



THE BRIDGE

"It is our duty to keep the memory of our heroes green." Jefferson Davis



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This could be yours!

Camp Officers

Peter D. Boineau

Commander

5149 Broxton Bridge Road
Bamberg, SC 29003

boineausgunshop@gmail.com

Joseph "Buzz" Braxton II

1st Lieutenant Commander
buzzbraxton@gmail.com

Robert Keel

2nd Lieutenant Commander
kline@barnwellsc.com

Donald Webster

3rd Lieutenant Commander
Retention & Recruiting
websterdrd@yahoo.com

Charles L.D. Carlson

Adjutant

Chaplain

Bridge Editor

scv842@wildblue.net

Edward S. Floyd

Treasurer

Edward.floyd444@gmail.com

Carl Platts

Judge Advocate

Carl.platts@yahoo.com

Coleman Loadholt

Quartermaster

Roy Hart, Jr.

Surgeon

Ira Beach

Color Sergeant

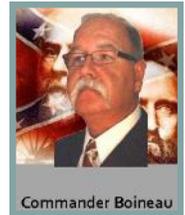
ibeach@embarqmail.com

Vacant

Historian

Friends and Compatriots,

The days definitely seem to be flying by; here it is and almost half of the month of February is already history. With that being said, we have a number of important items coming up on our calendar.



Commander Boineau

First of all we don't want you to miss the latest and greatest reenactment of the Battle for Broxton's Bridge. Mark your calendars now for the **153rd Anniversary of the Battle for Broxton Bridge - 17th Annual Reenactment - March 2nd - 4th, 2018**. See details on following pages.

Our Annual Banquet set for April 21st will be here before you know it. We want this to be a better attended event than any we've had recently. That will require an exceptional effort on the part of us all not just a few. It may seem corny, but the reality and cold hard truth is that, "you can't spell success without U." You may rationalize that someone else will pick up the ball and that its not necessary for you to be present, but that attitude spells failure and you'll notice that it also has a U in it. The question is, "Do you want to be responsible for a success or a failure?"

As entertainment for our Banquet we will have with us *The Pickin Pearls*. They are a 4 piece band with outstanding harmonies and have been performing for 6 years throughout South Carolina at Festivals and events. They are also known as *Ladies of the Pickin Parlor*.

Another feature that you won't want to miss is the drawing for the Glock 9mm at the Banquet. As always, we encourage you to be out there diligently selling tickets for this raffle to enable us to finance annual operations and support Southern Heritage causes and the perpetuation of the true history of the South.

Following quickly upon the heels of our Banquet will be a full lineup of events to honor our Confederate Soldiers. Perhaps nearest and dearest to our hearts is our Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial observance. Further details will be forthcoming in our next newsletter.

Among other details to be determined in preparation for our Annual Banquet is the selection of our Compatriot of the Year. There are those who never get the praise they deserve; remember those who get the food, those who keep our grounds well-maintained and those who keep our flag displays up to date. One person does not keep this Camp going; WE ALL DO... that is what makes it worthwhile.

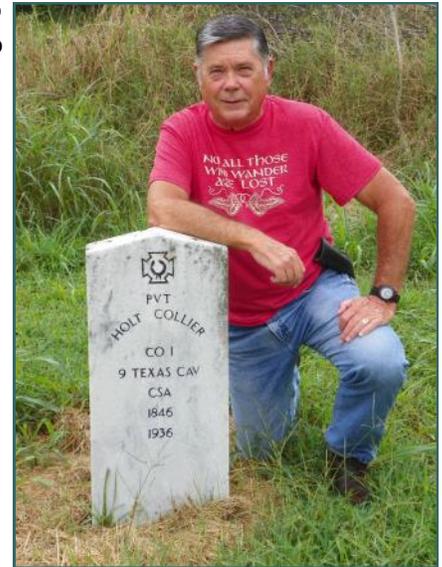
This Camp can't be successful without U,

Pete

Holt Collier, Black Confederate Company I, 9th Texas Cavalry



In August of 2017 I was returning from a trip to Texas and decided to take the scenic route up through Mississippi to Memphis. Along the way I took a side trip to Greenville, Mississippi for no other reason than to find and visit the grave of Holt Collier, a Confederate Soldier. After arriving in Greenville it took some searching, but I finally located the cemetery which was not very well maintained. Then began the search for the actual grave which I eventually found with the help of my Granddaughter, Daughter and Wife.. You may ask what is so special about Holt Collier? Well, first of all he was a Confederate Soldier, and secondly he was a Black Confederate soldier.



February is customarily remembered as Black History Month and if anyone is neglected, denied, and overlooked in Black History it is the Black Confederate Soldier.

I have dwelt on Holt's military service rather than his hunting achievements and guiding for Teddy Roosevelt. Holt Collier National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi is named in his honor. He died in 1936 and is buried in Greenville, Mississippi.

Too feeble to rise unaided from his stout oak rocking chair, Holt Collier, nonagenarian, ex-slave and Washington County's most colorful citizen, sits in his own little home on North Broadway.

For many years Holt's erect and sturdy figure was a familiar sight on Greenville streets. A stranger would have noticed his bearing, his dark face with iron gray mustache and Vandyke beard and the broad-brimmed felt hat he always wore. Now, the wide hat, similar to those worn by officers in the Confederate army, shades his failing eyes when he sits on the little porch of his home watching the passersby.

Holt Collier was born in Jefferson county in 1848; he lived there only a short while, however, because he was brought by his master, Howell Hinds, son of General Hinds, to Washington county when he was only a small boy. Holt's master, to whom he was devoted, traveled back and forth to the old home in Jefferson county; to New Orleans, to Louisville and to Cincinnati and Holt always accompanied him in the capacity of juvenile valet. Traveling at that time was done mostly by boat, and Holt recalls quite a number of the boats that plied the river in the halcyon days of the steamboat.

At the age of twelve, Holt was sent with his master's sons to Bardstown, Kentucky. All the boys were expected to attend school, but Holt's love of hunting caused him to "play hooky" while the others studied. He often hid his gun in the spring house, returned for it later and slipped away to the fields and forest to hunt instead of going to the school room. Though Mr. Hinds never succeeded in having the boy educated in books, he, however, trained Holt to be honorable, truthful and trustworthy, and this training was evident throughout his life.

Holt tells us that at the time when the Civil War began, he was living on Plum Ridge, the Hind's plantation, south of the present city of Greenville. Mr. Howell Hinds, later Colonel Hinds and always spoken of by Holt as "The Old Colonel", and his son, Tom, were making ready to join the Confederate forces. When Holt Collier, then only fourteen years of age, learned of his master's preparations for departing, he asked to go with them. To Holt's great disappointment, however, his master and Tom agreed that the little colored boy was too young to enter the army. "I begged like a dog, but they stuck to it — 'You are too young'", Holt relates.

In front of Old Greenville, seven steamboats were waiting to transport the volunteers from the surrounding country to Memphis; from there they were to be sent to training camps. During the afternoon the "Old Colonel" and Tom left for Old Greenville, prepared to join the men already gathered on the river bank. Night came; the dense forest and the cypress brakes between Plum Ridge and the little town of Greenville became very dark. Through this darkness, the young colored boy made his way toward the river and its flotilla of steamboats. Arriving at the village, he loitered at the store of a Jewish merchant, Mr. Rose, and at a propitious moment, he slipped aboard the "Vernon", climbing up the back of the boat to the kitchen where he hid himself. While Holt was in hiding, a man entered the kitchen and beckoning him to come near, Holt won the man's sympathy and aid in carrying out his plan to follow his master to the army. Arrangements were made for Holt to occupy a small room adjoining the kitchen and the cook, whom Holt had seen on the "Vicksburg", proved friendly. "He hid me during the trip and told me when to get off at Memphis," Holt tells. The soldiers from the boat having gone ashore, the cook thought that the time was ripe for Holt to make his appearance. Leaving the shelter

Living History Day for schoolchildren to tour is Friday, March 2, 2018, beginning at 9 a.m.

Camps are open Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Battle reenactments are 2:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday, March 3 - 4, 2018.

One-day admission: ages 5 and under Free, ages 6 - 17 \$3.00 and age 18 and over \$10.00. Armbands will be given out at gate or RV Park. There is a charge for admission whether camping or not.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be available. Parking is free.

For other information contact Battlefield Chairman, Bart Chassereau 803-625-3585; Broxton Bridge Plantation 800-437-4868.

For RV reservations call 800-437-4868.

Hosts for this event are Battery C, 32nd Georgia Artillery and 2nd Georgia Regiment Co. D Burke Sharpshooters. It is sponsored by Salt-Ketchers Chapter #6 Order of Confederate Rose, a 501 (C) 3 non-profit organization.



Broxton Bridge

17th Annual Reenactment



***** You may Join our '153rd Battle for Broxton Bridge' Event page on Facebook and let us know you'll be there! *****

On the southern end of Broxton Bridge Plantation there is an old battleground, complete with all the breastworks, left over from the south's defenses on February 1, 1865 – 153 years ago. The northern army was in route from Savannah, Georgia, to Columbia, South Carolina, and the battles at Broxton Bridge and Rivers Bridge on the Salkehatchie River were the last big defensive effort for the Confederates before the battle at Columbia.

Guided tours can be arranged with prior notice at a cost of \$10 per person. This money goes to help to fund our "Confederate Museum". Walking trails around a 10-acre lake or a walk to the battleground can be an exhilarating experience. We have a total of 58 miles of trails.

ALSO COMING MARCH 2 - 4, 2018 H.L. Hunley Traveling Exhibit!



On February 17, 1864, just outside Charleston Harbor, after sinking the Union Navy's largest ship, The H.L. Hunley vanished without a trace and left quite a mystery behind. It was not until 1995 that author and adventurer Clive Cussler found the Hunley resting on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean – intact and remarkably well preserved. After being lost at sea for 137 years, the Hunley was revealed on August 8, 2000, seen for the first time in her entirety. The Hunley's recovery has turned out to be one of the most important events in the history of South Carolina, and the mystery of why she never came home that night is still being solved.

The Bridge

561 Appleton Road
Allendale, SC 29810

EMAIL: scv842@wildblue.net

WEB: www.riversbridgecamp842.com



Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Feb 20	Regular Camp Meeting 7 PM
Mar 2-4	Broxton Bridge Reenactment
Mar 3	Confederate Flag Day
Mar 16-17	South Carolina Division Convention Charleston, SC
Mar 20	Regular Camp Meeting 7 PM
Apr 17	Regular Camp Meeting
Apr 21	Annual Banquet at Barker's Mill

Continued from page 2

of the "Cook-house", he climbed up the high banks at the Memphis landing to find his master standing with a group of officers, among whom were General Bedford Forrest and General Breckenridge. No more was said of Holt's youth and he went into training at Camp Boone; it was in Tennessee. **He served as a soldier and did not go as a body-servant to Colonel Hinds.**

After drilling for a time at Camp Boone, he was sent with his company into Kentucky. His first taste of war came in a fight at a bridge over Green River and there he met his "Old Colonel" again. During the four years conflict, he served with the Texas Cowboys, Ross' Brigade and was under Colonel Dudley Jones at the close of the struggle. After the surrender, he returned to Washington County with his master and Tom Hinds.

"Well Mam, when the war was over we went to Vicksburg and were mustered out under General Kirby Smith of Texas.

"After I came home I had a heap of trouble. The Federals were garrisoned at Greenville (the new town of that name) and they arrested me four times. At that time the country was under military rule and I had to go to Vicksburg for trial.

Nugent stood by me through thick and thin. I will never forget them, my old white friends – they are all gone now. Col. Percy and Col. Hinds went with me to Vicksburg for the trial.

Col. Percy told them if they put me in jail he wanted a cot put beside mine for he was going to jail with me.

Holt Collier
from SOURCE MATERIAL FOR MISSISSIPPI HISTORY, Washington County, from microfilm; Compilation and Interview and Additional material; Historian, Lottie Armistead; Eunice Stockwell



Holt Collier formerly Private Co. I, 9th Texas Cavalry, Confederate & Teddy Roosevelt