



EYES AND EARS



AUGUST 2007

Gen. Robert H. Hatton Camp #723
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Lebanon, Tennessee
[www://hatton.scv.org](http://www.hatton.scv.org)




Byron Davis, Commander

Spence Morgan, Adjutant

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

7:00 PM, August 30, 2007 at the Cato Building, 216 South Maple St.

This month we are privileged to hear from **Dennis J. Lampley** who has just released his new book Captain Ed Baxter & His Tennessee Artillerymen, CSA. It is the first and most complete history written on Baxter's Artillery, and details every aspect of the Unit from the bloody battles to the home front and more. The book is a culmination of 17 years of research on the Unit and he'll tell us all the great details. Mr. Lampley is an SCV member and a graduate of the University of Tennessee. He and his wife, Irene, reside in the Liberty Hill Community as the 6th generation on the family home place settled in 1811. We'll see you there! 

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Last month it was our pleasure to host Mr. Walter Brian Cisco, historian and author of many books about the War For Southern Independence. He spoke to us regarding his latest work, War Crimes Against Southern Citizens, and if you have not picked up a copy and read it you're missing a well written, well documented, easy to read historical work about a chapter of Southern History the main-stream press would like you to forget. If you want inspiration, pick up a copy at your nearest bookstore and get your blood pressure medicine handy!

ANNOUNCEMENT

★ **VETERANS** ★

★ For the U.D.C. War Service Medal ★

Compatriots,

Last month in this newsletter, I asked for Military Veterans that had served in WWII, Korea etc... that were Direct Descendents of a Confederate Veteran (Grandfather, Great-Grandfather etc...).

I left out the Viet Nam era Veterans. So, if you were in the Military during the Viet Nam Conflict from 1 January 1961 to 14 August 1974, or, in the Military (active duty) from 8 December 1941 to the present, please contact me either by e-mail at: bigireb@comcast.net or, by cell phone at :(615)585-2283.

Thank you, Don Lewis

Comments from the Commander

Gentlemen,

A unique Confederate with a remarkable and awe inspiring record.

Byron

Rear Admiral Raphael Semmes (Sept. 27, 1809 – August 30, 1877)



Admiral Semmes was born in Charles County, Maryland and in 1826 entered the United States Navy as a midshipman at the age of 15. While serving in the Navy prior to the Mexican War, he studied Law and was admitted to the Bar. At the breakout of the Mexican War, he was given command of the *USS Somers* which served with distinction in the Gulf of Mexico until it was lost in a storm in December 1846. For his efforts to save his crew in the storm, he was commended by the Navy. He re-located to Mobile, Alabama in 1849 during an extended leave and began to practice Law.

In 1860 when Alabama seceded, Semmes resigned his commission in the US Navy and in 1861 was appointed a Commander in the Confederate States Navy. He was given command of the *CSS Sumter*. For the next six months he raided some 18 merchant vessels in the Caribbean and Atlantic. In 1862 the *Sumter* was captured while docking at Gibraltar for repairs but Semmes and his crew escaped to England.

In August 1862 he was promoted to Captain and given command of the newly constructed *CSS Alabama*. From August of 1862 to June of 1864 the *Alabama* captured or destroyed some 69 ships and commandeered cargo valued at over 6 million Dollars.

On June 11, 1864 in a fierce naval battle near Cherbourg, France the *Alabama* was sunk by the *USS Kearsarge*. Semmes, wounded during the battle, and his crew were rescued by the *HMS Dearhound* and escaped to England. Upon returning to the Confederacy, he was promoted to Rear Admiral and given charge of protecting Richmond from advances along the James River. Upon the fall of Richmond in April 1865, he ordered his ships burned and he and his sailors took up arms as infantrymen. He was appointed as a Brigadier General by President Davis. He surrendered with General Johnston at Durham, North Carolina, and was arrested on charges of Treason on December 15, 1865 but later released on April 7, 1866.

He went on to teach at LSU and practice Law in Mobile. His command of the *CSS Alabama* has propelled him to almost legendary status in naval lore. To this day, his record of 87 ships sunk or captured still stands. He is at rest in the Mobile Catholic Cemetery. His statue stands over Government Street in Mobile. He is a member of the Alabama Hall of Fame.



"A HISTORICAL HONOR SOCIETY"
THE GENERAL ROBERT H. HATTON CAMP # 723
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
P. O. Box 782
LEBANON, TENNESSEE 37088-0782
 HTTP://HATTON.SCV.ORG

23 August 2007

Compatriot:

It' that time of year again – Annual Dues are now due [as of July 31].

For a **Regular Member** the dues amount is – \$30.00.

The breakdown is as follows:

National Dues - \$20.00
 Division Dues - \$5.00
 Camp Dues - \$5.00

For a **Life Member*** the dues amount is - \$10.00

National Dues - None
 Division Dues - \$5.00
 Camp Dues - \$5.00

*For those interested Life Membership currently requires a one time payment of:

\$500 (age 12-64) \$250 (age 65-79) \$125 (age 80+)
 - if interested please contact Adjutant Spence Morgan or any officer

There is a \$5.00 late fee if dues are paid [received by HQ] after October 31.

Please Detach & Return The Statement Below With Your Dues Payment:

DUES PAYMENT / CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Name _____

Address _____ Phone# _____

Member # _____

- REGULAR MEMBER DUES.....\$30.00
- LIFE MEMBER DUES.....\$10.00
- CONTRIBUTION [501(c)(3)].....\$_____

Thank you in advance for your prompt response to support the work and efforts of The Sons of Confederate Veterans and their work to honor and preserve the memory of your Ancestors.