



The Hancock Rebel



Winner of the 2016-17 Small Camp Newsletter Award from the Mississippi Division SCV

THE SHIELDSBORO RIFLES CAMP #2263 NEWSLETTER

BAY ST. LOUIS, MS

ISSUE #33

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The Charge

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish.

Given at New Orleans, LA in a speech on April 25, 1906 to the SCV National Convention by Lt. Gen. Stephen D Lee.

From the Commander's Desk

By: Camp Commander Don Green

Greetings Compatriots and Happy New Year!

For those of you who do not know yet, I am back from overseas a few months early. My next job looks like I will be in the country at least, but working over in Charleston, SC.; Yep, I plan on getting photos from my eventual visit to Fort Sumter. At any rate, a lot has happened since the last newsletter in March of 2018. Congratulations to Steve Thoms for his election to 2nd Lt. Commander. A succesful Division Reunion was held at Beauvoir in June. The Camp had quality speakers present during its meetings. There were succesful events at Fall Muster, Camp Moore, Wreaths Across America, Christmas at Beauvoir and the most recent Lee-Jackson Banquet. Our membership roster is swelling to near 30 members, we have a good schedule of speakers for this year so far, and a promising slate of events to attend throughout. This month's meeting will take place Tuesday February 26, 2019 at 6pm at the American Legion in Bay St. Louis. 3rd Brigade Commander Trent Lewis is set to present on the period drum and relate the good things happening in our neighboring brigade. Hope to see you there!

Camp Photos



Camp #2263 Members, Associates and Members of Camps 373 and 2236 at Lee-Jackson Salute Jan. 20, 2019.



Camp Members and Associates participated at Beauvoir for the annual Christmas Celebration Dec. 21, 2018.



The Shieldsboro Rifles participated at the Wreaths for Beauvoir Cemetery Ceremony on Dec. 2, 2018.

More Camp Photos



Camp Members participated in the Camp Moore Reenactment in November 2018 with the 3rd Miss Inf.



Camp Members participated in Fall Muster at Beauvoir on Oct. 21, 2018 at the President's Estate.



2nd Lt. Commander Steve Thoms presented to a family about the War and Beauvoir on Sept. 17, 2018.

More Camp Photos



President of the Mobile Area Civil War Roundtable Paul Breuske presented on his book: The Last Siege: The Mobile Campaign to the Shieldsboro Rifles Camp #2263 in Bay St. Louis, MS. on July 31, 2018.



The 3rd Miss Inf. along with Camp Members took a photo around the Pres. Davis Statue June 2, 2018.



Camp Members participated in the Surrender Oaks Festival at Citronelle, AL. May 5, 2018.

More Camp Photos



Camp Members participated in the Honor Guard at CMD at Beauvoir on April 28, 2018 in Biloxi, MS.



Camp Members participated in the Jackson Crossroads Reenactment in Louisiana on April 21, 2018.



Camp Members participated in the Live Oak Rifles Camp Memorial in Gautier on April 10, 2018.

Upcoming Events

February 2, 2019 Confederate Marker Dedication
Point Clear Cemetery; Point Clear, AL; 2pm

February 3, 2019 Historic Rodney Cleanup
Presbyterian Church; Rodney, MS. 8am

February 16, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm

February 16, 2019 Oddfellows Tomb of the Unknown Ceremony
Beauvoir Cemetery; Biloxi, MS.

February 22-24, 2019 John Ford Home Reenactment
John Ford House Site; Sandy Hook, MS. (3rd Miss MAX EFFORT)

March 2, 2019 Confederate Flag Day
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS.

March 8-10, 2019 Cuba Station Reenactment
McGough Property; Gainesville, AL.

March 8-10, 2019 Fort Randolph/Buhlow Reenactment
Pineville, LA.

March 16, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm

March 23, 2019 Gilbertown, AL. Living History
County Museum; Gilbertown, AL.

March 29-31, 2019 Port Hudson Reenactment
Port Hudson Historic Site; Jackson, LA.

April 6, 2019 Beauvoir Cleanup
Beauvoir Garden; Biloxi, MS.

April 7, 2019 I-55 Flag Dedication
Bogue Chitto, MS.; 2pm

April 13, 2019 Live Oak Rifles Memorial
Gautier Cemetery; Gautier, MS. 10am

**April 12-14, 2019 Pleasant Hill Reenactment
Pleasant Hill, LA**

**April 20, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

**April 27, 2019 Beauvoir Confederate Memorial Day
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. (3rd Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**April 26-28, 2019 Thunder on the Bay
Fort Gaines; Dauphin Island, AL.**

**May 4, 2019 Citronelle Surrender
Camp Pushmataha; Citronelle, AL. (3rd Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**May 18, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

**May 17-19, 2019 Trail of Honor
Harley Davidson Shop; Jackson, MS. (3rd Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**June 1, 2019 Pres. Jefferson Davis Birthday Celebration
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. (3rd Miss MAX EFFORT)**

**June 8, 2018 SCV Division Conv. Color Guard
Brandon, MS.**

**June 15, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

**June 29, 2019 Living History Fort Barrancas
Pensacola NAS; Pensacola, FL.**

**July 10-13, 2019 SCV National Reunion
Mobile, AL.**

**July 20, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

**August 3, 2019 Fort Morgan Living History & Garrison
Fort Morgan Site; Gulf Shores, AL.**

**August 17, 2019 3rd Saturday Living History
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS. 9am-3pm**

Media Pages Update

We are looking at creating a new website for a minimum fee, possibly free, for the Camp. Our original website was a bit costly and has not been renewed as of yet. 2nd Lt. Commander J. P. is looking at this for us and will report to us in the very near future with possible options .

Camp Website: In Progress

Brigade Website: www.dgreen1865.wix.com/5th-brig-ms-div-scv

Division Website: www.mississippiscv.org

Beauvoir Website: www.visitbeauvoir.org

National Website: www.scv.org

Upcoming Speakers List

Tuesday February 26, 2019 – Trent Lewis –Period Drum

Tuesday March 26, 2019 – Don Green – CSS Shenandoah

Tuesday April 30, 2019 - Joe Abbott – Div Commander Platform

Tuesday May 28, 2019 – Bridgett Smith – Where the Elephants Fought

Tuesday June 25, 2019 – Nic Clark – Civil War Tours of New Orleans

Tuesday July 30, 2019 – TBA

Tuesday August 27, 2019 - TBA

Tuesday September 25, 2019 – TBA

Tuesday October 30, 2019 –TBA

Tuesday November 19, 2019 – TBA

Order of the Confederate Rose

ORDER OF THE CONFEDERATE ROSE



HANCOCK COUNTY CHAPTER,
HANCOCK COUNTY, MS

Camps #2263 and 373 will be helping to start an OCR Chapter in Hancock County. All ladies 12 years and older are eligible to join. We had a lot of interest this year and feel like 2019 will be the year to charter this wonderful organization. Contact Breezy Bice at blbice@live.com for more information.

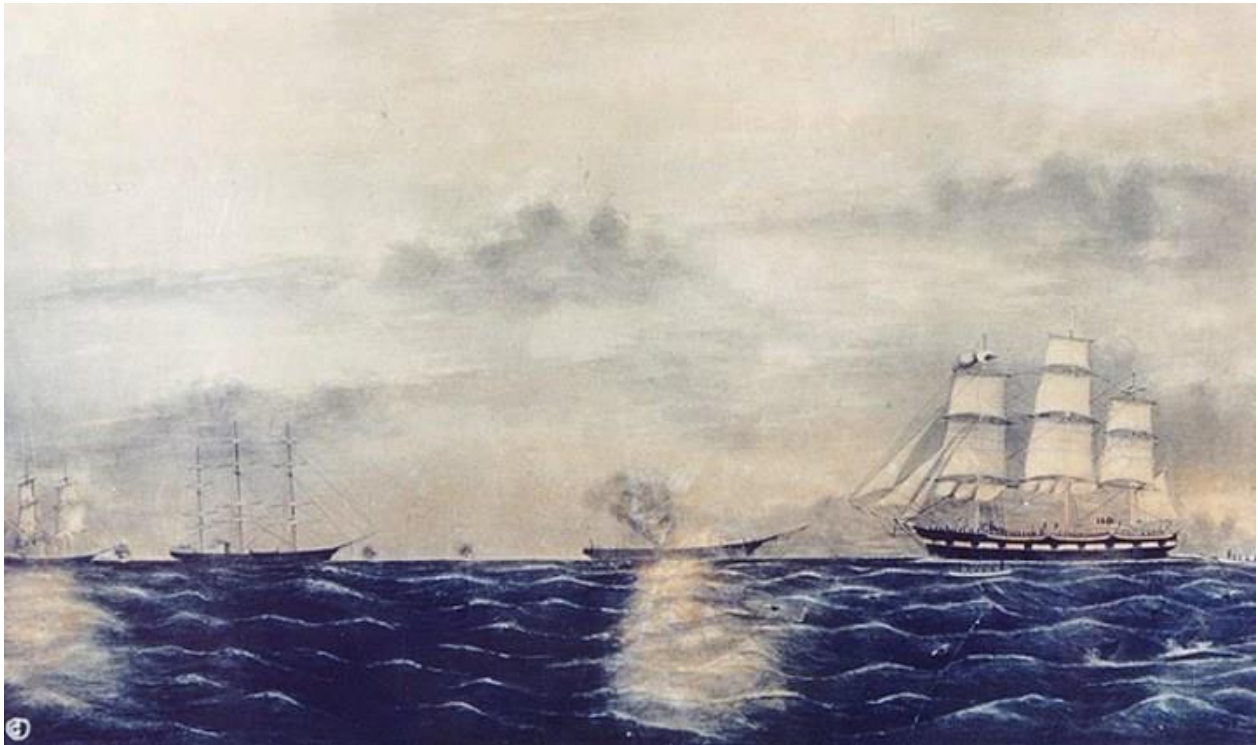
Camp Charter



CSS Shenandoah and the Last Shot of the Civil War

How the Rebels saved the whales

By **Mike Markowitz** - April 9, 2015



Colored lithograph of an artwork by B. Russell, depicting CSS Shenandoah's assault on the U.S. whaling ships in the Bering Sea area. Individual items shown are (from left to right): brig Susan Abigail (burning); ship Euphrates (burning – distant); CSS Shenandoah; ship Jerah Swift (burning – distant); ship William Thompson (burning – distant); ship Sophia Thornton (burning); whaleboat going to warn other whalers (very distant); ship Milo, which carried the destroyed vessels' crews to San Francisco; ice in the distance. U.S. Naval Historical Center Artwork

It is a matter of odd historical fact that the last shot of the **American Civil War** was a blank fired at a New Bedford whaling ship in the Bering Sea off Siberia on June 22, 1865, more than a month after the conflict had actually ended. To understand this bizarre event in this peculiar location, we need to briefly recount the voyage of the Confederate raider CSS *Shenandoah*, an extraordinary epic of seafaring long neglected as a minor footnote to maritime history.



A painting depicting the CSS Shenandoah in the Arctic ice, circa June 1865. U.S. Naval Historical Center Artwork

When South Carolina's secession shattered the union on Dec. 20, 1860, the Confederacy gained many fine naval officers, but few seaworthy warships. **Stephen Mallory**, the Confederacy's creative naval secretary, dispatched Southern agents to Europe to covertly buy or build fast cruisers for commerce raiding. **James Bulloch** (1823-1901), the Confederate agent in Liverpool who managed the purchase and outfitting of *Shenandoah*, would later tell sea stories to his sister's son, young **Theodore Roosevelt**. Bulloch was opposed by Lincoln's top spies and diplomats, notably U.S. Ambassador **Charles Francis Adams** (1807-1886), son of President **John Quincy Adams**.

Shenandoah was launched at Glasgow, Scotland in 1863 as the merchant ship *Sea King*, a state-of-the-art clipper for the China tea trade. Built of teak planks over an iron frame, she displaced 1,160 tons, carrying three masts and a 200 hp coal-burning auxiliary steam engine driving a propeller that could be raised into the hull to reduce drag while

sailing. On trials Shenandoah reached a speed of 12.25 knots under steam, but under full sail she achieved 16 knots.

Slipping out of Liverpool under false papers on Oct. 8, 1864, *Shenandoah* rendezvoused with a chartered Confederate steamer in a remote cove in the Madeira Islands to load weapons and crew. A sailing vessel of her size needed at least 100 men to operate safely, and perhaps 50 more to handle the guns and form boarding parties. However, due to manpower shortages, *Shenandoah* was desperately under-manned throughout her 13-month voyage, constantly struggling to recruit experienced sailors from ships she captured, with promises of prize money and high adventure.

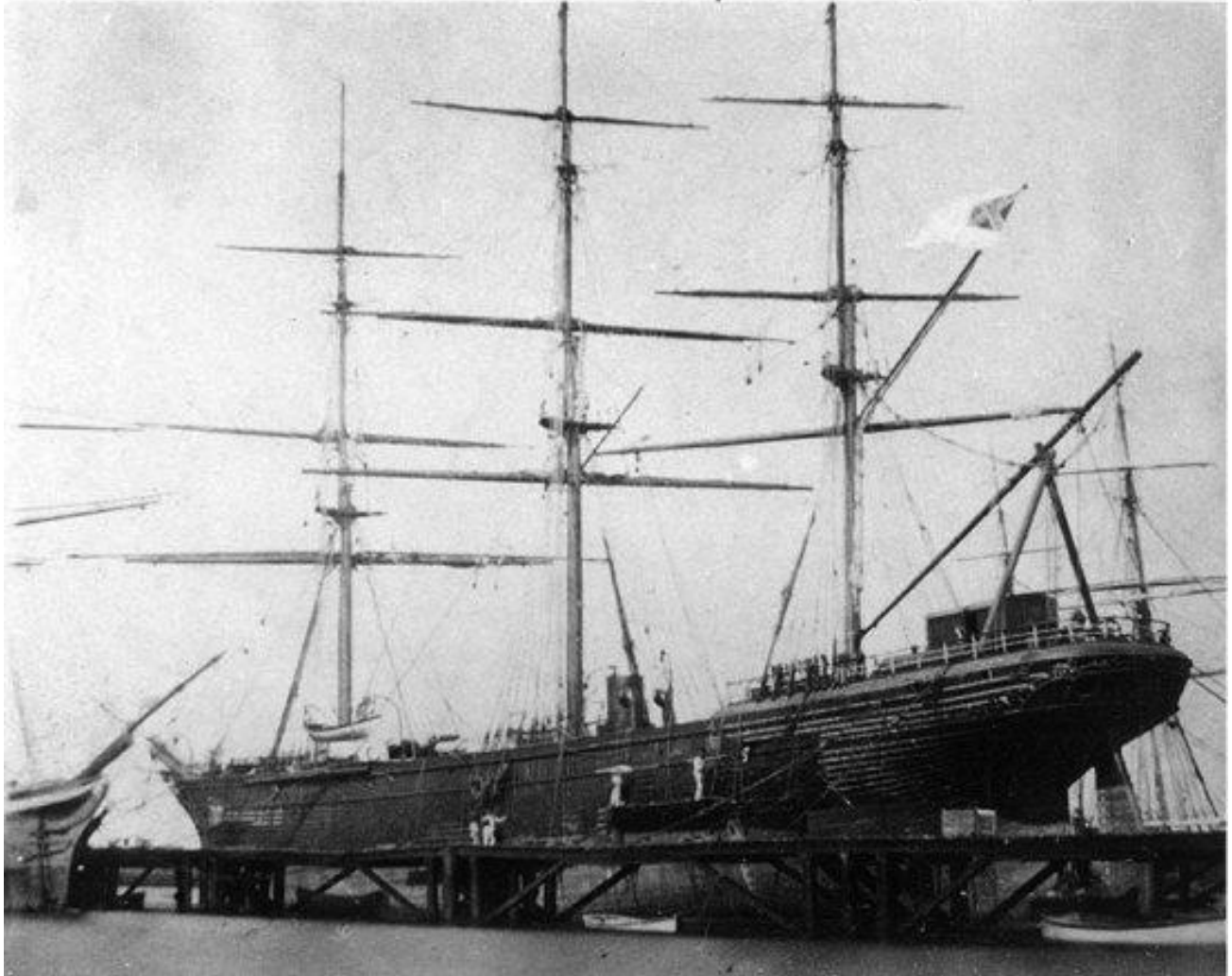


Commander James Iredell Waddell of the Confederate States Navy, captain of the CSS Shenandoah. U.S. Naval Historical Center photo

Shenandoah's armament was composed of four 8-inch (“68 pounder”) smoothbore cannon, two rifled Whitworth 32-pounders and two 12-pounder signal guns. But she was not meant to fight warships, and never engaged any U.S. Navy vessels. Her prey was unarmed merchant ships, in a Confederate strategy of “commerce raiding” that by 1865 ruined the American merchant marine, particularly the New England whaling fleet. In the course of a 58,000-mile cruise, *Shenandoah* captured 38 ships and burned 32. Despite taking over a thousand prisoners, not one was killed. Prizes that were not burned were packed with prisoners and sent into neutral ports.

Shenandoah's skipper, Lt. James Iredell Waddell (1824-1886) of North Carolina, joined the U.S. Navy in 1841, graduated from Annapolis and served in the Mexican War. Appointed as a lieutenant in the Confederate Navy, he was sent to England in 1863 with the hope of a seagoing command. A cautious mariner, Waddell was described by his junior officers as secretive, aloof, unpredictable, and often petulant. They were very junior, ranging in age from 21 to 31. Several of them kept journals, which survive along with the ship's logbooks, so the voyage is surprisingly well documented.

After leaving Madeira, *Shenandoah* made a few captures in the South Atlantic, rounded the Cape of Good Hope and crossed the Indian Ocean, making a port call at Melbourne (Jan. 25 – Feb. 20, 1865) for badly needed repairs and supplies. Warmly received by Australians, the Rebels narrowly avoided arrest as pirates by local authorities, who had no clear orders regarding them from London. Stopping in April at the Micronesian island of Ponape to burn four Yankee whalers and take on fresh water, *Shenandoah* sailed north, reaching the icy Sea of Okhotsk by May. Finding only one stray whaler, she turned into the Bering Sea, where the unarmed, unsuspecting New Bedford whaling fleet hunted the gray whales.



The CSS Shenandoah in dry dock in Williamstown, Victoria, Australia, 1865. In 1871 Britain was ordered to pay £820,000 to the United States by the International Court in Geneva for letting the Shenandoah use the port facilities at Williamstown. U.S. Naval Historical Center photo

The final shots were probably fired by the British-born Gunner, John L. Guy. Cornelius Hunt, the Master's Mate recorded in his journal at 5:45 pm on June 22:

"We brought her to with a shot from our 32-pounder Whitworth rifle, which whistled past her stern. She had crowded on all the sail she could carry, but it availed her little..."

Over the course of a few days, 24 vessels were captured – most burned, the rest loaded with prisoners and sent into San Francisco. American whaling never recovered. Without a reliable supply of inexpensive whale oil as a smokeless lamp fuel and premium lubricant, there was now a vast new market for kerosene distilled from that nasty black stuff that oozed out of the ground in Pennsylvania: *petroleum*.

In a sense, the Rebels saved the whales.

On Nov. 6, 1865 *Shenandoah* arrived back in Liverpool and surrendered to the Royal Navy. Sold to the Sultan of Zanzibar, she was wrecked in a hurricane in 1872.

Shenandoah's battle flag is preserved at the [Museum of the Confederacy](#) in Richmond, Va. One of her [signal guns](#) is in the [Naval Academy Museum](#) at Annapolis, Md.

In one of the many ironies of this story, the missile destroyer USS *Waddell* (in service 1964 -1992) named for *Shenandoah*'s commander, belonged to the *Charles Francis Adams*-class.

Courtesy of: <https://www.defensemedianetwork.com/stories/how-the-rebels-saved-the-whales/>