

From Harpers Weekly

# SUVCW

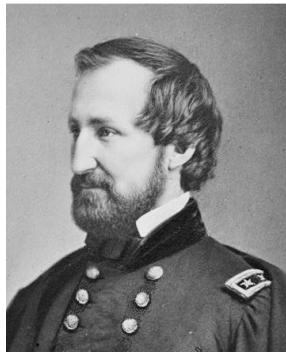
**FORT DONELSON CAMP No. 62**

**Volume 15 Issue No. 1 Winter 2009**

## The Battle of Stones River

The Union's Army of the Cumberland, some 44,000 strong and commanded by Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, was drawn up about thirty miles southeast of Nashville. Positioned along the banks of the west fork of Stones River near the small town of Murfreesboro, it faced Braxton Bragg's

38,000-man Army of Tennessee. Each commander planned to strike his enemy's right flank early on the morning of 31 Dec 1862. Both armies rested astride the Nashville Turnpike and the railroad from Nashville.



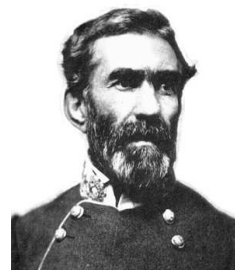
**Gen. William Rosecrans**

Early on the morning of December 31, the Confederate Corps of Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee struck first. Streaming out of the clumps of black cedars in the dim morning light, they stunned Maj. Gen. Alexander M. McCook's troops, who were still at breakfast. The full force of the assault on the Federal right wing fell on the brigades of Brig. Gen. Edward N. Kirk and Brigadier Gen. August Willich. Only Brig. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan of McCook's corps made a fighting retreat with his division.

Hardee's corps, supported by Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk's corps, spearheaded the Southern effort and forced the Federals to retreat some two and one-half miles to the Nashville Turnpike and railroad. By noon, the Federal corps of Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas held the key sector, where the Union line bent back to the west, just south of the turnpike and railroad.

Bragg ordered Maj. Gen. John Breckinridge's division to reinforce the effort west of the river. The fiercest fighting of the afternoon came at the angle of the Union line in a dense four-acre thicket of cedars known locally as the Round Forest and afterward dubbed "Hell's Half-Acre" by soldiers who struggled there. Thomas's men held the critical ground that covered both the turnpike and the railroad.

Both armies spent New Year's Day reorganizing and preparing to renew the battle. The Federals sent troops across Stones River and occupied a ridge from which enfilading fire could threaten the Southern position. On January 2, Bragg ordered Breckinridge to drive the Union forces from the high ground. Late in the afternoon, Breckinridge attacked and



**Gen. Braxton Bragg**

drove the Federals from the hill. The Confederates suffered heavy casualties from massed Union artillery fire and fell back. The Union troops once more occupied the ridge. General Rosecrans held his position the next day, and that night Bragg decided to retreat, withdrawing along the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad for some thirty miles to Tullahoma.

James L. McDonough, Auburn University

*Tennessee Encyclopedia of History & Culture*  
<http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/imagegallery.php?EntryID=S104>

### **SUVCW Annual Membership Dues**

**\$30.00 Due: 31 December 2008**

**Payable to: Fort Donelson Camp # 62**

**Mail to: David Eagan, 2116 Hartland Rd.**

**Franklin, TN 37069**

## **CAMP COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

Overall, 2008 has been a good year for Fort Donelson Camp # 62. Very significant progress has been made with Brother George A. Huttick's developing a great web site and Brother David DuBrucq's organizing the 10<sup>th</sup> TN Inf US SVR. The April meeting drew some local media attention with President Lincoln (a.k.a. Dennis Boggs) addressing the Union troops at Franklin's Fort Granger. The June ceremony honoring Brig. Gen. James Brownlow and Lt. Col. George Grummond made the local newspaper and also national press through the *Civil War News* and the *SUVCW BANNER*.

The success of the Graves Registry has been less than we had hoped for. Fifteen members have submitted CW ancestors' information for the Registry. If you have not yet submitted your ancestor for registration, please e-mail the information to Brother Huttick (gahuttick@aol.com) as soon as possible.

In 2009, the Camp will continue to register members' CW ancestors. We also wish to seek out other Middle Tennessee Union veterans' graves both to register and to place G.A.R. flag holders on the graves. Because of the cost of the flag holders, we will be limited in the number of veterans' graves that we can mark. First priority will be graves of FDC62 members' ancestors and then others as funds permit.

In January, FDC62 is hosting the Annual Encampment of the Dept. of Tennessee-Alabama. The Camp may have four delegates to the Encampment meeting with PCCs having first priority. At 3 p.m., there will be a tour of the Spring Hill Battlefield on which both members and guests are welcome. The dinner at Historic Ferguson Hall is for all SUVCW members and their guests; however, there is a limited capacity of 40 people. The dinner in this historic antebellum mansion and the program on events that took place in and surrounding Ferguson Hall will make a most interesting and enjoyable evening.

I want to thank each brother of Fort Donelson Camp # 62 for making 2008 a most memorable year for the Camp. We will look forward to an even more productive and memorable year in 2009.

May God bless you in the upcoming year.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

*Sam C. Gant*

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Brettson James Bauer  
296 St. Andrews Dr.  
Franklin, TN 37069  
Ancestor: G-G-Grandfather,  
William Roderick Harris,  
Cpl., 7<sup>th</sup> TN Cav / Co. D,  
2<sup>nd</sup> W. TN Cav US



Jerry T. Clark  
624 Springlake Drive  
Franklin, TN 37064  
Ancestor: G-Grandfather,  
James W. Morris, Pvt. Co. G,  
25<sup>th</sup> /17<sup>th</sup> KY Vol Inf US

### ***SUVCW Department of Tennessee 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Encampment Ferguson Hall, 31 January 2009***

**Department Encampment 10:30-3:00**

**Spring Hill Battlefield Tour 3:00-4:30**

**Encampment Dinner 6:30**

Encampment Registration: \$10.00  
(Members only—not guests)

Dinner Reservations (40 max): \$20.00  
(Guests welcome)

Please send checks payable to Fort Donelson  
Camp # 62 no later than **9 January 2009**

Mail checks to: David Eagan, 2116 Hartland  
Rd. Franklin, TN 37069

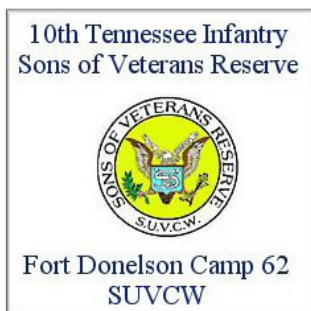


***Ferguson Hall  
5350 Main St., Spring Hill, TN***

### **Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn Killed!**

On May 7, the renowned Confederate  
commander was struck down!

— So could have read May 1863 headlines across the South. —Van Dorn was killed, not in the honorable pursuit of victory in battle, but at the hands of Dr. George Peters, the irate husband of the vivacious Jessie McKissack Peters. But to learn the details of this affair, attend the Annual Encampment Dinner at Ferguson Hall where Van Dorn's bloodstains are still evident on the dining room floor.



Our SVR Unit has been named the 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry (US), SVR. We organized on October 18, 2008, at our Camp meeting in Murfreesboro. The following charter members made the formation of our unit possible:

Brother Brettson Bauer  
Brother David DuBrucq  
Brother David Eagan  
Brother Sam Gant  
Brother James W. "Bill" Heard  
Brother James Hurst  
Brother George Andrew Huttick  
Brother George Michael Huttick  
Brother Roger Tenney

Brother David DuBrucq was elected to be the unit's first commander and has been appointed to the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt by the commander of the 7<sup>th</sup> Military District, SVR. The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The SVR's roots date back to 1881 with the "Cadet Corps" of the Grand Army of the Republic. In 1962, the National Military Department was created by the SUVCW and consolidated the SVR units under national regulations and command.

Hereditary, Junior and Associate members are eligible to join the Sons of Veterans Reserve. Charter Membership will remain open for a short time. Contact Brother David DuBrucq for additional information or an application at [sockettuem@earthlink.net](mailto:sockettuem@earthlink.net)



Check out the  
FDC62 Web Site  
**[tnsuvcw.org](http://tnsuvcw.org)**



### **Pvt. James Wilson Morris**

Great-Grandfather  
of Brother Jerry T. Clark  
James W. Morris, b : 3 June  
1835, d: 20 Sept. 1940, Pvt., Co. G,  
17<sup>th</sup> KY Vol Inf US; Enlisted: 15 Oct.  
1861; Discharged: 23 Jan. 1865.  
buried: Hamby Cemetery, Hwy.  
109, Hopkinsville, KY.

### **Civil War Service**

During the War, Pvt. Morris saw action at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta Campaign, the pursuit of Hood, Franklin, and Nashville. The Regiment was then ordered to Louisville, where it was mustered out of service 23 January 1865. Few regiments had a record equal to that of the 17<sup>th</sup> Ky. It had more than three years of service in the field, and participated in six of the greatest battles of the war, and an untold number of smaller engagements.

### **Cpl. William R. Harris**

Great-Great Grandfather of Brett Bauer  
William Roderick Harris, Cpl. 7<sup>th</sup> TN Cav /  
Co. D, 2<sup>nd</sup> W. TN Cav, US  
b: 16 Jan 1836; d: 9 May 1907  
buried: Prospect Cemetery, Holladay,  
Benton County, TN .

### **Civil War Service**

William R. Harris enlisted in Co. G, 7<sup>th</sup> Reg't TN Cav. US, 9 Nov. 1862. The following month, Dec. 20, he was captured near Trenton, TN, by Gen. Forrest's troops. He was paroled, sent to Benton Barracks, MO, and from there to Camp Chase, OH. He was then transferred to Co. D, W. TN Cav./ 7<sup>th</sup> TN Cav. He was discharged 25 Oct. 1863 as a Corporal at the end of his one-year enlistment. On 24 Mar 1864 nearly the entire 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment was captured by a detachment of Forrest's troops and sent to Andersonville Prison where two-thirds of them died.

**Mark Your Calendars:**  
**Business/Planning Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m., 10 January 2009**

**Location to be announced via e-mail**

## **CIVIL WAR ACTION**

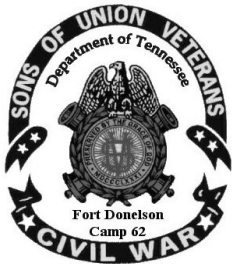
31 Dec 1862 - 2 Jan 1863 — Battle of Stones River  
1 Jan 1863 — Lincoln signs *Emancipation Proclamation*  
8 Jan 1863 — CSA captures US gunboat, *Hastings*, at the Harpeth Shoals on the Cumberland River  
12 Jan 1863 — CSA captures and burns US gunboat, *Charter*, on the Cumberland River near Ashland City  
22 Jan 1862 — *USS Lexington* bombards Fort Henry  
2 Feb 1863 — CSA cavalry attacks Fort Donelson  
2 Feb 1863 — Federals occupy Franklin  
6 Feb 1862 — Fort Henry falls to Grant's Union Army  
13 Feb 1865 — John Bell Hood resigns as commander of the Army of Tennessee  
13-16 Feb 1862 — Battle of Fort Donelson  
19 Feb 1862 — Federal forces occupy Clarksville  
20 Feb 1862 — Tenn. State Capitol relocated to Memphis  
23 Feb 1862 — Lincoln names Andrew Johnson Military Governor of Tennessee  
25 Feb 1862 — Union forces occupy Nashville  
4-5 Mar 1863 — Battle of Thompson's Station  
5 Mar 1863 — Construction begun on Triune earthworks  
6 Mar 1863 — US Gen. Granger, commanding at Franklin, begins building fortifications  
17 Mar 1864 — Gen. Grant, while in Nashville, assumes command of the Armies of the United States  
25 Mar 1863 — Battle of Brentwood

## **Upcoming Events: Fort Donelson Camp # 62**

**Fort Donelson Camp # 62 Business/Planning Meeting, 10:00 am, 10 Jan. 2009—Location TBA**  
**SUVCW Department of Tennessee Annual Encampment, Spring Hill, TN, 31 January 2009**  
**FDC62 meeting, Cindy's Catfish House, Dover, TN, Tour at Fort Donelson, 12 n, 5 April 2009**  
**Flag Day Ceremony —Honoring 5<sup>th</sup> TN Vol Cav US Williamson County, TN, 13 June 2009**

## **For Upcoming Battlefield Events, contact :**

**Fort Donelson National Battlefield** (931-232-5706)  
[www.nps.gov/fodo](http://www.nps.gov/fodo)  
**Stones River National Battlefield** (615-893-950)  
[www.nps.gov/stri](http://www.nps.gov/stri)  
**Shiloh National Military Park** (731-689-5696)  
[www.nps.gov/shil](http://www.nps.gov/shil)  
**Parkers Crossroads Battlefield** (731-986-5572)  
[www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/battles/tn011.htm](http://www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/battles/tn011.htm)  
**Carter House Franklin, TN:** (615-791-1861)  
[www.carter-house.org](http://www.carter-house.org)  
**Carnton Plantation, Franklin, TN** (615-794-0903)  
[www.carnton.org](http://www.carnton.org)



*Fort Donelson Camp # 62*  
*Sons of Union Veterans*  
*of the Civil War*

## **CAMP OFFICERS**

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**Andrew J. Duffel, PCC**

Junior Vice Commander  
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**David L. Eagan**

Secretary/Treasurer  
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**George A. Huttick**

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**Edward J. Duffel, PDC**

Camp Council, Historian  
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**David DuBurq**

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt, 10<sup>th</sup> TN Inf SVR  
[sockettuem@earthlink.net](mailto:sockettuem@earthlink.net)

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**Franklin, TN 37067**

**Return Service Requested**