

# The Sentinel



Secession Camp # 4 Charleston, SC

NOVEMBER 2008 "Winner of the 2005, 2006 & 2007 Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award" VOLUME 8 NUMBER 11

## BATTLE OF SECESSIONVILLE 2008

By Bill Norris

The annual Battle of Secessionville re-enactment was held on the weekend of November 8 and 9. As usual, much planning went into the event which is sponsored by the Confederate Heritage Trust to raise money for Confederate heritage projects such as the H. L. Hunley restoration. This year Compatriot **Randy Burbage** was the event coordinator and he did an excellent job. The event is held every November at Boone Hall Plantation in Mount Pleasant. As of the writing of this article no figures were available but preliminary financial reports were encouraging and the crowds looked good both days. Re-enactors from several surrounding states made the trip to Mount Pleasant for the two day event with spectators coming from throughout the area to view the battle and there was much to see. Spectators could stroll down the Avenue of the Oaks and shop with the many settlers and merchants that brought there wears. Quartermaster **David Rentz** had Secession Camp's Quartermaster tent set up and seemed to have a pretty good weekend. He also got help from several camp Compatriots. Spectators could also tour the plantation house for the same admission price that got them into the battle.

Saturday was Secession Camp's day to man the rear gate and many compatriots showed up to help out. Camp members, three at a time, monitored the back gate from 6 AM to 6 PM on Saturday. The battle was held in the afternoon of both days and lasted for about 45 minutes. The scenario consisted of the Yankees charging the Confederate held earth works and being repelled several times. Although greatly outnumbered the Confederate defenders won the day in the real battle and so it was in the re-enactment. As most you know the actual battle took place in the early morning hours....see BOS Cont. to right

*The Charge*  
*To you Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.*


*Lt. General Stephen D. Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans  
New Orleans,*



BOS Cont. from left....of June 16, 1862 but due to the more appropriate weather in Charleston, the reenactment takes place in November and this year the weather was ideal for the event-blue skies and very mild weather. There were more than a dozen period cannons sounding off during the battle with many earth shaking barrages that excited the crowd. Both Confederate cannons from the earthworks and the Union cannons from the field exchanged many volleys. There were also several spirited cavalry and infantry charges where the Confederate and Union lines would be pushed, then fall back and regroup for the next charge. However, as we all know, the Yankee invaders failed in their assault and the battle resulted in a Confederate route. Hurrah for Dixie!

On Saturday night there was the usual "period" Ball but this year there was a talent show before the dance. Compatriot **Rob Nance**, representing Secession Camp, sang the classic, Bonnie Blue Flag while playing the guitar. Rob also accompanied other performers during the presentation. There were also performers in acting scenes and others playing a variety of instruments to many songs of the era. A very professional dance band took over the entertainment soon after and great fun was had by all in attendance.

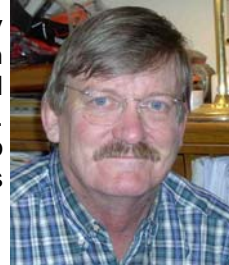
Members of Secession Camp have been involved in many capacities from the beginning of this event but many more turned out this weekend to help with the BOS. Camp members helped with the supervision, parking, re-enacting, and preparations for this event. We want to thank all those members of Secession Camp who gave of their time and energy to make this event a success for the Confederate Heritage Trust, our camp, and our Confederate ancestors. If you have never been to this event you owe it to yourself to come out next year. As usual working for our heritage is as much fun as work. Plan to volunteer for 2009's BOS. We hope to see you all at next years event.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Camp Officers</b></p> <p><b>Commander</b> Bill Norris 843-849-9924</p> <p><b>1st Lt. Cdr.</b> John Genes 843-747-4439</p> <p><b>2nd Lt. Cdr.</b> John Waring</p> <p><b>Adjutant</b> Elmore Marlow 843-762-2430</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> Buck Perry</p> <p><b>Chaplain</b> Sy Mabie</p> <p><b>Color Sergeant</b> Loren O'Donnell</p> <p><b>Judge Advocate</b> Fred Tetor</p> <p><b>CHT Representatives</b> Randy Burbage, Sy Mabie, Gene Patrick, Wayne Dukes</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Camp Guardians</b></p> <p>Randy Burbage Walter Carr John Evans Clarence Kuykendall Andy Langdale Elmore Marlow Philip Ramsey Michael Ratledge Clyde Rogers Louie Warmoth Jimmy Wheeler</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p><b>AWARDS</b> Clay Martin</p> <p><b>EDUCATION / HISTORICAL</b> Open</p> <p><b>GRAVES &amp; MONUMENTS</b> David Rentz</p> <p><b>HIGHWAY CLEAN UP</b> Michael Dixon</p> <p><b>HERITAGE RIDE</b> Bryan Riddle</p> <p><b>MEDIA / PUBLIC RELATIONS</b> Bill Norris</p> <p><b>SAM DAVIS YOUTH CAMP</b> Bobby Shealy</p> <p><b>RECRUITING &amp; RETENTION</b> Andy Langdale</p> <p><b>GENEALOGY</b> Andy Langdale</p> <p><b>FUND RAISING</b> Open</p> <p><b>CONVENTION</b> Open</p> <p><b>LEE JACKSON</b> John Genes</p> <p><b>HERITAGE DEFENSE</b> Open</p> <p><b>GUARDIAN</b> John Evans</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>VOLUNTEERS</b></p> <p><b>MESS CORPORAL</b> Don Pace</p> <p><b>MICKEY DAVIS FUND</b> Woody Weatherford</p> <p><b>WEBMASTER</b> David Rentz</p> <p><b>ENGRAVING ENGINEER</b> Benny Slay</p> <p><b>QUARTERMASTER</b> David Rentz John Blackwell</p>
<p>The Sentinel is the official newsletter of Secession Camp No. 4, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Charleston, SC. It is published monthly and is distributed to the members of Secession Camp at no charge to them. An individual not having membership and organizations not associated with Secession Camp may receive the newsletter for an annual subscription price of \$10.00 to cover the cost of printing and posting. For more information contact the editor.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Official Secession Camp Website is: <a href="http://www.scv4.org">http://www.scv4.org</a></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SECESSION CAMP WILL HOLD IT'S NEXT MEETING ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH AT THE KNIGHTS OF PHYTHIAS BUILDING LOCATED AT 1968 BELGRADE AVENUE NEAR SAM RITTENBURG BOULEVARD (HWY. 7), IN CHARLESTON. DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 6:30 PM AND THE MEETING WILL GET STARTED AT 7:00 PM.</b></p>
<p>The editor of The Sentinel is <b>Rob Nance</b>. The Associate Editor is <b>Bill Norris</b>. Unless otherwise noted, all articles in this newsletter are written by the editor. Address all correspondence regarding this newsletter to:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Sentinel 1106 Mount Batten Drive Hanahan, SC 29410 E-Mail <a href="mailto:robnance@knology.net">robnance@knology.net</a></p>

**FROM THE COMMANDER**

My Fellow Compatriots,

As usual I hope all of our Compatriots are well and in good health. Unfortunately is my sad duty to report the passing of Compatriot Gary Stone. Gary had been suffering from an extended illness and had been hospitalized for the past several months. On October 23 Gary lost his battle and passed into God's kingdom. Gary was a valued member of Secession Camp and will be missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Gary's wife of 54 years, Delores who was by his side until the end.



The Confederate Ghost Walk at Magnolia Cemetery, although wet, was as usual a successful and fun event for spectators and participants alike. If you didn't make it this year you need to plan to be there next year. Next on our agenda is the Battle of Secessionville on the weekend of November 8 and 9. This event is sponsored by the Confederate Heritage Trust and raises money for the H. L. Hunley restoration and other heritage projects. This year, Secession Camp is responsible for helping with re-enactor registration all day on Saturday the 8th. If you've never been to the battle you need to gather up you're family on Saturday or Sunday, come out, and enjoy this event. There's lots to see and you can read more on the Battle of Secessionville elsewhere in this newsletter.

In other camp activities, November the 15<sup>th</sup> will be a busy weekend for the camp. Compatriot Michael Dixon will be holding the last Highway Clean-up of 2008 at the Glenn McConnell Parkway at 8 AM on Saturday morning. Michael needs our help to make sure the camp meets our obligation to keep the parkway clean. Please try to be there Saturday morning. On that same day at 1 PM compatriot John Evans will be holding our first Graves Registration meeting at Magnolia Cemetery. Secession Camp is responsible for recording all the graves at Soldiers Ground, a project that will take some time but one that we need to get started on. Please try to meet John at Magnolia on Saturday afternoon. Then on December 6, Secession Camp will assist the other camps of the 10<sup>th</sup> Brigade in a Cemetery clean-up project in Awendaw. We'll talk more about that at the next meeting.

Finally, the camp's Challenge Coins have arrived and they look great. I think everyone will be happy with them. We will distribute them at the November meeting.

I hope to see you at the November meeting on the 18th and remember if you have any ideas or suggestions for the camp, I'm ready to listen.

Your Compatriot in Southern Heritage,  
Bill Norris, Commander

**CHALLENGE COINS HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED!**

The long awaited Secession Camp Challenge coins have finally arrived from the mint, so if you ordered one or more of them, they will be available for pickup at our November meeting. There were extra coins ordered, so they are still available. If you'd like to buy one of these beautiful coins, see our Camp Commander Bill Norris or Compatriot David Rentz. Thanks!!!

**DON GORDON IS GUEST SPEAKER FOR NOVEMBER**

Our November speaker, Don Gordon, is well-known to many Camp members and all around the SCV as a staunch supporter of our Southern heritage and very knowledgeable historian as well. Many of us have enjoyed listening to Don on his radio show, Radio Free Dixie, that is broadcasted out of Columbia. You can listen to Don's show at [www.radiofreedixie.com](http://www.radiofreedixie.com) Don was born in Columbia and is a graduate of the University of South Carolina. He is the former Commander of the Wade Hampton Camp and now First Lt. Commander of the SC Division. Don will be speaking on Fort Gregg and Fort Wentworth (outside of Petersburg, VA) during April 2nd, 1865.

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Compatriots:

It is with difficulty that I must inform you concerning the passing of our Compatriot Gary Pruitt Stone on October 23, 2008 after a prolonged illness. Gary's presence among us will be missed as he was an active member of the Camp. I will personally miss not being able to share with Gary at meetings and other activities. Gary and I met while participating in the Confederate Ghost Walk a number of years ago. It was his first experience in an activity such as the Ghost Walk. We formed a bond at that time which has survived through the years. He was a true brother! Others and I will miss you Gary. Gary's funeral was held At the Mount Bethel United Methodist Church, Summerville with several Secession Camp #4 Compatriots in attendance.



Please remember Delores in your prayers as she struggles with the loss of her companion Gary. There will be a void in her life that cannot be filled however the "Comforter" can help us make adjustments that will help cope. We may be consoled by the promise given by our Lord in the following scripture:

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14: 2,3)

I spoke to Joe Davis recently and he is doing well. Joe is about to undergo a CT scan and other tests to determine his current condition. Joe has traveled some while he has enjoyed this period of remission. Joe thinks he may be able to join us at the Battle Secessionville this year. We will be looking forward to seeing you Joe!

Your continued prayers are requested for Compatriots Jacobs, Heidtmann and for myself as I continue to encounter bumps along the way.

Please contact me if you are aware of a compatriot who is in need. I am always available and will appreciate your call at 843-871-9713 or by e-mail, smabie@earthlink.net. I encourage you to contact me at any time.

Sy Mabie

### *In Memory of My Confederate Ancestors*

Honor the memory of your Confederate Ancestor in the Sentinel. Future issues will feature this space for memorials to these brave men. For a donation of \$1 to the camp, we will print your ancestors Name, rank, regiment and other info including birth and death date, killed in action, died as POW or missing.

**At every meeting, just give me the info on your ancestor or email it to me robnance@Knology.net ....thanks!**

## CAMP SUPPER

Those Hamburgers and Baked Beans really hit the spot at the October meeting. Once again it was an awesome Camp supper! Dinner was prepared by Mess Corporal **Don Pace** and his crew. Last month Compatriots **Walter Canady, Don Petty, Bill Helms, Robert Shealy, Perry Patrick, and Dan Pinson** gave Don a hand. Just as usual these folks came in long before the meeting to cook for us (and clean-up) and we owe them our thanks for another fine meal. Remember without volunteers like these we wouldn't be able to enjoy a good supper together at camp meetings so please let them know how much we appreciate what they do for us and think about volunteering to help Don's crew sometime. At the October meeting Don and the Crew will be cooking Scrambled eggs and Grits, dessert and Iced Tea. So come and join us for a Southern Breakfast for dinner! We hope to see everyone there. Great Southern food, great Southern company!!

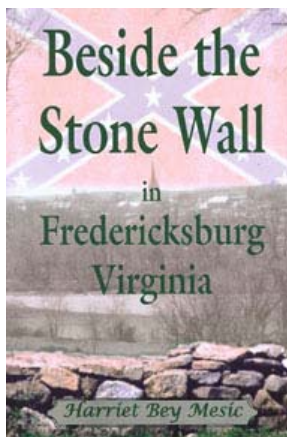
**PICTURES FROM THE 2008 BATTLE OF SECESSIONVILLE AT  
BOONE HALL PLANTATION, NOVEMBER 8TH AND 9TH**



*Photos submitted by Mike Burbage and Rob Nance.*

### SECESSION CAMP NEW MEMBERS AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

At our October meeting, 5 new members were inducted. Our ranks are growing Compatriots! It's great to see new members honoring their Confederate ancestors. Please make it a point to introduce yourself and make these new members feel welcome! Our new members are Robert Withers, Clay Withers, William Taylor Withers, John Lawrence and John Cordray. Mike Dohoney, of Barrier Island Construction was presented a plaque for being a sponsor of the Heritage Ride. Woody Weatherford also received a plaque for becoming a Life Time SCV Member. (not pictured)



Beside the Stonewall in Fredricksburg Virginia by Harriet Bey Mesic gives us a better understanding into the atrocities committed by Union soldiers upon the people of Fredricksburg. This infamous story is told from the point of view of Lewis Wrenn, a citizen of Fredricksburg and civilian that was taken hostage and imprisoned without ever being charged. The sacking of Fredricksburg was a dark day in our nations history. You can get more info at [www.Besidestonwall.zoomshare.com](http://www.Besidestonwall.zoomshare.com)



Harriet Bey Mesic, author of *Beside the Stonewall*, spoke to our Camp at The October meeting.

### Special Thanks from Andy Langdale

*There are people that work behind the scene, seeking no recognition for themselves, they often assist in accomplishing tasks that sometimes are overwhelming. I owe a special thanks to our Officers, past and present, for their assistance. There is one member in particular, Tim Reed, who has supplied copy paper, which I use alot of, folders and other itmes needed in my work for our camp. (And, yes he is a 'Cousin'). Andy Langdale*

### NEWSLETTER CORRECTIONS

On the back page of the October newsletter, the winner of the Heritage Ride Best Bike award, Donald Masters, was mistaken listed as Dennis Masters. Also, Gene Kizer emailed us to point out a typo concerning the misuse of the preposition "to". It appears that the adverb "too" should have been used instead in Commander Norris' Heritage Ride article. Hey Gene, thanks for putting in your "two" cents worth! Compatriots, please email the editor if you notice any errors in our newsletter. Thanks!

**MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 21ST MEETING**

Recorded by Adjutant **Elmore Marlow**

	Yes	No
Appropriate Flag Displayed	X	
SCV Charge Read	X	
Invocation	X	Program Fredericksburg
Presentation of Colors	X	
Reading and Approval of Minutes		Speaker Harriet Bey Mesic
Reading and Approval of Financial Report		
Remarks: 59 members and 8 guests for a total of 67 in attendance.		

- SCV Charge was given by Commander Bill Norris
- Invocation given by Chaplain Sy Mabie
- Salute to the Flags given by Color Sgt. Loren O'Donnell.
- The cooks were then recognized for the meal. Head chef Don Pace was assisted by Perry Patrick, Danny Pinson, Jack Thomson, and Robert Dandridge.
- Introduction of guest which included members from the Moultrie Camp and the Ellison Capers Camp.
- Commander Norris introduced our speaker, Harriet Bey Mesic, who spoke about the war crimes committed against civilians at Fredericksburg by the Army of the Potomac. Her book, "Beside the Stonewall," illustrates the Yankee carnage which took place against helpless civilians and continued for the duration of the war. Her slide presentation, showed the locations of homes, stores, the wall, and the sunken road, at the time the battle took place. Mrs. Mesic is in the process of publishing a new book titled "Cobb's Legion Calvary, Hampton's Best Regiment" which will be released in the coming months.
- Treasurers report was given by the Commander.
- Commander, Bill Norris, presented Mike Dohoney, from Barrier Island Construction, A plaque for being a sponsor in the Heritage Ride.
- Mickey Davis Fund Report: Woody Weatherford reported a deposit of \$121.00 from the September meal. Balance as of the October meeting was \$1,859.08. There are no pending expenses.
- Chaplains Report: Sy Mabie reported that Gary Stone was still in a coma and not doing well. Your continuing prayers for Gary Stone and others not mentioned are appreciated.
- Highway Cleanup: Michael Dixon reported that the next highway cleanup will be on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Confederate graves: John Evans reported that work will begin on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m., on collecting the names, GPS location, unit, and other information of the Confederates buried in Magnolia Cemetery. Volunteers are asked to help out on this project.
- Cemetery Project for the 10<sup>th</sup> Brigade: Jeff Antley reported that a graveyard in Awendaw has been chosen for the project. The cleaning project will take place at 9 a.m. on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Details will be printed in the Sentinel.
- Heritage Ride: Brian Riddle was not present to give his report but Bill Norris reported that 270 riders attended and enjoyed the ride on a beautiful day. A check for \$1,000 will be given to Friends of the Hunley, plus \$2,400 was made by the Camp.
- Old Business: The Challenge Coin did not arrive in time for the meeting but did arrive the next day and will be available at the November meeting. A letter of thanks was received from Ben Sewell, Director of the SCV Headquarters. Secession Camp donated \$100.00 to the statue being made of Jefferson Davis. A vote was taken on two candidates who were nominated to be Honorary Members of Secession Camp. Rocky D and Dr. Jonathan Leader were both approved and will be presented the award at the Camp Christmas meeting. S. C. Division Commander, Randy Burbage, presented a plaque to Warren Lasch, former Director of the Friends of the Hunley, for all his work on the project.
- New Business: Two new candidates were voted on. Anthony Putnam and Riley Hanback were both approved for membership. Riley Hanback is in training with the Border Patrol and is currently in New Mexico. Five candidates were inducted: Robert Withers, Clay Withers, William Taylor Withers, John Lawrence, and John Cordray. See *October Minutes Cont. on p. 8.....*

**2008 CALENDER OF EVENTS**

**November**

- 11-4 Secession Camp Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 11/8-9 Battle of Secessionville at Boone Hall Plantation \*
- 11-15 Highway Cleanup, Glenn McConnell Parkway \*
- 11-18 Secession Camp Meeting, 6:30 PM

**December**

- 12-2 Secession Camp Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
- 12-6 Brigade Cemetery CleanUp Project
- 12-13 1860's Living History at Ft. Lamar
- 12-16 Secession Camp Meeting and Christmas Party, 6:30 PM
- 12-20 Secession Day

**January**

- 1-17 Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet \*
- \* dates not yet confirmed

**Meeting Dates for Camps of the 10th Brigade**

Secession Camp #4, Charleston	3rd Tuesday of the month
Moultrie Camp #27, Mt. Pleasant	3rd Tuesday of the month
Gen. Capers Camp#1212, Moncks Corner	3rd Thursday of the month
Pvt. John S. BirdCamp#38, N. Chas.	2nd Tuesday of the month
Star of the West Camp#1253, The Citadel	(irregular)
Ft. Sumpter Camp #1269, Charleston	2nd Thursday (irregular)

*October Minutes Cont. from p. 7....*

- George Naumann thanked everyone who helped with the annual Confederate Ghost Walk at Magnolia Cemetery..
  - Randy Burbage announced that the annual The Battle of Secessionville reenactment will take place at Boone Hall Plantation on November 7, 8 & 9.
  - Commander Bill Norris presented Woody Weatherford with his Secession Camp Lifetime Certificate and pin.
  - The camp needs articles, pictures, etc. for the camp scrapbook which presented each year for competition at the S. C. Division Convention and the National Convention.
  - A motion made to adjourn and seconded.
- The benediction was made by Sy Mabie followed by the singing of Dixie.

**Motion Submitted to Commander Bill Norris on 10-27-08**

Motion: I, Wayne Dukes, move to send \$2,000 to the South Carolina Division Sons of Confederate Veterans – Flag Restoration Fund.

Reasoning: Once these flags are gone; they are gone. I can not think of a better way to perpetuate the memory of our Confederate ancestors, then to preserve the flags that they fought, bled, and died under.

At the present time, the State gives matching amounts to this fund. Our \$2000 will become \$4,000 in the Preservation Fund. This practice will not last much longer.

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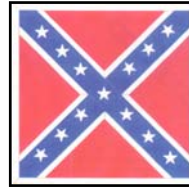
Confederate Ancestor Pvt. Jesse A. Marlow , 7th SC Cavalry



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*Deo Vindice*



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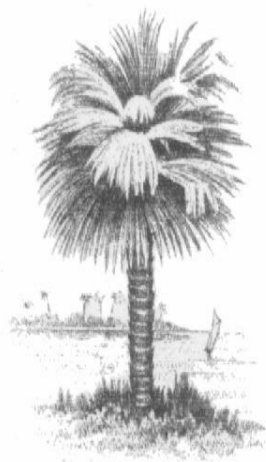
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# The Sentinel

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**THE NEXT CAMP MEETING WILL BE NOVEMBER 18TH**



## **OUR BOY'S IN BLUE???**

Special thanks should go out to the Secession Camp members that bravely donned the Blue uniform (we won't mention any names!) at the Battle of Secessionville on Nov. 8th and 9th. As much as these men love the Confederacy, they were willing to dress as Yankees so that the South could kick their collective backsides! Thanks to all Compatriots who participated in the BOS! We want to see more of ya'll next year!