



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 #34

February 2019

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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,

We are in the middle of Black History Month of which the National Office is promoting Confederate Diversity. At any rate, we have locked down a good schedule of speakers for this year for each month and there is a promising slate of events to attend throughout. I had the honor to go over to the ghost town of Rodney and help clean the cemetery upon the hill behind the Prebyterian Church. This was a great honor to finally get over that way and help out. We also had a good event at Beauvoir this past weekend to help the Oddfellows honor the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with the highest honors it could present to a grave site. As of this writing, the John Ford Home Event this coming weekend is cancelled. 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 tentatively set to present on the period drum and relate the good things happening in our neighboring brigade. Hope to see you there!

Camp Photos



Commander Green participated in the Monument Relocation on January 26, 2019 in Fairhope, AL.



The Artillery fires a salute at the Momument Relocation Ceremony at the Point Clear Cemetery .



The Monument shown here was relocated from West Palm Beach, FL to finally rest there.

More Camp Photos



Camp #2263 Camp Commander Don Green weeded in the Rodney Cemetery on February 3, 2019.



Volunteers flagged a cleaned grave of a Confederate at the Rodney Cemetery clean up day.



The Presbyterian Church in Rodney was open for tours during the workday at the cemetery.

More Photos



Camp Members participated in the LE Gutierrez Memorial at Beauvoir on February 16, 2019.



The 3rd Mississippi Infantry fired a salute in honor of LE Gutierrez of the Washington Artillery.



The Shieldsboro Rifles presented arms at the LE Gutierrez Memorial at Beauvoir that morning.

More Camp Photos



The 7 Stars Artillery took a photo at Beauvoir before the Pilgrimage to the Tomb on Saturday.



The 3rd Miss Inf. provided the Confederate Honor Guard for the Ceremony at the Unknown Soldier.



Camp Members participated in the Reenactors photo after the Pilgrimage Ceremony at Beauvoir.

Upcoming Events

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)**

**May 17-19, 2019 Resaca Reenactment
Resaca, GA.**

**May 24-26, 2019 Janney Furnance Reenactment
Ohatchie, AL.**

**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 7-9, 2019 Tannehill Reenactment
Tannehill State Park; McCalla, AL.**

**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**

**September 27-29, 2019 Cedar Hill Reenactment
Hernando, MS.**

**October 18-20, 2019 Fall Muster
Beauvoir; Biloxi, MS.**

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. Camp Members are 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 (TBA)

Tuesday March 26, 2019 – Don Green – CSS Shenandoah (TBA)

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 – Capt. Daryl Ladner - Artillery

Tuesday August 27, 2019 – Brandi K. Gray - OCR

Tuesday September 25, 2019 – Jay Peterson – Collections of Beauvoir

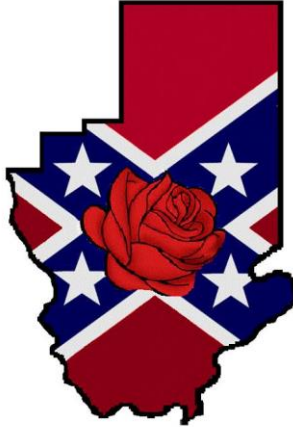
Tuesday October 30, 2019 – SPARS – Paranormal at Beauvoir

Tuesday November 19, 2019 – Shelby Harriell – Women that Fought in the CW

Tuesday December 31, 2019 – No meeting

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



The Sacking of Quitman

February 16, 1864

Skirmish at Lauderdale Springs, in the vicinity of Meridian, MS. Sherman's troops continue the destruction of anything remotely connected to the Confederacy in Meridian, MS. After taking the town without a fight, the Federal troops were turned loose to destroy the place. The troops were specifically told to destroy any public places such as train depots, stations and tracks, communications equipment such as telegraphs and wires, warehouses and arsenals, much of which could be considered legitimate military targets. However, they were also given license to rip up hotels, shops of all sorts and other mercantile establishments where the justification was not military, but simply to infuriate people and (hopefully) get them to pressure the government to surrender and end the war. Sherman's men were told not to molest private residences, but enforcement was not strict.

The following day a detachment of Sherman's army hit Quitman, Mississippi. Here they burned buildings, a railroad bridge, and destroyed railroad tracks. Some of the burned buildings included the Texas Hospital.



Image: Confederate Cemetery in Quitman

THE COMPLETE STORY OF THE HL HUNLEY

The First Crew

Michael Cane

Nicholas Davis

Frank Doyle

Charles Husker (survived)

John Kelly

Lt. John A. Payne (survived)

Absolum Williams

William Robinson (survived)

The H. L. Hunley arrived in Charleston on August 12th, 1863, accompanied by James McClintock and Gus Whitney, one of the investors in the sub. The crew quickly began testing the Hunley in Charleston Harbor. Frustrated by McClintock's pace, the Confederates seized the Hunley submarine and turned it over to Lt. John Payne, a Navy man assigned to the CSS Chicora.

On August 29th, the Hunley was moored at Fort Johnson, preparing to depart for its first attack on the blockade when it suddenly sank at the dock. There are conflicting stories of what happened: Some claimed the wake of a passing ship flooded into the Hunley's open hatches, filling it with enough water to sink it. Others claimed the mooring lines of another ship became tangled on the sub, pulling it onto its side until its hatches were underwater. Whatever happened, the result was the same: the Hunley sank immediately, taking five of her crew down to their deaths. Payne, who was standing atop the sub, jumped into the water and was rescued. William Robinson escaped through the aft hatch and Charles Hasker – trapped by the hatch cover – rode the sub to the bottom before freeing himself and swimming to the surface.

It took weeks to retrieve the submarine, and in that time Horace Hunley arrived in Charleston and demanded the submarine be returned to him. Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard granted the request, and Hunley sent for a crew of men from the Park and Lyons Machine Shop in Mobile.

The Second Crew: All Souls Lost

Horace Hunley (Captain)

Robert Brockbank

Joseph Patterson

Thomas W. Park

Charles McHugh

Henry Baird

John Marshall

Charles L. Sprague

On October 15th, Horace Hunley scheduled a demonstration of his boat in Charleston Harbor. He announced his vessel would dive beneath the CSS Indian Chief and surface on the other side. Once the submarine disappeared beneath the waves, it was not seen again for weeks.

Bad weather delayed search efforts and divers did not recover the H. L. Hunley until November 7th. It was found deep in the harbor channel, with its bow buried in the mud and its stern still floating.

Chains and ropes were used to hoist it to the surface and place it on the dock.

When its hatches were opened, there was a gruesome sight with the crew members seemingly frozen in time. Thomas Park was found with his head in the aft conning tower. Horace Hunley, still clutching a candle, was in the forward conning tower. Rescuers reported the forward ballast tank valve had been left open, allowing the submarine to fill with water. The wrench used to operate the seacock was found on the floor of the submarine leading them to theorize Hunley had either forgotten to close the valve or lost the wrench and was unable to close it. The sub's keel weights had been partially loosened, which suggested the crew realized they were in danger, but not in time to save themselves.

Third Hunley Crew: Volunteers All

Lieutenant George E. Dixon

Arnold Becker

Corporal J.F. Carlsen

Frank Collins

C. Lumpkin

Miller

James A. Wicks

Joseph Ridgaway

Two tragedies had now befallen the H. L. Hunley. The sinkings and visible recovery efforts that followed had created quite a stir in Charleston. It was not long before Rear Admiral John Dahlgren, the head of the Union blockading fleet, learned of the diving submarine from Confederate deserters. In response, Dahlgren ordered his blockading squadron to anchor in shallow water, hang ropes and chains over their sides as defensive measures, and deploy picket craft to keep torpedo-bearing boats away. These clever tactics were also the genesis of anti-submarine countermeasures.

Confederate General Beauregard was reluctant to put the Hunley back in service, writing: "It is more dangerous to those who use it than to the enemy." Still, the submarine had persuasive backers including Lieutenants George Dixon and William Alexander, both of whom passionately believed she could be successful in breaking the blockade. Even they knew the Hunley had to be modified if she were to be successful. The Union's anti-submarine moves coupled with the difficulty of controlling the Hunley's depth and pitch while submerged led them to completely rethink the mode of attack.

Towing an explosive device was abandoned for a more direct approach. A spar with a torpedo attached to its tip was mounted to the lower bow of the submarine. In this design, the plan was to ram the spar into the hull of an enemy ship, detonating the torpedo either on contact or by a trigger-pulled device. It was perhaps efficient, but, with a sixteen-foot spar, it left the crew dangerously close to the explosion.

There was little time, if any, to test the new attack strategy. Even though General Beauregard was reluctant, he finally agreed to let the Hunley try again, but only if the submarine did not dive and operated at the surface.

With the dangers of the submarine well-known, a new, courageous volunteer crew was selected and put under the command of Lieutenant Dixon. Soon the vessel would be ready to carry out its mission.

Preparing for the Mission

Captain George Dixon and his volunteer crew worked aboard the H. L. Hunley an average of four nights a week between mid-December 1863 and the end of January 1864, when the weather became too rough to venture into the ocean. On many of those trips, the submarine got close enough to blockade ships to hear Union soldiers singing on the picket boats, but they never got the chance to attack. Dixon wrote to a friend expressing frustration with the conditions that stopped them from making an attack

on the Blockade, "...to catch the Atlantic Ocean smooth during the winter months is considerable of an undertaking and one that I never wish to undertake again."

On a moonlit night in February, 1864, the crew of the Hunley was given the calm sea they had waited for and embarked on their ambitious attack. The target was the USS Housatonic, one of the Union's mightiest and newest sloops-of-war.

The Attack

The Hunley's approach was stealth and by the time they were spotted, it was too late. At about 8:45pm, several sailors on the deck of the USS Housatonic reported seeing something on the water just a few hundred feet away. The officer on the deck thought it might be a porpoise, coming up to blow. As the object approached the ship, the crew realized it was no porpoise. The alarm sounded and the sailors fired their guns, the bullets pinging off the metal hull of the Hunley. Below the surface, the spar torpedo detonated and the explosion blew a hole in the ship. The Housatonic sank in less than five minutes, causing the death of 5 of its 155 crewmen.

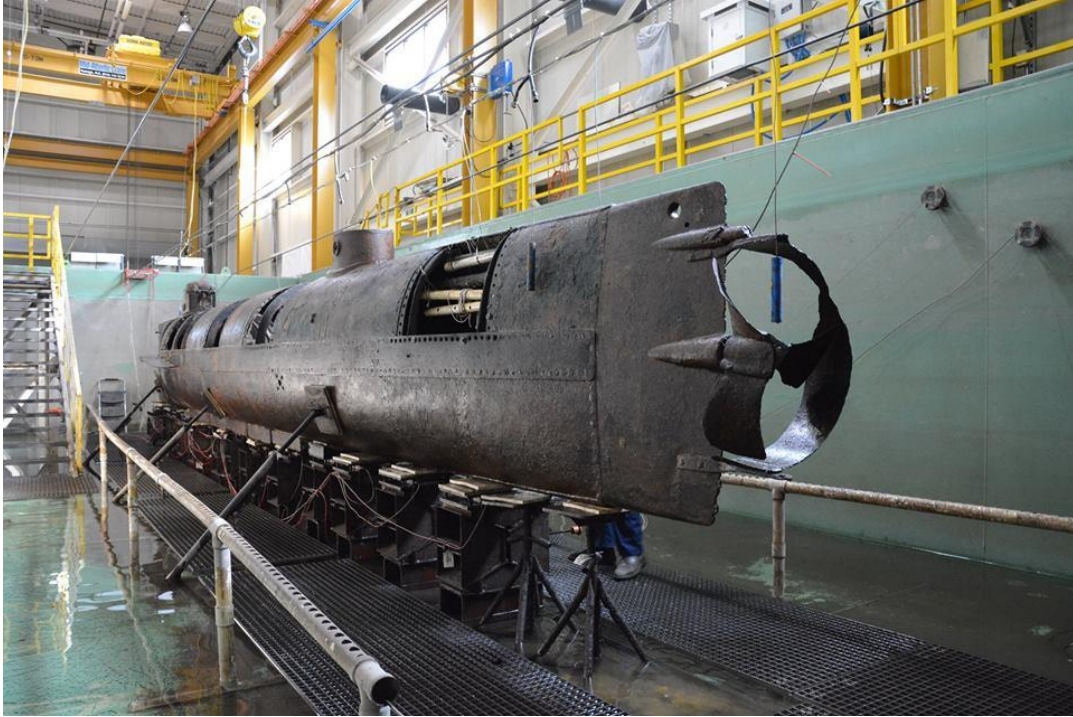
The Hunley Mysteriously Disappears

Nearly 45 minutes later, a Union sailor claimed he saw a blue light on the water. Some speculate this was the last reported sighting of the Hunley for more than a century. One record indicates Dixon had promised the troops at Battery Marshall, if successful, he would signal to shore by showing two blue lights. The Confederates on Sullivan's Island say they saw the agreed upon the signal and lit a fire to guide the Hunley home, but she never returned. Instead, the submarine and crew disappeared into the darkness of the sea.

Their fate became a mystery and their accomplishment a legend. The submarine would not see the light of day again for over 136 years.

Courtesy of: The Savannah Militia Camp #1657 Sons of Confederate Veterans Facebook Page





Both Photos Courtesy of: The Friends of the Hunley Facebook Page