



FORT BLAKELEY
GARRISON FLAG
Baldwin County, Alabama
William "Bill" Willis, Editor

Fort Blakeley Camp 1864 MAIL CALL

Volume 12 Issue 8
August 1, 2011

2008, 2009 & 2010 AWARD
WINNING NEWSLETTER



Battle of Fort Blakely April 9, 1865



SCV - REMEMBERING AND HONORING



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 9 Camp Meeting – 6 PM eat and fellowship. Meeting starts at 6:45 PM.
- Oct 29-30 Information/recruitment booth at Robertsdale Gun Show.

Last news letter by Editor Bill Willis

This is my last newsletter. I do not know if a replacement has been named as of this date.

Camp meets at the Gift Horse Restaurant in Foley, AL



Message from the Commander's Tent:




Has it been hot or what? What ever happended to our Spring. I don't think we had one. I guess it has sprung. We started with unseasonably hot weather and we have continued with our normal hot weather in June and July. Oh well, if our ancestors could endure it with wool uniforms and no air conditioning, I guess we shouldn't complain.

The SCV Reunion was held in Montgomery on July 13-16, 2011. Your Camp Commander and Adjutant attended and thoroughly enjoyed the festivities. The Montgomery and SCV camps did a superb job planning the Reunion. One highlight was the AL Div. Dinner Friday night. It was good to be able to visit with other camp members from throughout the AL Division.

At our June meeting, we inducted three new members into the SCV and our camp: Ernest Madison Hart, Jr., Leonard Wyman Franks, and John Calhoun Stewart. We extend our warm welcome to our new compatriots. There were no new inductees in July.

The Alabama Division Executive Council meeting was held on July 9, 2011 at the Alabama Confederate Park near Clanton. Your Commander and Adjutant attended along with our Southwest Brigade Commander Terry "Beetle" Bailey. Commander Bailey asked me to make a presentation to the Council about our camp's Confederate Rest Project. We received many positive comments on our special project and the Council presented our camp with a grant of \$1,000.00 to assist us with this worthy endeavor.

Our camp recruiting table will be set up once again at the Gun Show in Robertsdale on July 30, 31, 2011.

Monthly Quotes:  "General Hood. We have just completed the killing, capturing, and breaking up the entire raiding party under General McCook—some nine hundred and fifty prisoners—two pieces of Artillery, and twelve hundred horses and

equipments captured." General Joseph Wheeler, CSA



Former Slave, Confederate Veteran, and United Confederate Veteran: Tuck Spight of Tippah Co. Miss. Tuck was a member of the Confederate Veterans camp till his death which occurred a few years after his masters. He made a very touching talk at his master's funeral; he attended most all the Confederate reunions. He always returned home with more money than he had when he left...he made a talk for the people and they gave him money. He could make very sensible talks in public...especially about the Civil War. Tuck is buried at Ripley cemetery. He has a marker on his grave by the government as a Confederate servant.



True Slave Quote from the Slave Narratives: Dave Walker of Simpson Co. Miss. "De war broke out an' up-sot everything. I never can fer-get the de day dat Mars had to go. When he tole us good by every slave on the place collected 'round him an' cried, afraid he would never git back. We loved him an' de slaves stuck by him while he wuz away, de bes' hit could be wid de cavalrymen a taking an' a destroyin'." "When de war ended ole Mars came home an' hit wuz a big day of rejoicin. We wuz so glad he come back safe to us."



Confederate Tidbit Question: Answer to last month's question: The nickname for Brigadier General Turner Ashby, C.S.A. was "The Black Knight of the Confederacy".



Confederate Tidbit Question: What is the nickname of Maj. Gen. Henry Lewis Benning, C.S.A.?



Trivia: The Battle of Brandy Station in Virginia on June 9, 1863 was the largest cavalry battle ever fought on the North American Continent. For more than 12 hours on a relatively confined terrain, 22,000 soldiers were involved with about 17,000 of those being cavalry. 1,090 soldiers lost their lives in the battle which resulted in a Confederate victory.

(continue on page 9)

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**2008-2009-2010
ALABAMA DIV.
AWARD FOR BEST
NEWSLETTER
and 2009 DR.
PAUL JON MILLER
AWARD FOR BEST
NEWSLETTER
and 2010
S.A. CUNNINGHAM
AWARD FOR BEST
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Front page flag from www.patriotic-flags.com/confederate/historicalconfederateflags

MAIL CALL is the official newsletter of Camp 1864 and is published monthly by The Fort Blakeley Camp 1864, Sons of Confederate Veterans

SLAVERY IN THE NORTH — Part 13

This is the thirteenth part of a series on "Slavery in the North". The series totally belongs to Douglas Harper of Lancaster, PA at www.slavenorth.com. As noted, he is from the north and resides in Lancaster, PA. He has done a super job of searching the Yankee records and finding the real truth about Slavery in the North. References can be reviewed at the above internet site.

SLAVERY in RHODE ISLAND

Black slaves were in Rhode Island by 1652, and by the end of that century Rhode Island had become the only New England colony to use slaves for both labor and trade. After overtaking Boston by 1750, Newport and Bristol were the major slave markets in the American colonies. Slave-based economies existed in the Narragansett plantation family, the Middletown crop workers, and the indentured and slave craftsmen of Newport.

Little Rhode Island generally had a smaller population of black slaves than its neighbors, Massachusetts and Connecticut, but with a very small white population as well, Rhode Island's blacks made up a higher percentage of the total population than elsewhere in New England. In the mid-18th century, Rhode Island

had the highest proportion of slave-to-white of any colony in the North. This tended to make slave laws more severe in Rhode Island.

As early as 1708, slaves outnumbered white indentured servants in the colony almost 8 to 1. The biggest increase in black population fell in the years from 1715 to 1755, which coincided with the industrial development of the colony and its emergence into the slave trade. Commercial success bred a wealthy class that became a slave-owning aristocracy. Rhode Island's black population tripled from 1715 to 1730, and almost tripled again by 1755.

From 5.9% in 1708, black slaves rose to account for 11.5% of the colony's population by 1755. By 1774, Rhode Island's 3,761 blacks were the third highest total in New England. The white population had grown since mid-century, but the colony's slaves still made up 6.3% percent of the total population, almost twice as high as any other New England colony.

In Narragansett County, conditions favored large-scale farming, and here more than anywhere else in the North a system began to emerge that looked like the Southern plantation colonies. In parts of "South Country" (as Narragansett also was called), one-third of the population was black work force by the mid-18th century. That's comparable to the proportion of slaves in the Old South states in 1820. Narragansett planters used their slaves both as laborers and domestic servants. William Robinson owned an estate that was

more than four miles long and two miles wide, and he kept about 40 slaves there. Robert Hazard of South Kingstown owned 12,000 acres and had 24 slave women just to work in his dairy. The Stantons of Narragansett, who were among the province's leading landowners, had at least 40 slaves.

In keeping with the usual pattern, a higher percentage of blacks meant a more strict control mechanism. South Kingstown had perhaps the harshest local slave control laws in New England. After 1718, for instance, if any black slave was caught in the cottage of a free black person, both were whipped. After 1750, anyone who sold so much as a cup of hard cider to a black slave faced a crushing fine of £30.

Rhode Island, of course, was among the most active Northern colonies in importing slaves. Between 1709 and 1807, Rhode Island merchants sponsored at least 934 slaving voyages to the coast of Africa and carried an estimated 106,544 slaves to the New World. From 1732-64, Rhode Islanders sent annually 18 ships, bearing 1,800 hogsheads of rum, to Africa to trade for slaves, earning £40,000 annually. Newport, the colony's leading slave port, took an estimated 59,070 slaves to America before the Revolution. Bristol and Providence also prospered from it. In the years after the Revolution, Rhode Island merchants controlled between 60 and 90 percent of the American trade in African slaves.

As a Rhode Island historian writes, "All together, 204 different Rhode Island citizens owned a share or more in a slave voyage at one time or another. It is evident that the involvement of R.I. citizens in the slave trade was widespread and abundant. For Rhode Islanders, slavery had provided a major new profit sector and an engine for trade in the West Indies." Slaves that were not auctioned off were put to work aboard merchant ships. By 1807, black seamen made up 21% of Newport crews.

The Browns, one of the great mercantile families of colonial America, were Rhode Island slave traders. At least six of them -- James and his brother Obadiah, and James's four sons, Nicholas, John, Joseph, and Moses - - ran one of the biggest slave-trading businesses in New England, and for more than half a century the family reaped huge profits from the slave trade. "When James Brown sent the *Mary* to Africa in 1736, he launched Providence into the Negro traffic and laid the foundation for the Brown fortune. From this year until 1790, the Browns played a commanding role in the New England slave trade." [1] Their donations to Rhode Island College were so generous that the name was changed to Brown University.

Rhode Island's government jealously protected its slaves. The runaway law of 1714 penalized ferrymen who carried any slave out of the colony without a certificate from their masters. Such laws existed in neighboring colonies, but Rhode Island's was particularly severe in its penalties, and in the zeal with which the machinery of state was put to work in recovering human property, which was reminiscent of the hated Fugitive Slave Law of a later day. "The entrenched position of the slaveholders is clearly seen in this law, for all public officers of the colony and all citizens as well were charged with arresting, securing the slave, and notifying his master." [2]

The law against thefts by slaves in Rhode Island was, again, the severest in New England, carrying a sentence that could be 15 lashes or even banishment from the colony -- a particularly dreaded punishment, as it usually meant deportation and sale to the merciless sugar plantations of the West Indies. Masters had the right to search any ship they suspected of harboring a runaway, under a 1757 law.

As in other New England colonies with many slaves, masters had to be prevented by law from turning out their old and feeble slaves. Rhode Island's 1729 ordinance required a master to post bond of £100 before manumission, to insure the ex-slave would not become a public charge.

EMANCIPATION

During the Revolution, Quaker abolitionists and the powerful Newport shipping interest clashed over slavery. In February 1784 the Legislature passed a compromise measure for gradual emancipation. All children of slaves born after March 1 were to be "apprentices," the girls to become free at 18, the boys at 21. As with other Northern instances of gradual



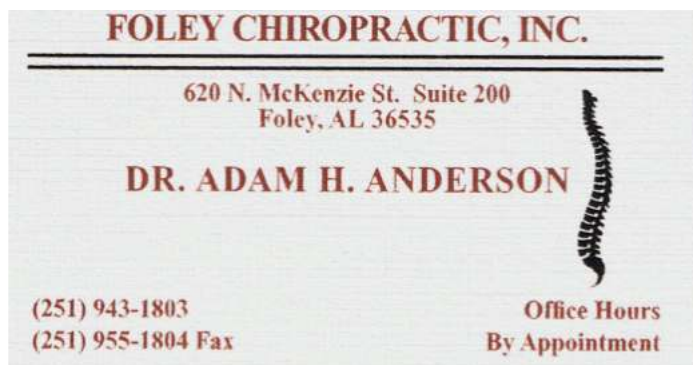
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emancipation, this gave slave owners many years of service to recoup the cost of raising the children.

No slaves were emancipated outright. The 1800 census listed 384 slaves, and the number fell gradually to 5 in 1840, after which slaves were no longer counted in the censuses for the state. And, in an essential element of the 1784 compromise, the right of Rhode Island ship-owners to participate in the foreign slave trade was undisturbed.

Legislation against slave-trading proved difficult to enforce in Rhode Island. John Brown, a merchant, state representative, and powerful slaveholder, was tried in 1796 for violating the federal Slave Trade Act of 1794, which prohibited ships destined to transport slaves to any foreign country from outfitting in American ports. He was found not guilty. The acquittal convinced many that the new legislation was useless against the wealthy and powerful. A year later, he saw his ship, the "Hope," confiscated for violations.



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As was the case throughout the North, Rhode Island, having ended slavery, also sought to make it difficult for blacks to remain in the state or move there. In the early 19th century, Rhode Island towns especially turned to the old New England custom of "warning out" strangers to purify themselves racially. The custom continued to have as a stated goal the removal of poor and undesirable strangers from a community. But blacks were increasingly its targets, out of proportion to their numbers and without regard to whether they were long-term residents or not.

A study of Rhode Island records showed that only 5 percent of the transients warned out in the 1750s were identifiable as black. This rose sharply after the end of slavery, however. The figure was up to 22 percent by the 1790s, and 50 percent by 1800. Providence, after 1785, apparently made wholesale evictions of blacks who were deemed "liable to become chargeable." Yet of the records examined between 1782 and 1800, some

37 percent had been in the town five years or longer, and 26 percent had been there for 10 years or longer. Reports of the city's overseers of the poor from the early 19th century show no great disproportionate burden on taxpayers for care of indigent blacks.

LINCOLN'S RELIGION

Who is best to describe Lincoln's religion than his wife, Mary. Lincoln was no Christian as noted by his wife's quote.

He once remarked to a friend that his religion was like that of an old man named Glenn, in Indiana, whom he heard speak at a church meeting, and who said, "When I do good, I feel good; when I do bad, I feel bad; and that's my religion."

Mrs. Lincoln herself has said that Mr. Lincoln had no faith – no faith, in the usual acceptance of those words. "He never joined a church; but still, as I believe, he was a religious man by nature. He first seemed to think about the subject when our boy Willie died, and then more than ever about the time he went to Gettysburg; but it was a kind of poetry in his nature, and he never was a technical Christian."

From "Anecdotal Lincoln" by Paul Selby, 1900, pg 224

CIVIL WAR WORDS –

These are expressions that reflect the time and the people of the War. *Civil War Wordbook*, Darryl Lyman.



BREASTWORK: A temporary chest-high protective earthwork over which a soldier could fire. The term had been in use since the 1600's.

BREVET HORSE: Soldier's slang for an army mule. Many ad hoc similar expressions were also used, such as *brevet turkey* for a turkey vulture.

TO BUCK AND GAG: To punish by sitting the offender on the ground, drawing his knees up to his chin, wrapping his arms around his shins, tying his hands together, inserting a stick over his arms and under his knees, and gagging him (sometimes with a

bayonet stuck into his mouth and secured there with strings tied around his head). This punishment, which over a period of time could become extremely painful, is said to go back to the American Revolutionary War.

BUFFALO: A North Carolinian who favored the Union.

TO BUTLERIZE: To steal. The verb refers to the Union's Benjamin F. Butler, who, while commanding in occupied New Orleans, was suspected of theft.

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Acts 20: 30-31 – And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.



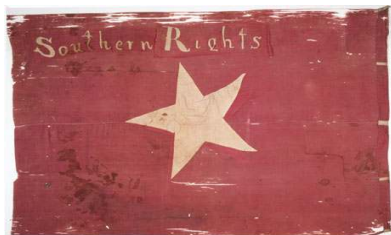
But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name.

THE REASON FOR THE SCV



Remembering and Honoring their Sacrifices

FROM THE FRONT PAGE



SOUTHERN RIGHTS FLAG

A LITTLE HUMOR – Yankee and the barking dog

Their neighbor's dog was barking while two Yankees, Jess and George, were watching the ball game, which was going into extra innings and which the dog had been barking the whole game.

Finally, Jess jumps up and says, "I've had enough of this!"

He rushes out the door. Ten minutes go by before he finally returns.

George, the other Yankee, says, "The dog is still barking. What have you been doing all this time?"



Jess says, "I put the dog in our backyard. Let's see how they like it!"

**Chaplain's
Corner**

By David A. Kralik, Camp Chaplain -

Stacking Stones And Telling The Story

I'm reminded of the story in Joshua ... about how the Israelites were directed by God to collect stones from the Jordan when they crossed over into Canaan and use them to

erect a monument commemorating the event.

Those efforts were certainly good exercise for the stone-bearers and something of a Rite of Passage for the Israelite family. But much more was involved than the hard labor of the twelve stone stackers and the viewer participation of the Israelite audience. The far reaching effects were taken into careful consideration.

"That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones? Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever." (Joshua 4:6-7 AV)

It doesn't take a great stretching of the imagination. I can't help but to recognize the analogy and life-application in this enduring story from Israel's ancient history ... as it concerns the daily affairs of life ... as it concerns our efforts as Sons of Confederate Veterans, as members of the Heritage Guard, and as friends of this worthy Cause.

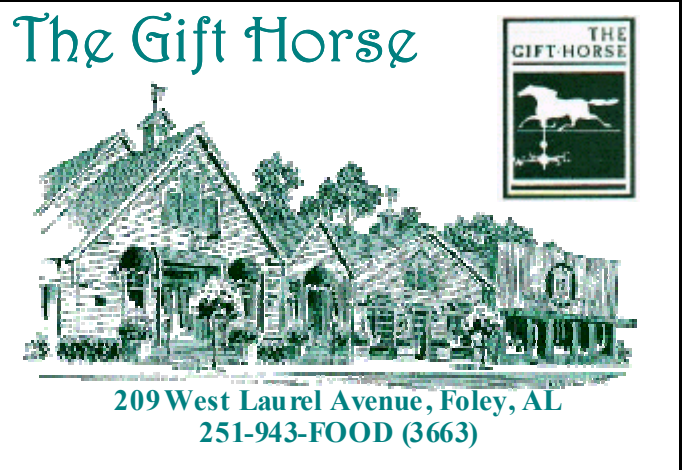
Major R.E. Wilson of the Confederate States Army said, "If I ever disown, repudiate, or apologize for the Cause for which Lee fought and Jackson died, let the lightning of Heaven rend me, and the scorn of all good men and true women be my portion. Sun, moon, stars, all fall on me when I cease to love the Confederacy. It is the Cause, not the fate of the Cause, that is glorious!"

It is important that we do what we do. The vast majority of our fellow modern citizens fail, for one reason or another, to recognize any meaning in our efforts. Some, in fact, labor

hard to discredit what we are doing to preserve and promote the inherent historical virtues and values of our Southern heritage.

Regardless of what anyone makes or fails to make of what we are doing, it is important that we do it. If we don't stack the stones and truthfully tell the story, who will? Likely not those that fail, for whatever reason, to recognize its inherent value. Certainly not the misguided naysayers that insist upon promoting myths while maligning the truth, plain as the truth is in these matters.

OUR MEETING LOCATION



The Gift Horse

209 West Laurel Avenue, Foley, AL
251-943-FOOD (3663)

LAST NEWSLETTER

By Editor Bill Willis

It has been a good run for MAIL CALL these past nearly four years. At the start of this year I was trying to decide when, during the year, I was going to resign as the editor of MAIL CALL. I was going to try and make it thru the end of the year, but circumstances have changed my mine so as to make it this month. There was more than one reason for this earlier date. One, of course, was the Division newsletter award this past May in Birmingham. The awards committee seems to have no integrity in awarding the newsletter award. There is a set of guide lines for the committee to use in determining the award. I believe that these guide lines were not used by the committee. By the chairman's remarks to me, I would have to put out two newsletters, one for national and one for division. The

issue, I didn't have enough camp news. Before this year, the newsletter was judged on camp, local, state and national news. One year someone remarked that "MAIL CALL" had it all. MAIL CALL has not diminished in articles but have actually increased this past year. But, who knows what was the true reason MAIL CALL didn't make the grade this year.

I am at the point that if I wasn't a national and division life member, I would probably consider leaving the SCV. But, I won't. I feel like my kindred at Gettysburg. I lost, but I am not defeated in my desire to honor my ancestors. I will take a break, a rest, then I will decide when and what I am going to do.

MAIL CALL didn't win the national award this year and I have no reason to doubt the decision of the committee. The newsletter that won was, in my opinion, a good newsletter and I congratulate Camp #1308 on the honor of being the best.

COLLECTORS AND SHOOTERS COMPANY

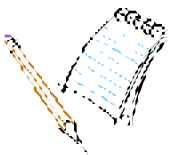
ALABAMA'S "GUN SHOW CONNECTION"

Coming again to Robertsedale on Oct. 29-30, 2011. Mark your calendars for this start of the summer event. The coliseum is always full of vendors for the collector and shooters needs. 704-499-8249, 334-322-8818 cell

July 12, 2011

Meeting Minutes

By
HG Lt. Judy Johnson



1st Lt. Cdr. Jim Baggett welcomed members and guests. Cdr. Rhodes was out of town and couldn't be present.

Chaplin David Kralik gave the invocation and then everyone enjoyed the delicious seafood buffet.

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. with Sergeant-At-Arms Ted Weeks leading the Flag Pledges and Salutes.

We were very pleased to welcome a special guest, Alabama Division 2nd Lt. Cdr. Gary Carlyle was

visiting Gulf Shores with his family and decided to pay us a visit. We are always happy to have guests from Division visit our meetings.

HG Lt. Judy Johnson welcomed the guests. They included: Charles (Randy) Shell, U. S. Large, Ron Myers, Cathy Lacey, Susan Stein, Barker Stein, Harry and Maureen Moreland, and Hudson and Cheryl McDonald.

Our program was on Confederate Stamps and Currency given by Hudson McDonald, LTC (USA, Ret.) and member of the Semmes Camp in Mobile. He told a fascinating story of his family's migration from Clarke County down to Mobile. He brought several items of currency to display and talked about his own collection which he started as a young boy. He also brought with him copies of his book "One Man's Message". A copy was purchased to add to the Camp Library and will be available for check out soon.

Chaplain Kralik gave the report on illnesses. Your prayers are needed for Compatriots Tom Ball and Doug Hardin. SW Brigade Cdr Terry Bailey requested that we also send our prayers for Art Green of the Semmes Camp. Please keep them in your hearts and prayers as they go through these difficult times.

1st Lt. Cdr. Baggett gave the Commanders report. The minutes were referred to "Mail Call". Our August 9 speaker will be Compatriot Kevin McKinley from the William Carney Camp #2088, Atmore, AL. He will give a presentation on "*The movement of Federal Troops from Pensacola to Blakeley*". The speaker for September will be Wayne Sirmon, military historian and President of the General Galvez Chapter SAR. His presentation will be on "*Confederate Mines and Torpedoes*". October will find SW Brigade Cdr. Terry Bailey speaking on "*Griersons Raid and the Battle of Vicksburg*".

2nd Lt. Cdr/Adjutant David Myers gave the Adjutants report. Our membership is now at 74 full members. He discussed the Confederate Rest restoration project. We have been given \$1,000.00 by the AL Division to help with that special project. The cannon balls have been replaced and Adjutant Myers, Ted Weeks, and Larry Johnson planned to paint them on Wednesday morning following our camp meeting. The Camp sign has been redone and will be re-mounted soon.

Everyone was reminded that it is dues time again. Please get them in to Adjutant Myers as soon as possible.

National Reunion is being held in Montgomery on July 13-16. Cdr. Rhodes and Adjutant Myers will be attending and we will hear more on that at a later date.

The Confederate Rest postcards were handed out to those interested in helping with the fundraising effort. These are a reproduction of the post card that was printed about 1923. The original we used for these was loaned to us by Susan Stein from the Marriott Grand Hotel. Anyone interested in these, please contact Adjutant Myers.

We presented two SCV Certificates of Appreciation this evening. The first was made to Susan Stein, Executive Administrative Assistant of the Marriot Grand Hotel in Point Clear for all her help with the Memorial Service held each April and with the Confederate Rest post card project. The second was made to Bishop Charles Modley of St. Francis Episcopal Church of Point Clear for their support of our Memorial Service. Bishop Modley could not be with us so the award was accepted for him by our own Compatriot Richard Lacey. Several parishioners were also in attendance.

The door prize table was a big hit as usual and many thanks to the Heritage Guard ladies who make that part of the meeting so entertaining.

Chaplain David Kralik gave the benediction and 1st Lt. Cdr Baggett recited the SCV closing.

Our special guest, Gary Carlyle led us in a rousing rendition of Dixie and we closed out the evening with a big "YeeHaw".



Chris, Pauline and Nathan Petersen



Message from the Commander's Tent: (Continue from page 2)



Trivia: Family tragedies struck both Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln during their presidencies? Both men lost sons while in office: Lincoln's 12 year old son Willie died in 1862 and Davis' 5 year old son Joe died in 1864.

Please remember to join us **Tuesday, August 9, 2011** at the Gift Horse Restaurant, 209 W. Laurel Ave, (US Hwy 98 W), Foley, Alabama. Our program will be presented by Compatriot Kevin McKinley from the William Carney Camp #2088. His topic will be the "The Federal Movement from Pensacola to Blakeley". We hope you can make plans to join us. The buffet is excellent!

Don't forget our men and women serving in the armed services. Keep them and their families in your prayers.

Deo Vindice,

**Thomas B. Rhodes, III, LTC USAR (Ret)
Commander**

P.S. A U.S. Veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to: The United States of America for an amount of "up to and including my life." -- Author Unknown



Richard Lacey receiving Certificate of Appreciation for Bishop Charles Modley.



Susan Stein of the Grand Hotel receiving a Certificate of Appreciation

Deo Vindice --- "God will vindicate"



THE FEW, THE PROUD, THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS



Ft. Blakeley Camp #1864

Meeting - 2nd Tuesday

Of Each Month at the

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Meal 6 PM – Meeting 6:45 PM



SCV Ft. Blakeley Camp #1864

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