

**Next Meeting
July 24th
At The
Bethesda
Church in
Morristown**

Southern Heritage

Bradford / Rose Camp # 1638

July 2004

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This year, we will be observing "Old Bedford's" birthday a bit late. In some ways, it is ironic for mister "first with the most" but, as good Southerners, we are not slaves to a schedule and there is no bad time to respect Forrest. Our state has produced more than its share of military heroes but, Forrest is probably our greatest military genius and leader. As he becomes increasingly taboo in the liberal media, his ability to fascinate real historians increases. As Petersburg showed us what Verdun would be, so Brice's Crossroads foreshadowed the armored tactics of the coming century. His personal bravery and dedication stand second to none. We salute you General.

DEO VINDICE

Larry W. Watkins

Camp Meeting at Bethesda Again

The monthly camp meeting will be held at the historic Bethesda Church again this month. The general feeling is that we should take advantage of our connection to this local landmark during the warm weather. It also gives us a chance to appreciate the hard

work recently performed here by some camp members.

You may wish to bring a lawn chair; we will meet outdoors, weather permitting. The meeting will be at the normal time of 6:00 PM on July 24th.

We are still collecting dona-

tions toward the purchase of a new flag to replace the tattered one on our pole at Bethesda. We need to keep the colors flying so please give your donations to Bill Henderson today for the New Flag Fund.

August Meeting and Observance of N. B. Forrest's Birthday to be held on August 28, at Bethesda

Our N. B. Forrest picnic 2004 will be in conjunction with our August meeting. The location will be at Bethesda Church and begin at 4:00 PM. The format will be

"pot luck" with members asked to provide side dishes and deserts. Come on out and enjoy the fellowship.

Also, camp members please

remember to get your dues in ASAP. We are still working to get all the official SCV books reconciled.

Outmoded Weapons

An unidentified political leader in Pennsylvania had what seemed to him to be a great idea. Because men were volunteering so rapidly that there were not enough muskets to go around, why not supply some of them with lances like those used by knights errant of old?

Prodded by Governor Andrew G. Curtin, the U. S. War Department let a contract for a manufacturer to turn out one thousand lances adapted from an old Austrian pattern. A nine-foot staff of Norway fir, tipped with a three-edged blade nearly a foot long, seemed formidable indeed. Citizens of Philadelphia were so delighted with the weapon calculated to put a quick end to

the war that they contributed bright red swallow-tailed pennons to embellish each lance. Organization of a new unit of fighting men was completed in October 1861. Those splendid lances were given to members of the Sixth Cavalry Regiment, led by English-born Col. Richard H. Rush. On May 25, 1862, the men of Company C. Charged a Confederate picket line, lances at the ready, and pretended they didn't notice that men in gray doubled up with laughter when they saw them coming.

Men of Rush's Lancers later took their cumbersome weapons to Gaines' Mill, Savage's Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Antietam,

Frederickburg, Chancellorsville, Brandy Station, and numerous other battlefields. A remnant of the regiment, then armed with rifles, was present at Appomattox.

Heavy and awkward lances, not known to have accounted for a single Confederate death, were discarded in May 1863 as "unfit for the wooded country of Virginia." When these weapons were abandoned, lancers strapped on sabers to replace them.

Taken from a book:
Civil War Curiosities
by: Webb Garrison

Never Say Die

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Upcoming Dates

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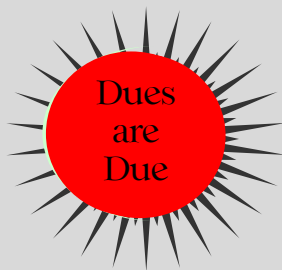
Upcoming Dates to Remember!

**The July
Monthly Meeting
will be on
July 24th
at 6:00 P.M.**

**At Bethesda Church
in Morristown**

**The August
Monthly Meeting &
N. B. Forrest birthday
observance will be
on August 28th
at 4:00 P.M.**

**At Bethesda Church
in Morristown**



Never Say Die

Guiding his horse during the heat of battle, a line officer sometimes wished for an extra arm. That way he could use his revolver while holding his reins and waving signals to his aides.

Confederate Major General John Bell Hood tops the list of those who kept on going with inadequate body equipment. At Gettysburg, an injury to his left arm left it all but useless. Chickamauga then cost him his right leg, which was amputated very close to his trunk. Hood therefore led Confederates in the battle of Atlanta while strapped into his saddle, wearing a five thousand-dollar French-made cork leg.

Though notoriously temperamental, drugs may have affected his judgment. Trying to cope with constant pain, he used laudanum in such quantities that some medical analysts suggest it may have produced euphoria.

Francis R. Nicholls was a Confederate double amputee who wouldn't give up. During the first battle of Winchester he lost an arm, and at post duty for a period, the brigadier became head of conscription in the Trans-Mississippi Department. Returning to Louisiana and admitting that he was "only the broken remnant of the man who marched off to fight the Yankees," he served two terms as governor before becoming head of the state supreme court.

One-armed fighting men were scattered throughout Confederate forces. John T. Halbert of Lincoln County, Tennessee, lost a hand at a cotton gin when he was young. So he was rejected when he offered his services to the Eighth Tennessee Regiment. Six months later, with the manpower pinch already being felt in the South, one-handed Halbert was accepted into the Forty-first Tennessee and fought with his regiment throughout the war.

Col. John Kerr of the Army of Northern Virginia lost an arm at Gettysburg but fought without it in the Wilderness, and at a Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg.

Seconds after he was hit at Antietam, Col. Birkett D. Fry knew his arm was shattered. Made a brigadier in 1864, he commanded two separate divisions at Cold Harbor.

Lt. Col. John C. Cheves' right arm was amputated after Gaines' Mill. Returning to duty, he was second in command of Hood's artillery at Gettysburg. He served through the Overland campaign, in the defense of Petersburg, and remained with Lee until Appomattox.

By the time he began leading troops against men in blue, Brig. General William W. Loring was accustomed to using only one arm, having lost the other during the Mexican "War." He fought with such distinction that Jefferson Davis made him a major general in February 1862.

Because he lost his sword arm at Churubusco, men commanded by Brig. General James G. Martin called him "Old One Wing."

Swiss-born Henry Wirz enlisted in Louisiana as a private, then rose steadily in rank until his right arm was shattered at Seven Pines. After serving as commandant at Andersonville Prison he became the only man who went to the scaffold after having been convicted of war crimes.

Minus an arm, Brig. General Laurence S. Baker was in the field most of the time until 1865. After having faced Sherman and his veterans in South Carolina, he made a gallant but futile attempt to join forces with General Joseph E. Johnston.

At Malvern Hill, surgeons managed to save the arm of Stephen Ramseur, but he found it to be so useless that he often said he wished they

had amputated it. With his arm in a sling, he fought at Gettysburg, the Wilderness, and Spotsylvania; as a major general he led his division at Cold Harbor and in the Shenandoah Valley.

Col. Matthew C. Butler went through Antietam and Fredericksburg without injury, then saw a Federal shell take off his right foot at Brandy Station. Returning to active duty and promoted twice, he was a major general when he joined Johnston to oppose Sherman in the Carolinas.

Lt. Col. William L. Brandon left a leg behind at Malvern Hill. He later fought at Gettysburg, Chickamauga, and Knoxville before becoming a brigadier.

At Shiloh, Brig. General Charles Clark was so severely injured that he never again walked with aid. Flourishing his crutches, he took off his uniform in order to become the last Confederate governor of Mississippi.

Col. Stapleton Crutchfield lost a leg on the second day at Chancellorsville, returned to active duty, and was decapitated by a Federal cannonball seventy-two hours before Appomattox.

Col. Thomas T. Eckert was leading a brigade near Atlanta when a direct hit cost him a leg. Barely having recovered, he went into Tennessee with Hood and later helped to defend Mobile.

Lt. Col. William H. Forney was crippled for life by multiple wounds to an arm and a leg at Gettysburg. While still on crutches, he was made a brigadier. His colleague, Brig. General D. Johnston, took a direct hit within hours after his promotion. Weaving clumsily on his crutches, he led a brigade into Tennessee and the Carolinas in an attempt to join forces with Johnston.

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