



Fighting Joe Wheeler  
Camp 1372

# The Fighting **Joe Wheeler** Dispatch

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## Camp Officers

### **Commander:**

Hank Arnold: (205) 213-9394

### **1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander:**

Carl Jones : (256) 775-3607

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander:**

Walt Williams

### **Adjutant/Secretary:**

John Thomas

### **Treasurer:**

Larry Muse

### **Chief of Staff:**

Steve Johnson

### **Chaplain:**

Rex Webb

### **Color Sergeant:**

Sam Nelson

### **Quartermaster:**

Rex Webb: (205) 970-0726

### **Aide de Camp:**

Randell Thrasher

### **Commander Emeritus:**

Ira West

### **Sergeant At Arms:**

Larry Muse

### **Camp Surgeon:**

Dr. Richard Price

### **Dispatch Editor:**

Chris Thomas

Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372, Inc.  
C/O Adjutant  
P. O. Box 43362  
Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

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

**The Next Camp Meeting** will be at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 9, 2010  
at the New Merkel House

**This Month:** Compatriot and Adjutant John Thomas will speak on  
The 28<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry

*\* Camp Officer Elections will be conducted – Attendance Important \**

## Words of Wisdom and Warning

“Natural rights [are] the objects for the protection of which society is formed and municipal laws established.”

**Thomas Jefferson (Letter to James Monroe, 1791)**

“We established however some, although not all its [self-government] important principles. The constitutions of most of our States assert, that all power is inherent in the people; that they may exercise it by themselves, in all cases to which they think themselves competent, (as in electing their functionaries executive and legislative, and deciding by a jury of themselves, in all judiciary cases in which any fact is involved,) or they may act by representatives, freely and equally chosen; that it is their right and duty to be at all times armed.”

**Thomas Jefferson (Letter to John Cartwright, 1824)**

“The essence of Government is power; and power, lodged as it must be in human hands, will ever be liable to abuse.”

**James Madison(speech in the Virginia constitutional convention, 2 December 1829)**

“If all men are created equal, that is final. If they are endowed with inalienable rights, that is final. If governments derive their just power from the consent of the governed, that is final. No advance, no progress can be made beyond these propositions. If anyone wishes to deny their truth and their soundness, the only direction in which he can proceed historically is not forward, but backward toward the time when there was no equality, no rights of the individual, no rule of the people. Those who wish to proceed in that direction cannot lay claim to progress. They are reactionary.”

**Calvin Coolidge on the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1926**

**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](mailto: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,

We can look at the past and remember the Confederate forces in November 1863 having the yankees trapped and under siege in Chattanooga. They broke out after being re-enforced by Grant and winning the battles of Chattanooga late in the month, due to superior numbers and a miss-placed defensive force...but it took another year and a half to defeat the Confederate Army, and as the SCV stands, they have yet to defeat the Confederate spirit!

We have our own campaign this month as we put our proposed list of camp officers up for vote. This is a premier list of dedicated Confederate descendants that are willing to serve the camp. The down side is that it is the same basic list that has served the camp the last 2 years. Where is the "new blood" to step up and serve? Do we not have members that are willing to be a part of the officers? It bewilders me to think of where the camp would be if this officer group "got worn out." Please look inside yourself and ask...what can I do to step up and serve? We need your help; if you want to make it better, then step up and serve. We need your input to honor those that fought for the Confederacy; would your ancestor be proud of your service? Being a member is great, serving is better, please consider.

We are looking forward to hosting the Alabama Division Reunion in 2011. This is an ambitious camp activity. We have made a bid to the division and I hope to be selected as the Host Camp. It will be a lot of work for all, (see paragraph above). We will need your help to make it happen.

We are fortunate to have established a Camp Honor Guard. There are times when an honor guard is needed...the death of a member, a flag presentation at a camp, brigade, or division event, the Elmwood Memorial Day Service, and any event that requires Confederates to honor their members, related organizations, or events. Under the direction of Mr. Brenden Young we have established this honor guard. It is a good thing; please support Brenden and the camp with your dedication to this honor guard.

I look forward to seeing you at the next camp event.

Thanks,  
Hank Arnold  
Camp Commander  
FJW 1372



# Adjutant's Report - November of 2010

Please remember it is DUES paying time!

We lost Compatriot Rucker P. Lipsey.  
Compatriot Sam Nelson shares the following:

The funeral service was at Ridout's on Oxmoor Road in Homewood. Craig Boden, a minister at Covenant Presbyterian and a member of SCV – Turkey Town Camp, conducted the service. He said that Rucker told him that he had enjoyed being an SCV member and he also enjoyed going to the Confederate Library at Marbury the Friday the week before he died. Graveside service was at the military cemetery at Montevallo.

"I told Rucker's wife, that our Camp was represented by two members, myself and Richard Thompson, which she said, she and their daughter appreciated."

*The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp will host the 2011 Alabama Division Reunion of the Army of Tennessee. We will need lots of help.  
Co-Chairmen: Steve Johnson and John Thomas*

Please read the following article. I found it to be somewhat eye opening.

John Thomas  
Adjutant  
Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372

The following article was copied from  
**Confederate Veteran, Volume XI  
January 1903, No. 1, Pages 5 & 6**

Laura Galt Honored In *The Far West*

At a meeting of Camp No. 770. U.C.V, held October 25, 1902, at Los Angeles, Cal., a committee of two, William C. Harrison and A. W. Hutton, submitted the following resolutions to be presented to Miss Laura Talbot Galt, of Louisville, Ky.:



"Whereas recently in the city of Louisville, Miss Laura Talbot Galt, a little girl, aged thirteen years, the granddaughter of the chivalrous Dr. Galt, surgeon of the First Kentucky Cavalry, declined to join her classmates in singing "Marching through Georgia," although commanded by her teacher; therefore be it resolved by the Confederate Veterans' Association of California, Camp No. 770:

"1. That as the State and society are based upon the family relation, and the family is but an aggregate of its individual members, and the qualities of every member add to or detract from the honor, the worth, and standing of the State, it should be the chief purpose and object of every school and of every teacher to instill and encourage in each scholar those virtues which will make the State the noblest men and women

"2. That among the highest of virtues which should be thus implanted and promoted are moral courage, filial love and reverence, and a broad patriotism freed from those sectional animosities which the singing of 'Marching through Georgia' in the schools is calculated to keep alive.

"3. We appreciated the trying position in which this little girl was placed, and, believing that she decided wisely, we heartily commend her for moral courage, her devotion to the memories of her dead father and grandfather, and to the principles for which they had gallantly risked their lives; and we extend to her our thanks and congratulations for her protest against that ignoble spirit which sometimes, even yet, delights to recall the devastation of the fair fields and homes of the South.

"4 That a copy of these resolutions be sent by the Adjutant of this Camp to Miss Laura Talbot Galt, and a copy be forwarded to the Confederate Veteran for publication.



# Surgeon's Report - November 2010

DEAR COMPATRIOTS,

12 OCTOBER MARKS THE 140<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF GEN ROBERT E. LEE'S PASSING INTO HIS ETERNAL REWARD. COL WILLIAM PRESTON JOHNSON, A DISTINGUISHED FACULTY MEMBER OF (THEN) WASHINGTON COLLEGE, WAS AN INTIMATE FRIEND WHO WAS AT HIS BEDSIDE AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH. HE COMPOSED THE FOLLOWING FOR REV J.W. JONES' "PERSONAL REMINISCENCES OF GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE," PUBLISHED IN 1874. THIS IS DIRECTLY QUOTED FROM "**RECOLLECTIONS AND LETTERS OF ROBERT E. LEE: COMPILED BY CAPTAIN ROBERT E LEE (DOVER, MINEOLA, NY 2007-ORIGINALLY 1904)**:"

*"The death of General Lee was not due to any sudden cause, but was the result of agencies dating as far back as 1863. In the trying campaign of that year he contracted a severe sore throat, that resulted in rheumatic inflammation of the sac enclosing the heart. There is no doubt that after this sickness, his health was more or less impaired; and although he complained little, yet rapid exercise on foot or on horseback produced pain and difficulty in breathing. In October, 1869, he was again attacked by inflammation of the heart-sac, accompanied by rheumatism of the back, right side, and arms. The action of the heart was weakened by this attack; the flush upon the face deepened, the rheumatism increased, and he was troubled with weariness and depression. . ."*

*"General Lee's physicians attributed his death in great measure to moral causes. The strain of his campaigns, the bitterness of defeat aggravated by the bad faith and insolence of the victor, sympathy with the subsequent sufferings of the Southern people, and the effort at calmness under these accumulated sorrows, seemed sufficient and the real causes which slowly but steadily undermined his health and led to his death. Yet to those who saw his composure under the greater and lesser trials of life, and his justice and forbearance with the most unjust and uncharitable, it seemed scarcely credible that his serene soul was shaken by the evil that raged around him. . ."*

*"General Lee's closing hours were consonant with his noble and disciplined life. Never was more beautifully displayed how a long and severe education of mind and character enables the soul to pass with equal step through this supreme ordeal; never did the habits and qualities of a lifetime, solemnly gathered into a few last sad hours, more grandly maintain themselves amid the gloom and shadows of approaching death. The reticence, the self-contained composure, the obedience to proper authority, the magnanimity, and the Christian meekness, which all marked his actions, still preserved their sway, in spite of all the inroads of disease and the creeping lethargy that weighed down his faculties. . ."*

HIS FINAL WORDS WERE "STRIKE THE TENT!" THIS ORDER, AS EXPLAINED TO ME BY MY FATHER, IMPLIED THAT WE WERE LEAVING THIS LOCATION AND PREPARING TO GO TO ANOTHER. THIS WAS MENTIONED IN MY FATHER'S FUNERAL AND HOPE WILL BE MENTIONED IN MINE. MRS. LEE STATED THAT THE SOUTHERN PEOPLE HONORED HIM AT HIS FUNERAL AS IF HE HAD ACCOMPLISHED ALL THEY HAD HOPED FOR.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

RICHARD D. PRICE, MD  
ALABAMA DIVISION SURGEON, SCV

