

Fighting Joe Wheeler
Camp 1372

The Fighting **Joe Wheeler** Dispatch

Volume XXXI, Issue 4

April 2011

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Chief of Staff & Communications:

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Chaplain:

Rex Webb

Color Sergeant:

Sam Nelson

Quartermaster:

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Larry Muse / Dr. Richard Price

Aide de Camp:

Dr. Richard Price

Commander Emeritus:

Dr. Ira West

Sergeant At Arms:

Walt Williams

Camp Surgeon:

Dr. Richard Price

Dispatch Editors:

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Please send articles or other information for inclusion in "The Dispatch" to:
Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372
P.O. Box 43362
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

The Next Camp Meeting will be at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, April 12, 2011
at the New Merkel House

*** The monthly Leadership Meeting will be held at 6:15 pm prior to the camp meeting ***

This Month: Commander Hank Arnold will speak on the Battle of Fort Blakeley

Words of Wisdom and Warning

"A power has risen up in the government greater than the people themselves, consisting of many and various powerful interests, combined in one mass, and held together by the cohesive power of the vast surplus in banks." **John C. Calhoun**

"Virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone that renders us invincible. These are the tactics we should study. If we lose these, we are conquered, fallen indeed...so long as our manners and principles remain sound, there is no danger."

Patrick Henry

"Single acts of tyranny may be ascribed to the accidental opinion of the day, but a series of repressions begun in a distinguished period and pursued unalterably through every change of ministers plainly prove the deliberate systematical plan of reducing us to slavery."

Thomas Jefferson

"With all my devotion to the Union and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, my home. I have therefore resigned my commission in the Army, and save in defense of my native State, with the sincere hope that my poor services may never be needed, I hope I may never be called on to draw my sword." **General Robert E. Lee**

"Government interference always means either violent action or the threat of such action. Government is in the last resort the employment of armed men, of policemen, gendarmes, soldiers, prison guards, and hangmen. The essential feature of government is the enforcement of its decrees by beating, killing, and imprisoning. Those who are asking for more government interference are asking ultimately for more compulsion and less freedom."

Ludwig Von Mises

~ Calling All Cadets ~ Educating for the Cause ~

Do you have a son of age Birth to 12 or know of a young man this age with Confederate Ancestry? If so, we **Want You** to enlist them in the *Sons of Confederate Veterans Cadet Program!* To sign up Cadets, please contact the 1st Lt. Commander.

**Sign up for the Wheeler Camp Message Board and receive
"The Dispatch" by e-mail.**

Contact Compatriot Mike Little at cdr_mike_little@charter.net

Alabama: We Dare Defend Our Rights

"The principal for which we contended is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form."

Jefferson Davis, May 1865

Commander's Report

Compatriots,

The Spring Campaign has begun! As the Confederacy was establishing itself 150 years ago, we are celebrating the events today. We had the Inauguration Celebration of Jefferson Davis in Montgomery during February as an SCV sponsored event. There are many more events to follow. We **MUST** support these events to honor our fore-fathers.

The month of March was a busy one. The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp hosted the Alabama Division EC meeting at the New Merkel House. The event was attended by over 50 SCV members from around the state.

The camp then held a work day at Refuge Church on 3-12-11 to set the monument honoring the last meeting of Confederates in Alabama. On March the 20th, FJW Camp, along with the local camp, brigade and many SCV members, celebrated the dedication of the Monument at Refuge Church. The Church and the Lincoln community were very active in the support of this event. There were around 220 attendees at the celebration. I was proud to be a part of it along with Ira West, who was present at the last meeting of the last 2 surviving Confederates. This was an event that was well attended and supported by the camp, brigade, and the Alabama Division.

On Saturday the 19th, the camp hosted a Cadet tour of the Chickamauga battlefield. Carl Jones, Rick Price, and I led this tour and enjoyed it as much as the Cadets. We had 6 Cadets from across the state participate. This is a learning event for all. If you get the chance to be a part of a Cadet event, please do so. You will enjoy it more than the Cadets. The enthusiasm is overwhelming.

There are a lot of plans ahead for the Camp. We have a tour of the Blakeley Battlefield with Blakeley Camp 1864 on the anniversary of the final assault, 4-9-11. Our Confederate Memorial Day service will be Sunday, April 17th at Elmwood. A clean-up day will precede this the prior week. The time and day will be announced at the next Camp meeting. Confederate Memorial Day will also be held at Montgomery at a date in April. Stay tuned for details. The Alabama Division Reunion, hosted by **YOUR FJW CAMP 1372**, is May 20th through the 22nd. We need your help, attendance, and support.

We are well into the Sesquicentennial celebration. Please support all things Confederate. We must get the truth out. What better time than during Confederate History Month.

Hank Arnold
Camp Commander
FJW 1372



Adjutant's Report - April of 2011

The President's Confederate Kinsmen

Comrade R.F. Armstrong, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, paid fine tribute to Capt. J. D. Bulloch, who died at Liverpool, Eng., January 7, 1901. It was for copies of the "*Veteran*" containing that sketch that President Roosevelt wrote cordial acknowledgment, and in which he said: "My uncle, Capt. Bulloch, always struck me as the nearest approach to Col. Newcome of any I ever met in actual life."

Mr. Armstrong writes again on this subject:

"In the September "*Veteran*" you describe an 'Outing with the President,' in which you make allusion to his esteemed and very worthy uncle, Capt. James D Bulloch. President Roosevelt had two uncles in the Confederate navy, both distinguished, but you mistake the one for the other. Permit me to set you right as to the services performed by these gallant officers.

"Capt. James D. Bulloch was a lieutenant in the old navy of the date of 1840 to 1841, and, after serving several years as lieutenant, resigned his commission and entered the merchant service, commanding a steamship running between New York and New Orleans. The beginning of the war found him in command of the steamship *Bienville*, and overtures were made to him by the Governor of Louisiana to turn the ship over to State authorities. These, however, he resisted, even to the extent of having his loyalty to the Southern cause suspected, and it was not until he had satisfied his honor by delivering his ship to her owners in New York that he felt at liberty to embrace the cause of his beloved South.

"Capt. Bulloch was immediately appointed commander in the Confederate navy and sent to England to purchase arms and ammunition for the army. He accomplished his mission successfully, and with the steamship *Fingall* (afterwards the ironclad *Atlanta*), pointed the way to that illicit commerce, blockade-running, which afterwards became such a factor in our unequal struggle. Mr. Davis knew the man, and Capt. Bulloch was again sent abroad to build and equip Confederate cruisers. The *Alexandra*, *Florida*, *Alabama*, *Shenandoah*, and ironclad *Stonewall*, all built and equipped by him, show his indefatigable perseverance; and all these ships were eminently suited for their purposes. Their successful careers reflect great credit upon the superior abilities of this famous naval officer. The most meager details of the work performed by Capt. Bulloch would occupy too much space in your magazine, but when the history of the Confederate navy comes to be written no name shall stand higher on the roll of fame than that of James Dunwodie Bulloch.

"Irvine Stephens Bulloch, a younger brother, entered the Confederate navy as midshipman, and in 1862 reported on board the *Alabama* as one of her junior officers. By strict attention to duty he rose rapidly, and acted as master or naviga-ting officer during most of the cruise of that ship.

After the fight off Cherbourg, and upon the fitting out of the *Shenandoah*, young Bulloch was commissioned master, and performed the duties of navigating officer during that eventful (and immortal) cruise. Where you make the mistake is in confounding the elder Bulloch with the younger, who it was that served with Semmes in the *Alabama*.

"While I greatly admire the character of Col. Newcome, as depicted by Thackeray, his chivalry, urbanity, high sense of honor, etc., yet there always seemed to me something weak in the portrait. Now about Capt. Bulloch there was not a weak point, and I believe him to have been the best all-round naval officer brought out by the stress of the times in either navy, and I doubt if any other officer could have accomplished so much for the Confederate cause, which he loved so well."

From: Confederate Veterans Magazine, Volume XI, No. 1, Pgs 13 and 14, 1903 Nashville, TN.



NORMAL CHANGES WITH AGING

In response to recent catastrophic events, the purpose of this article is to review the normal changes our bodies undergo as we advance in age and so that we may be prepared for such changes and to acknowledge them with courage, grace, and dignity. One of the biggest shocks I got in medical school was in my physiology class where I learned that our **lung** and **kidney** functions peaked at around age 25 and have been slowly declining ever since. This aging process can be accelerated with diabetes and hypertension and lung function can deteriorate at an accelerated rate with smoking. Harrison's (from UAB) Textbook of Medicine states that **heart** function starts to go downhill at age 20. Please refer to January's Report to review Cardiovascular Risk Factors (which also apply to **Stroke, Peripheral Artery Disease, Kidney Disease, and Macular Degeneration** in the eye). If our parents' genes don't interfere, we can, in theory, live to up to 120. Don't count on it.

Other physiologic changes with age include presbyopia (presby=elder; -opia=vision), in which the lenses to our eyes lose their flexibility making it more difficult to focus on near objects and requiring us to get reading glasses. This begins around age 40. Two great historic events involving presbyopia when Washington was addressing a near mutinous army and tried to read a note from Congress. He was about 50 at the time and had to fish in his pocket for his reading glasses. Inadvertently, he noted, "You can see that this war has not only left me gray, but also blind." There was not a dry eye in the building. The other event was GEN Lee was in his 50's, had misplaced his reading glasses, and asked the name of the town on a map. The answer was "Gettysburg." Presbycusis, or **hearing loss** with age, affects high frequency sounds (like consonants) and changes in tone, making it harder to hear what people are saying to you. It accelerates after age 55. **Bone loss**, or osteoporosis, usually affects women after the onset of menopause, but can affect men to some degree. We are supposed to expect a 2" loss to our peak height by age 80. **Skin** changes include a loss of elasticity, causing wrinkles, and a loss of oil production, causing dryness. **Hair** changes include thinning (all over your body) and graying, but this has wide individual variability. As our Basal Metabolic Rate slows, our **weight** increases and our **muscle** mass decreases. Our **sex hormones** decrease at around age 50 and our **prostates** begin to enlarge at around 40-50.

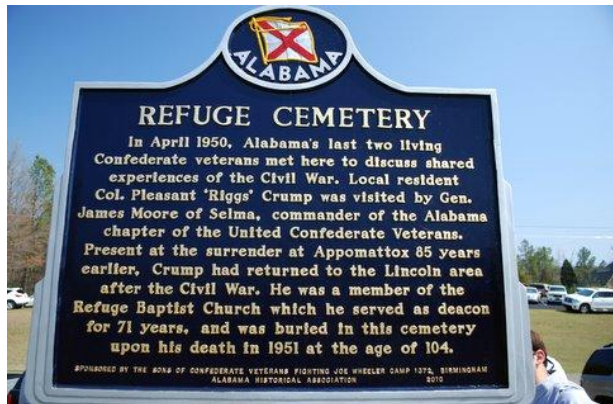
Beginning around age 30, our **brains** decrease in weight, blood flow, and size of our nerve network. Usually the first thing affected is recent memory (not long term memory). Senility has over 70 recognized causes, including Alzheimer's Disease (the major cause) but also stroke and hypothyroidism. It has been estimated that the incidence of senility is about 5% at age 65 and increases to 20% at age 80. For this reason, you are encouraged to consider a Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney with someone you know and trust. Of those with dementia, 20-30% are estimated to have depression. According to WebMD, genetics and the presence of a major illness or chronic condition are risk factors. According to the CDC, 80% of our older population has one disease, 50% have two. Overall, it is estimated that 1-5% of the older population had depression, but this rises to 13.5% for those receiving home health care and around 11% for those hospitalized. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions from this article, including the recognition of signs and symptoms of depression and any treatment to improve any of these conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard D. Price, MD
SCVALADIV Surgeon



Dedication of State Historical Marker at Refuge Cemetery

The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372 sponsored in conjunction with local Camps, SCV Alabama Division, the Town of Lincoln, AL, and Refuge Church the dedication of a new State of Alabama Historical Marker located at the church cemetery, the site of the final meeting of the last surviving Alabama Confederate soldiers, Col. Pleasant "Riggs" Crump and Gen. James Moore. Compatriot Ira West was instrumental in uniting the two Confederates at the Refuge Church in 1951.



State of Alabama Historical Marker erected at Refuge Cemetery at the site of final meeting of last Alabama Confederates



Compatriot Tim Steadman, Compatriot Dr. Ira West, and Alabama Division Commander Robert Reames at dedication



2nd Lt. Commander Randall Thrasher addresses the crowd at dedication along side the Honor Guard



Refuge Cemetery in Lincoln, Alabama



Col. Pleasant "Riggs" Crump's headstone in Refuge Cemetery



Salute by Honor Guard during Historical Marker dedication ceremony at Refuge Cemetery in Lincoln, AL at the site of the final meeting of the last 2 surviving Alabama Confederates

