



April 2010

The Cannon Report

The Powhatan Troop, SCV Camp 1382



"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations." Stephen Dill Lee, Lt. Gen., CSA; Presiding Officer, 16th Annual Reunion, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 25-27 Apr 1906

The Cannon Report/Commander's Comments

The 51st Virginia Division Convention was held in Lynchburg, VA on April 10th through the 12th. Past Cmdr. George T. Lee III, Compatriot Dennis Campbell and myself represented the Powhatan Troop. The Garland-Rodes and Campbell Guards Camps did an outstanding job hosting this year's event. The new Virginia Division Officers were appointed. The new officer's names, pictures and their biographies can be found on the Virginia Division website at scvva.org; however, for those camp members that do not have access to the internet, the following are our new Division officers: *Michael A. Rose, Commander; D. Michael Thomas, 1st Lt. Commander; L. Tracy Clary, 2nd Lt. Commander; Brian K. Giles, Inspector; J. Michael Pullen, Adjutant; Joseph "Joe" H. Wright, Treasurer; David W. Smith, Quartermaster; Curtis Butterworth, Chaplain; J. Edwin Ray, Archivist; Thomas C. Davis, Jr., Heritage Defense Coordinator.* The Powhatan Troop's new 7th Brigade Commander is Ron Graves.

With the approaching of the warmer weather, we will be taking some short day trips to nearby historical sites in lieu of indoor meetings. I believe it is not only important to honor our southern ancestors by upholding the charge but also to continually expand our knowledge of the War. The April meeting will be a trip to Sailor's Creek Battlefield Park on the 25th. Mr. Bobby Wilcox, President of the Friends of Sailor's Creek State Park, has invited us to attend a meeting of the Friends of Sailor's Creek /Friends of High Bridge Trail at 2 p.m. at Sailor's Creek Historical Battlefield Visitor Center. Updates about the progress of the display proposals for the SC Visitor Center and High Bridge Trail will be presented and refreshments will be provided. After the meeting our Camp will be given a tour of the Battlefield. Please note there is no meal and we will be there for two to three hours so please eat prior to the outing. We will meet at the parking lot at the old May's Supermarket in Flat Rock by 1:00. The parking lot is just east of Dorset Rd. (VA 622) on the south side of Anderson Hwy. There is a New Horizon Bank and Flat Rock Tire and Auto in the same parking lot. Sailor's Creek is an hour drive from Flat Rock so please be there a little before 1:00 so we can leave promptly at 1:00. If you do not wish to drive, there should be several seats available for you to carpool. If you cannot make it by one o'clock or do not wish to attend the meeting but would like to attend the Battlefield tour, please join us at the Park's Visitor Center. You should be there by 1:45 for the tour. Mr. Wilcox told me there is a possibility of some photographs being taken of our Camp's visit to be used for promotional purposes. Hope to see you there.

Paul M. Houser
Commander
Editor TCR
Webmaster

Michael Pogue
Lt. Commander

John Moody
Adjutant

Andrew Seamons Jr.
Treasurer

William P. Jervey Jr.
Chaplain

Dr. Ronald W. Toney
Surgeon

Malcolm Campbell Jr.
Color Sergeant

Vacant
Aide-De-Camp

Stuart Townes
Quartermaster

Kenneth Phibbs
Camp Historian

Gordon Drumheller
Judge Advocate

**DEO
VINDICE**



Battle of Sailor's Creek



*The Hillsman House**



*The Lockett House**

[The Hillsman House](#) - April 6, 1865, Union and Confederate forces fought a battle here on the slope across the creek from this dwelling. The Hillsman house was used as a hospital during and after the battle.

[The Lockett House](#) - Around the home of James S. Lockett, desperate fighting occurred near sundown on April 6, 1865, when the Union corps, commanded by Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys, almost overwhelmed Gen. John B. Gordon's Confederate corps.

On April 5 General Robert E. Lee and his army left Amelia Court House and continued their march toward Danville, Virginia, following the line of the Richmond and Danville Railroad. They were heading toward North Carolina, where Lee could combine his force with that of General Joseph E. Johnston.

General James Longstreet's corps was in the lead. The rear of Longstreet's column soon became separated from the head of General Richard Anderson's corps, which was next in line. On the morning of April 6, observant Union cavalry moved into the gap and established a roadblock in front of Anderson, cutting him off from Longstreet. Major General Horatio G. Wright's Union Sixth Corps was close behind.

General Richard Ewell realized that further attacks were imminent and decided to send the wagon train on a more northerly route. General John B. Gordon, who was heavily pressed by Union Major General Andrew A. Humphreys' Second Corps, followed the train. The stage was set for the battle of Sailor's Creek.

The battle included three separate engagements: one between Wright and Ewell at the Hillsman farm, another between Humphreys and Gordon at the Lockett farm, and the third between Brigadier General Wesley Merritt and Anderson at a crossroads bounded by the Harper and Marshall farms.

Confederate losses at the Hillsman farm totaled 3,400. Union losses were 440.**

Note that the spelling of the battle and the state park has been changed by the state of Virginia from Saylor's to Sailor's. The spelling of the creeks remains the same.

*civilwartoday.net

** chapmansociety.com

*Paul M Houser, Commander
Cannon Report Editor*