



The Fighting Joe Wheeler

Dispatch

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May, 2016

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 Haas

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

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The Next Camp Meeting will be at 7:00 pm, Tuesday May 10. Al Byrd will present a program on Quantrill's Raiders.

SCV Calendar

May 7-8.....Shiloh Battlefield Tour.....Tim Kent

May 10..... Camp Meeting – Quantrill's Raiders.....Al Byrd

June 3.....Jefferson Davis' birthday

June 10-12.....Alabama Division Reunion.....Cullman

June 14.....Camp Meeting - Gettysburg.....Rick Price

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

August 9.....Camp Meeting – Battle of Bentonville.....Tim Kent

September 13.....Camp Meeting – Program TBD.....Dr. John Killien

October 11.....Camp Meeting – Program TBD.....Jim Darden

Visit the Camp Website - www.fightingjoewheeler.org

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

May 2016

Compatriots:

A week ago this past Sunday was our annual Confederate Memorial Day Celebration at Elmwood Cemetery. While there were not as many there might have been, those in attendance had the privilege and honor to participate in a salute to the gallant men who sacrificed so much so that we could meet together and show the honor they deserved, even in these of political correctness. Never let us forget or be ungrateful for what these men did for us and our posterity.

I am looking forward to the next Camp Meeting on the 10th of May. We have an excellent speaker lined up and on behalf of the Camp invite all who can to come and participate.

Our ancestors fought for a just cause and they deserve far more honor and credit for what they did. Let us always honor their memory! So I ask you: please come and bring a friend if you can. Let us follow the doctrine as presented by General S. D. Lee and re-establish truth and honor as guiding principles for our nation.

Deo Vindice,

David L. Rawls
Commander



2nd LT Commander's Report

May, 2016

Camp,

We have just finished April, our Confederate History Month. Full of the good and the ugly. We had a clean up day at Elmwood the week prior to the celebration of Confederate Memorial day. Good participation by the camp and good work doing clean up and a tour of Confederate grave sites in the cemetery. Thanks to those that were a part of it.

On Sunday the 24th we celebrated Confederate Memorial Day at Elmwood. Alabama Division Commander Gary Carlisle honored the camp with an inspirational talk. Bobby Horton did an excellent job with Taps. Dr. Baker provided the invocation. We had about 20 members and guests in attendance. An outstanding event!

The ugly happened Monday at Montgomery at the UDC Confederate Memorial Day Service. A great event was being completed when an armed attack was made by six people that disrupted and desecrated the event. This was a "black lives matter" group, but really just a gang of pampered thugs. It is sad that more arrests were not made. The people at the event stayed calm, I'm glad I wasn't there as I would have erupted; I have a short trigger. God bless the cause of the Confederacy!

We have a great speaker coming up at next Tuesdays meeting Al Byrd from Kentucky will speak on Quantrill's Raiders. We need to ask for donations from the camp attendees to offset the costs of speakers that come some distance to speak at the camp. Camp funds just are not there. The solution is to donate to cover travel expenses or volunteer to speak. Your thoughts are welcome.

Thank you,

Hank Arnold
2nd Lt. Cmdr.
FJW 1372



Wearing of the Gray

John Curley Granigan
Cabin Boy, CSS Alabama

According to the 1900 Mississippi Census, John C. Granigan was born in 1845 in Wisconsin. His dad was also born in Wisconsin but his mother was born in Ireland. He wrote to Mr. Pat Harrison (Byron Patton Harrison, US Senator and Representative from Mississippi, son of a Confederate Veteran) July 8, 1918, requesting a copy of his Confederate Service Record. He was living at Beauvoir at the time and stated that “the trustees of the Home wants every man in the Home (to get) his war record from Washington”. A search was made but no record of Patriot Granigan’s service could be found. The conclusion was sent to Mr. Benjamin Humphreys (Benjamin Grubb Humphreys II US Representative from Mississippi and son of General and Governor of Mississippi Benjamin Grubb Humphreys) on October 21, 1918 which stated that, “Mr. Granigan’s statements in every detail regarding the shipping of the crew of the *Alabama* as well as her movements are so correct that it seems as if he must have been on her as stated.”

J. C. Granigan died June 11, 1919 and was buried in the Camp Hardee Plot at Elmwood Cemetery, Birmingham, Ala.

Oct 4 1918

Mr. Benjamin Humphreys

Dear Sir & Friend

I wrote a letter last July to Mr Pat Harrison. M. C. to look up my war record and send it to me. I was living then at the old Soldiers Home at Beauvoir. He wrote me then he would attend to it. I have received no letters from him since I suppose he was so busy with his Senatorial Campaign that he forgot all about. You will do me a great favour in attending to this matter. I received a letter yesterday from Mr. McMahan stating Teely McLean was dead.

I will give you on Page 2 where I served on the *Alabama*. I hired on in Liverpool England as cabin boy for a 6 months trip to the West Indies. I found out later it was for the *Alabama*, that they were getting up a crew. We left Liverpool on 13th of August 1862 on the ship *Bahama*. We landed at the Island of Cerceira in Portugese waters August 20. There the *Alabama* was waiting for us. August 24 we signed the articles and the *Alabama* was commissioned as a Confederate cruiser. She left England as the 290. My name taken on the rolls was John Curley Granigan. The crew gave me the name Jack Curley.

I served as cabin boy during the voyage under Bartelli. He was the Steward. Captain Raphael Semmes as Commander, first Lieutenant name was Kells. We were sunk on June 19th 1864 outside Cherbourg france in the English Channel. I was picked up and several of the crew by the Yacht *Deerhound* and landed in Southampton where we were

disbanded. We were sunk by the Ship *Kearsage*. There was nothing saved off our ship only a few private papers belonging to the Captain. Two sailors saved them in the bosom of their shirts. Most of the crew stripped naked to swim.

We were never made prisoners. All the ships papers lost. I cannot see how the Government got the names of the crew, only by guess work. Several desertions at ports we landed at. I do hope you will give this careful attention & look it up. Hoping to hear from you soon. I am living now with my cousin in Birmingham, Ala.

I remain yours respectfully,

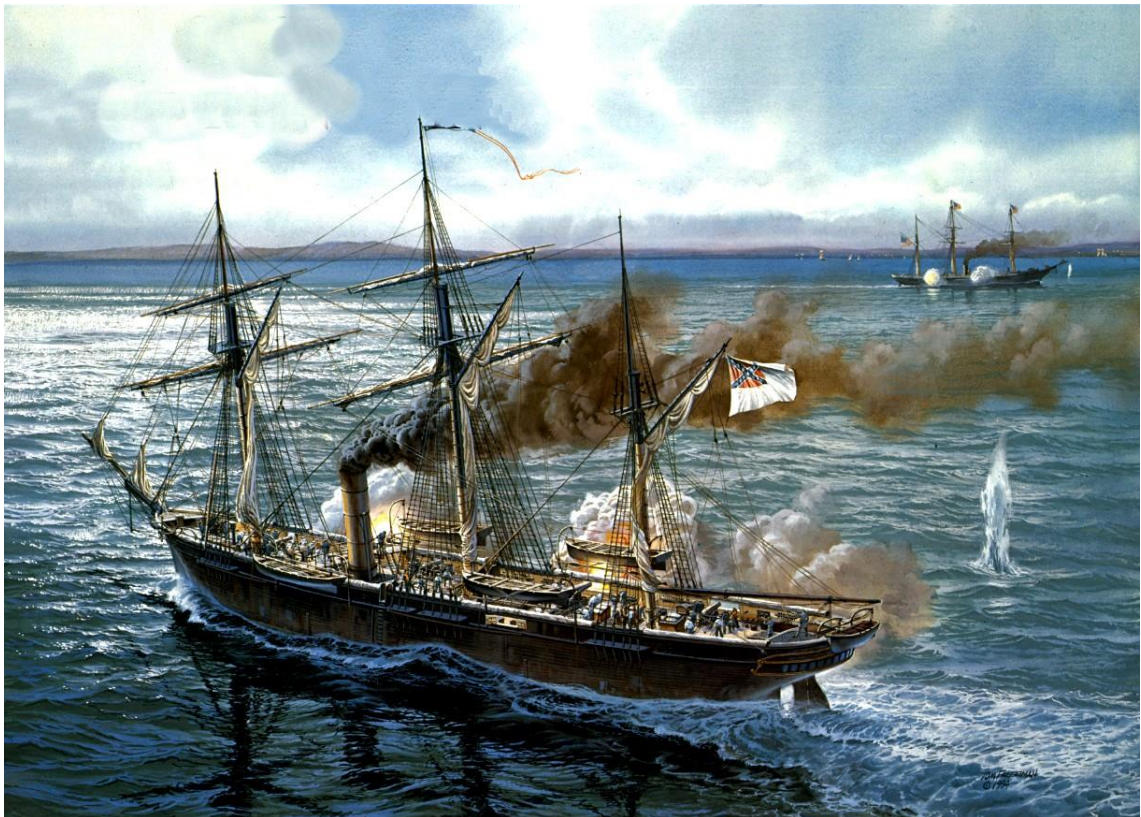
J. C. Granigan

1710 1ST Avenue

Birmingham

Ala

P.S. our Steward Bartelli was drowned when we were sunk.



USS Alabama