



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR PICACHO PEAK CAMP No. 1 ARIZONA CAMP-at-LARGE



CAMP NEWSLETTER



April 2008

Camp Web site: www.suvcwaz.org

Minutes of the February 16, 2008, Camp meeting:

Location: Coco's Restaurant
4514 E. Cactus, Phx, AZ

Camp Commander **Bob Hannan** called the February meeting to order at noon. We had 28 Brothers, wives and guests in attendance.

Camp Secretary/Treasurer **Jerry Bloom** reported that we have 49 Brothers who have paid their 2008 dues and that he will contact the remaining 10 to ascertain their wishes.

Graves Registration Officer Jan Huber gave an over view of his office and accomplishments with grave registrations.

The meeting was well attended by Brothers from throughout the state. All enjoyed the camaraderie of people joined in a common cause: To commemorate the actions of our ancestors in keeping the Union, the United States of American, united.

Guest Speaker:

Brother **Dave Kampf**, who needs no further introduction to members of this Camp, did his usual outstanding job in his slide show presentation of Andersonville.

Thanks Dave for another job well done!

Our Camp is blessed with many great speakers who make out meetings interesting and informative.

New Look for our website: SUVCWAZ.ORG

By Nathan Cups, Webmaster

What's with the new look of our website?

Is it because:

- A. The Webmaster broke the old site,
- B. The Webmaster is too lazy to maintain the old site,
- or
- C. Islamic Cyber Terrorists

If you guessed Islamic Cyber Terrorists you are correct. A related site that uses the same software was hacked by a group identifying themselves as a revolutionary Islamic group. They severely damaged the site and they hacked and managed to get into databases and other sites on my shared server through the site they hacked. Because of this I have decided to move away from the software package I was using for our site. I have migrated our site to a simpler system that has the same features, but it will take a few weeks to get the design of the site back to a more Civil War / Union Army look.

If you have any content you would like added please email it to me.

Nathan Cups: nathan@tekassistance.com

Phone: 623-570-8588

Editor's note: Well, if you needed a reason to dislike those radical Islamic terrorist b#@%#@#@'s here it is. Where are Generals Grant and Sherman when you need them? Can you imagine Sherman's March through Iraq? Or Afghanistan? Just think what would happen to . . . Oh never mind.

Meeting notification

Don't forget that our next Camp meeting will be at Coco's on May 17 at noon.

Our guest speaker will be Brother **Bud Collette**. He will give a presentation about his great-great uncle, Major-General Daniel Butterfield.

Raffle: Senior Vice-Commander **John Conrad** has donated a book titled: *The Civil War in Arizona*. So come to the meeting, meet great friends and scarf up John's book.

The GAR marker ceremony held on March 30th at the Pioneer Cemetery will be reported on in the July issue of the newsletter. Yes, it actually happened this time!

Chaplain's Corner

By Mark Haynes, Camp Chaplain

On the date President Lincoln issued his presidential proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteer soldiers from the several states to quell the Rebellion, (April 15, 1861), there were approximately 17,000 officers and men in the Union Army. To provide for the spiritual needs of this small army were thirty post chaplains. During the days of the Revolutionary Army, President Washington recommended one chaplain per regiment. Of course, the soon influx of men into the Union Army would require a similar increase to the number of chaplains.

The majority of preachers who volunteered their service in the Union Armies served as regimental chaplains. There were some 2,300 ministers, priests, and rabbis that served in this capacity. What were their responsibilities? What was expected of the typical Civil War chaplain? The following paragraphs will attempt to outline in brief the duties, prescribed and assumed, of these battlefield ministers.

On May 4, 1861, under General Order Number 15, chaplains were required by the War Department to submit quarterly reports to the commanding officer of the regiment in which they served. Ironically, the officers receiving these reports were not obligated to send them to the adjutant general's office or even act on any suggestions made within the reports. Chaplain William Young Brown, who authored a book in 1863 that helped define the duties of the office of chaplain, regretted this fact. It was his contention that the reports would be more carefully prepared and of great interest to future historians if they were submitted to adjutant general's office. This policy was changed in April of 1864 when Congress required the chaplains to submit monthly reports to the adjutant general directly.

The content of these reports were fairly similar in their form, but the length and subject matter could vary greatly. A typical report would give the chaplain's assignment, location and date, followed by a short account of his activities since the last report. Often the number and types of religious services conducted were enumerated along with comments concerning the attendance (or lack thereof!). The report would generally follow with the chaplain's view on the moral and religious condition of the men. The report would generally conclude with miscellaneous comments and recommendations for improving the general moral, social, and religious condition of the men in the regiment.

The most obvious function expected of the regimental chaplain was the conducting of public services each week. Reports from the various clergy indicated the importance with which they regarded these services. Chaplain Arthur B. Fuller (16th Massachusetts Infantry) describes his Sunday camp

services as Sunday School at 9:00 AM and Preaching at 5:00 PM. He also held what were called "social conferences and prayer meetings" each night in front of his tent. These services were informal, involving discussion of the latest news, general conversation, counseling, and prayer and a hymn. Chaplain Fuller indicated that he tried to keep the services non-sectarian so as to attract a wide variety of attendees to the service.

Henry Clay Trumbull (10th Connecticut Infantry) led a variety of services each week. He held a Preaching service on Sunday morning, Sunday School services in the evening followed by prayers later that night, and a Wednesday Prayer Meeting. On weekdays, Chaplain Trumbull visited the regimental wards of the divisional hospital for devotionals and prayers. His sermons utilized texts and themes appropriate to the time, place, and circumstances of the regiment. He believed that a chaplain had an advantage over the typical parish pastor in preparing sermons because his congregations generally were more of a tight knit society.

As Chaplain Trumbull demonstrated personally, spiritual activities did not cease even when captured by the enemy. The good chaplain was captured on July 19, 1863 and subsequently held at Castle Pinckney in Charleston, South Carolina, until his unconditional release on December 4, 1863. While in prison, he conducted prayers with his companions before they went to sleep each night. On Sundays, he led a worship service in the officers' quarters and was permitted by the Confederates to preach to the enlisted men on the floor above him. He also led in organizing activities to sustain the morale of the men. Chaplain Trumbull stated that when a chaplain was present, there were religious services with sermons twice on Sundays. When a chaplain was not present, some non-clerical officer often performed the chaplaincy duties.

Truly, the challenges faced by the chaplains of the Civil War were often far different than that of a regular minister with a stationary flock and location. In our next article, we will continue to look at the different duties and challenges faced by and challenges faced by the regimental chaplain. For those interested in further research, I would like to recommend the fine book *For Courageous Fighting and Confident Dying: Union Chaplains in the Civil War* by Warren B. Armstrong. Much of the material for this article was gleaned from this book.

Until next time, may the Lord bless and keep you!



Principle cause of the Civil War

By David A. Swanson PCC

Slavery wasn't the principle cause of our Civil War but rather it was caused by disputes over tariffs, along with cultural, political, geographic and economic differences, and since the Constitution was silent on the issue of secession (or even allowed for it), the totality of these differences boiled down to a states' rights issue on whether to remain in the Union or leave it.

Right? Well why don't we let the Southern leaders of the time address this political issue through their documents and speeches.

The new [Confederate] constitution has put at rest, forever, all the agitating questions relating to our peculiar institution—African slavery as it exists amongst us—the proper status of the negro in our form of civilization. *This was the immediate cause of the late rupture and present revolution.* [Emphasis added.] Jefferson in his forecast had anticipated this, as the “rock upon which the old Union would split.” He was right. What was conjecture with him, is now a realized fact. But whether he fully comprehended the great truth upon which that rock stood and stands, may be doubted. The prevailing ideas entertained by him and most of the leading statesmen at the time of the formation of the old constitution, were that the enslavement of the African was in violation of the laws of nature; that it was wrong in principle, socially, morally, and politically. It was an evil they knew not well how to deal with, but the general opinion of the men of that day was that, somehow or other in the order of Providence, the institution would be evanescent and pass away. This idea, though not incorporated in the constitution, was the prevailing idea at that time. The constitution, it is true, secured every essential guarantee to the institution while it should last, and hence no argument can be justly urged against the constitutional guarantees thus secured, because of the common sentiment of the day. Those ideas, however, were fundamentally wrong. They rested upon the assumption of the equality of races. This was an error. It was a sandy foundation, and the government built upon it fell when the “storm came and the wind blew.” Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite idea; its foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests, upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery—subordination to the superior race—is his natural and normal condition. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth . . .

- Alexander H. Stephens,
Vice President, Confederate State of America
Savannah, GA, March 21, 1861

And here is what Georgia has to say:

The people of Georgia having dissolved their political connection with the Government of the United States of America, present to their confederates and the world the causes which have led to the separation. For the last ten years we have had numerous and serious causes of complaint against our non-slave-holding confederate States with reference to the subject of African slavery. They have endeavored to weaken our security, to disturb our domestic peace and tranquility, and persistently refused to comply with their express constitutional obligations to us in reference to that property, and by the use of their power in the Federal Government have striven to deprive us of an equal enjoyment of the common Territories of the Republic. This hostile policy of our confederates has been pursued with every circumstance of aggravation which could arouse the passions and excite the hatred of our people, and has placed the two sections of the Union for many years past in the condition of virtual civil war . . .

-Georgia, Declaration of Secession
January 29, 1861

And Mississippi:

Our position is thoroughly identified with the institution of slavery-- the greatest material interest of the world. Its labor supplies the product which constitutes by far the largest and most important portions of commerce of the earth. These products are peculiar to the climate verging on the tropical regions, and by an imperious law of nature, none but the black race can bear exposure to the tropical sun. These products have become necessities of the world, and a blow at slavery is a blow at commerce and civilization. That blow has been long aimed at the institution, and was at the point of reaching its consummation. There was no choice left us but submission to the mandates of abolition, or a dissolution of the Union, whose principles had been subverted to work out our ruin. . . .

Mississippi, Declaration of Secession
Whereas, the constitutional Union was formed by the several states in their separate sovereign[sic] capacity for the purpose of mutual advantage and protection;

That the several states are distinct sovereignties, whose supremacy is limited so far only as the same has been delegated by voluntary compact to a federal government, and, when it fails to accomplish the ends for which it was established, the parties to the compact have the right to resume, each state for itself, such delegated powers. . . .

That the institution of slavery existed prior to the formation of the federal Constitution, and is recognized by its letter, and all efforts to impair its value or lessen its duration by Congress, or any of the free states, is a violation of the compact

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of Union and is destructive of the ends for which it was ordained, but in defiance of the principles of the Union thus established, the people of the Northern states have assumed a revolutionary position toward the Southern states . . .

-Mississippi Resolutions

In defense of Mississippi's declaration:

It is known to Senators who have served with me here that I have for many years advocated, as an essential attribute of State sovereignty, the right of a State to secede from the Union. Therefore, if I had thought that Mississippi was acting without sufficient provocation, or without an existing necessity, I should still, under my theory of the Government, because of my allegiance to the State of which I am a citizen, have been bound by her action. I, however, may be permitted to say that I do think she has justifiable cause, and I approve of her act. I conferred with her people before that act was taken, counseled them then that, if the state of things which they apprehended should exist when their Convention met, they should take the action which they have now adopted. . . .

-Jefferson Davis' farewell speech to the US Senate, January 21, 1861

And South Carolina:

We affirm that these ends for which this Government was instituted have been defeated, and the Government itself has been made destructive of them by the action of the non-slaveholding States. Those States have assumed the right of deciding upon the propriety of our domestic institutions; and have denied the rights of property established in fifteen of the States and recognized by the Constitution; they have denounced as sinful the institution of slavery; they have permitted open establishment among them of societies, whose avowed object is to disturb the peace and to eloign the property of the citizens of other States. They have encouraged and assisted thousands of our slaves to leave their homes; and those who remain, have been incited by emissaries, books and pictures to servile insurrection.

For twenty-five years this agitation has been steadily increasing, until it has now secured to its aid the power of the common Government. Observing the *forms* [emphasis in the original] of the Constitution, a sectional party has found within that Article establishing the Executive Department, the means of subverting the Constitution itself. A geographical line has been drawn across the Union, and all the States north of that line have united in the election of a man to the high office of President of the United States,

whose opinions and purposes are hostile to slavery. He is to be entrusted with the administration of the common Government, because he has declared that that "Government cannot endure permanently half slave, half free," and that the public mind must rest in the belief that slavery is in the course of ultimate extinction. This sectional combination for the submersion of the Constitution has been aided in some of the States by elevating to citizenship, persons who, by the supreme law of the land, are incapable of becoming citizens; and their votes have been used to inaugurate a new policy, hostile to the South, and destructive of its beliefs and safety. . . .

-South Carolina, Declaration of Secession
December 24, 1860

Speak up, Texas:

Texas abandoned her separate national existence and consented to become one of the Confederate Union to promote her welfare, insure domestic tranquility and secure more substantially the blessings of peace and liberty to her people. She was received into the confederacy with her own constitution, under the guarantee of the federal constitution and the compact of annexation, that she should enjoy these blessings. She was received as a commonwealth holding, maintaining and protecting the institution known as negro slavery-- the servitude of the African to the white race within her limits-- a relation that had existed from the first settlement of her wilderness by the white race, and which her people intended should exist in all future time. Her institutions and geographical position established the strongest ties between her and other slave-holding States of the confederacy. Those ties have been strengthened . . .

-Texas Declaration of Secession
February 2, 1861

What say you, Alabama?

WHEREAS, anti-slavery agitation persistently continued in the non-slaveholding States of this Union, for more than a third of a century, marked at every stage of its progress by contempt for the obligations of law and the sanctity of compacts, evincing a deadly hostility to the rights and institutions of the Southern people, and a settled purpose to effect their overthrow even by subversion of the Constitution, and at the hazard of violence and bloodshed; And whereas, a sectional party calling itself Republican, committed alike by its own acts and antecedents, and the public avowals and secret machinations of its leaders to the execution of these atrocious designs, has acquired the ascendancy in nearly every Northern State, and hopes by success in the approaching Presidential

(Continued on page 5)

election to seize the Government itself; and whereas, to permit such seizure by those whose unmistakable aim is to pervert its whole machinery to the destruction of a portion of its members would be an act of suicidal folly and madness, almost without a parallel in history; and whereas, the General Assembly of Alabama, representing a people loyally devoted to the Union of the Constitution, but scorning the Union which fanaticism would erect upon its ruins, deem it their solemn duty to provide in advance the means by which they may escape such peril and dishonor, and devise new securities for perpetuating the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity; therefore. . . it shall be the duty of the Governor, and he is hereby required, forthwith to issue his Proclamation, calling upon the qualified voters of this State to assemble on Monday not more than forty days after the date of said Proclamation, at the several places of voting in their respective counties, to elect delegates to a Convention of the State, to consider, determine and do whatever in the opinion of said Convention, the rights, interests, and honor of the State of Alabama requires to be done for their protection. . . .

-Joint Resolution of the
General Assembly of Alabama
Feb. 24, 1860

Now Florida:

That the Union of the States of this Confederacy and the American nation are the offspring of the Constitution of the United States;
That both are dependent on it for their vitality and perpetuity;
That the wilful [sic] violation or disregard of the Constitution involves the destruction of the Union and the dissolution of the American Nation into the original elements from which it sprung;
That every State of this Confederacy is sovereign within the limits of its territorial jurisdiction, except in so far as the people of such State have surrendered a part of their sovereign power under the grants of the Constitution of the United States;
That every State, in the exercise of its reserved sovereign power, has an unquestionable right to establish, maintain and enjoy within its own limits such domestic institutions as it may approve, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States;
That neither the government of the United States nor the government or people of any other State can of right annul, abrogate, control, or in any manner disturb the institutions constitutionally established in any other State;
That any state has a right to establish and maintain within their own limits the institution of African Slavery free from the molestation or disturbance of the people or government of any other State of the Confederacy. . . .

-Report of the Joint Select committee of Federal
Relations Fall, 1859

From Tennessee:

1. *Resolved by the general assembly of Tennessee,* That a convention of delegates from all the slaveholding States should assemble at Nashville, Tennessee, or such other place as a majority of the States co-operating may designate, on the 4th day of February, to digest and define bases upon which, if possible, the federal Union and the constitutional rights of the slave States may be preserved and perpetuated. . . .

First. A declaratory amendment that African slaves, as held under the institutions of the slaveholding States, shall be recognized as property, and entitled to the *status* of other property in the States where slavery exists, in all places within the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress in the slave States, in all the Territories south of 36 degrees 30 minutes, in the District of Columbia temporarily sojourning, in transit, and while with the owner in the non-slaveholding States and Territories north of 36 degrees 30 minutes. . . .

Third. Congress shall have no power to abolish slavery in places under its exclusive jurisdiction, and situate within the limits of States that permit the holding of slaves

[All nine resolutions related only to slavery]

Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of
Tennessee, relative to the present condition of
national affairs and suggesting certain
amendments to the Constitution
January 28, 1861

From the state of Virginia:

Resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia,
That if all efforts to reconcile the unhappy
differences existing between the two sections of
the country shall prove to be abortive, then, in the
opinion of the General Assembly, every
consideration of honor and interest demands that
Virginia shall unite her destiny with the slave-
holding States of the South.

-Joint Resolution concerning the position of
Virginia in the event of the dissolution of the
Union. Adopted January 21, 1861.

The True Issue

The issue to be decided by the people of Virginia is clearly stated in the following resolution, adopted by public meeting in the county of Dinwiddie. . . . "Resolved, 1st. The old Union being irreparably dissolved, there is no option left us, (the people of Virginia,) save to unite our destinies with our sister Southern States—or, to remain a useless appendage to the Northern

Confederacy—the latter alternative being utterly repugnant to ALL TRUE SOUTHERN MEN.”

The ultimatum of the seceded States is left in no uncertainty; it is to be found in the solemn action of the Montgomery Constitution and may be analyzed as follows:

1. That African slavery in the Territories shall be recognized and protected by Congress and the Territorial Legislatures.
2. That the right to slaveholders of transit and sojourn in any State of the Confederacy, with their slaves and other property, shall be recognized and respected.
3. That the provision in regard to fugitive slaves shall extend to any slave lawfully carried from one State into another, and there escaping or taken away from his master.
4. That no bill or ex post facto law (by Congress or any State,) and no law impairing or denying the right of property in negro slaves, shall be passed.
5. That the African slave trade shall be prohibited by such laws of Congress as shall effectually prevent the same. . . .

-Richmond Enquirer
March 23, 1861



So, here we separate historical fact from pure historical myth. The fact of the matter is that “states’ rights” was the issue only insofar as it applied to the Southern states’ right to expand slavery and slavery was *the* principle cause of the war. Oh, and it appears that Lincoln also had it correct, as demonstrated in this excerpt from his Second Inaugural Address:

One eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the Southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union, even by war; while the government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it . . . Neither anticipated that the *cause* of the conflict might cease with, or even before, the conflict itself should cease . . .



Address Change

Brothers, if you change your address, e-mail address, or phone number, please advise our Camp Secretary Jerry Bloom at your earliest convenience. This will ensure that you get the National publication *The Banner*, our Camp newsletter and additionally, this will enable us to contact you.

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Newsletter Editor/Publisher

David A. Swanson PCC (see Camp Council)

MEETING NOTICE

Our next Camp meeting will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2008, at noon.

Location: Coco's Restaurant
4514 E. Cactus Rd. (602) 953-9155

All Brothers, wives and guests are invited to this and all of our Camp meetings.

Our Guest speaker is Brother Bud Collette.

Lunch will be ordered from a menu specially prepared for us. There will be a choice of seven different entrees, so there will be something for everyone. The cost is \$16.09 per person, which includes lunch, soft drinks, tea, coffee, and gratuity. (Should you need to cancel, contact our Secretary/Treasurer and your money will be *cheerfully* refunded.)

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

Name(s) _____

Luncheon Reservations: Number attending _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Please complete this form and mail to the Camp Treasurer.

Make checks payable to: Picacho Peak Camp #1 SUVCW

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