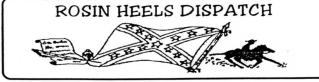
Jones County Rosin Heels







SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

1861 **DEO VINDICE** 1865

Dec. 2012

CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE

CoCo Roberts - Commander 601-428-5570

Doug Jefcoat - 2nd Lt. Commander 601-425-5485

Cotton Norris - Adjutant 601-426-2949

Don Green - Historian 1-601-270-5316

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!



ROBERT E. LEE / STONEWALL JACKSON CELEBRATION

Our next banquet celebration will be held at Bethlehem Baptist Church located at the corner of Reid Rd. and Hwy. 184, located across the road from Walker's Dairy Bar, on the last Saturday of Jan. which is the 26th. The posting of the colors will begin at 5:30 followed by the salute to the flags and the blessing of the meal. Our speaker this time will be our current Division Commander Mr. Alan Palmer. After supper we will give out some prizes before Commander Palmer brings his message to us. The cost per meal is \$15.00. If you wish to pay in advance, checks can be sent to P.O. Box 52, Laurel, MS.,

39441and made out to Camp 227. Tickets make an excellent Christmas gifts for wife & family. For further information you can call - 601-649-1867 between the hours of 8 AM - 5 PM Monday - Friday or at night 601-428-5570 or 601-319-7027. The emails

<u>csaford@hotmail.com</u> georgejaynes1953@yahoo.com

Mr. Carl Ford was asked very politely if everything could be put on one his credit cards and then he would eventually get every dollar owed to him back. Well, he turned red in the face and said NO!! He actually said a bit more than that, but it can't be repeated in this newsletter or as a matter of fact any other newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

QUITMAN RE-ENACTMENT

The event this year will be held in Feb. on the 22 - 24 at Archusa Water Park, near Quitman, MS. It will be the 3rd Annual Battles for the Texas Hospital. Below are the highlights for the weekend.

Friday - Possible school presentation that morning, TBA.

Noon - Check in begins for re-enactors and sutlers. 4 -6 PM - Encampment.

6 - 7 PM Night Cannon Firing.

7 - 10 Encampment.

Saturday - 9 - 11 AM - March to Quitman with Memorial Service at Clarke County Courthouse. Followed by parade through town to Confederate Cemetery to conduct another memorial service. 2 - 3 PM Battle will be fought. Then supper for troops at 5 PM. At 6:30 another firing of cannons at night. 7 PM - Dance begins with the group Kracker Dan providing the music.

Sunday - 9 - 10 - Church Services. Battle will be from 2 - 3, then at 4 PM re-enactors disband.

For further info contact - Dianne Long - Carlin on Facebook, or carlindianne@yahoo.com or 601 - 678 - 5382.

Camp 227 will have an information table set up near the stage for Saturday only. This is a great chance to once again get articles in the hands of visitors and help them understand a bit more about our Southern history and culture and how books, tv, movies, school, and now the internet does not always provide the correct information. It's also a great deal of fun talking with everyone that comes by the table.

NATCHEZ - ROUTHLAND ON TOUR

Mr. Everett Ratcliffe has invited us back for Saturday, March 30th from 9 AM - 12:30 PM with dinner on the front porch afterwards. On Friday, early afternoon, the tents will be set-up with the camp's equipment put inside for safe keeping until the next morning. We need to be at Routhland Saturday morning no later than 8 AM to put everything in place and put up the flags. Their will be rooms reserved at the Days Inn on Hwy. 61 as usual. This will be the 19th or 20th year we have done this event. It is always fun and a kick out of meeting the visitors that have traveled sometimes from faraway places in America and other countries. This is

an event that you do not want to miss.

APRIL - CONFEDERATE HERITAGE MONTH

Governor Phil Bryant will sign a Proclamation making April Confederate Heritage Month in MS.

This is always a busy time during the year for our camp color guard. Below are the memorial services than are already known.

General Nathan B. Forrest Camp in Marion, MS. just above Meridian. The cemetery is located on Confederate Memorial Dr. This memorial service is usually held on the first Sunday of April. In 2013 that will be the 7th. It begins at 2 PM.

W. D. Cameron Camp in Meridian will have their's the last Sunday in April and next year that will be the 28th, beginning at 3 PM. The cemetery is located above Meridian at Lauderdale Springs with around 1100 buried there, with about 70 Union soldiers included.

On Monday, the 29th at noon, in downtown Meridian, there will be a joint service of both SCV camps and two UDC chapters in front of the courthouse.

Same day at 4:15 our camp will have a brief service on the grounds of the courthouse in Ellisville next to the Confederate monument.

At 5:15 our camp will have a second service in downtown Laurel also on the grounds of the Laurel courthouse next to the Confederate monument.

There will be other memorial services held in various locations in which some of our color guard members may want to participate. Also sometimes there may be families that may ask for a ceremony to be conducted for an ancestor(s).

A lady at Beauvoir said that they have not set a definite date for memorial services next April. She said it could be either the 13^{th} or 20^{th} .

When asked about the date of the dedication of the new Jefferson Davis Library & Museum she said that it also had not yet been set.

CHRISTMAS DURING THE WAR And Some Customs Started During That Time

Many of today's American Christmas customs really got a boost during of all times, the war. In the 1850's people in America began to put up Christmas trees and decorate them with strings of popcorn, dried fruit, pine cones and maybe some kind of candy. Interestingly enough it was New Year's that people really celebrated with the exchanging of gifts and family gatherings with lots of food. Though before the war it was a happy time for the slaves on farms or plantations. The slaves during all times of the day would stop by the owners house with Christmas gifts for the family. In return, the family would give the slave families probably a new suit of clothes to each person.

As far as the look of Santa was concerned that came from the illustrator Thomas Nast who worked for Harpers Weekly. The first drawing of Santa was in said publication during Christmas of 1863 giving out gifts to Union soldiers, dressed similarly the way he looks today, whiskers and all. Nast was an immigrant from Germany that came to America during the 1830's and went to art school in New York City and later aquired a job with Harpers Weekly.

Festive cards did not begin until 1860, but the Christmas tree made its first appearance in Pennsylvania in the early 1800's. Trees were mostly popular with German immigrants on the East Coast and by the 1850's table top trees were popular on the eastern seaboard. Not all people were happy with the new traditions. The Calvinists and Puritans fined people who celebrated Christmas, because they saw it as a holiday that had been taken over by pagan traditions.

The first printed image of a decorated American Christmas tree appeared in 1836, when it was published in a booklet by a German immigrant. Of course Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," was published in 1843 and had a great influence on both sides of the Atlantic, but it was still relatively new during the war period.

In the Midwest, traditions took longer to adopt. A pastor in Cleveland, Ohio, set up a Christmas tree in the 1850's received public criticism for his foolishness. By the 1860's the Christmas tree had become an established part of the holiday celebrations. Santa, who also grew from German traditions, was not immortalized in America until 1822, when Clement Moore's poem was published, "A Visit From St. Nicholas," or more commonly known as "The Night Before Christmas."

By the 1860'a Santa was an established and wellloved figure of American children in both the North and South. Of course there were other illustrators that helped promote the season also. Besides Nast, Winslow Homer and Alfred Waud created scenes of Santa, Christmas trees, gift-giving, caroling, holiday feasting and Christmas cards. It was Nast and Homer that created scenes of the wartime practice of sending Christmas boxes filled with homemade clothes and food items to soldiers at the front.

By 1863, the Union blockade of the Southern coasts had made it nearly impossible for Santa Claus to visit homes in the South. Many mothers had to explain to their children that even Santa would not be able to run the blockade. Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas of Augusta, Georgia, told how a simple act of faith on the part of her children caused her to dig deeper for a holiday offering on Christmas Eve:

"I have written so much that it is now after 9 o'clock and yet I have said nothing of Turner's and Mary Bell's party which we gave them last week in lieu of the Santa Claus presents. Mary Bell has been told that Sant Claus has not been able to run the blockade and has gone to war-Yet at this late hour when I went upstairs Thursday night of the party I found that the trusting faith of childhood they had hung their little socks and stockings in case Santa Claus did come. I had given the subject no thought whatever, but invoking Sant Claus aid I was enabled when their little eyes opened to enjoy their pleasure to find cake and money in their socks."

It was Nast's illustration of Sant Claus in 1865 that has endured until today by which we know him. In his book *We Were Marching on Christmas Day*, author Kevin Rawlings tells of one little Southern girl named Sallie Brock Putnam who plotted the course that Santa Claus would have to take to avoid the Union blockade.

Some of the most popular Christmas carols that were sung at home and the war front in military camps were "Silent Night" (1818), "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" (1751), "Deck the Halls" (1700's), "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" (1840), "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (1850), "Jingle Bells" (1857), "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (1857), and "Up On the Housetop" (1860).

The Richmond Examiner described Santa to its young readers as "a Dutch toy monger" who was a New York/New England "scrub" and Hottentot that had nothing to do with traditional Virginian celebrations of Christmas. After the war, Nast purposely made the North Pole the home of Saint Nick so that no one else could use him for nationalistic propaganda like Nast himself had done. Make no mistake that Nast was a Union man all the way. He drew illustrations that would show Grant and Lincoln in control of the South even during the war in which he mixed the Christmas holiday into his drawings.

These are just some highlights of how Christmas really came into being what it is today. Yes, it was a Northerner that gave us the images we include in our celebration of Christmas. That is ingrained in all of American society, however, that does not mean that we can't put a Southern spin on things if we so desire. So if you haven't already done so this time, you have an entire year to think how you can Southernize things just a bit for next Christmas.

Writers from which this article was written: Seneca County Historian Walter Gable, Jane Gastineau, the Lincoln librarian at the Allen County Public Library, Martha Boltz who writes columns on the war at the Communities at the Washington Times, Karen Graham who writes for Richmond History Examiner, and two others that have internet addresses,

http://melpor.hubpages.com/hub/The_American_Civil War And Christmas and

http://dburgin.tripod.com/cw_xmas/cwarchristmas.htm

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Good bye, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.!

CoCo Roberts.

A man of few words, but given with deep feeling.

DEEP CONDOLENCES

Let us not forget the folks in Newtown, CT. This is a trying time for them. Pray that in all the turmoil and grief that is felt by not only them, but across the nation that people everywhere may come to the realization that God is in control and that it is His will that is going to be accomplished in all that these folks are enduring. Let them open their eyes that the Lord of all is in their midst and let their hearts be touched by the Holy Spirit. They all need a time to grieve and heal, but good things will come from this tragedy, but only by the Grace of God.