



# Newsletter of **Capt. W.H. McCauley** **Camp 260 • Dickson County Tennessee**



Vol. 1 No. 8

Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 260

October 2004

## **Camp 260 Officers**

Commander Bryan A. Sharp • Lt. Commander Stephen F. Tucker • Adjutant / Treasurer Joseph R. Bailey  
Historian Jack Bowker • Chaplain Paul Reynolds

# **HAPPY 10<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CAMP 260!**

## **HURRAH for DC Capt. McCauley Camp 260!**

October 24th will mark the 10th year of our existence since our chartering in 1994. While this is cause for celebration for us, many camps charter throughout our confederacy of our brotherhood every year and a few wind up folding because of lack of time, leadership or just plain indifference. This is a pure example of folks not willing to step up & take their turn to do something for the good of their camp & fellow members. I am thrilled that our camp has continued to grow, fight the good fight & I personally thank each of you for your individual contributions to McCauley 260 in the past.

Our camp has a VERY RICH HISTORY. Did you know that our first incarnation was as the original Association of Confederate Soldiers Tennessee Division? The James A. Raines Bivouac No. 14 existed in Dickson before the United Confederate Veterans Bill Green Camp 933. The original Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 260 had Gen. Frank Cheatham as it's namesake only to be changed in favor a local son in Capt. McCauley sometime prior to 1925. Over the years, the camp died out but was resurrected back in October 24th of 1994 & has been plugging every since. The below photos of the rechartering ceremony at East Hills in Dickson are courtesy of Past Cmdr. Rick Hollis & appreciated.

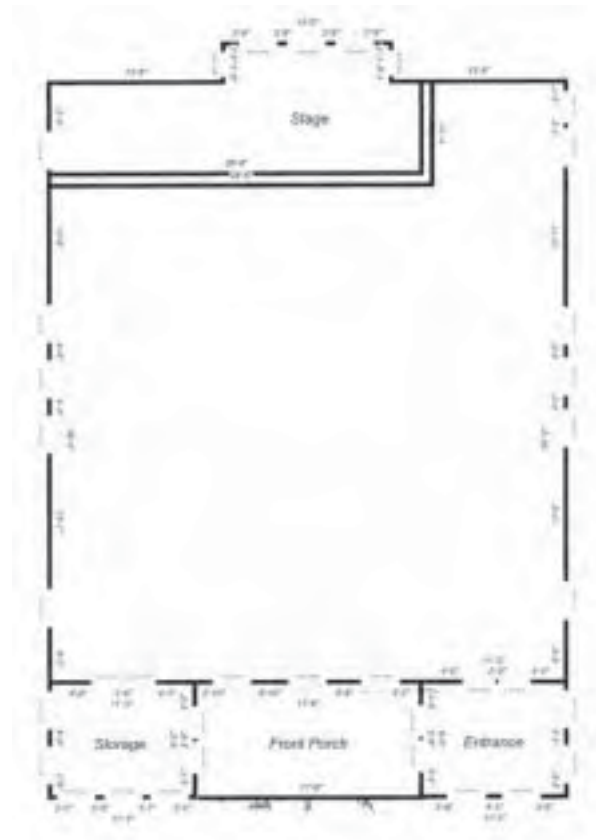
We ain't going no where but forward so bring someone to a future meeting & get 'em jined on up! Everyone can do this & is expected if you are indeed proud of your ancestors & you want to see us continue to grow & prosper.

It is with extreme pleasure that I share with you the following update on our St. Paul Church Project in Charlotte. We are at a historical crossroads in our camp & the timing of this decision that we must make could happen at no more a pertinent time. Due to the unselfish generosity of a quite a few anonymous donors who will remain nameless as a stipulation of their gifts, we now have the asking price of \$5000 for the church. In addition to this we have been offered a \$500 gift from Cmdr. Ed Butler & the Tennessee Division SCV to help us get all our deposits paid & get off the ground with minor expenses for which we are very grateful.

In one of my proudest moments as camp commander, I can say that we raised 100% of the purchase money ourselves without dipping into the regular camp fund checking account. We have our own members to thank for this & can also thank those that have pledged their time in future work days to get things whipped into shape. Much volunteer work will be needed to rebuild the front porch, patch leaks, rewire, paint, construct a ramp, outhouse, ect...It's time to step up as a member of this camp if we are to succeed in this undertaking. You don't need a lot of money to donate, just a willing spirit & a little of your time will help.

Thank you for all your support.  
With your help we can become the envy of the division & finally have our own home.

# “St. Paul Church /Charlotte TN / Near Promised Land”



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Larry Gentry  
on service of Dickson Gentry 11th TN Co. K

Byron Warden  
on service of James Warden 13th TN Cavalry Co. K

**OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD SATURDAY OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>  
ST. PAUL CHURCH 12 NOON.**

**A VOTE WILL BE TAKEN CONCERNING PURCHASING THE  
CHURCH AS OUR NEW HOME SO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO  
ATTEND IF YOU WANT A VOICE IN THE MATTER.**

I have tried to address all concerns in an open manner & feel that I have done everything humanly possible to keep all informed along the process. Our homework has all just about been done & final concerns & findings will be discussed & voted upon next month. I urge you all to be present at the next meeting or forever hold your peace. A new day for our camp is on the horizon. It is up to each of you as to how we will spend our future as a camp.

DEO VINDICE~

Cmdr. Bryan A. Sharp, Capt. W. H. McCauley 260, Dickson County TN

## **SCV Camp 260 Charter Members 1995**



# DICKSON COUNTY

## GUERRILLA and FEDERAL

### MILITARY ENCOUNTERS

Execution of: Demps DOBSON and William D. WILLEY  
Excerpt from: History of Dickson County, Tennessee Civil War and Readjustments, 1861-1870

Some weeks after the battle of Fort Donelson and the resulting Forrest march through the county, a group of about sixty Federals visited the county on a raiding party, and engaged in a bitter hand-to-hand encounter. By the summer of 1862 guerrilla warfare was at its peak in Dickson and the surrounding counties and a prison was established by the Federals on the public square of Clarksville, which lay some thirty miles north of Charlotte. By the fall of 1862 there were seven guerrillas from Dickson County in the prison facing charges such as "Rebel Agent or Spy". In nearby Humphreys County considerably more guerrilla activity was transpiring and several men were shot and others were hanged by the vengeful Federals.

By March 1863 Colonel Sanders D. Bruce who was in command of the 'Twentieth Kentucky Infantry', United States Infantry was in complete control of Clarksville, and his men visited Charlotte not infrequently. On March 13, He wrote his commanding officer of a foray in that vicinity. "My Calvary found another party of rebel cavalry yesterday near Charlotte," he wrote, "captured 13 prisoners with horses. Five are new conscripts who claim to be Union men, and desire to take the oath. Instruct me." In the late fall or early winter of 1863 a portion of two Federal regiments numbering around four hundred took Charlotte and remained there until March, 1864.

They established headquarters in the courthouse, pitched tents in the courtyard, and built makeshift barracks. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was taken over and used as a hospital. Much damage was done to the public buildings, and some of the public records were destroyed. Smokehouses were raided, stores were taken over and much property was destroyed in a wanton manner.

To combat this activity the people of Dickson County went underground and engaged the invader in guerrilla warfare. According to one source, "a continuous fight was kept up between the Federals and the guerrillas, and not a few lives were sacrificed as a result." Several weeks before they broke camp, the Federals captured a Charlotte citizen named William D. Willey and shot him as a guerrilla. He allegedly killed John Lindsey, a Dickson

Countian who cooperated with the Federals. Another citizen named Demps Dobson was shot about the same time by the Federals, who paced a scrap of paper in the dead man's hand on which had been written, "Shot in retaliation for the killing of John Lindsey". This Federal contingent was under the command of a Major Kirwine and a Lieutenant Donnehue. After Kirwine's men evacuated Charlotte another group of Federals passed through the town in going from Johnsonville to Nashville. They had been led to believe that General Forrest was on his way to Johnsonville intent upon wiping out the Federals, and they were said to have reached Charlotte "in a state of demoralization, having left behind them a trail marked by guns, ammunition, blankets, flour, meal, meat, and in fact everything they found unhandy to carry in their flight." Upon reaching Charlotte they learned that the crafty Forrest had shifted his command in such a manner as to block their flight from Charlotte to Nashville. At Charlotte the Federals decided to join other Federals at Clarksville rather than to risk and encounter with Forrest.

*This is additional information on the same people*

William Willey b.ca 1750 in Salisbury Dist of NC, either in Halifax or Guilford, on the Haw River..died ca 1842 in Dickson was receiving a Rev War pension at that time. Have been unable to obtain RW pension record but it must be there. A plaque on the courthouse lawn in Charlotte, Dickson Co shows names of RW veterans buried in Dickson Co. and he is listed there. This story is written by Jewell Willey Beakley , who was born in 1895 and died in 1994.

Civil War Story about William Daniel Willey  
In the fall of 1863, Nov. to be exact, a Federal troop under Major Kirwine (not sure of spelling) took possession of Charlotte, Tenn, which is the county seat of Dickson County. and he did a lot of damage to the town. He took over the courthouse and not only destroyed the furniture and county records but stripped the country side of all food and supplies.

Our grandfather, Felix Empson Willey, had a relative William Daniel Willey (not sure if an uncle, nephew or cousin) who was at Fort Donelson with Nathan Bedford Forrest's Cavalry when Ft Donelson fell to General Grant.. Nathan Bedford Forrest and his Cavalry made their escape although Grandpa Felix was captured. William Daniel was discharged in early 1864 due to his age, which was approximately 64 years and that being very old for that time. He managed to make his way home on his cavalry mount, coming through the Federal lines, He was so incensed when he got home and saw what was being done that he began harassing the enemy at every

opportunity..Since he was familiar with every hill and valley he would manage to elude the local troops. A number of times he would escape and taunt them with waving his cavalry hat and giving the “Rebel Yell” But later in 1864 he and another man, whose name I can’t remember, were captured by a troop of Federals under Lt Donohue and shot in retaliation for allegedly killing John Lindsey, a northern sympathizer and collaborator. I suppose you would now have classified Dan as a guerrilla for he was a discharged soldier. I was told this story as a young child by Ida Willey Pack, daughter of grandfather Felix E. Willey, but did not remember “Uncle Dan” was captured and executed., She was born before the Civil War and remembered everything vividly. Later I found the account of this happening in an early history book in the Dickson Public Library. It is told that a song was composed and sung locally about Dan Willey and the legendary black stallion. Later I read that another man, Demps Dobson, was also implicated in the Lindsey man’s death. Dobson was shot to death and left lying where he was shot. While he was being prepared for burial a note was found on his body saying “ shot in retaliation for Lindsey’s death.” A researcher on the Lindsey family said that it was found Dan was innocent of any part of Lindsey’s death. It was also found that the Federals executed him due to harassment he had inflicted on them.

**End of Story**

This is most interesting as it is possible that Susan Willey, wife of Demps Dobson, was the sister of William Daniel Willey. She had to be related to him somehow A thorough research should be done of that possibility and was

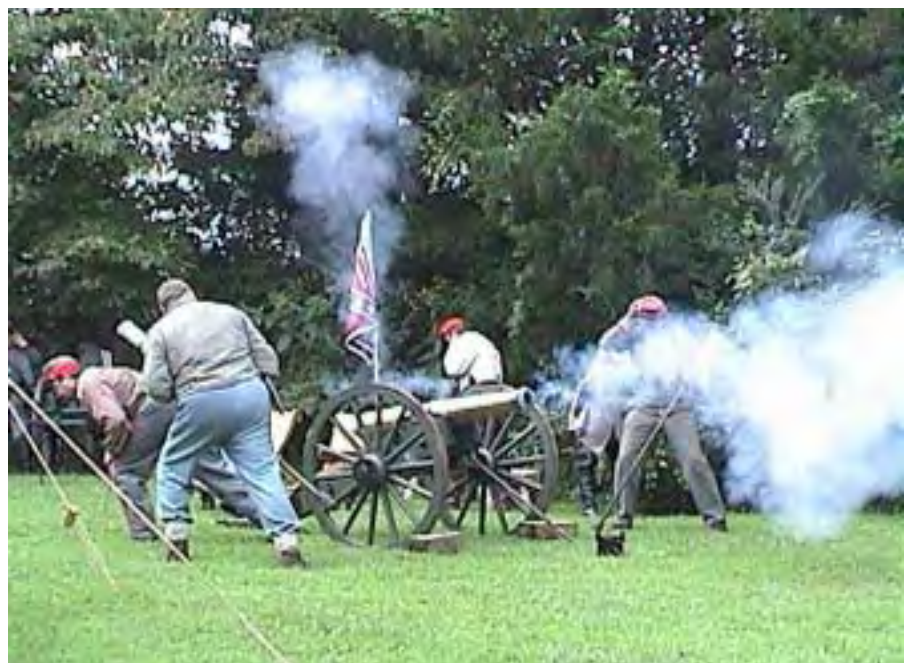
probably the cause of Demps death. He may have been trying to avenge William Daniel’s death. William Willey b.ca 1750 in Salisbury Dist of NC, either in Halifax or Guilford, on the Haw River..died ca 1842 in Dickson was receiving a Rev War pension at that time. Have been unable to obtain RW pension record but it must be there. A plaque on the courthouse lawn in Charlotte, Dickson Co shows names of RW veterans buried in Dickson Co. and he is listed there.

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This information provided by a friend of Dickson County, Lee Hoover.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~tndickso/guerrilla.htm>



# DUES ARE DUE NOW:

Annual Dues were due Aug. 1st and can be payable to Adj. Joe Bailey. Because of the amendment passed this year at the SCV Convention in Dalton, we no longer have a 6 month grace period to pay up. This has been shortened 3 months to Nov. 1st. If you have not paid up by then you will be dropped from the roll & have to pay an additional \$5 to reinstate. Please pay now since money gets a little tighter with Christmas approaching.

The dues breakdown is as follows:

National= \$20 TN State= \$5 McCauley Camp 260= \$5 for a total of \$30

Please make your check payable to McCauley Camp 260 and mail to:

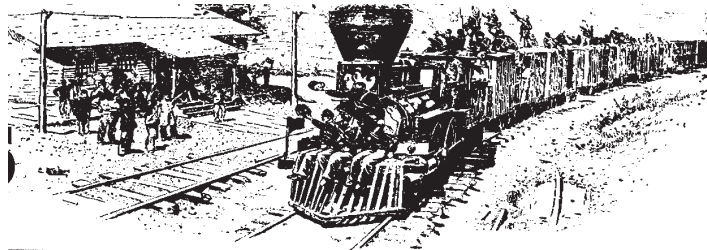
Adjutant Joseph Bailey  
Address 1201 Denny Rd  
Dickson, TN 37055  
jrb78usmc@aol.com

## NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST STATE PARK PROJECT:

I'm pleased to announce that our project at Pilot Knob in Eva, TN is coming along just fine. For those that don't know, the TN River Life Museum located at the NBF State Park has very little to show visitors on the battle of Johnsonville outside of a map of the river hanging outside, the granite spire monument, & a few prints of Forrest. Our own Sam Watkins Brigade is trying to rectify this. We have just had a display case donated to show off relics on temporary loan & an artist's print of Gen. Forrest at Johnsonville has been given to us to help our efforts. In addition, we will post photos & info of local Confederates & are having official records of the battle blown up & laminated for visitors to study while on their visit. If you are interested in helping with this project please contact me at 1-800-380-1896 ext 201 or sharpp@mindspring.com.

Cmdr. B. Sharp  
McCauley 260  
DC

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 2004 - FARMINGTON, TENNESSEE

141st anniversary, 3rd annual "Battle of Farmington" Living History and Reenactment. Held on over one-hundred acres of the original battlefield. Presented by the Farmington Battlefield Confederate Cemetery Association and hosted by the Farmington Battlefield SCV Camp #1902. Battles will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, ladies tea will be held Saturday at 10:00 am, Saturday evening dance with music provided by the 52nd Regimental String Band. Sunday morning period church service will be held at 10:00 am.

### OCTOBER 1, 2, 3, 2004 - SPRING HILL, TENNESSEE

140th anniversary "Battle of Franklin." Relive the last campaign in the West. National reenactment on the original battlefield. Fight and camp on a beautiful Civil War plantation battlefield (General Hood's headquarters). Battles on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Expected to be high water mark of 2004, and the largest reenactment of the decade in the West with over 10,000 soldiers. Sponsored by the "Civil War Courier" in partnership with Save the Franklin Battlefield and North/South Alliance.

web site: [www.battleoffranklin.com](http://www.battleoffranklin.com)

### OCTOBER 8, 9, 10, 2004 - COLUMBUS, KENTUCKY

Civil War Days at Columbus held at Columbus-Belmont State Park. There will be narrated battle reenactments, living history, and encampments. Opening ceremony on Friday afternoon. A Civil War ball will be held Saturday night. Special entertainment by 52nd Regimental String Band and Rick Revel.

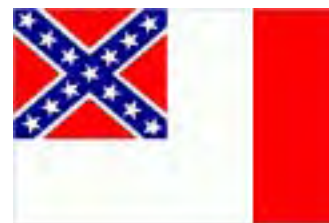
### NOVEMBER 12, 13, 14 2004 - FT. DONELSON, TN

Living History at the park.

### **Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans:**

"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 Dill Lee, Commander General,  
United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906



*Salute to the Confederate Flag*

*"I Salute the Confederate Flag with Affection, Reverence, and Undying Devotion to the Cause for which it Stands"*

## MACON TELEGRAPH

Expedition targets Georgia's only shipwrecked blockade runner

RUSS BYNUM, Associated Press

RICHMOND HILL, Ga. - Barely visible from the massive dirt mounds that shielded Fort McAllister from the guns of Union ironclads, four squarely spaced posts jut from the Ogeechee River along the salt marsh.

Signs warn passing boaters - "Submerged Object" - with no hint of the Civil War shipwreck that lies on the riverbed 30-feet below.

The CSS Nashville, the first ship commissioned by the Confederacy in 1861, sank off Fort McAllister near Savannah on Feb. 28, 1863, under fire from the iron-clad USS Montauk.

The Nashville is the only Confederate blockade runner known to exist in Georgia waters. Though divers from 1960 to 1983 salvaged artifacts ranging from 10-foot engine rods to brass lanterns, the state this fall will start its first archaeological survey of the wreck with an eye toward preserving it.

"I've been trying to get this for 20 years," said Danny Brown, manager of Fort McAllister State Park. "She's been pilfered pretty much her entire underwater life. As for whatever's still in the wreck, historically and archaeologically speaking, she's still a treasure."

Built in 1853 as a passenger and mail carrier, the Nashville wasn't one of the Civil War's technological marvels on par with the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley or the iron-armored USS Monitor. But the Nashville made history when the Confederacy commissioned the 1,221-ton steamer as its first warship in 1861 and it became the first vessel to fly the Confederate flag in international waters.

The Nashville was later reassigned as a privateer, a mercenary ship given license to raid enemy cargo vessels, and as a blockade runner that outran Union ships into Southern ports to deliver arms and export cotton.

In its less than two years of war service, the Nashville so frustrated the Union Navy that Rear Adm. Samuel Francis Du Pont, commander of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, declared it "a thorn in my flesh."

"Her escape ... would absolutely have shaken stocks in Wall Street," DuPont wrote the day after the Nashville sank.

Last month, the Georgia Historic Preservation Division won a \$39,996 grant from the National Park Service for an underwater survey of the Nashville and other war relics along nine miles of the Ogeechee River.

It will be the first major project for underwater archaeologist Jason Burns, who previously helped recover the Hunley in South Carolina, since he joined

the Georgia Department of Natural Resources this year.

Using boats with high-tech gear such as side-scan sonar, which uses acoustic waves to capture detailed images of submerged objects, Burns hopes to get the most accurate picture of the Nashville's condition since the last divers saw it up close 21 years ago.

"It's never been archaeologically evaluated before," said Burns, who plans to begin work in the next two months. "We're not exactly sure what we're gonna find. How much impact did the salvage have on the shipwreck itself? Is the sand covering the wreck up, or is it completely exposed?"

Fort McAllister was built to protect a backdoor route to the Savannah port, and its earthen fortifications proved strong enough to hold off Union ironclads pursuing the Nashville in January 1863.

But the Nashville - by then renamed the Rattlesnake - ran aground while retreating from an attempt to run the Union blockade a month later. Cannon fire from the Montauk burned the Confederate ship to the waterline.

Judy Wood, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers archaeologist and maritime historian who has catalogued records of 1,100 shipwrecks in Georgia, says that if any deserve to be studied, it's the Nashville.

"We can conclusively say this is our one and only blockade runner. It probably is one of the most significant wrecks in Georgia," said Wood, who has researched shipwrecks in the state over 20 years.

One of the Nashville's most important features to naval historians is its side-levered steam engine - an innovation that kept the machinery used to turn the ship's paddle wheels lying horizontally within its hull. Other engines had parts extending vertically through a ship's deck - making them a vulnerable target for gunfire.

"There are very few steam engines from the Civil War period surviving anywhere in the world," said Kevin Foster, chief maritime historian for the National Park Service. "Of the side-levered engines from the Civil War period, the Nashville is the only one that I know of."

Burns said his six-month underwater survey will determine if more of the Nashville should be salvaged. Fort McAllister already has on display a number of pieces raised over the past four decades.

The state hired divers in 1960 to use dynamite to remove engine rods that posed a hazard to boats at low tide. A private expedition from 1978 to 1983 raised furnace doors, cannonballs, wrenches and other tools. Four years ago, a group of crabbers stumbled onto the ship's rudder.

Part of a 1,700-acre state park, Fort McAllister has had its dirt-mound fortifications, canons and ammunition magazines on public display for 40 years. But to Brown, the park manager, that's only half the story. The rest remains beneath the Ogeechee River.

"The Union fleet never knew we were here until they chased the Nashville and bumped into us," Brown said. "So the Nashville and Fort McAllister are very much together in this."