

SUVCW

United States Colored Troops

FORT DONELSON CAMP No. 62

Volume 17 Issue No. 3 Summer 2011

The U.S. Congress passed the Second Confiscation Act in July 1862 that freed slaves of owners in rebellion against the United States and a militia act that empowered the President to use freed slaves in any capacity in the army. President Abraham Lincoln, however, was concerned with public opinion in the four border states that remained in the Union, as well as with northern Democrats who supported the war. Lincoln opposed early efforts to recruit black soldiers, even though he accepted their use as laborers. Union Army setbacks in battles over the summer of 1862 forced Lincoln into the more drastic response of emancipating all slaves in states at war with the Union. In September 1862 Lincoln issued his preliminary proclamation that all slaves in rebellious states would be free as of January 1. Recruitment of colored regiments began in full force following the January 1863 Emancipation Proclamation.

The United States War Department issued General Order Number 143 on May 22, 1863, establishing a "Bureau of Colored Troops" to facilitate the recruitment of African-American soldiers to fight for the Union Army. Regiments, including infantry, cavalry, light artillery, and heavy artillery units, were recruited from all states of the Union and became known as the United States Colored Troops (USCT). Approximately 175 regiments of over 178,000 free blacks and freed slaves served during the last two years of the war and bolstered the Union war effort at a critical time. By war's end, the USCT were approximately a tenth of all Union troops. There were 2,751 USCT combat casualties during the war, and 68,178 losses from all causes.

USCT regiments fought in all theaters of the war, but mainly served as garrison troops in rear areas. The most famous USCT action took place at the Battle of the Crater during the

Siege of Petersburg, where regiments of USCT suffered heavy casualties attempting to break through Confederate lines. Other notable engagements include Fort Wagner and the Battle of Nashville. USCT soldiers often became victims of battlefield atrocities, most



Sgt. Major Christian Fleetwood, Medal of Honor recipient.

notably at Fort Pillow. The prisoner exchange cartel broke down over the Confederacy's position on black prisoners of war. Confederate law stated that blacks captured in uniform be tried as slave insurrectionists in civil courts—a capital offense. Although this rarely, if ever, happened, it became a stumbling block for prisoner exchange. USCT soldiers were among the first Union forces to enter Richmond after its fall in April 1865. The 41st USCT regiment was present at the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox. Following the war, USCT regiments served as occupation troops in former Confederate states.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Colored_Troops

CAMP COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

During the past quarter FDC has continued to make good progress, although my gant92ovi e-mail address was hacked and shut down with my address book deleted which interrupted the ability to exchange communications telling of the progress. I was never stranded in London as the hacker would have you to believe.

Perhaps the best news is the addition of three brothers who bring special talents to the Camp: Dennis Boggs, a professional Lincoln presenter, Dan Hughes, a Maj Gen George Thomas presenter, and Bill Radcliffe, member of the 13th U.S.C.T. and model for the Union soldier monument at Nashville National Cem.

FDC continues to work with Fort Negley, not only is it the Camp's bi-monthly meeting place, but FDC and the 10th TN SVR are assisting with programs at the Fort. Also, FDC and the 10th TN assisted the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society by serving as guard in the play, "The Andersonville Prison Trial."

FDC and the 10th TN have joined the Armies of Tennessee (AOT). The organization is made up of Union and Confederate camps and reenactors for the common effort of preserving Civil War history. AOT is active in working with Fort Negley and will hold a 2012 Sesquicentennial event at Shiloh.

The Camp made a donation to the SCV Nathan B. Forrest Boyhood Home in honor of Larry Cockerham. A plaque in memory of Larry was placed on the Forrest Home barn, which he had been instrumental in having restored.

Plans for FDC to take part in the Nashville Old City Cemetery did not work out, although individual members did take part in ceremonies in their own communities. On June 11, the Camp and the 10th TN held a Flag Day ceremony at Rest Haven Cemetery in Franklin. Following a presentation on the history of the American Flag, a flag was placed on the grave of the Unknown Civil War Soldier.

In conclusion, we need to highlight the importance of continuing recruitment. Each member is a valuable asset to FDC, but he can double his value by recruiting another. If he recruits someone with special abilities, he has given the Camp an even greater opportunity of success.

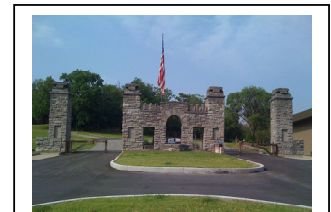
In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty,
Sam C. Gant

Fort Negley



The Civil War Fort Negley, built in 1863 for the Federal defense of Nashville, has a crucial role in the interpretation of the Battle of Nashville. The fragile dry-stacked stone military structure has survived 148 years of war and neglect. Sixty years after the close of the Civil War, the fort was extensively repaired and portions largely rebuilt by the WPA. A little more than sixty years after the WPA work the fort is again in desperate need of intervention to save this resource for future generations.

Metro City Parks Department now has oversight of the Fort. With the 2004 Visitor Center, the Fort has a small auditorium which provides a venue for meetings, including the general meetings of SUVCW Fort Donelson Camp #62.



**Gate to Fort Negley
Built by the WPA**

FDC has become increasingly involved in support of the Fort. Camp Commander Sam Gant is a member of the Friends of Fort Negley Board and several members of the Camp and of the 10th TN SVR take part in Fort Negley events. Dave Du Brucq, Roger Tenney, Bill Radcliffe, Bill Heyd, John Mansfield, Dennis Boggs, and Dan Hughes have worked with Fort Negley events. Within a few days, an additional opportunity for service will be offered to the Camp with the need for staffing the Friends of Fort Negley Gift Shop.

FDC and the 10th TN US Inf SVR will be involved in the 24 Sept Military Demonstration with an FDC booth and the 10th TN reenacting.

An important way that everyone in the FDC can be involved in Fort Negley is by joining the Friends of Fort Negley organization. A kick-off event is planned for late August, so let's show our support by all joining this great organization.

Recycle with a Purpose!
Donate your empty ink cartridges
to Friends of Fort Negley

**10th Regiment
Tennessee U. S. Volunteer
Infantry**



Armies of Tennessee

**Fort Donelson Camp # 62
10th Tennessee Infantry (US) SVR**

Brothers of the 10th Tennessee Infantry, SVR are having a good year. Membership has grown from 9 charter members to 22 and our participation in local Civil War activities is growing. The unit has participated in activities with Fort Negley and conducted a Flag Day Ceremony at Rest Haven Cemetery In Franklin, Tennessee to honor the Civil War Unknown Soldier and all who have served and worn the uniform of our great republic from the Revolutionary War to the present day. Additional activities are in the planning stages with Fort Negley and with the Armies of Tennessee, our affiliate re-enactment group. We are looking forward to some of our number participating in the re-enactment of the Battle of Shiloh in April of 2012. We're also planning to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of our Camp 62 namesake, Fort Donelson early in 2012. The Battle of Franklin re-enactment and other activities are also on our agenda. Any SUV member is eligible for membership in the unit. If you want to wear the Blue or just support the unit with your membership contact: 1st Lt Dave DuBrucq at sockettuem@comcast.net or 1st Sgt Roger Tenney at ratenney@comcast.net. Dues are a nominal \$3.00 per year. All SUV members of all levels are welcome.



David M. DuBrucq, 1st Lt
10th TN US Inf SVR,
Commanding

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

William C. Radcliffe
113 Samatha Court
Mount Juliet, TN 3712
Honoring Edward Ratcliff,
Sgt/Maj Co. C, 38th U.S.C.T.
Congressional Medal of Honor



Daniel E. Hughes
1848 Hidden Ridge C
Mount Juliet, TN 37122
Honoring Maj Gen George
H. Thomas, Commander,
Battle of Nashville



Dennis Boggs
209 Cottage Place
Nashville, TN 37214
Honoring Mr. Abraham Lincoln

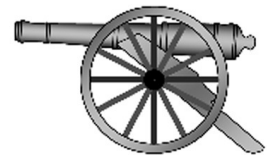


William F. Heyd, III
2569 Winder Dr.
Franklin, TN 37064
G-G-Uncle, Charles James Lane,
Pvt., Howland's Independent
Company of Michigan Engineers



Flag Day Ceremony at Rest Haven Cemetery

**Watch
for
Exciting news
from Fort
Nealev!!**



CIVIL WAR ACTION

1-3 July 1863 — Battle of Gettysburg
 3 July 1863 — Federals occupy Winchester
 4 July 1863 — Besieged Vicksburg surrenders
 7 July 1863 — Bragg retreats to Chattanooga
 10 July 1862— 90 Confederates captured Gallatin
 17 July 1862 — Grant commands US Army of TN
 3-4 Aug 1864 — Skirmishing at Triune
 9 Aug 1863 — US Cavalry attacks CSA at Sparta
 16 Aug–22 Sept 1863 – Chickamauga Campaign
 16 Aug–19 Oct 1863 –East Tennessee Campaign
 18 Aug 1862 — Confederates capture Clarksville
 21 Aug 1863 — Union bombards Chattanooga
 25 Aug 1862—CS Fort Donelson attack repulsed
 2 Sept 1863 — Union forces occupy Knoxville
 7 Sept 1862 — Clarksville retaken by Federals
 9 Sept 1863—Chattanooga occupied by Federals
 15 Sept 1961—Gen Albert Sidney Johnston takes command of the CS western forces
 16 Sept 1864 —Forrest begins his "Railroad War"
 20 Sept 1863 — Battle of Chickamauga
 21 Sept 1861—CS Gen. Johnston issues call for Tennessee to supply 30,000 CSA volunteers
 29 Sept 1861— US cavalry fires on CS troops at Travisville – 1st Civil War action in Tennessee

Upcoming Events:

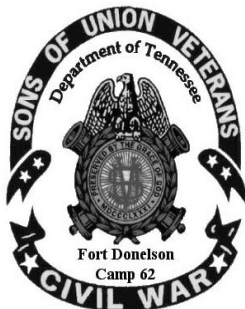
Tues 26 July – FDC Gen Meeting, 7pm, Fort Negley Visitors' Center – Speaker: Dr. Bobby Lovett, "African Americans, Slavery, and Civil War in TN"
Sat 24 Sept – Fort Negley Military Demonstration – FDC Booth - Reenactment
Fri-Sun 14-16 October – Franklin's Civil War Days – FDC Booth - Reenactment
Tues 22 Nov – FDC Gen Meeting, 7pm, Fort Negley Visitors' Center – Election 2012 Officers – Planning
Sun 27 Nov – FDC March from Fort Granger to Carter House
Sat-Sun 3-4 Dec – Middle-Tenn Civil War Show – Williamson County Agr Expo Center – FDC Booth

Civil War Roundtables:

Franklin CWRT – 3 p.m., 2nd Sunday, Franklin Police Dept. Community Room, Columbia Ave., Franklin
Nashville CWRT – 7 p.m., 3rd Monday, Fort Negley Visitors' Center, 1100 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville
Clarksville CWRT – 7p.m., 3rd Wednesday, Borders, Governor's Square, Exit 4, Clarksville

For Upcoming Battlefield Events, contact :

Fort Donelson National Battlefield (931-232-5706)
www.nps.gov/fodo
Stones River National Battlefield (615-893-950)
www.nps.gov/stri
Shiloh National Military Park (731-689-5696)
www.nps.gov/shil
Parkers Crossroads Battlefield (731-986-5572)
www.nps.gov/hps/abpp/battles/tn011.htm



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

CAMP

OFFICERS:

Sam C. Gant

Camp Commander

Newsletter Editor

gant92ovi@yahoo.com

Roger Tenney

Junior Vice Commander

1st Sgt., 10th TN US Inf SVR

ratenney@comcast.net

Jim Swan

Senior Vice Commander

Historian

jbswan@bellsouth.net

George A. Huttick

Graves Registry Office

Signals Officer

GAHuttick@aol.com

Scott Holmes

Secretary/Treasurer

sholmes54@aol.com

David Eagan

Chaplain

jede49@bellsouth.net

David M. DuBrucq

1st Lt., 10th TN US Inf SVR

sockettuem@earthlink.net



1861



1865

Fort Donelson Camp # 62 Meeting

Fort Negley Visitors' Center

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 26 July 2011

Dr. Bobby Lovett

Professor of History

Tennessee State University

Speaking on:

"African Americans, Slavery, and Civil War in Tennessee, 1795-1865."

FDC General Meeting to follow