



Fighting Joe Wheeler
Camp 1372

The Fighting **Joe Wheeler** Dispatch

Volume XXXI, Issue 9

September 2011

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Aide de Camp:

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Dr. Ira West

Sergeant At Arms:

Walt Williams

Camp Surgeon:

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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, September 13, 2011
at the New Merkel House

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

This Month: the return to New Merkel ~ come join us!

Words of Wisdom and Warning

"[A] good moral character is the first essential in a man, and that the habits contracted at your age are generally indelible, and your conduct here may stamp your character through life. It is therefore highly important that you should endeavor not only to be learned but virtuous."

George Washington (letter to Steptoe Washington, 5 December 1790)

"Think about it: We went into slavery pagans; we came out Christians. We went into slavery pieces of property; we came out American citizens. We went into slavery with chains clanking about our wrists; we came out with the American ballot in our hands...Notwithstanding the cruelty and moral wrong of slavery, we are in a stronger and more hopeful condition, materially, intellectually, morally, and religiously, than is true of an equal number of black people in any other portion of the globe." **Booker T. Washington** (from his book *Up From Slavery*)

"Would it not be better to simplify the system of taxation rather than to spread it over such a variety of subjects and pass through so many new hands?"

Thomas Jefferson (letter to James Madison, 1784)

"I here declare my unmitigated hatred to Yankee rule -- to all political, social and business connection with the Yankees and to the Yankee race. Would that I could impress these sentiments, in their full force, on every living Southerner and bequeath them to every one yet to be born! May such sentiments be held universally in the outraged and downtrodden South, though in silence and stillness, until the now far-distant day shall arrive for just retribution for Yankee usurpation, oppression and atrocious outrages, and for deliverance and vengeance for the now ruined, subjugated and enslaved Southern States!..And now with my latest writing and utterance, and with what will be near my latest breath, I here repeat and would willingly proclaim my unmitigated hatred to Yankee rule--to all political, social and business connections with Yankees, and the perfidious, malignant and vile Yankee race." **Edmund Ruffin 1865** (from his last letter, written prior to his suicide which he committed due to Yankee victory)

~ 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,

Join us as we return to the September meeting at the New Merkel Community Center. Yes, the building will be opened on 9-6-2011 which will allow us to return on Tuesday, the 13th. The leadership meeting will be a 6:15 PM, followed by the camp meeting at 7:00 PM. We are glad to be "back home". The NMH has major repairs to the roof and west wall. All looks good now. Timber was cut and cleared with the help of many camp members over several weekends. Thanks to all that helped!

We enter the Fall Campaign season now. Look to years past when our ancestors fought for freedom from the siege. September 1862 found the army at the battle of Perryville, KY. In September 1863, the Great Victory at the Battle of Chickamauga is still celebrated in the South as the crowning achievement of The Army of Tennessee. Please pause to thank your ancestors for their service and sacrifice.

Welcome back to the fall season of The Wheeler Camp. We have activities to plan, the first being the Wheeler Birthday celebration. This is usually in September, and we need to decide if we want to have it off sight, or as the October meeting at the "newly renovated NWH." Please give us your thoughts.

Please join us for the return to the NMH of September, the 13th. We need to start strong and rejoin in the meetings. Please continue your support of Confederate heritage.

Thanks,

Hank Arnold
Camp Commander
FJW 1372



Adjutant's Report - September of 2011

COMPATRIOTS OF:

Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372

We certainly have had an interesting year!

First, we hosted the Alabama Division EC Meeting at the New Merkel Community Center.

Then we had the day of storms. The New Merkel Community Center was damaged and we were unable to gather there for four months.

Compatriot Gerald Cornelius allowed us to use his business for our meetings.

We hosted the Alabama Division Convention / Reunion.

Now we are able to return to the New Merkel House.

I have lots of camp stuff in my garage, and I intend to move it back to the New Merkel this coming Saturday early in the morning. Commander Hank and Treasurer Larry Muse have some camp articles also.

John Thomas
Adjutant
Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372 Inc.



