



# The Haversack

## Newsletter of the 7th Military District Fall 2011



## Commanders Comments

By Major Kenneth Early

In today's world Patriotism can come in many shapes and sizes and can be viewed many different ways. The meanings of this word can also be twisted and turned to be a force for good or bad, depending on what side you are on. Just what did patriotism mean to our ancestors who fought and died to preserve this great Federal Union of ours? And, of just as much importance, what does it mean to us in the SUVCW/SVR?

Webster's Dictionary defines Patriotism as **"love for or devotion to one's country"**. In the case of the Boys in Blue I believe it meant preserving the whole United States of America. It meant Freedom to all citizens and individuals, regardless of skin color, religion, creed or gender. It meant standing up for the principles for which this Nation was founded, regardless of the cost. When the time came to prove their devotion, they did not hesitate nor run from the call of their government. No, they rallied around their flag.

This devotion to defending American values did not end with the War. The tradition of Patriotism that the Union Soldier carried with him in battle was continued on through the participation and activities of the Grand Army of the Republic. Now, we as the Sons of Union Veterans and Sons of Veterans Reserve, have been passed the banner of freedom, liberty and justice and have been given the charge to carry on just as they did, with the spirit of Patriotism and love of our Country that is so vital to the survival of These United States. We must never take this mission lightly for it is one that carries with it great responsibilities which have been paid in blood by so many. We are to never forget the sacrifices of not only the Union Soldier, but of every Soldier who has fought in our Nations military.

It is for this reason, brothers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Military District, that we must continue working hard to pass on to each new generation what it is that we stand for in the SUVCW and SVR. We must bring to the forefront the glory and honor earned on the Battlefields of the south by the valiant Union soldier who gained so many victories in the quest to maintain a lasting and perfect Union.

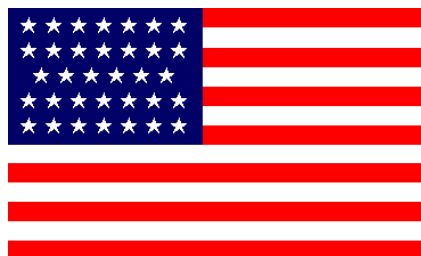
In the next few years, while we celebrate the 150 year anniversary of the great Civil War, I charge each and every one of you to continue with the work that was begun earlier this year. Be proud of the victorious Union Armies and strive to educate every American on what it means to have "love for or devotion to ones country".

May we continue to grow as a District and never fail in our support of the principles our forefathers set before us.

## **HUZZAH FOR THE UNION!!**

Major Early

Commander, 7th Military District, SVR



# Fort Negley Living History Event

By 1st Lt Dave DuBrucq

A living history and Skirmish event was held at historic Fort Negley in Nashville, Tennessee on September 24th, 2011. 1st Lt Dave DuBrucq, SVR of the 10th Tennessee USVI, SVR served as demonstration Coordinator for the event. Fort Negley, completed in December, 1862, was the largest inland Stone Fort of the Civil War and served as the center of the Federal Defenses of Nashville. The Living History and Skirmish Event, Sponsored by The Friends of Fort Negley and Metro Nashville Parks included demonstrations of artillery, small arms, Civil War camp life, drill as well as several children's educational programs throughout the day. The Skirmish event was a reenactment of Forest's and Morgan's cavalry raid featuring dismounted cavalry, infantry and several batteries of artillery. President Lincoln (portrayed by Br. John Mansfield), General U.S. Grant (portrayed by Br. Curt Fields), and General George H. Thomas (portrayed by Dr. Dan Hughes) all of Fort Donelson Camp 62, were on hand to answer questions and pose for photographs with folks attending the event. Members of the 10th Tennessee participated in the demonstrations and the re-enactment.



Gen George Thomas (Br. Dan Hughes) General U.S. Grant (Br. Curt Fields), 1st Lt Dave DuBrucq, 10th Tennessee USVI, SVR and President Lincoln (Br. John Mansfield)





PDC Sam Gant and Br. Bill Heyd, both of the 10th Tennessee USVI, SVR, Man Fort Donelson Camp 62 and 10th Tennessee SVR's Recruiting "Booth" at Fort Negley

## 2011 Sesquicentennial Observance at Fort Pickens

2nd Lt J. Ward

Amzi D. Harmon Company 2Lt Ward, Corporal Custer, and Privates Hans and Vaughn joined DC Farrell and Brother Heiple at Fort Pickens October 8, 2011 for the Civil War Florida 2011 Sesquicentennial Observance at Fort Pickens (Pensacola). DC Farrell pitched a Civil War A-type tent and fly. National Park Service Superintendent Lawhead provided tables, and Brother Heiple displayed actual Civil War infantry, cavalry and artillery uniforms and swords, as well as Navy cutlasses.

DC Farrell displayed a musket replica. The display was manned by 8:30 am. Midday a local middle school orchestra performed CW era music. NPS Historian Ogden gave a talk on the Battle of Santa Rosa.

The NPS Chief Historian discussed causes of the CW. Ceremony followed with DC Farrell laying a wreath, and the Wolcott Guard Re-enactors leading a funeral procession led by two "CW widows" and an armed guard, and they also laid a wreath. The next CW Florida Sesquicentennial event will be March 2012 at New Smyrna Beach.



Members of Amzi D Harmon Company at the 2011 Civil War Sesquicentennial Observance at Fort Pickens in Pensacola, Florida

## 147th Re-enactment of the Battle of Franklin

1st Lt Dave DuBrucq

Thousands of visitors attended the 147th Re-enactment of the Battle of Franklin held on October 15th and 16th, 2011, at Harlinsdale Farm in Williamson County, Tennessee. The re-enactment commemorates the bloody hand to hand Battle fought between John Bell Hood's Confederate Army of Tennessee and the Federal army of General John Schofield on November 30th, 1864.

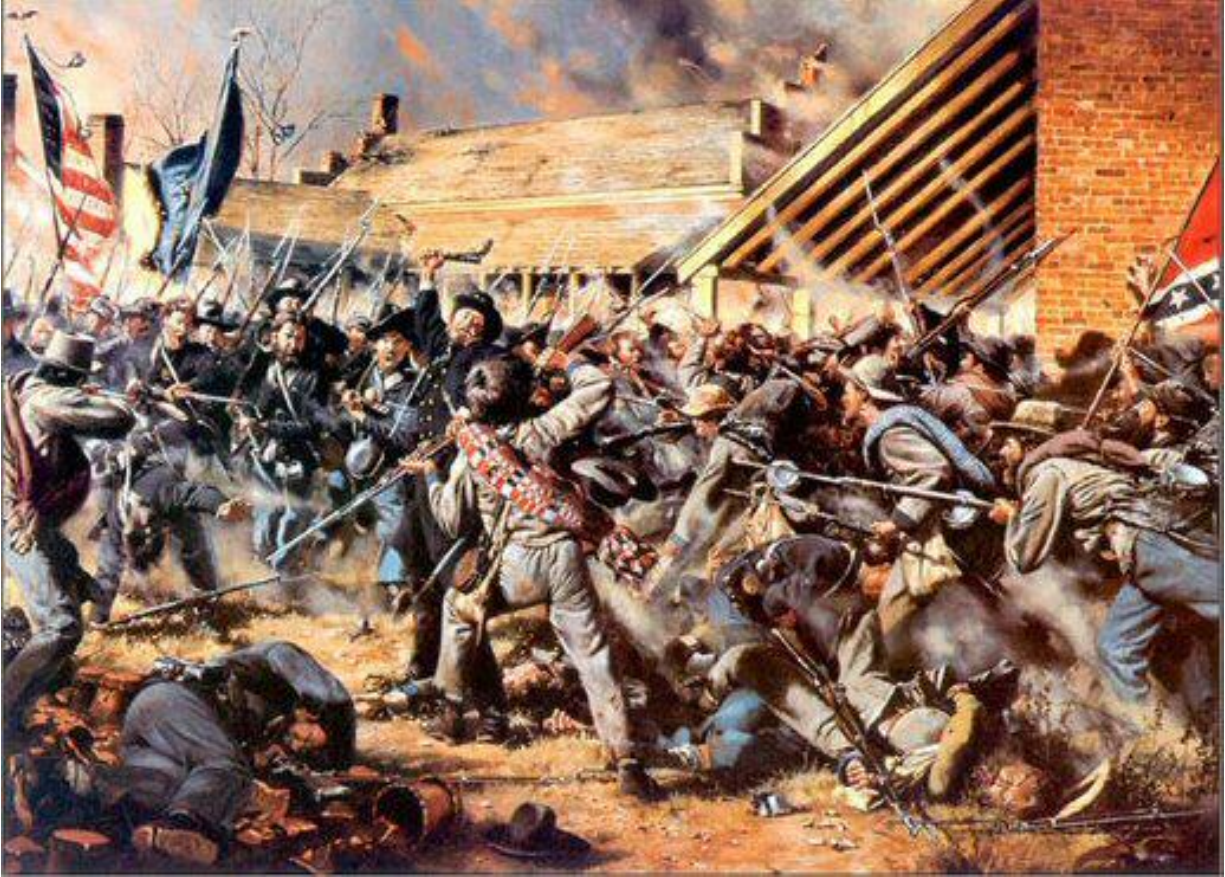
Having missed an opportunity to significantly hurt Schofield's Federals at Spring Hill, Hood was furious. Hood blamed his subordinates for failing to block Schofield's route, and then prepared for a frontal assault on the

formidable Union trenches. Hood was handicapped by the fact that one of his three divisions was still marching toward Franklin and much of his artillery had not yet arrived. Under these circumstances, Hood's decision to attack could seem foolish, but he may have been motivated by a potential mistake by the Federals in positioning troops forward of their main defenses or, as some have speculated by an attempt to discipline his army and rebuild his men's lost confidence. On November 30, the Confederates charged into the Union defenses. The Rebel lines moved forward in nearly perfect unison, the last great charge of the war. The Union's outer trenches fell to Hood's men and the ensuing Union retreat from those positions briefly prevented Federals from firing on attacking Confederates who penetrated the Union line. A fierce Union counter-attack by Colonel Emerson Opdycke's 125th Ohio, "Opdycke's Tigers" spelled disaster for the Confederates. They did not penetrate any further and suffered significant casualties in the brutal and bloody hand to hand fighting.

The fighting continued until after dark before Hood's Troops withdrew Schofield was able to resume his march northward to Join General Thomas at Nashville. The Union suffered around 2,500 casualties, the Confederates about 7,500. The losses among the Confederate leadership were major. Six generals were killed, including Patrick Cleburne, one of the Confederate army's finest division commanders. Another five were wounded, one more captured, and 60 of Hood's 100 regimental commanders were killed or wounded. Despite this significant defeat, Hood continued to move against Thomas at Nashville. Just two weeks later, Hood hurled the remnants of his army against the Federals at Nashville with equally disastrous results. Hood was routed and resigned soon thereafter. The CS Army of Tennessee ceased to be an effective fighting force. The war in the West was over for the Confederacy.

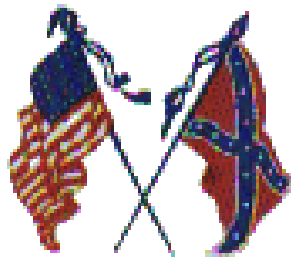






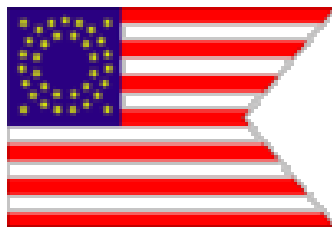
Counterattack by the 125th Ohio, Opdycke's Tigers, at the Carter House, In Franklin, Tennessee, November 30th, 1864. Troops from both sides poured into each other with an intense fury rarely seen in other Civil War Battles.

The Carter family hid in the basement of their home during this intense battle. The youngest Carter son, Captain Todd Carter, CSA, was mortally wounded in this fighting. Over 1,000 bullet holes can still be seen on the Carter site.





Federal Cavalry at the 147th Anniversary Re-enactment of the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee







Federal Artillery Crew, 147th Re-enactment of the Battle of Franklin. This crew, commanded by Br. Bill Heard (second from left), Fort Donelson Camp 62 and armorer for the 10th Tennessee, SVR, mans a Williams Gun. The Williams Gun was a confederate weapon and the only breech loading artillery weapon used in the Civil War. The sole gun in possession of the Union was a captured piece. This working replica Williams Gun was constructed by Brother Heard and his Industrial Arts students and has made appearances in several states.

## 10th Tennessee Supports John Early Museum Magnet School Event

The 10th Tennessee USVI, SVR, provided "security" for President Lincoln (Br. John Mansfield) at the Museum Magnet School event was held on September 10th, 2011 at the Bicentennial Mall in Nashville Tennessee. In addition to providing security for president Lincoln, members answered questions posed by students and their parents concerning Civil War life and demonstrated the use and firing of the 1861 Springfield rifled Musket.



Br. Dave DuBrucq (left) and Br. Roger Tenney (right) provide "security" for President Lincoln (Br. John Mansfield) at the John Early Museum Magnet School Event in Nashville, on September 10th, 2011.

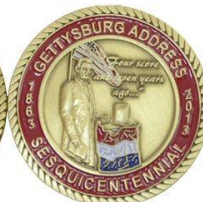


# SVR

*SVR Commemorative*

## Challenge Coins

*In Full Color*



*Gettysburg Commemorative*

Support Your SVR with the first in a series of coins commemorating the SVR and the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Coins are \$5.00 each plus shipping for \$3.00. Contact Col Don Darby at [darby@horizonview.net](mailto:darby@horizonview.net) for additional information.



# Facebook

Be sure to visit and join our Facebook Page: 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve

**Know someone who is not getting the Haversack? Contact 1stLt Dave DuBrucq at [sockettuem@comcast.net](mailto:sockettuem@comcast.net) to be added to the list!**



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