



# THE BRIDGE

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



January 2017

**Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013**

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**Vacant**

Historian

## Claude Ashton Manuel -- 1928-2017



Great grandson of Private Reuben Henry Mixson, Company F, 3rd South Carolina Cavalry, CSA. Enlisted at Hardeeville April 4, 1862 -- Surrendered and paroled at Augusta, Georgia May 19, 1865.

When we ended our December meeting with the singing of Dixie and Claude departed Barker's Mill, we had no idea that he would never return. If we had, perhaps we would have insisted that he linger with us just for a few more moments. But such is the unpredictability of life. It emphasizes for us the

importance of making each minute that we have with friends and loved ones count.

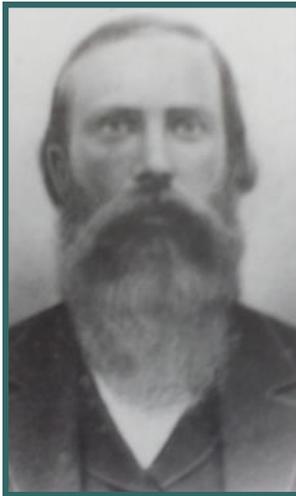
Claude was going about his life Thursday, January 5th, when he experienced a fatal heart attack and stepped across the threshold of eternity. He was 88 years old and the husband of Annie Harvey Manuel whom he loved dearly. Claude was born in Sycamore, South Carolina on August 4, 1928 and was the son of the late Asbury C. and Lizzie Mae Mixson Manuel. He was a member of the Fairfax First Baptist Church and a vital member and officer of Rivers Bridge Camp No. 842 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, where he served as treasurer for many years. He was the current chairman of the board at Water Holidays in Santee, served the town of Fairfax for 17 years as a member of the town council, served in the US Navy aboard the USS Little Rock from February 1946 – December 1947, performed contract work for Exxon and was a member of the Jaycees and was a Mason.

Claude was a maintenance supervisor for the Allendale Correctional Institute during their early years, served as maintenance supervisor for Scotsman Ice Systems and owned and operated Manuel's Supply and Equipment for many years before retirement. After retirement he enjoyed many hours in his shop repairing golf carts. Graveside Funeral Services were held on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery not far from Barker's Mill.

Surviving are his wife of 68 years, Mrs. Annie Harvey Manuel; a son Larry (Lynn) of Fairfax; a daughter, Claudia (Tim) Medlin of Sumter; two sisters, Mrs. Ralph (Jean) Ferguson of Fairfax and Mrs. Sherrill (Faye) Cochran; and four grandchildren, Miss Collins Medlin of Salt Lake City, Utah; Miss Ashton Medlin of St. Augustine, Florida; Miss Anissa Manuel of Bluffton; and Miss Claire Manuel of Fairfax. Memorials may be made to the Mount Pleasant Cemetery fund at PO Box 1025, Fairfax, SC 29827.

To say that we will miss Claude would be an understatement of the first magnitude. Please keep his family in your prayers.

**David Holbrook Platts**



David H. Platts  
In later life.

At our December meeting Compatriot Carl Platts was kind enough to share with us some of the background of his ancestor Lieutenant David Holbrook Platts and his service in the War for Southern Independence.

David Platts obtained the consent of his parents and enlisted on April 4, 1862 in Captain H.C. Smart's company, St. Peters Guards, of the 2nd Regiment of South Carolina Cavalry; he was 17 years old. The 2nd Regiment shortly became the 3rd Regiment and Captain Smart's company became Company F of that unit. The 17 year old evidently showed signs of leadership as he became a Corporal in the new Company F. The following year he was elected Brevet 2nd Lieutenant on May 20, 1863.

Lieutenant Platts participated in the various duties performed by cavalry such as scouting, patrolling and screening in Coastal Carolina and Georgia for the next year or so. On August 17, 1864, he was on such an operation in the vicinity of South New Port, Georgia. On the evening of that date a sleeping Confederate sentry allowed the small cavalry force to be surprised and overcome by Union forces. Fewer than 20 of the Confederates escaped capture or death; Lieutenant Platts was one of the captured. The marker located at the site of this action gives the date as August 18th while official records of the capture is given as August 17th.



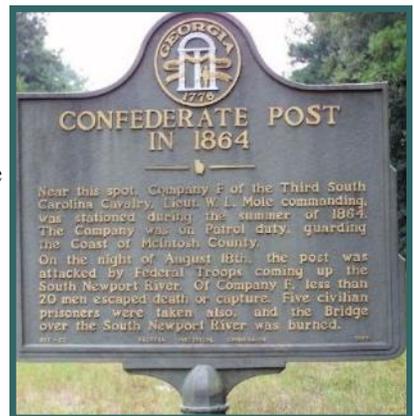
Lieutenant David Holbrook Platts  
THIRD South Carolina Cavalry



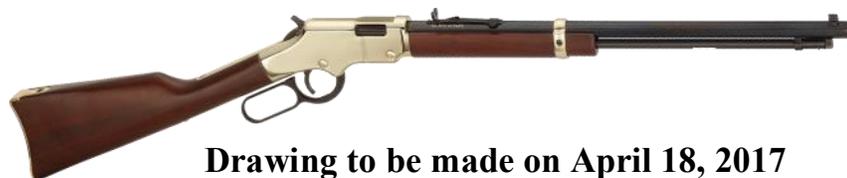
The next record that we have of Lieutenant Platts is as a prisoner aboard the U.S. Supply Steamer "Massachusetts" of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron on January 3, 1865 with indication that this was the ship's 30th trip. The destination was Philadelphia, Pa where David arrived on January 10, 1865 and was transferred to Fort Delaware, Delaware, where he was received on January 12, 1865.

Lieutenant Platts took the Oath of Allegiance and was released on June 17, 1865. He made his way back to South

Carolina and despite the adversities common in the South at that time, he was blessed and prospered. He married Rosa Carolina Kearsse and together they had seven children and were among the most respected families in the area. David H. Platts died at the early age of 45. He is buried at St. Nicholas Lutheran Church, Allendale SC. His widow Rosa filed for a Confederate pension 21 Jan 1913 based upon David's service.



Near South New Port



**Drawing to be made on April 18, 2017**

**Henry Golden Boy HMR**

**.17 Caliber**

**\$5.00 donation per ticket**

## Commander's Corner

Compatriots,

This brief section is normally the first that you see in our newsletter, but this month I choose to defer that honor to the memory of our dear Compatriot Claude Manuel. At this moment I am almost in disbelief that we will not see him walk through the door with his briefcase to start paying bills. Who will take his place to caution us to spend our funds wisely? If Claude approved of an expenditure, you could feel comfortable in going forward with it; whom will we look to for sage counsel now? As you well know, Claude was not only a good and faithful friend, but he was an essential part in the survival of this camp; he would not want to see it falter or fall by the wayside after all his efforts. Let this weigh upon your hearts as we will need someone to step forward to hold the line if not to advance the colors.



Pete Boineau

Commander

Make a notation on your calendars that the Broxton Bridge Reenactment is March 3-5, 2017. We plan on being there in hopes of not only enjoying the occasion, but in an effort to sell some tickets on our Henry Golden Boy HMR .17 caliber rifle. It would make an excellent addition to your collection or a great gift for a grandson or granddaughter. Remember, this is one of our few fundraisers to finance our camp operations and support our Southern Heritage efforts. If you have not gotten your tickets yet please do so soon.



Courtesy of the Virginia Flaggers

You may not be aware of it, but last month the Virginia Flaggers presented our Camp with an 8X8 foot Confederate Battle Flag for our efforts to keep the flag flying in Orangeburg. In recognition of their stalwart efforts in defense of the flag in Virginia and elsewhere, we made a modest donation to them. The motion to do so was made by none other than Treasurer Claude Manuel; the motion was unanimously approved.

Please be aware that Rivers Bridge State Historical Site is offering a tour followed by a Civil War program beginning at 1:30 pm on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2017. As stated, the tour will begin at 1:30 and at 3:00 there will be presentations from featured guest speakers Dr. Grahame Long and Dr. Fritz Hamer. Dr. Long will be talking about new research the Charleston Museum has done on Battery Pringle. Dr. Hamer will discuss the rivalry and contrast in command styles between Confederate Generals Wade Hampton and Jeb Stuart. Snacks and drinks will be provided at the Community Building following the Tour. The admission is only \$5.00 per Adult and children 16 and under are admitted FREE! Anyone wearing a Rivers Bridge T-shirt gets in FREE for both the tour and programs. These T-shirts are available for purchase in the office.

Please meet at the Community Building at Rivers Bridge State Historic Site at 1:30 pm; the tour will proceed to the battlefield from there.

We have decided to make a period of time available at each meeting for a compatriot to share with the camp the service record of their ancestor. In this way we hope that each of us will not only gain a better understanding of our ancestor's service, but also an appreciation of how many of them served together in the Cause of the South. An example is that Carl Platts' ancestor served in the same company as Claude Manuel's ancestor. This month I will be talking about the service of my 3G Grandfather, Private Thomas Hamelton Smith of Company E, 11th South Carolina Infantry (9th SC Volunteers). I encourage you to be gathering the information that you need and volunteer soon to honor your ancestor. Some are blessed to have photos of their Confederate Ancestor while many do not; don't let that concern you; just remember, he was a Confederate soldier and that is something to be proud of.

Our guest speaker this month is Compatriot Jack Marler who will be speaking on **Lee and Jackson**.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at Barker's Mill on Tuesday January 17, 2017,

Pete

**“What a glorious world God Almighty has given us. How thankless & ungrateful we are, and how we labor to mar his gifts.”**

**General Robert E. Lee**

## The Bridge

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## Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South  
since 1896

## Camp No. 842 Calendar

Jan 17, 2017	Regular Camp Meeting
Jan 19, 1807	Robert E. Lee born
Jan 21, 1824	Thomas Jonathan (Stonewall) Jackson born
Feb 3, 1865	Battle of Rivers Bridge
Feb 4, 2017	Battlefield tour Rivers Bridge Historic Site 1:30 P.M. Meet at Community Building.
Feb 21, 2017	Regular Camp Meeting
Mar 3-5, 2017	Battle for Broxton's Bridge Reenactment

## 11th Regiment, South Carolina Infantry (9th Volunteers)

### Overview:

11th Infantry Regiment [also called 9th Regiment] was organized during the summer of 1861 with men from Beaufort, Clarendon, and Colleton counties. The unit served in the Charleston area, fought at Pocotaligo, then was stationed at Hardeeville. It was assigned to Hagood's Brigade, then one company was permitted to organize and equip as a light battery (Beaufort Artillery), and the regiment served with nine companies. During the summer of 1863 it was again active in the Charleston area but later moved to Florida and then to Virginia in the spring of 1864. Here it fought at Drewry's Bluff and Cold

Harbor and in the trenches of Petersburg. In 1865 the unit moved to Fort Fisher and saw action at Bentonville. It lost 4 killed, 15 wounded, and 2 missing at Pocotaligo, had 14 killed, 39 wounded, and 12 missing in front of Petersburg (May 6-9), and sustained 14 killed, 28 wounded, and 45 missing at Deep Bottom. Its casualties were about sixty percent in the fight at Weldon Railroad, and scarcely the strength of a company surrendered on April 26, 1865. The field officers were Colonels Daniel H. Ellis, F. Hay Gantt, and William C. Heyward; Lieutenant Colonels Robert Campbell, Allen C. Izard, and William Shuler; and Majors John J. Gooding, John J. Gooding, John J. Harrison, and B. Burgh Smith.

