texas

My son Nash came home from McAlester College in Minnesota in time to join a group of high school students I work with. We traveled to the *Living History* event at *Fort Chadbourne* [located halfway between Abilene and San Angelo, Texas]. The event at the fort spans two days. Friday is open to area schools and Saturday is open to the public. We set up camp next to an SCV Camp consisting of my Junction Camp, a San Angelo Camp, and a Midland Camp.



Our group portrayed what life was like for those left at home during the war. The girls milked a cow (*photo at left*) and picked weevils (brown rice) from flour. Using these ingredients and more, they made cornbread in a Dutch oven. They also conducted competition between visitors in games youth would have played during this period (*photo below*). When the event was over, we were told Friday's attendance included over 1,100 students. The girls decided they did not need to cook or eat cornbread again until next year!

Chap Traylor leads milking demonstration

My SCV Camp was able to increase the number of schools we visited this year. During our programs, I discussed with the students the uniforms and equipment carried by both armies during the war. I started in my Confederate uniform and wound up wearing my Federal uniform. Cecil Conner demonstrated the music of the time and represented a minister of the period. Gaylon Harrison discussed the flags of the period and the significance of these. He also worked with the students doing marching drills.

Nash Traylor monitors old time games



We began our educational programs this year by first traveling South to Brackettville. Fort Clark there was having a history event on Saturday. We were able to visit with the 5th and 8th graders on Friday. Next we were in Sonora to meet with the 5th graders. In Sonora, the high school kids were again allowed to miss school to assist in the program. They discussed loading guns for hunting and being in charge of these activities. They fed the students hard tack and johnny cake and had some of the boys pull on dresses to find what it was like to do all work and play in a dress. One of the girls also helped Nash with marching drills and discussed what it was like for women who disguised themselves and fought in the war.



We next traveled to Junction, Texas and met with their 8th grade classes. Mason, Texas was next on our schedule. In Mason, the 8th grade teacher gets his students out for the day. He brought in a group that does chuck wagon cooking so we were able to do our program and were fed well also!

Our final program was back in Sonora for *Wild West Days* with the kindergarten through 4th graders. For this program, I brought the cow back for milking demonstrations. Cecil and the girls led the students in singing period music. Gaylon showed some of our weapons and Nash had the students assist him in erecting a shelter with two half tents.

Family life on the home front
 Brother Chap Traylor - back row, far right
 Brother Nash Traylor - back row, 2nd from left

The United States Gunboat Harriet Lane (Part 2) - By Philip C. Tucker III

I have no other statement of those killed on the *Harriet Lane* except the mention, in my father's list of the crew, of two who are marked as killed, Jas. Pollock, and John Hart, in addition to the two officers, Commander J. D. Wainright and Lieutenant-Commander Edward Lea. This accounts for the crew of fourteen officers and ninety-five men all told. The dead men were conveyed to the Ursula Convent (Bath Avenue between N and O Streets), where the body of Commander Wainright was identified by Dr. Penrose, and warrant officers Hammon and Hamilton. It was then removed to Confederate headquarters, the E. B. Nichols residence (Broadway and Bath Avenue), and given burial with Masonic honors. At the same time the body of Lieutenant-Commander Edward Lea was buried with military honors. This was the day after the battle.

Among other papers in the chart room of the *Harriet Lane*, the Confederates found a complete copy of the code of the United States signal service, which when copied and distributed among the signal corps of the Confederacy proved of inestimable value in subsequent engagements when orders were transmitted by signal flags. No log book was found among the contents of the chart room. Inquiry was made therefore before the Prize Commissioners, and Captain Henry S. Lubbock states in his deposition that it could not be found. It was probably thrown overboard by the officer who had it in charge, according to the prevailing usage and law on board naval vessels when captured. It is always heavily loaded so as to sink at once, and such action is considered the imperative duty of the officer who has it in charge, as valuable information could be obtained from it by the captors.

The injuries inflicted upon the vessel were of such character that it took a large force of carpenters, blacksmiths, and other mechanics over a week to make repairs. Captain Thos. C. Saunders was placed in command by the prize commissioner, Philip C. Tucker, with Thomas Kinney as mate, Cabbot, boatswain, Fleurry, gunner's mate, Thos. Seymour, first engineer, J. J. D. Patton, second engineer, McComby, third engineer, Andrew Thompson, water tender, Taft and Dick Murray, stewards. The balance of the crew were negro slaves.

This action took the vessel out of the hands of the military authorities and placed her in charge of the civil courts, and until judgment of confiscation was passed by these courts, she was in *status quo*. After such judgment she would be the property of the Confederacy, and subject to the orders of the Secretary of the Navy. General Magruder seemed ignorant of this fact, as his subsequent action shows. With respect to subsequent events at Galveston, General Magruder says:

Having buried the dead, taken care of the wounded, and received the captured property, my exertions were directed to getting the Harriet Lane to sea. The enemy's ships fled to New Orleans, to which place one of their steam transports was dispatched during the action. I knew that a large naval force might be expected to return in a few days. I therefore ordered the employment at high wages of all available mechanics to repair the Harriet Lane, her main shaft having been dislocated and her iron wheel greatly disabled, so that the engine could not work. The United States flags were ordered to remain flying on the custom house and the mastsheads of the ships so as to attract into the harbor any of the enemy's vessels which might be bound for the port of Galveston. A line of iron buoys which he had established for the guidance of his ships in the harbor were displaced and so arranged as to insure their getting aground.

On the 3rd. of January, I being then on board of the Harriet Lane, a yawl-boat, containing several men, under command of a person named Thomas Smith, recently a citizen of Galveston, and who had deserted from our army, was reported alongside. He informed me that he was sent from the United States transport steamship Cambria, then off the bar for a pilot, and that they had no idea of the occupation of the city by us. I forthwith ordered a pilot boat under command of Captain Johnson to bring in this ship, but through a most extraordinary combination of circumstances the vessel, which contained E. J. Davis, ⁹⁴ and many other apostate Texans, besides several hundred troops and 2500 saddles for the use of native sympathizers, succeeded in making her escape. The man Smith, who had, it is said, several times set fire to the city of Galveston before he deserted, had been known as Nicaragua Smith, and was dreaded by everyone. He returned to Galveston in order to act as Federal provost marshal. His arrival produced much excitement, during which someone without orders sent a sail-boat to Pelican Spit, now occupied by our troops, to direct the commanding officer there not to fire on our pilot boat, although she was under Yankee colors. The sail-boat thus sent was at once supposed to be destined for the Yankee transport. The pilot boat gave chase to her and the guns from the shore opened on her within hearing of the ship.

Night coming on, I thought it surer, as the alarm might be given, to capture her at sea before morning, but the Harriet Lane could not move, and our cotton gunboats could not live on the rough sea on the bar. Therefore one of the barks, the Royal Yacht, a schooner of ours, the pilot boat, and the Leader, a schooner loaded with cotton, which I had ordered to be sent to a foreign port with a proclamation of the raising of the

(Continued on next page)

The United States Gunboat *Harriet Lane* (continued from previous page)

blockade at Galveston, were directed to be prepared and armed with light artillery. This was done by 2 o'clock the same night, our little fleet being manned by volunteers, under the command of Captain Mason of Cook's regiment of artillery. Unfortunately, the wind lulled and none but the pilot boat could reach the enemy's ship. The enemy's ship proved to be a splendid iron steamer, built in the Clyde. I had ascertained that she had only

two guns, and they were packed on deck under a large quantity of hay, so I anticipated an easy conquest and one of great political importance, as this ship contained almost all the Texans out of the state who had proved recreant to their duty to the Confederacy and to Texas. The pilot-boat was allowed to get close to board. He went on board as ordered, and soon after the steamer sailed in all haste seaward. ⁹⁵ Smith, the deserter, was tried regularly the next day by a general court martial and being convicted of deserting to the enemy, was publicly shot in Galves. in accordance with his sentence.

When the repairs were completed on the *Harriet Lane*, General Magruder issued an order for all master mariners and seamen to report for duty on board for a cruise against the enemy at sea. A protest was at once filed by the prize commissioners, based on the fact that no adjudication of prize court condemning her had yet been reached, and such a cruise consequently would be piracy, under the law of nations. This being followed by like protests from all the master mariners of the port, the general dropped the matter, and the vessel was taken up the bay for safe keeping, pending such judicial action. She was therefore stripped of her armament, spare water tanks, etc., to reduce her draft, and taken up the channel. She grounded at Red Fish reefs, and was delayed two weeks, until a dredge boat could cut a channel into which she was hauled by the steamboat *Island City*. She finally arrived at *Cloppers Bar*, near the mouth of *Buffalo Bayou*, below Houston, at the head of Galveston Bay. Soon afterwards, the decree of the prize court condemning her as a prize of war and the lawful property of the Confederate States was duly rendered; and on the 10th of March, Captain Thos. C. Saunders and crew were paid off and discharged at Houston and the command of the *Harriet Lane* transferred to Captain Barney of the C.S. Navy, under orders of the Secretary of the Navy.

The vessel was then taken back down the channel to Galveston and refitted for sea, but not armed. Loaded with cotton, she slipped through the blockading fleet one dark night and headed for Havana, Cuba. As soon as morning came, her absence from Galveston harbor was noted - for the Federal officers with their glasses could see every wharf in the harbor, and most of what happened thereon - and a cruiser was dispatched in pursuit. When the *Harriet Lane* arrived off her destined port, a Federal warship was observed awaiting her. Attempting to escape up the coast, the chase became too warm, and Captain Barney seeing capture imminent, ran his vessel aground, fired her cargo, and escaped with his crew to the shore in his small boats. She was not badly injured, for the fire was got under control. Refloated, she was taken into the harbor as a prize of war, duly condemned, declared unfit for naval use, and sold. Her purchasers removed the damaged engines and paddle wheels, shipped a third mast and altered her rig to that of three-masted fore-and-aft schooner. Her name was changed to the *Elliot Ritchie*, and she was put into the Atlantic coastwise service with Philadelphia as her home port. She several times visited Galveston harbor after the war, with cargoes of coal and merchandise. I saw here there myself in 1878-1879. She was abandoned at sea in 1881 when on fire with a cargo of coal. This closes her career.

.... Philip C. Tucker, 3^d

Source: Tucker, Philip C., "THE UNITED STATES GUNBOAT HARRIET LANE ", Vol. 21, No. 4, *Southwestern Historical Quarterly Online*, Pgs 360-380. www.tsha.utexas.edu/publications/journals/shq/online/v021/n4/article_2.html

From the Files of the *Galveston News*

[Hempstead, Waller Co., Tex., January 5th.](#)

The *News* of today contains a report of the opening of the *Grand Opera House* by Miss Marie Wainright's Company. The lady is a daughter of Captain J. M. Wainright, commanding the U. S. sloop of war, *Harriet Lane*, one of the ships engaged in the battle of Galveston, January 1st, 1863, who lost his life when the boarding Confederate troops of the *Bayou City* steamer captured his ship.

Captain Wainright was standing on the bridge of his ship, giving orders, when he received a bullet under his left eye, killing him. The shot was fired by _____, one of Greens' Brigade, named _____ of Washington county. Another member, private _____, rushed forward and received the revolver, an old fashioned Colt's cap and ball pistol. He presented it to another member named Howell. The sword unbuckled from the waist of the corpse was taken by another member, who is said to have presented it to First Lieutenant James V. Riley, who, in line of promotion after the death of his captain, A. R. Wier, who was instantly killed early in the action

(Continued on next page)

From the Files of the Galveston News (continued from previous page)

by the bursting of the cannon he commanded, was promoted to the command of his Company B, First Regiment, Texas Heavy Artillery, better known as Cook's Regiment. . . .W. P. D[oran].

(Source: Galveston News, January 6, 1895)

Houston, Texas, January 15th.

I notice in your columns of Sunday, January 6th, an article with the following headline: "A Father's sword recovered," and below a description of the presentation of the sword, supposed to belong to Captain J. W. Wainright, who commanded the *Harriet Lane* during the battle of Galveston, January 1st, 1862, to his daughter Miss Marie Wainright.

Upon reading same, I at once recollected quite a different story in regard to this, and immediately saw my mother, who is now in Houston, and without showing her the article, questioned her carefully as to who received the sword of Captain Wainright after the war, to which she gave me the following history, saying:

"Your father received the sword of Captain J. W. Wainright immediately after the battle, and at the surrender on the decks of the Harriet Lane. The sword was handed him by an officer then in command, who surrendered the entire fleet to him. After investigation, he found that Captain Wainright was a brother Mason, and he at once placed in safety the sword, will and other papers necessary to be delivered to the relatives of Captain Wainright, and then proceeded to give the remains of his Masonic brother burial under the rites of that order.

After the general surrender and break up of the war your father and myself went to Havana, Cuba, taking with us the papers and sword of Captain Wainright. I left your father in Havana, and went to New York City, he giving me instructions to send for S. M. Wainright, a citizen of New York, and brother of the deceased Federal commander, which I did, and delivered to him in person the papers, etc."

"Your father, however, stated to me that he would never deliver the sword to anyone except the son of Captain Wainright. Later on we went to San Francisco, California, and after remaining there some time. Your father, after returning to the Occidental Hotel one evening, seemed delighted, and said to me that he had found the young son of Captain Wainright, who was killed at Galveston, and sent him word that he wished to see him that evening at the hotel. He called; he was presented to me and we afterward became well acquainted."

"Your father, in the presence of some of your relatives and our friends in California with a few words appropriate to the occasion, presented the son (who was then an ensign in the United States Navy, and named Jonah M. Wainright) with the sword with which his father gallantly commanded the Harriet Lane in one of the shortest and most decisive naval engagements during the war, and which was in his hands when he fell."

I have in my possession at this date a clipping from a San Francisco paper which was sent to my mother some years after the war, the dates of which have been torn off, which says:

"The late Jonah M. Wainright, U.S.N., the gallant young ensign who fell in the affair with the pirate 'Forward' was a native of New York, and entered the navy in July, 1863. He was one of the most popular officers in the service, brave and efficient in the discharge of duty, kind and gentle towards his friends. His death is lamented not only by those who were his associates in the service, but by every member of the society in which he moved. Ensign Wainright had served three years on this coast. His master's commission was awaiting him at Panama and he was on his way to that port to be relieved when the bullet found him foremost in the attack. His brave father in 1862 was shot on the deck of the Harriet Lane off Galveston, a vessel which he commanded during a portion of the war. He died sword in hand, and Commodore Leon Smith, into whose hands his effects fell, on meeting young Wainright in California, presented him with the sword. Strangely enough, when the son was mortally wounded by the Mexican fire, the father's sword was in his hand. Truly the United States Navy may well be proud of such hereditary gallantry, and the memory of both father and son will be long preserved by those who serve under the flag."

I have been approached on this subject by a great many of my father's old friends, and no doubt, there are living today many such men who were present personally in the engagement and could corroborate these statements, besides the proof which I hold in my possession.

(Continued on next page)

From the Files of the Galveston News *(continued from previous page)*

After leaving California, my father, mother and myself went to Fort Wrangle, Alaska, where my father was killed by an Indian in ambush on Christmas Day, 1869. Shortly after this, my father's remains, myself and mother, were transported on the United States steamer, *Newbern*, thru the courtesy of the government, to San Francisco, California, where my father now lies. I have been induced to make this statement of facts in vindication of a cherished hope on the part of my father, which was to deliver this sword in person to Captain Wainright's son.....Very truly yours, Leon B. Smith. *(Source: Galveston News, January 20, 1895)*

[Lamarque, Texas, January 21st, 1895. To the Galveston News:](#)

In your paper for Sunday, January 20th, there appears an article on "The Wainright Sword," over the signature of Leon B. Smith, in which he makes several erroneous statements, which I should like to correct.

He states that the sword of Lieutenant Commander Wainright was handed to Major Leon Smith by an officer who surrendered the entire fleet to him (Major Smith). The officer surrendering the *Harriet Lane* was either Warrant-officer Hammond or Hamilton; the only two officers alive. Commander J. D. Wainright was killed; Lieutenant-Commander Edward Lea, mortally wounded; and Acting Commander Monroe, wounded; and they could not very well surrender the fleet when a commodore (Renshaw) and lieutenant-commander (Law) were still in command.

Captain Lubbock of the C. S. S. *Bayou City* was dispatched by Major Leon Smith to Lieutenant-Commander Law to demand the surrender of the United States fleet as soon as the *Harriet Lane* capitulated. (See Lubbock's testimony before Prize Commissioners of the Confederate States, now on file in Washington, D. C., and that of Captain James McGarvey of Galveston who accompanied him.)

Leon B. Smith also states that Major Smith, upon investigation, found that Commander Wainright was a Mason and buried him with Masonic honors. In regard to that I refer you to the records of *Harmony Lodge No. 6* of Galveston, under whose auspices the burial occurred, and the attached clipping from the *Opera Glass Souvenir of Free Masonry*, published in 1884, the authenticity of which you can ascertain by referring to Major C. W. Hayes of Galveston.

Mr. Smith has made these statements thru ignorance of the true facts, and I only ask for this correction, that honor may be given to whom honor is justly due. I am sirs, Respectfully, Philip C. Tucker, 3rd.

(Source: Galveston News, January 27, 1895)

[Excerpt from Opera Glass Souvenir of Free Masonry](#)

Among those killed in action was the brave Commander Wainright of the United States gunboat *Harriet Lane*, who would remain on the bridge of the steamer he commanded despite the remonstrance's of his subordinate officers, and fell pierced by a minie ball fired by the sharpshooters who manned the cotton clad Confederate steamboat *Bayou City*. The officer charged with the burial of the dead sent his body with others killed in action to the grounds of the *Ursuline Convent*, between Bath Avenue and Twenty-seventh Streets.

"Every Commissioned officer of the *Harriet Lane* was killed. Dr. Penrose, its medical officer, Messrs. Hammond and Hamilton two of its warrant officers, on parole, made themselves known to [the officer charged with the burial of the dead] who was the *Worshipful Master* of *Harmony Lodge No. 6* at the time and vouching for the fact that Commander Wainright was a Master Mason, asked that he be buried with Masonic service. The Master assented, went with them to the *Ursuline Convent*, and on the body being identified, caused it to be removed within the walls of the building and to be dressed in the uniform of deceased, placed a guard over it and procured a coffin from Henry Journeay, the undertaker, and issued a notice for all Masons in the city to meet at the hall next day at 11 o'clock to take part in the burial of the dead.

The air was pregnant with strife and evil, the news flew like electricity and wild was the denunciation of this course, and even among Masons, for the course indicated and the fact that the Master was born far north of the Mason & Dixon line, was brought forward to show that such a course was treason to the Confederacy.

In the discharge of military duty as a member of the staff of the general commanding, the *Worshipful Master* reported at staff headquarters (The Roman Catholic Bishop's Palace) in the evening. The rooms were full. As soon as he entered, the general accosted him with "Major T[ucker], I hear that you intended to bury the remains of Commander Wainright tomorrow with Masonic honors. Is it true?" The major saluted and answered, "Yes, sir, and I hope General Magruder will give it military honors. The reply was, "Who in h—ll ever heard of burying a dead enemy with Masonic and military honors?" The response was, "General

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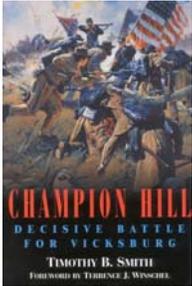
From the Files of the Galveston News *(continued from previous page)*

Magruder, when Lieutenant Colonel Rogers of the second Texas fell at Fort Robinette, Corinth, Miss., the Federal authorities gave the body Masonic honors, and it is said you are never to be outdone in courtesy to friend or enemy." The rebuttal was: "Not by a dammed sight. Colonel De Bray, turn out your regiment for escort duty tomorrow at the Masonic burial of Lieutenant Commander Wainright of the *Harriet Lane*."

The lodge met, the hall was full. When it reached the street its members were augmented by every Mason soldier who could obtain leave to be present. The general commanding with staff, a detail of Col. DeBray's regiment as escort with the colonel (a Mason) in command, the paroled United States officers with the gray in the Masonic line, the body of Commander Wainright with that of Lieutenant Lea of the same vessel was borne to the grave and interred in the Episcopal cemetery with full Masonic services and military honors. The Master who performed this duty despite the excitement of the day was the same who remained the day after the city was evacuated by the Confederates, October 6, 1862, and with a detail of *Harmony Lodge No. 6* buried the body of Brother Saul B. Hurlburt, who was killed accidentally on the 6th near the gas house. He is well known to all the brethren.".... *Philip Crosby Tucker 2^d*. *(Source: Galveston News, January 27, 1895)*

Last Chance!

The intense battle that claimed the lives of 2,441 Federal troops and 3,840 Confederate fighters on May 16, 1863 began about 7:00 a.m. Control of the city of Vicksburg was in the balance. The attacking Union forces, led by General Ulysses Grant, numbered 32,000 men and the 22,000 Confederate defenders were commanded by Lt. General John C. Pemberton.



The Confederates were deployed in a three mile long line of battle along a ridge overlooking Jackson Creek. They commanded an excellent defensive position. However, nearby on Champion Hill, three Union columns were approaching on their relatively unprotected left flank. If the Federals were successful with their flanking action, they would cut the Confederates off from their base at Vicksburg. Just after 9:00 a.m., the Confederates were alerted to the danger by a courier. Troops were quickly shifted to the left to cover their exposed flank on Champion Hill.

The Federal soldiers soon arrived near the Champion house where General Grant established his headquarters. The Federals swung into a line of battle, and unlimbered their artillery. The stage was set and the 'play' soon began in earnest! The Union forces steadily advanced. They closed in on the Confederate main line of defense by 11:30 a.m. The fighting became intense as the battle raged across Champion Hill. The lines swayed back and forth as charge and counter-charge was made.

You can put yourself right on the front-lines of this epic battle and see for yourself how the action unfolded. If you act quickly, you can still obtain an exciting copy of Champion Hill - Decisive Battle for Vicksburg by Timothy Smith. Less than a handful of unsold copies still remain in the Camp's inventory. Support the Camp by purchasing your copy! Contacting Cmdr. Schulze or Brother Lance to reserve your autographed and numbered copy today. Hardcover, 502 pages. \$25 for Camp members, \$35 for non-members.

Galveston Can't Claim Last Civil War Widow

Galveston's claim to the last known Civil War widow now goes to Tryon, Ga. Mrs. Thomas Milton Layman, 86, who formerly lived here with her three daughters - Mrs. W. M. Evans of 2015 Avenue O½; Mrs. Lois King, 2012 Broadway; and Mrs. Eunice Wilson, 1905 Avenue M½ - has decided because of poor health to live in Tryon with her son, Joe Layman. "Mother always went to Georgia in the summer and came back after the hurricane season," Mrs. Evans said, "but she got sick this summer and has decided she isn't strong enough to make the trip back to Texas." Recently, Mrs. Evans saw a story in a New York newspaper "about the last Civil War widow dying."

She told a News-Tribune staff writer about the story and said, "it might interest you to know that my mother is a Civil War widow and is still receiving pension checks - she's very much alive." This was in September, shortly before Mrs. Layman's 86th birthday on Sept. 6, which she celebrated in Tryon.

A story concerning Mrs. Layman being "the last known Civil War widow" and a Galveston resident has been planned since September. When telephoned Wednesday evening, Mrs. Evans said her mother would not be returning to Galveston. "I'm sorry, too, for she would have appreciated your wanting to write a story - she's 86, now, you know." Mrs. Layman's husband died in 1932 at the age of 94, Mrs. Evans said....*(Galveston Tribune, pg 1-B, Thursday, 5 Nov 1964)* *.....submitted by Brother Harrold Henck*

CSS Alabama – The Other Story – by Jim Jobling

Mr. Jim Jobling, underwater Conservation Research Laboratory manager at Texas A&M, treated the Camp to a very interesting talk at our July 2007 Camp meeting. His specialty is underwater archeology and artifact preservation. His work takes him around the world – and usually puts him underwater! One particular conservation project he is involved with concerns the infamous and highly successful Confederate commerce raider, *CSS Alabama*.

Mr. Jobling began with a brief history of the *Alabama*. He explained that it was built in secrecy as '290' at Liverpool, England as a steamship. Since England was not allowed to supply the Confederacy during the war, the ship was supposedly built for Spain – and ultimately launched as *Enrica*.



Jim Jobling lectures

In July 1862, Captain Rafael Semmes, an Alabamian, took the vessel for a short 'shakedown' cruise, or test run. The ship was loaded with ladies and gentlemen passengers expecting to enjoy an afternoon outing. However, at the mouth of the Mersey River, Captain Semmes unceremoniously unloaded the shocked merrymakers onto a tugboat. He then made a dash for the Azores. There, '290' or *Enrica*, was quickly refitted with eight cannon, loaded with ammunition, and renamed *CSS Alabama*. The English crewmen were asked if they would like to remain aboard and join the Confederate cause. Most of them responded with, "Aye".

Meanwhile, an alert was put out by the U.S. Government to find the wayward ship. And for good reason - the *Alabama* was destined to cause tremendous havoc with the Union commercial fleet. The raider commenced to capture and burn nineteen Union ships during the next few months. Captain Semmes usually raised a British flag in order to approach along-side and board his prey. Rarely did he even need to fire a shot!

In January 1863, the *Alabama* was sighted near Galveston by the Federal navy side-wheeler gunboat, *USS Hatteras*. However, no one aboard *Hatteras* recognized the raider! Instead, the Union gunboat innocently followed the *Alabama* out to sea. Suddenly, the raider turned and attacked. *USS Hatteras* was sunk within about fifteen minutes in sixty feet of water. The kill site was quickly found by other Union vessels who heard the cannon-fire.

But by then, the *Alabama* was long gone! She made a bee-line for Cape Town, South Africa to re-supply. Then Captain Semmes headed for the far-East, including Singapore. The *Alabama* soon came back around Cape Town to resume raiding along the U.S. Gulf coast.

The *Alabama* sported pivot guns that could swing left or right. Six of them were smooth-bore 32-pounders. They fired a large round ball with a time-cap fuse. The gunners would cut the fuse to the length needed to match the distance the ball had to fly. The flame from the blast of firing the cannon lit the fuse on the ball as it left the barrel.

The Federal sloop-of-war *USS Kearsarge* had been on the lookout for *Alabama* for some time. She patrolled the European coast hoping to catch the raider. In June 1864, *Kearsarge* finally caught *Alabama* in port on the coast of France. *Alabama* soon moved to sea for a face-off. The two vessels circled each other for some time looking for an advantage. The *Alabama* fired first – and most! The *Kearsarge* was newer and had heavier rifled guns, but *Alabama* fired nearly half again as many shots.



Painting of CSS Alabama

But *Alabama* was ultimately doomed because of what proved to be a fatal flaw: namely, the poor quality of its long-stored powder and shells. Due to damp powder, the fuse timing of its salvos was off. Many of the well-aimed balls hit *Kearsarge* and bounced off into the water before exploding! One ball actually pierced *Kearsarge* and embedded in its thick oak rudder-post. But, fortunately for the Federal sloop, the shell didn't explode! However, *Alabama* was not as fortunate. She sunk just after striking her Colors.

In 1884, a French mine sweeper discovered the wreck of *Alabama* off the French coast near Cherbourg. They recovered a 7-inch Blakely gun and two others and put them on display. In July 2005, *Alabama's* 32-pounder main pivot cannon was recovered by the French vessel *Elan*. The wreck rests in 200 feet of water. According to Mr. Jobling, recovery and conservation of the wreck is very difficult due to cold temperatures, high pressure, strong tides, and brief fifteen-minute dive times.

(Continued on next page)

CSS Alabama – The Other Story – by Jim Jobling

The recently recovered pivot cannon was shipped to Texas A&M in a custom-made twenty-four foot container of water. Mr. Jobling received the huge artifact and was charged with its cleaning, stabilization, and preservation. The nine-foot long cannon weighs between 7,000-8,000 pounds. Two large fork-lifts were needed to lift it out of the shipping container. The first step was to remove the two to three inch coating of concretion (mineral build-up) that coated the surface of the cannon. As the concretion was slowly chipped away, Mr. Jobling was delighted to see the numbered fore and aft gun sights appear.

In addition, the barrel was completely filled with concretion. As the conservation team slowly chipped away further and further into the barrel, a thought occurred. The gun may still be loaded! They couldn't tell. An x-ray wouldn't work because of the thick steel of the barrel. Extreme caution was needed. They put a broom handle down the barrel and tapped. It sounded funny! As they continued to clean and had moved about forty inches into the barrel, they spotted the water-cap for a fuse. Thankfully, it was a *time fuse* and since it had been under water, it was not going to ignite and explode.

However, the old gun still presented extreme danger. Gunpowder, over time, is not stable. It breaks down and can create hydrogen. The trapped hydrogen inside the ball could cause an explosion if it is suddenly vented. Mr. Jobling said that the Marines are usually called in to disarm live shells. They would carefully and slowly drill a hole into the ball without creating any heat and then flood the interior of the shell to remove any danger. But in this case, the Marines would not touch the job because the ball was still inside the barrel of the cannon. With great difficulty, Mr. Jobling carefully tapped into the ball and finally worked it out.

Further cleaning of the cannon exposed interesting engraving on the barrel: "Fawcett Preston & Co. Liverpool 1862". This proved that England was supplying the Confederacy during the Civil War! Also, an unknown inspector's initials, "JHR", were also engraved on the barrel. The next step in the preservation of the huge artifact was to remove the salts. This was necessary to halt the breakdown of the iron from chlorides. It was a gradual process that involved electrolysis. The cannon was put into a large vat with a DC current. This process takes up to a year and a half to two years and is vital to stabilizing the cannon. Many additional stabilization and preservation steps followed, including: boiling, coating it with tannic acid, coating it with polyurethane, and polishing. When completed, the cannon will be sent to a museum for display.

Mr. Jobling then used a PowerPoint slide presentation to show us several before/after photos of recovered and restored artifacts from the wreck, including: a jaw bone, deck fittings, port holes, loose shells and shells in boxes, a water hose, a Davenport dinner plate from the NCO's galley, and other miscellaneous plates and bowls. In all, it was an interesting and educational presentation. Mr. Jobling.....Well Done Sir!

...respectfully submitted by Michael L. Lance

Vet's Death Depresses Lone Survivor Williams

Houston (UPI) – Walter Williams' prediction that he'd live to be the last veteran of the Civil War was fulfilled but the thought depressed him so badly that he couldn't eat his lunch. Williams, an honorary colonel, is 116. His daughter, Mrs. Willie Mae Bowles, broke the news to him before lunch that John Salling, next-to-last survivor of the armies of the Civil War, had died.

"It seemed to upset him," she said. "He didn't eat his lunch today and has been talking quite a bit about it. He wanted to know all about Salling's death and said he would go to the funeral if he were able." Mrs. Bowles said his first comment when he heard about Sallings' dying was, "I'm lucky to have outlived all of them."

Williams predicted years ago that, "I'm going to live longer than any of them just to see what happens."

He told his daughter Monday that he'd like to send a message of condolence later to Salling's daughter, Mrs. Hugh McCamey of Slant?, Va.

Williams has been blind and bedridden for more than four years. Dr. R. L. Wolfe examined him Sunday and pronounced his health good, "considering his age." "I wish my pulse were that strong." Dr. Wolfe said.

Williams', whose 116th birthday was last Nov. 14, joined the Confederate Army when he was 16. He served as a forage master with Gen. John Bell Hood's brigade, but never saw combat.

(Source: The Galveston News – Wednesday, March 18, 1959)

...submitted by Brother Harrold Henck

2007 Marshall Hope Award



-- Commander Glass and Texas Brothers --

I accepted an award on your behalf. The Harriet Lane won the Marshall Hope Award for the year's best camp newsletter at the 126th National Encampment of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

WOW! (A good choice too, I might add).

Attached is a photo [at left] of Cmdr-in-Chief Pahl [in gray suit] presenting the award and streamer for the Camp's flag. Also attached are photos of the Department posters outside the meeting hallway [below right] and of course, a close up of yours [below left].

*Your obedient servant,
Mike Beard
PDC*



I would like to thank all the Brothers of the Camp who contributed articles, ideas, and photos to the editor during this past year. Your outstanding efforts have made this award possible. It only seems fitting that the streamer flies atop the Camp Colors – a tribute to the efforts of an active hard-working Camp! THANK YOU ALL!

Michael L. Lance

Lt. Cmdr. Edward Lea Camp #2 - Houston, Texas