



THE LEGIONARY

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina ♦ www.wadehamptontcamp.org

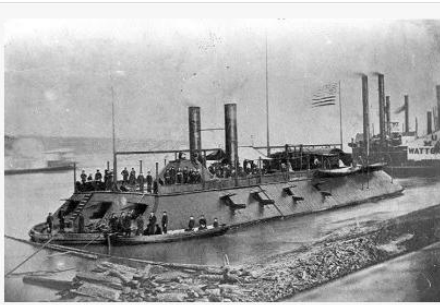
Charles Bray, Acting Editor

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

SPECIAL EDITION

CHARLES BRAY

Normally this month you would have received a post card or a email notification about the August 21 camp meeting. Since I was able to attend the 2013 SCV National Reunion in Vicksburg, MS July 17 to 21 I decided to share some of what I saw at the Vicksburg National Military Park. One of the many things I found very interesting was the restored USS Cairo, which like our H. L. Hunley, was removed from a watery grave and restored and on display at the park. I feel that the park service has done commendable job of restoration and display of the ship and artifacts recovered from the Yazoo river. The following is a brief history of the Cairo and pictures I took of the restored gunboat and comment.



USS Cairo

Specifications – USS Cairo

- Initial Year in Service: 1862
- Crew: 250
- Length: 175ft
- Beam: 51.1ft
- Draught: 6ft
- Displacement: 512 tons

Machinery

- 1 – steam engine with 22 inch cylinder and stroke of 6 feet, fed by five fire tube boilers at 140 psi, internal paddle wheel propelled.

Armament

- 6 x 32-pounders – 159 millimeter smooth bore cannons
- 3 – 8 inch (203mm) smooth bore cannons
- 3 – 42-pounders (178mm) army rifles
- 1 – 12-pounder (117mm) howitzer (later replaced by 1 – 30-pounder (107mm) Parrott rifle)

The U.S.S. Cairo was one of seven ironclad gunboats named in honor of towns along the upper Mississippi and Ohio rivers. These powerful ironclads were formidable vessels, each mounting thirteen big guns (cannon). On them rested in large part, Northern hopes to regain control of the lower Mississippi River and split the Confederacy in two.

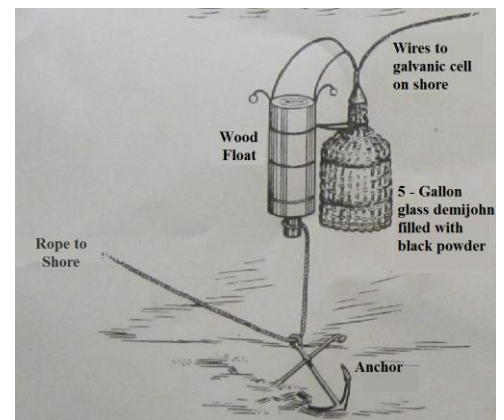
These "city class" gunboats were designed by Samuel M. Pook and built by river engineer James B. Eads. She was the first vessel of the City class ironclads, also called the Cairo class, commissioned as part of the Union Army's Western Gunboat Flotilla on the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and their tributaries until transferred to the Navy October 1, 1862 with the other river gunboats.

The Cairo was destined to see only limited action in the engagement at Plum Point in May and in the battle of Memphis in June. Her most significant action came six months later when she kept a rendezvous with destiny.

December 12, 1862, found the *USS Cairo* busy clearing Confederate torpedoes (today called underwater mines) from the muddy Yazoo River. Upon hearing small arms fire, Commander Selfridge thought his vessel was under attack and ordered the

Cairo into position. Two Confederate sailors Acting Master Zedekiah McDaniel and Francis M. Ewing, names now lost to history, hid behind a river bank and waited as the Cairo maneuvered to the front of the flotilla.

At the right moment, the two Confederates detonated the torpedoes with an electric charge. Two explosions ripped a

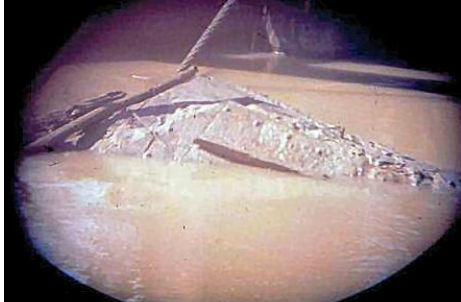


large hole in the port bow causing the *Cairo* to quickly fill with water. Within 12 minutes, it sank to the bottom in six fathoms (36 feet) of water, but with no loss of life. *The USS Cairo became the first armored warship in history to be sunk by an electronically detonated mine.*



100 Years on the Bottom

The Cairo remained hidden on the bottom of the muddy Yazoo River until 1956. In 1961 parts of the Cairo were raised. But over the years silt and river sediment had accumulated inside the vessel, and, as the *Cairo* was lifted from the bottom, it began to bend and buckle from the added weight. Without warning, the



**USS Cairo first breaks the surface
September 13, 1964**

lifting cables sliced deep into its wooden hull cutting the boat into three sections and on December 12, 1964 the entire vessel, in pieces, was raised 102 years from the date it went down.

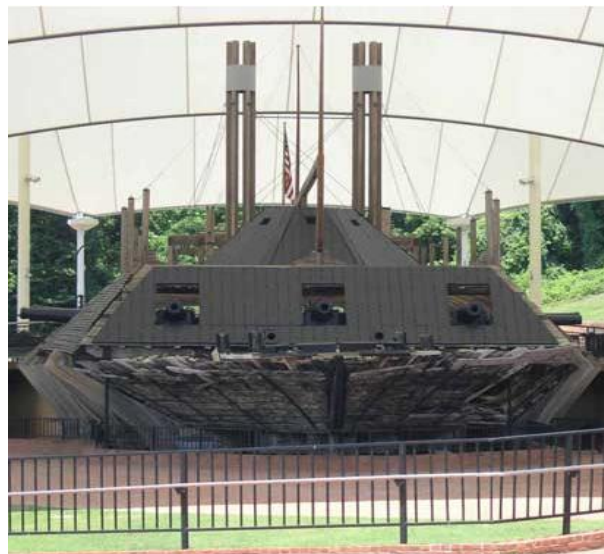


The remains of the *Cairo* were lifted from the river, placed on barges and towed to Ingalls Shipyard located on the gulf coast in Pascagoula, Mississippi. The Cairo rested for about 12 years at the Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, MS, before being returned to Vicksburg in 1977 under custody of the National Park Service. The research, conserving and reassembly of the Cairo and its contents was completed in 1984 and placed on exhibit at the Vicksburg National Military Park for anyone who may want to experience what life was like on a Civil War ironclad a time long ago. The ***U.S.S. CAIRO is the only surviving example of a class of warships specifically designed for use on the Mississippi River during the Civil War.***

National Park Service

In 1972, the U.S. Congress enacted legislation authorizing the National Park Service to accept title to the Cairo and restore the gunboat for display in Vicksburg National Military Park. Delays in funding the project halted progress until June of 1977, when the vessel was transported to the park and partially reconstructed on a concrete foundation near the Vicksburg National Cemetery. Recovery of artifacts from the Cairo revealed a treasure trove of weapons, munitions, naval stores and personal gear of the sailors who served on board. The gunboat and its artifacts can now be seen along the tour road at the U.S.S. Cairo Museum.

Today the USS Cairo is housed under a tent located adjacent to the museum where recovered artifacts are on display. This is the second tent to cover the Cairo and its original design has been modified so that there are no places under the canopy that would allow birds to nest, which with the original tent was a problem.



The USS Cairo on display under its protective canopy.



Bow view of the Cairo with Pilot House on top.

Capstan

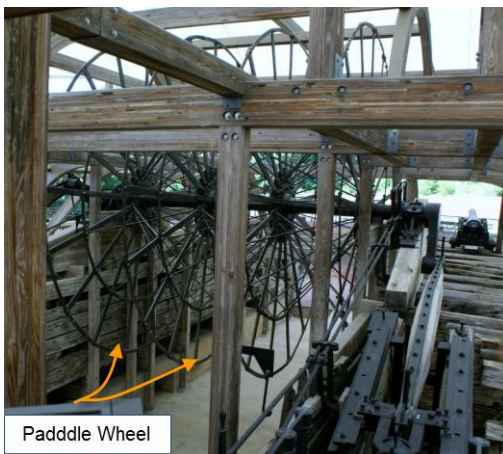
The gunboat's capstan was capable of moving weights of several tons. It was a steam-driven or hand-driven winch used for pulling in the anchor, moving guns on the gun deck, and hauling lines. Steam from the boilers powered the capstan. In the event of a power loss, this essential tool was turned by hand with wooden spokes inserted into the hub at the top.



USS Cairo's capstan

Paddle Wheel

The Paddle Wheel was powered by 2 huge steam powered pistons on either side of the engine compartment. The pistons pushed oscillating arms which turned the paddle wheel. At full steam the Cairo's engine could move the 888 ton gunboat had a top speed of about 9 miles per hour.



Paddle Wheel



USS Cairo Bell

The Cairo's bell weighs 400 pounds. As the bell was being raised air that had been trapped, when the Cairo sank, escaped and bubbled up.

Iron Plating on the USS Cairo and railroad rails, added by the crew protected the Cairo.



Side view of gun ports and armor plating.

The 2-1/2 inch thick charcoal plate iron was *originally backed by a two foot thickness of white oak timbers*. Without

the wood to absorb the shock of shot and shell hitting the iron, the metal would have shattered like glass.

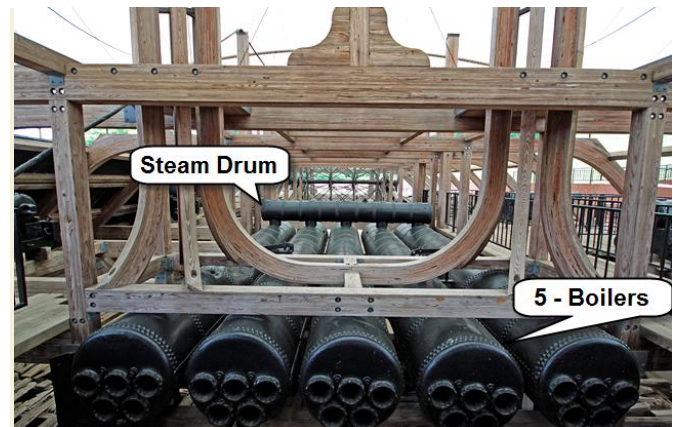


- 1 Laminated beam skeleton supporting the Cairo
- 2 View of the Cairo's hull, showing a double hull.

Fire Tube Boilers

USS Cairo's five fire tube boilers, picture below, are among the oldest and best surviving examples of the type designed for boats plying the western waters. The boilers operated at 140 pounds per square inch steam pressure and consumed almost a ton of coal per hour. Ships of this class had a top speed of 9 knots per hour.

A gunboat without steam could not move and was helpless if attacked. Ironclads kept fires burning and steam pressure built up even when anchored. For hours on end coal heavers piled coal from storage bunkers into the fire room, and firemen fed the fuel each boiler's fire box.

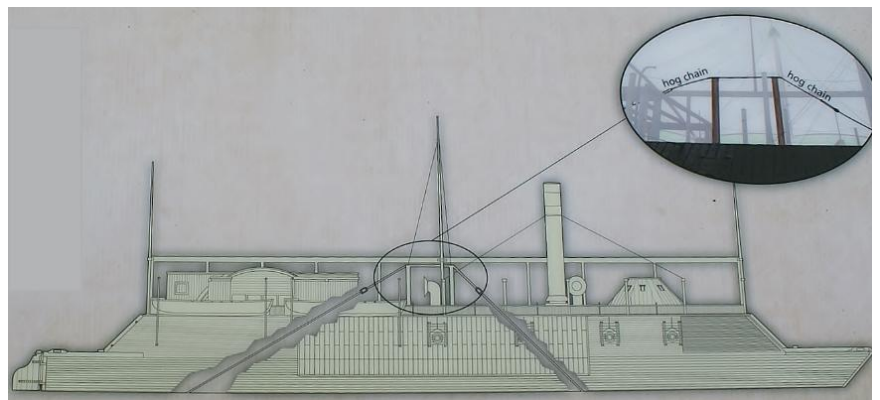


Steam Drum

5 - Boilers

Hog Chains

Ironclad gunboats had long, flat bottomed hulls to navigate shallow rivers. Loaded with heavy boilers, engines and guns the hull tended to droop at the ends from uneven weight. This caused the center of the boat to hump up like a hog's back – called "hogging." Hog chains kept the bow and stern from sagging.



*A Story to Live By*

I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting in the yard and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden or the weeds in my neighbor's yard.

I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time at work. Whenever possible, life should be a pattern or experiences to savor, not to endure. I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.

I'm not "saving" anything; we use our good china and crystal to celebrate every special event, such as, losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first orchid blossom. I wear my good blazer to the market. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries. I'm not

saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for clerks in the hardware store and tellers at the bank.

"Someday" and "one of those days" and "maybe tomorrow" are losing their grip on my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now!

I'm not sure what my friends and family would've done had they known that they wouldn't be here for the tomorrow that we all take for granted. I think they would have called their family members and a few close friends. They might have called a few more friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think they would have gone out for a Chinese dinner, or for whatever their favorite food was. I'm

guessing; I'll never know.

It's those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn't tell my spouse, children and parents, siblings and friends often enough how much I truly love them. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives.

And, every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God.

Author Unknown

"We need to realize that in this world today, it is not always about us or what we have accumulated over the years, but what we have shared with others who are less fortunate. There are so many of our friends, and maybe even some of our family members who are in need of our thoughts and prayers, but we somehow seem to forget that we may need some special attention one day ourselves."

Father GOD, creator of all, we ask that you not only abide for us but for our friends and loved ones as well. Continue to heal the sick and give support to us all. We especially remember all our compatriots who are suffering and need our prayers. Thank you GOD for giving us another day to enjoy all YOUR beautiful creations.



ADJUTANTS DESK

CHARLIE BRAY

Compatriots, where has this year gone? Membership renewal is well under way, and we have a little over 4 months to the end of the year. Our camp has had a very successful year and ended it with 175 members and 11 associate members, however we still have a great deal of work to do regarding growth and retention of members. As members of the South Carolina Division, we can hold our heads high as our Division is the 3rd largest in the Confederation. Only Georgia and Virginia are larger. The South Carolina Division contains 6 of the largest camps in the top 20 camps in the Confederation. Of the total votes in the top 20 camps, South Carolina currently controls approximately 32% of the total.

Our goal for next year is to improve member retention, recruit new members, and increase our overall vote percentage. Our division has played a prominent leadership role in the SCV at the National level, and we need to be in a position to ensure that this leadership continues. Retention and growth of our membership will enable us to reach this goal.

In 2014 at the SCV National Reunion in North Charleston, new officers will be elected. Several South Carolinians will be running for National Positions, and we need to be in a position to help them achieve these posts. With this in mind, let's renew and grow our membership which will enable us to have a powerful voice in deciding our future.

Renewal Reminder:

If you have misplaced the renewal package or have not received one, please mail your renewal to the address below:

Charles Bray
507 Sail Point Way
Columbia, SC 29212-8711

New Members: \$65.00 - National \$40.00 (includes the \$5.00 recording fee and \$5.00 SCV pin); Division \$10.00; Camp \$15.00

Renewing Members: \$55.00 - National \$30.00; Division \$10.00; Camp \$15.00;

Reinstating Members: \$65.00 - National \$35.00 (includes the \$5.00 reinstate fee); Division \$15.00 (includes the \$5.00 reinstate fee); Camp \$15.00.



RENEW EARLY AND RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER.

We are currently at 65% on our renewals.



Compatriots' camp member Earl Eargle is making available to our camp a opportunity to purchase the CD "People Trains and Things in Bluegrass". The Wade Hampton Camp will receive a \$5.00 contribution to our camp for each CD sold. Specifics about the CD are as follows.

The original historical album first recorded in 1973 by the Lucas and Harman Brothers. Album specifics are;

CD Name – People Trains and Things Released - 1973

Songs – 12 songs on the album

- Amtrak
- People Trains
- The Southern Crescent

- Auto Train
- Ashville Special
- Turbo Train
- Lexington County Blues
- Trail of Tears (Original Version)
- The Legend of Dr. Kron
- Brick Mason Blues
- Have I Lost Your Love
- Living Word

The original album has been placed in the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, as an original archive piece. Each CD has a four page booklet with pictures, histories, and descriptions of song selection, accomplishments of the Lucas and Harmon Brothers Bluegrass Band, and

much more.

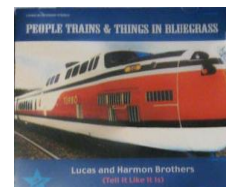
To order your copy of "People Trains and Things in Bluegrass."

Price of CD:	\$15.00
Shipping & Handling:	\$3.25
Total:	\$18.25

Mail your order to;

Earl Eargle / PTM Publishers
3025 Blalock Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169

Checks or Money Orders Only



A CALL FOR HELP

CHARLIE BRAY

Compatriots, we are currently well into our renewal period and at this time the results look promising. With that said I need to address some issues that need to be resolved in order for the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp to be successful.

One of the biggest issues we have is filling leadership positions in the camp. We need members to run for the various officer positions within the camp. The primary positions are;

- Camp Commander
- Lt. Commander
- Adjutant
- Legionary Editor
- Chaplain
- Speaker Coordinator

Camp leadership positions can vary from camp to camp but those listed are

common to most camps in the SCV. However in a camp like ours, which is involved in many public events, we also need members to join an event committee. I am certain if you do you will discover the requirements are not difficult or as time consuming as you might think. All but one of the events we are involved in is an annual event. Event examples are;

- Wade Hampton Memorial Service
- Columbia Veterans Day Parade
- Elmwood Cemetery Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony
- May 10 Confederate Memorial Day at the State House.
- Firing on Columbia Reenactment
- Education Day and Battle for Columbia

- Cayce Museum Christmas Open House

If two or more members volunteer to support any one of these events it makes things so much easier. There is the pride of seeing a successful conclusion to the event you worked on and the knowledge you have lived up to our charge.

Please give this serious consideration and if you feel you would like to participate in a leadership role or on a committee contact either;

Commander Greg Turner

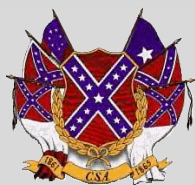
TN: 803-420-1331

E-Mail: commandergregturner@gmail.com

Adjutant Charlie Bray

TN: 803-749-1042

E-Mail: cdbiii@bellsouth.net



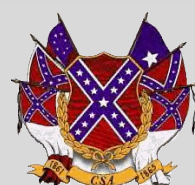
Individuals interested in joining the SCV or this Camp should contact

Compatriot Scott James

Phone (803) 781-1836

E-mail wscottjames@bellsouth.net

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN!



Receive "The Legionary" by e-mail and help our camp save on expenses!

The Wade Hampton Camp is now offering e-mail delivery of the Legionary in PDF and WORD DOC "full color" format. Currently we have **141** Regular Members and **7** Associate Members receiving e-mail delivery out of a combined membership of **186**. E-Mail delivery will enable the camp to reduce our annual expense for printing and mailing the Legionary which in turn will help us to keep the camps dues at the current level. The more members signing up will result in a greater savings for our camp. If you would like to signup for e-mail delivery please contact: Charlie Bray at cdbiii@bellsouth.net or my Home TN: 803-749-1042.

Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

August 10, 1861	Brig. Gen. Roswell S. Ripley Confederate States Army is assigned to command the department of South Carolina.
August 29-30, 1862	Aug 29-30: 75,000 Federals under General John Pope are defeated by 55,000 Confederate troops under Gen. Stonewall Jackson and Gen. James Longstreet at the second battle of Bull Run in northern Virginia
August 17, 1863	On August 17, Major Gen. Quincy Adams Gillmore opened fire on Fort Sumter and during the first day of the bombardment nearly 1,000 shells were fired. By August 23, the masonry had been turned to rubble and Beauregard removed as many of the fort's guns as possible. Gillmore wired the War Department that "Fort Sumter is a shapeless and harmless mass of ruin". However, the bombardment of Fort Sumter would continue in general until December 31, 1863.
August 21 1864	Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest with 2,000 troops occupies Memphis, TN for a few hours during the day, nearly capturing Major Generals Stephen Hurlbut and C. C. Washburn. The raid forced federal troops operating in the area to withdraw to Memphis, giving Forrest free reign to raid William Tecumseh Sherman's supply lines
August 23, 1865	Captain Henry Wirz superintendent of the Confederate prison at Andersonville, Georgia, was tried by a military commission presided over by General Lew Wallace from August 23 to October 24, 1865, and was hanged in the yard of the Old Capitol Prison on November 10.

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday August 22, 2013
6:00p.m.



Seawell's Restaurant

1125 Rosewood Dr.

Columbia, SC

Speaker:

Mr. Tom Elmore

"Burning of Columbia"

Y'all COME!!!!

WWW.WADEHAMPTONCAMP.ORG



Columbia, SC 29212

507 Sail Point Way

C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III

A Non-Profit Organization

LT. GEN. WADE HAMPTON III Camp No. 273

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

The Official Publication of

THE LEGIONARY



