



**Sons Of Confederate Veterans**  
**ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA**  
**MARYLAND DIVISION**  
**COLONEL WILLIAM NORRIS**  
**CAMP #1398**



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**ANNUAL POTOMAC RIVER CROSSING**

**Saturday August, 28th**



On Saturday, August 28th at 11:00 the Colonel William Norris Camp 1398 will once again be hosting our annual Potomac River Crossing at Dickerson Conservation Park. This year will be the 148th anniversary of Lee's crossing into Maryland during the Maryland Campaign of the War. This promises to be another memorable event. Come out for a day of Great Food, Great Fun, and Great Southern Camaraderie.

I'd like to take this opportunity to appologize to my compatriots for not getting a newsletter out for the last few months. I could blame it on work, and I think I will, but I'm also going to use a little more discipline to make sure it gets out every month. Let me know what you'd like to see in the newsletter, we can do it.

Summer is the time of year when things tend to slow down at the camp a little, but right now we're planning the River Crossing and gearing up for our fall events. Could really use some input from all our members regarding the upcoming crossing. I'd love to hear any ideas you might have to make this the most succesful event yet. To all our new members, please invite your friends and family, and if you can help out, it would be greatly appreciated. Everyone's invited to our next planning meeting (and World Class Fried Chicken) at Hersheys. We'll shoot out an email with the date.

For this month's July 6th meeting, Bob Brewer has lined up a fantastic speaker. William Connery, noted author, will be speaking on The CSS Shenandoah and The Last Shot of the Civil War.

Should prove to be a facinating evening. Come out early for dinner and enjoy some one on one time with the speaker. Hope to see you all there.

Steve Gill  
 Commander

# Adjutant's Report

Minutes of June 1st Camp Meeting at Gaithersburg VFW Hall.

There were 4 members and guests attending including compatriots; Dan Belvin, Bob Brewer, and Adjutant/Treasurer Harold Ford. Our special guest was Kate Brewer.

## Dr. Samuel A. Mudd

One of the docents portraying, a slave lady of Dr. Mudd's household in the first person describing events surrounding the Booth incident and Dr. Mudd's arrest in detail. Below is the history of this event.

While Samuel A. Mudd clearly played a part in Charles County's Civil War history, his role remains open to speculation. Was he an assassination conspirator or a compassionate country doctor? He set the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth hours after Booth had shot President Abraham Lincoln and jumped to the stage at Ford's Theatre. Mudd was tried along with several accomplices and found guilty of conspiracy to murder. He escaped the death penalty by one vote and was sentenced to life in prison, but later pardoned. The family of Mudd maintains his innocence. Along with a dedicated corps of volunteers, they share his story in his home, restored to its 1860s grandeur.

Costumed docents describe how a disguised Booth (and a companion, David Herold) arrived early in the morning April 15, 1865, with a broken leg he said he injured in a horse accident. Mudd led him to a sofa that still sits in the living room. After Mudd set the broken limb, his visitors retired upstairs, where some original furnishings remain. Many of Mudd's personal effects, including various medical tools, are displayed throughout the house. All rooms have been returned to their Civil War color scheme.

Booth and Herold departed later that day on a path still visible on the property. When questioned about the incident, Mudd -- a known supporter of slavery and a Confederate sympathizer -- said he did not recognize the men. Within days, he was under arrest for conspiracy; he had met Booth twice the previous year. Docents say these meetings were chance encounters, not part of a plot to assassinate the president. In the end, Mudd spent

less than four years at a remote Florida prison in the Dry Tortugas. During his confinement, yellow fever broke out, killing the prison doctor and others. Mudd cared for ailing patients despite contracting the disease himself. His efforts earned him a pardon from President Andrew Johnson, who also cited doubts about his guilt. Mudd returned to his home and was later elected to the Maryland legislature in 1876. He died of pneumonia in 1883, soon after his 49th birthday. His original headstone remains on the 10-acre property, although he is buried a few miles away.

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## Speaker for July Meeting

The last shot of the Civil War was fired, not on an obscure battlefield, but in the iceberg-bound Bering Sea nearly three months after Robert E. Lee's surrender.

And the Last Confederate Flag was not lowered until November 1865 in Liverpool, England.

Mr. William Connery was born and raised in the shadow of the Patterson Park Pagoda in Baltimore. This is the spot defended by American troops during the bombardment of Fort McHenry in 1814. During the Civil War, a military camp and hospital was located there. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland and has written and spoken on many Civil War topics. These topics include the Confederate Navy and the CSS Shenandoah, the U.S.C.T. and the Battle of Fort Pocahontas, Frederick Douglass and Maryland, and President John Tyler and the Confederacy. He has available a series of articles on various topics: (Mob Town, the Museum of the Confederacy, an interview with Harrison Tyler), Baltimore subjects (Immigration, E. A. Poe, Frederick Douglass, Polish Christmas in East Baltimore, the B&O Railroad), and Northern Virginia topics (Historical Old Town Fairfax, The Resurrection of a Black Cemetery in Alexandria). He has spoken to historical groups from Baltimore to Richmond and can be reached at 701-719-6639 and [william.connery@verizon.net](mailto:william.connery@verizon.net).

Shenandoah and The Last Shot of the Civil War at the Col. Wm. Norris SCV Camp on July 6 at 7:00 PM at the VFW Post 9862 (211 N. Frederick Ave.) in Gaithersburg.

## Discussion for Next Meeting

- River Crossing – The date set for the river crossing is Saturday, August 28th. We have a very large set of shoes to fill, since our BBQ man, Compatriot Jon Ollivari took a job in Nebraska and will be unable to serve his award winning BBQ at this event, so we must develop a Plan B. We need to discuss ideas to overcome this problem.
- Newsletter Editor - Our Commander, Steve Gill, is being overwhelmed with both Camp Commander duties, and Newsletter editor.
- Ideas for improving Camp participation – How can we improve this camp? The meetings? Events?

Notify the Camp Heritage Officer compatriot Jim Stargel ([jim.stargel@faa.gov](mailto:jim.stargel@faa.gov)) of any heritage violations.

Harold E. Ford

Adjutant/Treasurer Col. William Norris Camp #1398

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(This article by Dave Reddin was supposed to be in the April Newsletter.)

## SCV Adopt-A-Road Report

Hello Norris camp compatriots (and other readers). It has been a while since yours truly has written anything for the newsletter. Gosh, I really have missed putting together a newsletter and getting it out on deadline (Not!). Thanks to Commander Steve Gill, who despite repeated pleas (almost on bended knee) for a newsletter editor has to put one out in addition to all his camp duties and business and personal life. Please, please, please, someone needs to come forward and help out the camp. Thanks.

Anyway, the camp did another road cleanup on Saturday, March 20th. My goodness was the weather ever nice, as it should have been, given that it was the first day of spring. You would think that with all of the snow we had this past winter that there would have been little trash. Ha! We had our biggest haul of trash ever. We had about 12 big bags of trash, 8 tires (including one massive truck tire mounted on its rim – very heavy!), a television, and even a refrigerator. It was remarked that the Confederate Army must have been drinking a lot of beer when they climbed out of White's Ford back in 1862 based on the amount of cans and bottles we picked up. Joining the group this time was Ray Parker, new compatriot Trent Hopkins, commander Steve Gill, and yours truly, Dave Redden. Afterwards, we loaded everything up in the back of Trent Hopkins' truck and took it to the dump outside of Poolesville.

Last year, we had 6 road clean-ups plus the river clean-up. All told last year, we picked up over 50 bags of trash, numerous tires, an air conditioner, a screen door, and lots of other interesting items. Most times we only had 4 or so people joining in. One time last year, it was only me. I was hoping for a better showing this time as there was still more trash that could have been collected back off the road a ways as well as the road leading from Martinsburg Road to the parking lot at Dickerson Regional Park is in bad shape. That section is not really our responsibility but I can't help always wanting to do more than is expected.

So I have scheduled our next clean-up for Saturday, May 1st at 9:30 am!

I really hope to get a great turn-out this time. I am hoping that the undergrowth hasn't really started growing too much by then, so we can get some of the stuff off the road a ways. Thanks to everyone and anyone who has helped and/or cheered us on in this great community involvement, awareness, and service program. Enjoy the pictures!



## July

- 1 1862 Battle of Malvern Hill, VA
- 1-3 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, PA begins
- 2 1810 Robert Augustus Toombs Birthday (CSA General and statesman)
- 2 1863 Battle of Little & Big Round Tops, Devil's Dean, Wheatfield, Peach Orchard, Cemetery Hill and Culps Hill in Gettysburg, PA
- 3 1863 Pickett-Pettigrew Charge, Gettysburg, PA
- 4 1828 General John J. Pettigrew's birthday
- 4 1863 Vicksburg, MS falls
- 5 1861 Engagement at Carthage, MO
- 5 1864 Federal cavalry occupies Roswell, GA; burns cotton and woolen mills next day
- 6 1861 CSS Sumter releases seven captured Union vessels in Cuban waters
- 8 1863 Port Hudson, LA surrenders as the last Confederate garrison on the Mississippi River
- 9 1864 Battle of Monocacy, MD, General Jubal Early's troops advance on Washington, D.C.
- 9 1864 Factory works and surrounding homes in New Manchester, GA are burned under direct order of General Sherman. A wooden dam across the Sweetwater creek is cannonaded causing hundreds of thousands of dollars of further destruction to civilian property.
- 10 1864 Mill workers from Roswell, New Manchester and Marietta, GA charged with treason, 400-500 mostly women, children and only a few men deported north by General Sherman, most never seen or heard from again
- 11 1863 Yankee troops assault Battery Wagner at Charleston, SC
- 12 1864 Skirmish at Campbelton, GA
- 13 1821 General Nathan Bedford Forrest's birthday
- 14 1862 The Arkansas, Confederate Ironclad attacks and damages three Yankee ships at Vicksburg, MS
- 14-15 1864 Battle of Tupelo, MS
- 15 1864 An Erie Railroad train jammed with Confederate prisoners, collides with a freight train More than 100 injured CSA prisoners were dumped into the Elmira, NY prison compound untreated and most died within a few days.
- 17 1863 General John H. Morgan raids into Cincinnati heading east towards the Ohio River.
- 20 1864 Battle of Peachtree Creek, GA
- 21 1861 First Battle of Manassas, VA
- 22 1864 Battle of Atlanta, GA begins
- 23 1863 The first 60 midshipmen are assigned to the Confederate Naval Academy on board the Confederate States School Ship CSS Patrick Henry
- 23 1864 CSS Tallahassee commissioned as a commerce raider.
- 23 1865 Major Henry Wirz's trial began. He was charged with 13 murders, one of which supposedly happened in February of 1864, which was before Wirz even arrived at Andersonville. Of the other 12 charges of murder, each and every one of the "victims'" names were unknown
- 24 1864 Second Battle of Kernstown, VA
- 25 1863 Skirmish at Brownsville, AR and Williamsburg, KY
- 25 1864 Skirmish at Benton, AR and Pleasant Hill, MO
- 26 1861 Confederate forces capture Fort Fillmore, Mesilla, NM Territory
- 27 1864 Sherman orders railroad lines south of Atlanta to be destroyed.
- 28 1864 Battle of Ezra Church, GA
- 30 1864 Battle of The Crater, Petersburg, VA
- 30 1864 Battle of Brown's Mill, Newnan, GA
- 30 1864 Macon, GA occupied by Stoneman's Yankee cavalry
- 31 1863 Skirmish at Paint Lick Bridge, KY
- 31 1864 Battle of Sunshine Church near Round Oak, GA
- 31 1864 Fighting near Watkins Plantation, AL