

The Palmetto Sharpshooter  
Camp 1428, Anderson, SC

December 2009



Jason Corder, Editor  
rockytopsc@bellsouth.net

www.palmettosharpshooters.org

*"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."*

### Camp Leadership

**Commander**  
Jamey Wentzky  
864.224.9710

**Lt. Commander**  
Neal Junkins  
864.231.9121

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander**  
Butch Junkins  
864.226.7417

**Adjutant/Treasurer**  
Joe Melton  
864.650.4998

**Executive Committee**  
John Grey  
Dan Snipes  
Tim Medlin  
Ken Dutton

### Election:

In November the camp elected the following men for office:

Commander: Jim Whitesides  
Lt. Commander: VACANT  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander: Billy Roberts  
Adjutant: Tim Medlin

**Christmas Party:** If you are interested in having a Christmas covered dish supper Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup> please contact Mike Graham (226.9000) or John Grey (296.9226).

**Calvary Home for Children:** Every year the camp supports a charity for Christmas. If you wish to donate please contact Mike Graham. This is a great bunch of young people at Calvary Home so please help support them.

**Convention:** The Sons of Confederate Veterans 2010 National Convention, kicking off the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States, will be held in Anderson, SC. The application is currently available on the website of the Manse Jolly SCV Camp [http://www.mansejollycamp6.com/form/SCV\\_magazineAD\\_111209.pdf](http://www.mansejollycamp6.com/form/SCV_magazineAD_111209.pdf) If you ever want to go to one of our National Conventions/Reunions It Will Never Be Closer Than This!!!!

# MERRY CHRISTMAS





Well here we are in December, the end of another year. During the Late Unpleasantness not very much usually took place during the winter. Due to the limitations of the time the armies were at the mercy of the weather (like we aren't now). However there were two winters that were especially notable.

1862 was an especially bloody year. McClellan started the Peninsula Campaign in March. General Jackson started his famous Valley Campaign in March. Yorktown in April, Williamsburg in May, Seven Pines in June, the Seven Days in June & July, Cedar Mountain and Second Manassas in August and finally Sharpsburg in September. The armies needed a rest but Burnside's had to move or be sacked like McClellan. Burnside's actually outflanked and outmaneuvered General Lee and got to the Rappahannock River first, but there were no bridges. By the time the pontoons arrived, Longstreet and Jackson held the high ground behind Fredericksburg. December 13<sup>th</sup> Burnside's almost destroyed the Yankee Army of the Potomac by crashing it against the Stone Wall on Maryes Heights.

Way out West (in Tennessee) Bragg smashed into Rosecrans at Murfreesboro and drove him back over a mile. It was one of the bloodiest battles of the war. The Confederates had to retreat so according to Yankee rules they won. (More on that later)

The winter of 1863-1864 was relatively quiet. After Chancellorsville and Gettysburg in the East and Chickamauga in the West, it probably had to be.

By the winter of 1864 the Army of Northern Virginia was trapped in the trenches of Petersburg. The fighting there went on through the cold and wet.

General Hood was free to maneuver way out West in Georgia. After Peachtree Creek, Atlanta, Ezra Church and Jonesborough he didn't need to defend Atlanta anymore and he had a lot less soldiers to feed. He decided to invade Ohio, by way of Tennessee. This led to the Battle of Franklin where Hood smashed the Army of Tennessee against Schofield's defenses. After the slaughter the Yankees returned to Nashville and Hood held the field at Franklin. He notified President Davis of his victory. (By Yankee rule, remember Murfreesboro, Hood was right). Hood with his 24,000 starving cold soldier's laid siege to Nashville (only Washington, D.C. was better defended) where Thomas had 72,000 soldiers warm and well fed. December 15, Thomas came out to play in the middle of an ice storm. The Army of Tennessee held out for one more day until they were shattered and retreated.

My Great, Great, Great Grandfather was mortally wounded at Nashville on December 16<sup>th</sup>. He died in a Yankee hospital in May of 1865. Lt. Joseph Henry Smith, Co. G 34<sup>th</sup> Georgia Infantry.

Just a few things to think of during this Christmas Season. I guess 2009 doesn't look that bleak after all.

God Bless Us Everyone,

Jamey