



The Fighting Joe Wheeler

Dispatch

Volume XXXVI, Issue 1

January, 2016

Newly Elected Camp Officers

Commander: David Rawls

1st Lt Commander: David Fisher

2nd Lt Commander: Hank Arnold

Adjutant: Pat Acton

Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Acton

Chaplain: Jeff Young

Color Sergeant: Bill Hass

Quartermaster: Tristan Dunn

Commander Emeritus: Dr. Ira
West

Chaplin Emeritus: Dr. Charles
Baker

Sergeant At Arms: Sam Nelson

Camp Surgeon: Rick Price

Dispatch Editor: Jim Darden

Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372, Inc.
C/O Adjutant
P. O. Box 43362
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

The Next Camp Meeting will be at 7:00 pm, Tuesday January 12.
Tristan Dunn will present a program on Reconstruction.

SCV Calendar

January 12.....Camp Meeting - Reconstruction.....Tristan Dunn
January 16.....Lee-Jackson Banquet.....Carl Jones
January 23.....R E Lee Celebration....Ala Archives, Montgomery

February 9..... Camp Meeting - Black Confederates.....Al Lassiter

March 5.....Alabama Educational Conference.....Prattville
March 8.....Camp Meeting - CSA Constitution.....David Rawls

April 12.....Camp Meeting - Ft Blakely.....Hank Arnold
April 24.....CSA Memorial Day.....Elmwood Cemetery
April 29-30.....Living History.....Confederate Memorial Park

May 10..... Camp Meeting - Battle of Bentonville.....Tim Kent

June 3.....Jefferson Davis' birthday
June 10-12.....Alabama Division Reunion.....Cullman
June 14.....Camp Meeting - Program TBD.....Jim Darden

July 12.....Camp Meeting - CSS Shenandoah.....Jeff Seymor

August 9.....Camp Meeting - Southern Culture.....Walter Dockery

Visit the Camp Website - www.fightingjoewheeler.org

Please send articles or other
information for inclusion
in "The Dispatch" to
Jim Darden - Editor
645 South Sanders Rd
Hoover, Alabama 35226
or e-mail: km4qr@bellsouth.net

Alabama: We Dare Defend Our Rights

"The principal for which we contended is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form." - Jefferson Davis, May 1865

Commander's Report

Commander's Letter

December, 2015

Compatriots,

Welcome to the New Year! I hope that this one has less controversies than last, I doubt it, with government and the "give it to me now" society we have. We shall see and hope for the best.

I am very pleased to have the new camp officers who volunteered and then were elected. Please help these fine men who have stepped up to defend the Cause of the SCV!! We should all look forward to helping them fit into the new role as officers of the camp, it is hard work, but the reward is great. Thank you gentlemen!

We have a busy winter coming up. Our first camp meeting will be the second Tuesday of January at 7:00. Tristan Dunn will speak on reconstruction. The Lee-Jackson Banquet is the 16th at 6:00 with dinner at 6:30. Robert E. Lee's birthday is January 19. The Lee Celebration in Montgomery will be at 10:00am Saturday January 23 at the Alabama Archives in Montgomery. Don't miss this, a guided tour of the Flag Room at the State Archives follows. See the January 2016 issue of the *Alabama Confederate* for more information and registration information.

Please join the camp and increase your level of activity to show the respect to your ancestors they deserve. Remember, as hard as times are now, they were fighting to protect YOUR state and the South from an invader. They did their job under the most trying of conditions, it is now our job to remember them and the TRUE cause for which they fought!!

Deo Vindice,

Hank Arnold
Commander
FJW 1372





The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372

Lee - Jackson birthday celebration

Saturday January 16, 2016 6:00pm

at the

Homewood Diner

162 Oxmoor Rd, Homewood, AL 35209

(205) 941-9994

R.S.V.P.

Hank Arnold - (205)929-5209 -harnold442@yahoo.com

Wearing of the Gray

William Benthall Davis
Co F 3rd Virginia Cavalry

William Benthall Davis was born August 1, 1844 in Virginia. He was married to Alice M. Davis on July 27, 1873 in Kentucky and moved to Alabama the same month. She was born December 14, 1847 in Christian County, Kentucky. Her father's name was George Dillard. She died in 1921 and is buried in Elmwood Cemetery. They had two sons William B. and Jefferson, and one daughter Eunice M.

The Virginia 3rd Cavalry was organized with independent companies and entered Confederate service on July 1, 1861. The regiment was formed with eleven companies, later reduced to ten. It was also called 2nd Regiment until October. Its members were raised in the counties of Mecklenburg, Elizabeth City, New Kent, Halifax, Nottoway, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, and Prince Edward. For a time six companies served in the Department of the Peninsula and four in the Valley District. Later the unit was assigned to General F. Lee's, Wickham's, and Munford's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia. It fought in many conflicts from Williamsburg to Fredericksburg, then was involved in the engagements at Kelly's Ford, Chancellorsville, Brandy Station, Upperville, Gettysburg, Bristoe, Mine Run, The Wilderness, Todd's Tavern, Spotsylvania, Haw's Shop, and Cold Harbor. The 3rd went on to participate in Early's operations in the Shenandoah Valley and the Appomattox Campaign.

William B. Davis enlisted in the 3RD Virginia Cavalry March 1864. He was sent to Chimborazo Hospital in Richmond and was captured here in March 1865. He was paroled on April 14, 1865.

The 3RD Virginia Cavalry took 210 effectives to Gettysburg, but only 3 surrendered on April 9, 1865. Its commanders were Colonels Thomas F. Goode, Robert Johnston, and Thomas H. Owen; Lieutenant Colonels William R. Carter, William M. Feild, and John T. Thornton; and Majors Henry Carrington and Jefferson C. Phillips. During his time with the regiment Carter kept a field diary, parts of which were published in 1998 under the title *Sabres, Saddles, and Spurs*.

Future Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates and justice of the Virginia Supreme Court of Virginia Benjamin W. Lacy commanded a company in the 3rd Virginia. Confederate surgeon and Civil War diarist Dr. Richard Eppes initially served with the 3rd Virginia, before furnishing a substitute to complete his term of service.

Patriot Davis died August 11, 1914 and was buried in the Hardee Plot in Elmwood Cemetery.



Flag of the 3RD Virginia Cavalry