



The Territorial Dispatch

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, COLORADO DIVISION

CAMP 676, CAMP 175, CAMP 2104, CAMP 2126, CAMP 1492

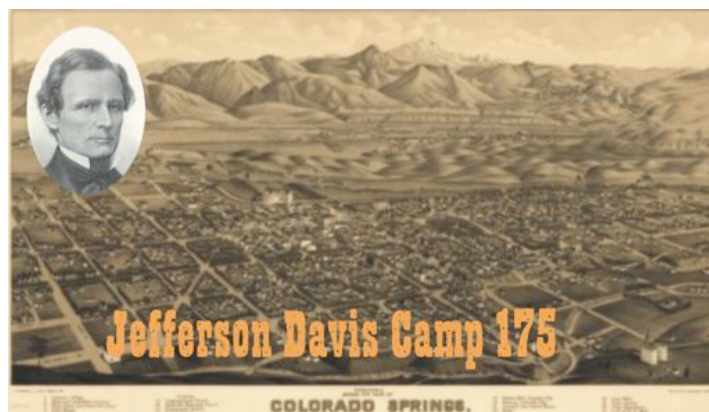
Vol 4, No. 3

May – Jun '10



Delayed by weather, but not by spirit, members of the Colorado Division prepare to raise the handmade, silk First National above the SCV monument at the Riverside Cemetery near Denver. Although delayed from the April 24th planned event, twenty members and guests joined these uniformed members for the solemn ceremony. We urge all members to watch future issues of the Territorial Dispatch, for we are already making plans for next year, and we may select a site near your camp.

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**April Meeting called to order by Commander Myers
Invocation Given by Adjutant Atkinson
New Business**

1. Vote results on new Camp 175 Constitution and By-Laws: 8 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstained/Did not vote. Adopted as of 13 April 2010.

2. Discussion of Sesquicentennial of the Cause for Southern Independence Activities: 2010-2015

Donations for Division membership in SCV Sesquicentennial Society (\$200 membership) was discussed and members agreed it was a good thing to do. We will discuss at Division Meeting to gauge support and start taking donations if Division/Other Camps will support.

3. Discussed Confederate Memorial Day observance to be held on Saturday, 24 April at 11:00 AM at Riverside Cemetery in Denver with Division Meeting afterwards. We should have good attendance at the event.

Community event participation: We had a great discussion on this and decided to "get back to the basics". Instead of public events (parades, etc.), we discussed starting out with "Interment Trips" to locate, document, clean, and maintain Confederate graves throughout the state. The Camp used to do a lot of this and it will get us back to our SCV roots. We will start with a trip to Pagosa Springs to work on the unmarked graves that Robert Dobbins found there.

Establish Annual Camp Picnic: We agreed that this would be a good thing for the camp. We will hold the first picnic on either June 12th or 19th possibly at Bear Creek Park, but due to high fees, we'll have to find another location.

4. Annual dues and annual report due in July: Dues are \$30 for SCV HQ + \$5 for Division + \$5 for Camp = \$40 total. (Note: Life Members do not pay SCV HQ dues).

Meeting Frequency: We discussed the winter meetings and the low attendance and suggested the following schedule:

March through October: Monthly Meetings

5. 2010 Camp Objectives: We discussed these and came up with the following list:

- Conduct at least one Interment Trip during the year
- Hold first Annual Camp Picnic
- Increase membership 50%. This means we need to get a combination of 6 new and previous members for the year. Aggressive, but we will give it a GO!

**Benediction given by Adjutant Atkinson
Meeting adjourned by Commander Myers**



**Sons of Confederate Veterans
2010 National Reunion
Anderson, SC
July 21 – 25
Anderson Sports and
Entertainment Complex
Hosted by Manse Jolly Camp
#6, Piedmont, SC**



*at the Anderson Sports and Entertainment Complex
Anderson, SC*

**The 2010 SCV National Reunion schedule
Wednesday, July 21:** 2:30pm – 5:00pm GEC Meeting

Thursday, July 22: 8:00am – 8:45am Opening Ceremony; 9:00am – 12:00pm - Business Session I; 12:00pm – 1:30pm - Awards Luncheon; 2:00pm – 5:30pm - Abbeville Tour and Memorial Service; 9:00pm - John C. Calhoun Oratory Contest

Friday, July 23: 8:30am – 12:00pm Business Session II; 12:15pm – 2:30pm Heritage Luncheon; 2:00pm – 5:30pm Business Session III; 5:30pm – 6:30pm Army Meetings

Saturday, July 24: 8:30am – 12:00pm - Business Session IV; 1:00pm – 3:00pm - Tour John C. Calhoun Home; 6:00pm – 7:00pm - Commander in Chief’s Reception; 8:00pm - Debutantes and Grand Ball

Sunday, July 25: 9:00am – 12:00pm GEC Meeting

Anderson is easily reached off I-85, and flights into Atlanta or Charlotte put you less than two hours away. A trip through Clemson to the Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway will yield countless waterfalls, and a final stop at historic, Cowpens battlefield.

MEN WANTED!



SCV Honor Guard

Gentlemen! We have the pleasure of inviting members in good standing to join the Colorado Division Honor Guard, and to assist in demonstrating our reverence for our heritage. Our Division-wide Honor Guard will serve ceremonial duties throughout the state. Members who are willing to participate in occasional drills and adhere to Honor Guard regulations are welcomed to join. Your ability to respond to the call of duty throughout the year is greatly admired; however, we are also looking for Reserves to train with us as they might, and to be prepared for a call up. Possession of period firearms is not required; however, a uniform representative of the War for Southern Independence is.

An **honor guard** is a ceremonial unit, usually military in nature and composed of volunteers who are carefully screened for their physical ability and dexterity. Only those persons who are highly motivated and maintain exceptionally high standards of appearance and conduct and show sincere willingness for ceremonial duty are likely to be considered.

A primary role for honor guards in the United States is to provide funeral honors for fallen comrades and ceremonial duties at memorial events. An honor guard may also serve as the Color Guard by displaying and escorting the national flag and other flags on ceremonial occasions at official state functions. Honor guards often provide troops for review by visiting dignitaries.

In the United States honor guards may also serve as ambassadors to the public, presenting a positive image of their service or organization, thereby assisting with the educational and recruiting efforts of the organization.

To learn more about the Colorado Division Honor Guard, or to volunteer as a regular or reserve member, contact Compatriot Sir Bob Milner of Camp 676 at goodoldreb@comcast.net. Bob will be able to mail you a CD about our Honor Guard.

In Defense of our Southern Heritage

by Sir Gary Parrott

Editor's note: We are pleased to continue a series of articles from Camp 2126 Commander, Gary Parrott on Southern Heritage. Each issue, we will continue this feature with new articles. Thank you to Gary, and all of our Colorado Division Compatriots who contribute to this newsletter, and the truth of our heritage.

“The Confederate Commerce Raiders were ineffective, did not help the Confederate War effort and were just a minor nuisance to the Union Navy.”

The above statement is an accepted truth. It is taught to our children at the high school and college level. Additionally, most historians and teachers accept it as a fact!! But is it? Do the facts support this conclusion?

Most accounts written about The War Between the States include a brief mention of the “Confederate Commerce Raiders” (the CSN vessels or privateers that intercepted US Merchant Marine ships and seized their cargo). That tactic, it should be noted, was an accepted practice and had a long record of usage in the history of naval warfare - worldwide.

Furthermore, the majority of historical accounts minimize the effectiveness of the Confederate Commerce Raiders and emphasize the fact that the targets of those raiders were civilian US merchant vessels (but wasn't that the same thing that the US Navy was doing to the Confederacy with its blockade of all Southern ports !!??).

Interestingly, one of the most utilized “facts” cited by revisionist historians to make their point - the “small” size of the monetary compensation awarded to the United States as a result of The Alabama Claims* (it was an award of only \$15.5 million).

It is noted by the revisionist that the small size of the award reflected the small amount of damage inflicted by the raiders (which they cite was equivalent to less than 10% of the total revenues generated in the US between 1861 and 1865).

However, it is not mentioned that a series of Congressional Joint High Commission hearings were held in Washington, D.C., in 1871, during which one member (Senator Charles Sumner from Massachusetts) argued that the award should be very substantial because:

- numerous American lives (military and civilian) were affected by the actions of the Raiders;
- numerous American businesses were affected (i.e. – went out of business) by the actions of the Raiders;
- the perceived prolongation of the War by at least 2 years caused by the direct or indirect actions of the Raiders; and,
- the Raiders inflicted over \$2.1 billion worth of damages and lost revenue to the economy of the United States.

On May 8, 1871, an international arbitration commission was established to resolve the dispute between the United States and Great Britain (AKA: The Treaty of Washington).

In September 1872, the international arbitration commission rejected the majority of the American claims against the British and awarded the US only \$15.5 million in compensation resulting from The Alabama Claims (it was believed that the “small award” reflected the attitude held by the international community toward the “victorious” Northern States of America).

Therefore, based upon the above straightforward information and facts, how could anyone believe that the Confederate Commerce Raiders were ineffective, did not help the Confederate War effort and were just a minor nuisance to the Union Navy ???!

This is another example of how revisionist historians and the politically correct are trying to re-write history and the true accounts of Our Southern Heritage.

The Alabama Claims was a diplomatic dispute between the United States and Great Britain that began after the end of the War Between the States and was finally resolved in 1872. It claimed that England violated neutrality laws when it built ships for the Confederacy (that would be ultimately used against the United States) and was, subsequently, liable for the damages caused by those ships.

The Confederate Commerce Raiders were credited with intercepting and seizing over 200 vessels during the course of the War. The most successful was the *CSS Alabama* commanded by Captain Raphael Semmes. It captured 67 ships (AKA: “prizes”) with an estimated value of over \$6 million.

***Note: references to the preceding actions and events can be found in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion series published by the US Government.*



The CSS Alabama was designed for speed and deception. The ship was 220 feet long and 32 feet wide with room for 350 tons of coal. The Alabama's forward gun fired 100-pound shells and the wheel of the ship was inscribed with a Confederate motto: “Help Yourself and God Will Help You.” Capt. Semmes, who sailed under the veil of a Union or British flag, helped himself to any enemy ship that came into view. When Semmes seized control of another ship, he would lower his camouflage flag and raise a Confederate one. At its most destructive, the Alabama was burning an average of one Union ship every three days

The Colorado Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans held its Spring Convention on Saturday, May 8, 2010 following the Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies at Riverside Cemetery in Denver.

Camp Reports were provided by Camps 175, 676, and 2104. Scott Myers presented a state-wide Graves Picture Project, which in conjunction with the hard work accomplished by Gary Parrot, will allow members traveling through Colorado to verify, photograph and record for all the exact location of Colorado's Confederate heroes. Camp 676 shared recent success with the Lee-Jackson Banquet, the Colorado State Muzzleloaders' Association, and an in-store gun show feature Civil War heritage at the Thornton, CO Sports Authority store. Camp 2104 up in Greeley has welcomed a new member from Wyoming, and is beginning foundational talks with the Greeley Museum Board which may result in a similar gun show featuring historic weapons. As a reminder to all Camps, your reports are due to National HQ prior to the start of this year's convention in South Carolina on July 21.

Commander Gerity read General Order 2010-01 from the Army of the Trans Mississippi regarding the establishment of April as Confederate History Month. To that end, the Colorado Division has pledged to put our efforts into improving communications both in- and out-side of the SCV while creating a lasting legacy. The legacy is beginning to take shape through archiving efforts, graves identification and recognition, and publishing online and in print.

Gary Mitchell presented the status of the Colorado Division Honor Guard. Six members attended the first practice session, and three were fully prepared to honor the colors and the buried heroes on Confederate Memorial Day. The Honor Guard is continuing to grow, thanks in part to a CD prepared by Roy Poole. This CD can be sent to any member interested in the Honor Guard procedures and policies. To receive a copy of this CD, contact Bob Milner, Adjutant for Camp 676.

The topics then turned to "event insurance." When we gather together for a memorial, or demonstration, or social event as a group, legal vultures consider we are having an "event," and must be insured while on many properties. Terry Wabnitz noted Farmers Insurance charges \$200-\$300 per event. Scott Myers indicated events in Colorado Springs area often charge \$150 for event insurance. And he noted his communications with the Riverside Cemetery showed a clear desire to charge us an event fee and require insurance. Scott is now pursuing SCV national support of a blanket insurance policy for the organizations, as more and more Camps across the nation will be needing this. Pat Gerity suggested the issue in a letter-to-the-editor of the "Confederate Veteran," thereby putting it across the SCV as an issue to be addressed. Terry Wabnitz took on the job of writing such a letter, and encouraged the Division to start immediately to prepare for next year's events.

Finally, a certificate was accepted from Pat by Scott Meyers, Camp 175 Commander, on behalf of member Rick Reid. In part, the certificate reads, (Rick is) "... a force in strengthening the basic foundation of American Liberty."

Marching Orders

(Colorado Division Calendar of Events)

June 8	6:00 pm	Camp 175 Meeting	Maggie Mae's
June 30		Camps Annual Reports Due	
May 31 – Jun 12		1864 Battle of Cold Harbor	
Jun 17, 1862		Battle of St Charles	
Jun 19, 1864		Sinking of USS Alabama	
Jul 4	2:00 pm	Camp 2104 Meeting	Centennial Park Library 2227 23rd Ave., Greeley
Jul 5, 1861		Battle of Carthage, MO	
Jul 13	7:00 pm	Camp 676 Meeting	Breckenridge Brewery 471 Kalamath, Denver
Jul 13	7:00 pm	Camp 175 Meeting	Maggie Mae's 2405 E Pikes Peak Ave., Colo Spgs
Jul 13, 1862		First Battle of Murfreesboro	
Jul 21, 1861		Battle of 1 st Manassas	
Jul 31		SCV Membership Dues	



Support the Cause!

Gentlemen,

Our "cause" is to keep alive the accurate history of our ancestors, including the honor and dignity with which they defended the Cause of Southern Independence. This coming year, upon the 150th anniversary of that great effort, our cause is more needed than ever. Revisionists and apologists will attempt to portray men of honor as something vile. To effectively portray the truth, we need to work together. The SCV is the best place to work together and your membership is a fantastic start to the "battle" ahead.

Membership Dues cover the fiscal year of August through July. Which means your membership is about to expire. And while there is some leeway in staying current, wait too long, and you might have to reapply to the SCV.

Dues for the year will total \$40 – of which \$30 goes to the SCV Headquarters and includes your subscription to the "Confederate Veteran," and \$5 goes to your local camp, with the remaining \$5 going to our Division in order to sustain mailings, the newsletter, and our website.

Please get in touch with your Camp Adjutant and determine how soon you can renew your membership. Adjutants will forward all renewals in one package on your behalf.

Southpark Colorado Confederates – The Reynold's Gang

Many Confederate soldiers formed into militia groups during the War for Southern Independence in Colorado. They included the Fairplay Unit, Leadville Unit, Denver Unit, and Maces Hole. Col John Heffner was the highest ranking Confederate to operate in the state. He and his officers were forming a regiment at Maces Hole in 1862. They were attacked and driven out of the territory by Union forces from Ft. Garland.

Southern sympathizers, the Reynolds Gang operated in South Park in 1864. In July of that year, Jim Reynolds and eight Confederate "soldiers" launched, what would become, the only invasion of the South Park area, in the Colorado Territory during the Civil War. Their plan was to rob the gold mines of South Park to help finance the Confederate Government.

The Reynolds gang started their rampage by attacking the ranch of Adolph Guirand on July 24, 1864, taking his horses, cash, and molesting his wife.



ROBBING A BUCKSKIN COACH.

They then headed north to raid Dan McLaughlin's stage station, about eight miles out of Fairplay, where the nearby town of Como is today. They stole cash, a gold watch, and horses, it was reported that they made off with about \$3,000. Then heading over Kenosha pass toward Denver, the gang robbed the Michigan House stage stop, taking more horses.

A local man, Mr. Berry, began to warn everyone of the Reynolds gang and their Confederate invasion trying to raise a posse without success. Mr. Berry followed the gang as far as the Omaha House stage station near the present day town of Conifer. From the Omaha House, the gang headed towards Shaffer's Crossing.

A posse was eventually formed and on July 30, 1864, the Reynolds gang was spotted camping in a small clearing in the forest. A gunfight ensued, killing one outlaw by the name of Owen Singleterry. One of the posse members, a Dr. Cooper, cut off Singleterry's head, took it back to Fairplay and preserved it in alcohol, where it remained on display for many years.



THE ATTACK ON THE ROBBERS' CAMP.

The gang hid their loot and attempting to escape, headed in different directions. It was estimated at the time, that the gang had taken somewhere between \$5,000 and \$100,000 and area locals blamed them for every robbery in the area.

An even bigger posse was raised to capture the fleeing bandits. About 75 men joined the posse to find the southern raiders and just four days later, four of them were captured. Outlaw, Tom Holliman, was caught 4 or 5 days later as he made his way to Canon City, Colorado. However, Jim Reynolds, his brother John, and another gang member escaped to New Mexico.

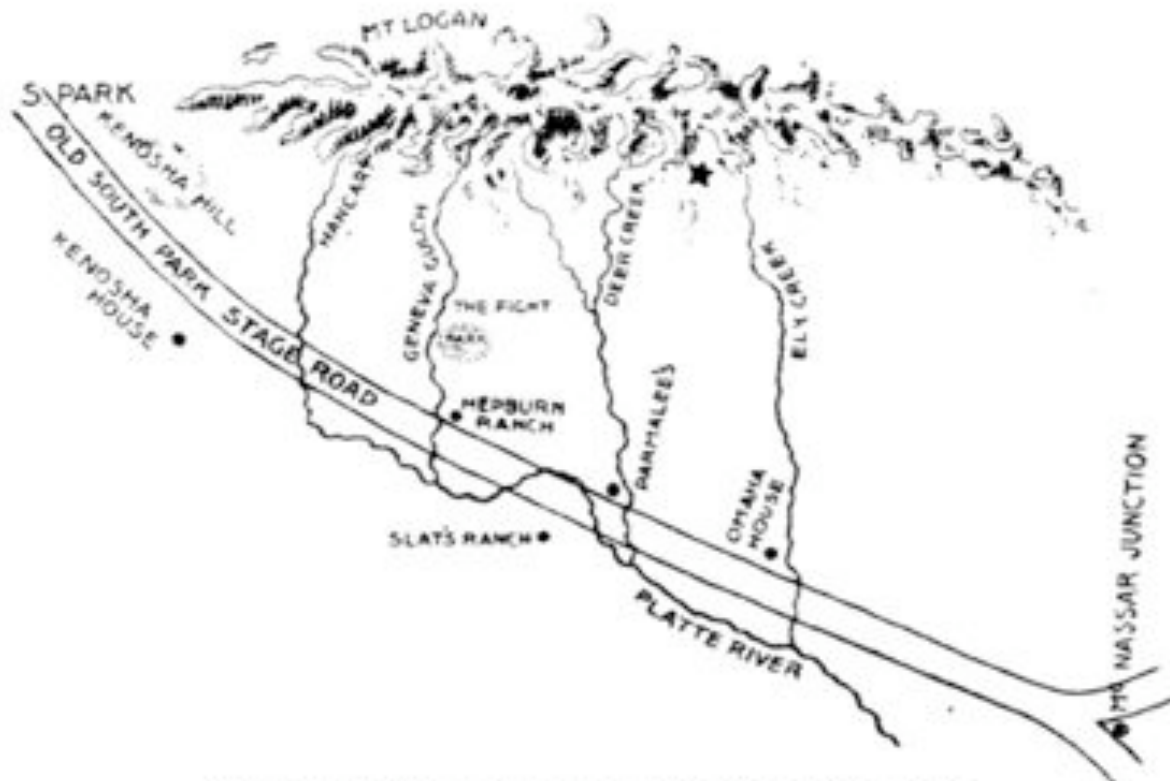
As the five captured southern outlaws were being taken to Fort Lyon, the first stop on their way to Denver for a military trial, they attempted their escape. A fight started in which three of the prisoners were killed, however two managed to steal horses in the confusion and escaped.

Years later, John Reynolds lay dying of gunshot wounds suffered during a horse theft in Taos, New Mexico. Before he died, he told the story of how the gang had buried their treasure, to fellow outlaw Albert Brown. He also drew a map, which showed the site of the ambush and the vague location of the treasure.

After Reynolds died from his wounds, Brown and his partners traveled to the South Park area, trying to find the treasure. When they arrived at the site, they were disappointed to find that a forest fire had destroyed many landmarks. They reportedly found an old white hat that once supposedly belonged to the decapitated Singleterry, a headless skeleton, and horse bones in a swamp, they were unable to find the rock-in prospect hole. Apparently Brown and his partners made three more attempts to find the treasure, but had no luck they finally gave up and returned home. Albert Brown later died in a drunken brawl in Laramie City, Wyoming Territory.

However, before he died, he either gave or showed the map to a Detective David J. Cook, a Colorado Lawman. In an auto-biography by Detective Cook, published in 1897, Cook quotes Reynold's conversation with Alfred Brown as follows:

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Reynold's Map. Star shows location of treasure.

"Jim and me buried the treasure the morning before the posse attack on Geneva Gulch. You go up above there a little ways and find where one of our horses mired down in a swamp. On up at the head of the gulch we turned to the right and followed the mountain around a little farther, and just above the head of Deer Creek, we found an old prospect hole at about timberline. There, we placed \$40,000 in greenbacks, wrapped in silk oil cloth, and three cans of gold dust. We filled the mouth of the hole up with stones, and ten steps below, struck a butcher knife into a tree about four feet from the ground and broke the handle off, and left it pointing toward the mouth of the hole."

Treasure Hunters come to Fairplay and try your luck, by all accounts, the treasure remains to be found, buried somewhere in the north end of the South Park area

Dear Fellow Compatriots,

With the onset of the Sesquicentennial of the Cause for Southern Independence (2010-2015), the Division Leadership would like to solicit input from all Camps regarding activities they would recommend for commemorating this period. I also believe that the Sesquicentennial provides a great window of opportunity to increase membership, given the heightened publicity and awareness provided during this 5 year period.

International Headquarters' major activity is fund-raising for the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs and funding for the Bicentennial Celebration. This is being done primarily through sales of Sesquicentennial promotional items and membership in the SCV Sesquicentennial Society. They will also focus on one major celebration each year at various locations throughout the South. Initial thoughts on things we may want to consider during this 5 year period are:

1. Concerted membership drives by all camps
2. Focus on getting the next generation involved in the SCV
3. Major push/project for more Community/Public Relations/Promotional Activities (promote membership)
4. Concerted effort/project to ID and mark Confederate soldier's graves
5. Battle Commemoration on 150th Anniversary: This could be coordinated with other Divisions i.e., Glorieta Pass/Apache Canyon/Peralta (New Mexico); Camden Point (Missouri); or Picacho Pass (Arizona): "the westernmost conflict of the Civil War"
6. Some type of plaque/memorial/marker commemorating the Sesquicentennial in Colorado
7. Coordinate/collaborate with UDC, MOSB, and Colorado Civil War Roundtable on activities

Please use this as a starting point for discussions with your camps. I am sure that there are a lot of good ideas out there! Once again, we want to solicit as much input as possible from all of our Compatriots.

Please contact your own Camp leaders with your ideas for celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the Cause.