

Commander :

David Allen

1st Lieutenant Cdr :

John Harris

2nd Lieutenant Cdr & Adjutant :

Frank Delbridge

Color Sergeant :

Clyde Biggs

Chaplain :

Dr. Wiley Hales

Newsletter :

James Simms

jbsimms@comcast.net

Website : Brad Smith

tidepridebrad@gmail.com

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Commander Allen will be bringing Confederate History Month posters to the meeting.

Please take some to any schools you know will display them.

Compatriot Reginald Vick is in a nursing home. Let's remember him in our thoughts and prayers, and pay him a visit if possible. More details at the meeting.

From Brad Smith.. We have a brand new domain name for the camp website! Everyone please add www.SCVTUSCALOOSA.org to your bookmarks. On the new webpage, you will also find links to our new Facebook and Twitter accounts. For those of you that use Facebook, please become "fans" of our page.

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Upcoming Events

2010

- 8** April - Camp Meeting
- 25** April - Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony
3 PM Nazarene Primitive Baptist Church
- 13** May - Camp Meeting
- 29-30** May - Tannehill Reenactment
- 10** June - Camp Meeting

The Rodes Brigade Report is a monthly publication by the Robert E. Rodes SCV Camp #262 to preserve the history and legacy of the citizen-soldiers who, in fighting for the Confederacy, personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the *Second American Revolution*. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved. Edited by James B. Simms; non-member subscriptions are available for \$15. Please send information, comments, or inquiries to Robert E. Rodes Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #262, PO Box 1417, Tuscaloosa, AL 34501 or jbsimms@comcast.net.

General Robert Emmet Rodes (1829-1864)

The Robert E. Rodes Camp #262 is named in memory of Robert Emmet Rodes. General Rodes was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, on March 30, 1829; the son of General David Rodes and Martha Yancey. Attending Virginia Military Institute, he graduated in July 1848, standing 10th in a class of 24 graduates; Assistant Professor (Physical Science, Chemistry, Tactics) at VMI, 1848-1850. He married Virginia Hortense Woodruff (1833-1907), of Tuscaloosa, Alabama in September 1857. They had 2 children: Robert Emmet Rodes, Jr. (1863-1925) and a daughter, Bell Yancey Rodes (1865-1931). He taught at VMI as an assistant professor until 1851. He left when a promotion he wanted to full professor was given instead to Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, a future Confederate general and commander of his. Rodes used his civil engineering skills to become chief engineer for the Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He held this position until the start of the Civil War. Although born a Virginian, he chose to serve his adopted state of Alabama.

He started his Confederate service as a Colonel in command of the 5th Alabama Infantry regiment, in the brigade commanded by Major General Richard S. Ewell, with which he first saw combat at the 1st Bull Run. He was promoted to Brigadier General on October 21, 1861, and commanded a brigade under Major General Daniel H. Hill. In the Peninsula Campaign, Rodes was wounded in the arm at Seven Pines and was assigned to light duty in the defenses of Richmond, Virginia while he recuperated.

He recovered in time for General Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the north in September, 1862, fighting at South Mountain and Sharpsburg. At Sharpsburg, he commanded one of two brigades that held out so long against the Union assault on the sunken road, or "Bloody Lane", at the center of the Confederate line, suffering heavy casualties. Rodes was lightly wounded by shell fragments.

At Chancellorsville, Rodes was a division commander in Stonewall Jackson's corps. He was the only division-level commander in Lee's army who had not graduated from West Point. He was temporarily placed in command of the corps on May 2, 1863, when Jackson was mortally wounded and Lieutenant General A.P. Hill was also wounded, but Lee quickly replaced him with the more experienced Major General J.E.B. Stuart. Jackson on his deathbed recommended that Rodes be promoted to major general and this promotion was back-dated to be effective May 2nd.

When Lee reorganized the Army of Northern Virginia to compensate for the loss of Jackson, Rodes joined the II Corps under Ewell. At Gettysburg, on July 1, Rodes led the assault south from Oak Hill against the right flank of the Union I Corps. Although he successfully routed the division of Major Gen. John C. Robinson and drove it back through the town, the attack was not as well coordinated or pursued as aggressively as his reputation would have implied. His division sat mostly idle for the remaining two days of the battle. After performing poorly at Gettysburg, and recovered his reputation somewhat by performing better at Spotsylvania Court House.

Rodes continued to fight with Ewell's corps through the Overland Campaign of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. Ewell was replaced by Major General Jubal A. Early and his corps was sent by Lee to the Shenandoah Valley to draw Union forces away from the Siege of Petersburg, in the Valley Campaign. They conducted a long and successful raid down the Valley, into Maryland, and reached the outskirts of Washington, D.C., before turning back. Major Gen. Philip Sheridan was sent by Grant to drive Early from the Valley.

On September 19, 1864, Sheridan attacked the Confederates at Opequon/3rd Winchester. Several wives of Confederate officers were chased from town during the attack and Rodes managed to save Major Gen. John B. Gordon's wife from capture. Rodes and Gordon prepared to attack Sheridan's forces when Rodes was struck in the back of his head by a Union shell fragment. He died on the field outside Winchester.

Rodes was a modest but inspiring leader. He was mourned by the Confederacy as a promising, brave, and aggressive officer killed before he could achieve greatness. Lee and other high-ranking officers wrote sympathetic statements. He was buried at Spring Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg, Virginia next to his brother, Virginicus Hudson Rodes; and his parents. His wife Virginia Hortense is buried in Alabama, her home state.

His Major Commands included Rode's Brigade/D.H. Hill's Division and Rodes Division/II Corps.

Support Your Confederate Heritage



Alabama SCV specialty car Tag!!

Remember:

1. The SCV Specialty Tag is an OFFICIAL, LEGALLY RECOGNIZED LICENSE PLATE as established by an act of the Alabama Legislature. The Battle Flag exhibited in this manner can NOT be discriminated against or removed by any government entity, corporation, employer or person without violating the law. IMAGINE! While politicians remove our flag from public view, one at a time, we will be displaying our Flag by the thousands to the public, furthering Confederate Pride and Loyalty.
2. You may personalize this tag with up to 5 letters and/or numbers, AT NO EXTRA CHARGE. (ALDIV, ALREB, 33ALA, 5THAL, CSSAL, etc.) Ask the Tag clerk when ordering.

How to buy:

1. When your current regular tag expires, go to the County's Probate Judge's Office or County Tag Office and say, "I want to order the Specialty Car Tag of the Sons of Confederate Veterans in place of my regular car tag."
2. You may **personalize (*)** this tag with up to 5 letters / numbers. Ask the Tag clerk when ordering. (**AT no EXTRA CHARGE.**) This cost is \$50.00 (in addition to the regular cost of an Alabama car tag), of which \$41.25 goes to the Alabama Division, SCV to promote and protect our Confederate Heritage and History. You may reserve your choice before you go by going to: <https://www.alabamainteractive.org/dorpt/UserHome.str>

Be sure to select the SCV tag!

The cost of reserving a personalized plate is \$2 and payment must be made online using either VISA or MASTERCARD. Once approved, the reservation will be valid for five business days. You will not be charged if DOR rejects your request.



Alabama United Daughters of the Confederacy available at your County Courthouse. Sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Alabama Division. This plate is available to **all supporters**. The net proceeds will be used for preservation of historic sites in Alabama, conservation of the flags of the Confederacy, and scholarship programs.

The UDC Specialty Tag is an OFFICIAL, LEGALLY RECOGNIZED LICENSE PLATE as established by an act of the Alabama Legislature. The First National exhibited in this manner can NOT be discriminated against or removed by any government entity, corporation, employer or person without violating the law. IMAGINE! While politicians remove our flag from public view, one at a time, we will be displaying our Flag by the thousands to the public, furthering Confederate Pride and Loyalty. Ask the Tag clerk when ordering.

How to buy:

When your current regular tag expires, go to the County's Probate Judge's Office or County Tag Office and say, "I want to order the Specialty Car Tag of the United Daughters of The Confederacy in place of my regular car tag."

Be sure to select the UDC tag!

Historical Markers of Tuscaloosa County

Alabama Corps of Cadets Defends Tuscaloosa

(Side One)

Early on the morning of 4 April 1865, Union Gen John T. Croxton's Cavalry Brigade of 1500 veteran troopers entered the town after fighting the home guard and capturing the covered bridge connecting Northport and Tuscaloosa across the Warrior River. While a detachment of Federals proceeded to capture two pieces of artillery stored at the Broad St. livery stable, Pat Kehoe of the Alabama Insane Hospital hurried to the University of Alabama to warn of the soldiers' approach.

University president Landon C. Garland ordered the guardhouse drummers to "beat the long roll" to awaken the 300 sleeping cadets. Quickly forming into ranks, the three companies began their march from campus into town. A platoon from Co. C, under Capt John H. Murfee, formed as skirmishers and forged ahead to the corner of Greensboro Ave. and Broad St. (University Blvd.) where they encountered the enemy from the 6th Ky Cav Regt. In the ensuing firefight, Capt Murfee was wounded along with three cadets, W.R. May, Aaron T. Kendrick and William M. King. The Union pickets then retreated down the hill back toward the bridge.

Alabama Corps of Cadets Defends Tuscaloosa

(Side Two)

The bloodied cadet platoon rejoined the main body of the Corps which had advanced at the sound of fighting. Together they proceeded one block north to the brow of River Hill and took up positions, firing several volleys down on the Union enemy by the river. Learning from a Confederate officer who had been captured and temporarily released by Croxton that the Yankee force included 1500 arms and the two captured cannons, President Garland and Commandant of Cadets Colonel James T. Murfee decided that an attack with teen-aged boys would be a useless sacrifice. The Corps marched the 1½ miles back to the campus, fortified themselves with what provisions were available, and continued east on Huntsville Rd.

Crossing Hurricane Creek some eight miles from town, they unplanked the bridge and entrenched themselves on the east bank. Croxton did not pursue, instead exploding the University's ammunition supplies and setting the campus ablaze. After witnessing the destruction from afar, the cadets marched east, then south to Marion. There, the Corps disbanded with orders to re-form in one month's time; the war ended in the interval.

Captain Benjamin F. Eddins

Born in South Carolina in 1813, Benjamin Farrar Eddins raised and led a company of volunteers that served in the 41st Alabama Infantry Regiment. Retired due to ill health, he returned to lead the Home Guards, a militia made up of old men and young boys. While trying to render the covered bridge impassable to Federal troops on the night of April 3, 1865, he and 15-year-old John Carson were wounded in a skirmish with Croxton's Raiders.

Later that evening, Mayor Obediah Berry and Catholic priest William McDonough surrendered the city on this site. Carson was disabled for life. On April 10, 1865, Capt. Eddins became the only local citizen to die defending the city. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

Home Guard Defended Covered Bridge

(Side One)

3 April 1865 – Brig Gen John T. Croxton's Cavalry Brigade departed camp at Johnson's Ferry (Old Lock 17 area) to the Watermelon Road ending in Northport. As the Union troops entered Northport, the Methodist Church bell was rung as a prearranged warning alarm. Armed with 7-shot carbines, 150 troopers of the 2nd Michigan Cav Regt rushed the covered bridge which was defended by about a dozen old men and young boys led by 53-year-old Capt Benjamin F. Eddins. This Home Guard removed 30 feet of the bridge's flooring in a delaying action as they retreated, returning fire with their single-shot weapons. Capt Eddins was seriously wounded and died a week later; 15-year-old John Carson was crippled for life by a bullet. Union casualties of the 2nd Mich Cav Regt numbered 23.

4 April – Croxton's raiders skirmished with the Alabama Corps of Cadets near Greensboro Ave and University Blvd and the brow of River Hill.

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Tuscaloosa County Historical Markers (Continued): After the mayor, accompanied by a Catholic priest, surrendered the town, the Union troops burned the main buildings of the State University, the foundry, factories, warehouses and over 2,000 bales of cotton.

5 April – Burning the covered bridge and destroying two captured cannon, Croxton's cavalry departed Tuscaloosa and Northport by way of the Columbus Road (old Highway 82 W).

Confederate Generals Birthdays for April

Lt. General Simon Bolivar Buckner - 1 Apr. 1823 - Hart Co., Ky.
 Lt. General Leonidas Polk - 10 Apr. 1806 - Raleigh, N.C.
 Maj. General Charles William Field - 6 Apr. 1828 - Woodford Co., Ky.
 Maj. General Edward Johnson - 16 Apr. 1816 - Salisbury, Va.
 Maj. General David Rumph Jones - 5 Apr. 1825 - Orangeburg Dist., S.C.
 Maj. General Edward Cary Walthall - 4 Apr. 1831 - Richmond, Va.
 Maj. General Ambrose Ransom Wright - 26 Apr. 1826 - Louisville, Ga.
 Brig. General Henry Watkins Allen - 29 Apr. 1820 - Prince Edward Co., Va.
 Brig. General George Gurgwyn Adnerson - 12 Apr. 1831 - Hillsborough, N.C.
 Brig. General Henry Lewis Benning - 2 Apr. 1814 - Columbia County, Ga.
 Brig. General Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb - 10 Apr. 1823 - Jefferson Co., Ga.
 Brig. General Phillip St. George Cocke - 17 Apr. 1808 - Fluvanna Co., Va.
 Brig. General Alfred Holt Colquitt - 20 Apr. 1824 - Walton Co., Ga.
 Brig. General James Dearing - 25 Apr. 1840 - Campbell Co., Va.
 Brig. General Geroge Gibbs Dibrell - 12 Apr. 1822 - Sparta, Tenn.
 Brig. General James Edward Harrison - 24 Apr. 1815 - Greenville Dist., S.C.
 Brig. General Harry Thompson Hays - 14 Apr. 1820 - Wilson Co., Tenn.
 Brig. General Geroge Baird Hodge - 8 Apr. 1828 - Fleming Co., Ky.
 Brig. General Evander McNair - 15 Apr. 1820 - Richmond Co., N.C.
 Brig. General John Smith Preston - 20 Apr. 1809 - Abingdon, Va.
 Brig. General James Edward Rains - 10 Apr. 1833 - Nashville, Tenn.
 Brig. General Alexander Welch Reynolds - in of Apr. 1816 - Frederick Co., Va.
Brig. General Phillip Dale Roddey - 2 Apr. 1826 - Moulton, Ala.
Brig. General John Caldwell Calhoun Sanders - 4 Apr. 1840 - Tuscaloosa, Ala.
 Brig. General Leroy Augustus Stafford - 13 Apr. 1822 - Cheneyville, La.
 Brig. General Robert Frank Vance - 24 Apr. 1828 - Buncombe Co., N.C.
 Brig. General William Stephen Walker - 13 Apr. 1822 - Pittsburg, Penn.
 Brig. General Edward Cary Walthall - 4 Apr. 1831 - Richmond, Va.
 Brig. General Louis Trezevant Wigfall - 21 Apr. 1816 - Edgfield Dist., S.C.

Alabama Civil War Units

Thirty-Seventh Alabama Infantry Regiment

The Thirty-seventh was organized at Auburn, in the spring of 1862, under the requisition of President Davis for 12,000 more Alabamians. Ordered to Columbus, Miss., after a short time the regiment proceeded to Tupelo. There it was placed in Little's division, and in the brigade of Col. Martin of Tennessee, with three Mississippi regiments; but Gen. D.H. Maury succeeded Gen. Little, when the latter was killed at Iuka, where the Thirty-seventh was first engaged, with some loss.

The regiment took part in the battle of Corinth, losing heavily in casualties. Its brigade commander fell at Corinth, and the Thirty-seventh was thrown into a brigade with the Second Texas, and Forty-second Alabama, Hen. John C. Moore commanding. The winter was spent in Mississippi, - the regiment retreating Holly Springs, and taking part in the repulse of the invaders at Chicasa Bayou.

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AL Civil War Units (Continued): Early in 1863 the Thirty-seventh was sent to the Sunflower River, but went back in time to take part in the battles of Port Gibson and Baker's Creek, where its losses were severe.

The regiment was then a portion of the garrison of the Vicksburg, and shared in the perils of that siege, where it was captured with the fortress. Exchanged soon after, the regiment was in parole camp at Demopolis. Ordered to the Army of Tennessee, it lost heavily at Lookout Mountain, and quite a number at Mission Ridge. The winter was passed at Dalton, where Gen. Baker of Barbour took charge of the brigade.

At Mill-creek Gap, Resaca, Noonday Creek, Kennesa, and the series of battles around Atlanta, the colors of the Thirty-seventh floated at the front, as its long list of casualties shows. In one charge at Atlanta, July 22, its commander and 40 men were killed outright, out of 300 men present. During the fall and winter, the Thirty-seventh was on garrison duty at Spanish Fort, but moved into North Carolina. It broke the enemy's line at Bentonville, and furled its tattered banner a few days later, with 300 of its number present of the 1100 with which it took the field.

Field and Staff

Colonels - James F. Dowdell of Chambers; captured at Vicksburg; retired.

Lieutenant Colonels - A.A. Greene of Chambers; wounded at Iuka and Mission Ridge; killed at Atlanta. W.F. Slaton of Macon.

Majors - John P.W. Amorine of Pike; transferred. W. F. Slaton; wounded at Corinth; captured at Lookout Mountain; promoted. Joel C. Kendrick of Covington.

Adjutants - John C. Meadows of Chambers; transferred. Thomas L. Samford of Macon.

Captains, and Counties from Which the Companies Came.

Henry - Moses B. Greene; wounded at Corinth.

Tallapoosa - John O. Davis; wounded at Corinth; resigned. James H. Johnson; wounded at Atlanta.

Pike - Joel C. Kendrick; wounded at Corinth and Atlanta.

Macon and Russell - W.F. Slaton; promoted. Jeptha J. Padgett; wounded.

Henry - J.L. Skipper; resigned. Joel G. Greene; wounded at Atlanta.

Pike - C. Pennington; wounded at Resaca.

Chambers - W.W. Meadows; killed at Corinth. S.M. Robertson; wounded; resigned. C.E. Evans; wounded at Resaca and Atlanta.

Barbour and Henry - Marion C.J. Searcy; wounded at Corinth; killed at Mission Ridge. H.F. Reynolds.

Chambers - James J. Talbot; resigned. T.J. Griffin.

Pike - J.M. Leach; killed at New Hope. Geo. H. Chatfield.

Thirty-Eighth Alabama Infantry Regiment

The Thirty-eighth was organized at Mobile in May 1862, and remained at the defences in the vicinity of that city till February 1863. It then proceeded to Tullahoma, and was there placed in the brigade of Gen. Clayton of Barbour, with the Eighteenth, Thirty-sixth, and Fifty-eighth of Alabama regiments. The regiment was first under fire with slight loss at Hoover's Gap, and lost nearly half the regiment killed and wounded at Chicamauga.

At Missionary Ridge the Thirty-eighth was again hotly engaged at close quarters, and a large number were captured. It wintered at Dalton, and bore its share in the operations of the Dalton-Atlanta campaign, losing severely, particularly at Resaca and Atlanta. From Marietta to the close, Gen. Holtzclaw of Montgomery commanded the brigade. It fought around the latter city, and at Jonesboro.

During the Tennessee campaign of Gen. Hood, the regiment felt the blight of the December frost at Nashville, and was in the rear of the retreat. Placed in the defences at Mobile, the regiment went through the fiery ordeal at Spanish Fort, where it again suffered severely. With the army, it was surrendered at Meridian, Mississippi, about 80 strong.

Field and Staff

Colonels - Charles T. Ketchum of Mobile; resigned. A.R. Lankford of Clarke; captured at Resaca.

Lieutenant Colonels - A.R. Lankford; promoted.

Majors - Origin S. Jewett of Clarke; killed at Chicamauga. W.J. Hearin of Clarke; captured at Mission Ridge.

Adjutants - Alfred R. Murray of Mobile; wounded at Chicamauga and Resaca.

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Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Captains, and Counties from Which Companies Came.

Clarke - W.J. Hearn; promoted. Daniel Lee.
 Wilcox - W.R. Welsh; killed at Chicamauga. G.W. Welsh.
 Washington - A.G. Moore; Lieut. E.A. Holt commanded.
 Clarke - G.W. Files; resigned. John J.R. Jenkins; resigned. Benj. Anderson; wounded at Mission Ridge.
 Conecuh - E.W. Martin. Lieut. S.W. Landrum commanded.
 Fayette - John J. Winston; resigned. Albert Embree; died in the service. W.H. Wright; wounded and captured at Mission Ridge.
 Mobile - John B. Perkins; killed at Chicamauga. George H. Cleveland.
 Wilcox - John A Jackson; captured at Mission Ridge; and died in prison. Robert J. Young.
 Clarke - Charles E. Bussey; wounded at Chicamauga.
 Mobile - Ben. Lane Posey; captured at Mission Ridge; wounded at Kennesaw.

(From Page 1) Go to www.facebook.com and search for "Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #262 Tuscaloosa, AL" For those of you using Twitter, please "follow" our camp's account.

Our website has some great features - a calendar, an archive of previous newsletters, and a growing collection of articles about the war in Alabama.

Alabama Division of the UDC & SCV to Celebrate Confederate Memorial Day

The Alabama Division UDC will sponsor the STATE Confederate Memorial Day Observance on **April 26, at 10:30 at the beautiful State Confederate Monument at the State Capitol.**

The media are always present and they usually undercount our numbers. As the nation moves swiftly toward globalism, our CSA ancestors with their "antique" courage and fierce defense of individual liberty stand as a stark, and perhaps uncomfortable reminder of what truly FREE MEN were/are like.

I realize that many UDC Chapters and SCV Camps are holding local Memorials and that is good. We should do that. However, the Ceremony on the 26th is our STATE observance and is sponsored by the Alabama Division UDC. **We need a good attendance when we gather at the state capitol.**

There is no thrill like that of hearing the name of your Confederate ancestor spoken aloud in the stirring "Roll Call of the Ancestors."

Can we count on you to be there?

Ellen Williams

Definition of a Gentleman: Robert E. Lee

Ed. Note: I carry a laminated copy in my billfold just to remind myself from time to time. Should have printed this in the January newsletter, but couldn't find it at the time.

The forbearing use of power does not form a touchstone, but the manner in which an individual enjoys certain advantages over others is a test of a true Gentleman. The power which the strong have over the weak, the employer over the employed, they educated over the unlettered, the experienced over the confiding, even the clever over the silly – the forbearing use or inoffensive use of all this power or authority, or a total abstinence from it when the case admits it; will show the Gentleman in a plain light.

The Gentleman does not unnecessarily or reminds an offender of a wrong he may have committed against him. He cannot only forgive, he can forget; and strives for that nobleness of self and mindless of character, which imparts sufficient strength to let the past be but the past. A true man of honor feels humbled himself when he cannot help humbling others.

Southern Chivalry

1. Thou shalt follow the dictates of moral conscience.
2. Thou shalt be willing to defend your values.
3. Thou shalt have respect & pity for all weakness & steadfastness in defending them.
4. Thou shalt love thy country.
5. Thou shalt refuse to retreat before the enemy.
6. Thou shalt wage unceasing & merciless war against all that is evil.
7. Thou shalt obey the orders of those appointed above you, as long as those orders do not conflict with what you know to be just & true.
8. Thou shalt show loyalty to truth & your pledged word.
9. Thou shalt be generous & giving of one's self.
10. Thou shalt be champion of the right & good at all times; & at all times oppose the forces of evil.

This guy has nailed it.

Received the following in an e-mail the other day.

Sometimes you are encouraged about our country's future when you see something like this.

Specifically, there is an annual contest at **Texas A&M University** calling for the most appropriate definition of a contemporary term.

This year's term was "**Political Correctness**."

The winner wrote:

"Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a turd by the clean end."

States' Rights Is Rallying Cry for Lawmakers

By Kirk Johnson Published: March 16, 2010 the new york times

Whether it's correctly called a movement, a backlash or political theater, state declarations of their rights — or in some cases denunciations of federal authority, amounting to the same thing — are on a roll.



In Utah, a bill by Representative Carl Wimmer, a Republican, would require the state to sign off on any federal health reform. Al Hartmann/Salt Lake Tribune

Gov. Mike Rounds of South Dakota, a Republican, signed a bill into law on Friday declaring that the federal regulation of firearms is invalid if a weapon is made and used in South Dakota.

On Thursday, Wyoming's governor, Dave Freudenthal, a Democrat, signed a similar bill for that state. The same day, Oklahoma's House of Representatives approved a resolution that Oklahomans should be able to vote on a state constitutional amendment allowing them to opt out of the federal health care overhaul.

In Utah, lawmakers embraced states' rights with a vengeance in the final days of the legislative session last week. One measure said Congress and the federal government could not carry out health care reform, not in Utah anyway, without approval of the Legislature. Another bill declared state authority to take federal lands under the eminent domain process. A resolution asserted the "inviolable sovereignty of the State of Utah under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution."

Some legal scholars say the new states' rights drive has more smoke than fire, but for lawmakers, just taking a stand can be important enough.

"Who is the sovereign, the state or the federal government?" said State Representative Chris N. Herrod, a Republican from Provo, Utah, and leader of the 30-member Patrick Henry Caucus, which formed last year and led the assault on federal legal barricades in the session that ended Thursday.

Alabama, Tennessee and Washington are considering bills or constitutional amendments that would assert local police powers to be supreme over the federal authority, according to the Tenth Amendment Center, a research and advocacy group based in Los Angeles. And Utah, again not to be outdone, passed a bill last week that says federal law enforcement authority, even on federal lands, can be limited by the state.

"There's a tsunami of interest in states' rights and resistance to an overbearing federal government; that's what all these measures indicate," said Gary Marbut, the president of the Montana Shooting sports Association, which led the drive last year for one of the first "firearms freedoms," laws like the ones signed last week in South Dakota and Wyoming.

In most cases, conservative anxiety over federal authority is fueling the impulse, with the Tea Party Movement or its members in the backdrop or forefront. Mr. Herrod in Utah said that he had spoken at Tea Party rallies, for example, but that his efforts, and those of the Patrick Henry Caucus, were not directly connected to the Tea Partiers.

And in some cases, according to the Tenth Amendment Center, the politics of states' rights are veering left. Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin, for example — none of them known as conservative bastions — are considering bills that would authorize, or require, governors to recall or take control of National Guard troops, asserting that federal calls to active duty have exceeded federal authority.

"Everything we've tried to keep the federal government confined to rational limits has been a failure, an utter, unrelenting failure — so why not try something else?" said Thomas E. Woods Jr., a senior fellow at the Ludwig von Mises Institute, a nonprofit group in Auburn, Ala., that researches what it calls "the scholarship of liberty."

Mr. Woods, who has a Ph.D. in history, and has written widely on states' rights and nullification — the argument that says states can sometimes trump or disregard federal law — said he was not sure where the dots between states' rights and politics connected. But he and others say that whatever it is, something politically powerful is brewing under the statehouse domes.

Other scholars say the state efforts, if pursued in the courts, would face formidable roadblocks. Article 6 of the Constitution says federal authority outranks state authority, and on that bedrock of federalist principle rests

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States Rights (Continued): centuries of back and forth that states have mostly lost, notably the desegregation of schools in the 1950s and '60s.

"Article 6 says that that federal law is supreme and that if there's a conflict, federal law prevails," said Prof. Ruthann Robson, who teaches constitutional law at the City University of New York School of Law. "It's pretty difficult to imagine a way in which a state could prevail on many of these."

And while some efforts do seem headed for a direct conflict with federal laws or the Constitution, others are premised on the idea that federal courts have misinterpreted the Constitution in the federal government's favor.

A lawsuit filed last year by the Montana Shooting Sports Association after the state's "firearms freedom" law took effect, for example, does not say that the federal government has no authority to regulate guns, but that courts have misconstrued interstate commerce regulations. National monuments and medical marijuana, of all things, play a role as well.

Mr. Herrod in Utah said that after an internal memorandum from the United States Department of Interior was made public last month, discussing sites around the country potentially suitable for federal protection as national monuments — including two sites in Utah — support for all kinds of statements against federal authority gained steam.

And at the Tenth Amendment Center, the group's founder, Michael Boldin, said he thought states that had bucked federal authority over the last decade by legalizing medical marijuana, even as federal law held all marijuana use and possession to be illegal, had set the template in some ways for the effort now. And those states, Mr. Boldin said, were essentially validated in their efforts last fall when the Justice Department said it would no longer make medical marijuana a priority in the states where it was legal. Nullification, he said, was shown to work.

Whether the political impulse of states' rights and nullification will become a direct political fault line in the national elections this fall is uncertain, said Mr. Woods of the von Mises institute.

But in Utah, at least, a key indicator is coming much sooner. The party caucuses to determine, among other things, whether candidates will face primary elections, are to be held next Tuesday, and Mr. Herrod said the states rights' crowd would attend and push for change.

"Those politicians who don't understand that things are different are in big trouble because a few people showing up to caucus can have a big influence," Mr. Herrod said.

A spokeswoman for Gov. Gary R. Herbert, a Republican — who signed a firearms law like South Dakota's last month declaring exemption from federal regulation for guns made and used within the state — said Mr. Herbert was still studying the new batch of bills passed this week and had not yet made decisions about signing them.

SC Museum Considers Monument To Mark Secession

AP Published: March 16, 2010

MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C. (AP) - A South Carolina museum is considering whether to erect a monument to the state's secession from the Union almost 150 years ago.

The board of the Patriots Point Development Authority considers on Tuesday whether to allow the Sons of Confederate Veterans to place an 11½-foot granite monument to the ordinance signers at the Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum.

The monument would have the name of each of the 170 signers and the wording of the secession document.

The Confederate Veterans group hopes to have it in place by December, the 150th anniversary of the ordinance signing.

The Civil War began in April 1861 with the Confederate bombardment of Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor.

SC Museum Rejects Monument To Mark Secession

By BRUCE SMITH, Associated Press Writer – Tue Mar 16

MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C. – A South Carolina museum has voted against erecting a monument to the state's secession from the Union almost 150 years ago.

The board of the Patriots Point Development Authority on Tuesday split 3-3 on whether to allow the Sons of Confederate Veterans to place a granite monument to the signers of the secession ordinance at the maritime museum. The tie killed the proposal.

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SC Monument (Continued): Board chairman John Hagerty says he talked to World War II veterans who didn't want the monument at the museum on Charleston Harbor, where the Civil War began with an attack on Fort Sumter.

Randy Burbage with the South Carolina Sons of Confederate Veterans said the group will look for another place for the monument. It would have the names of the 170 signers and the wording of the document.

Despite previous governors' refusals, McDonnell issues Confederate history month proclamation

By Anita Kumar and Rosalind S. Helderman

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/virginiapolitics/2010/04/post_666.html?hpid=topnews

Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) has quietly declared April 2010 Confederate History Month, bringing back a designation in Virginia that his two Democratic predecessors -- Mark Warner and Tim Kaine -- refused to do.

Republican governors George Allen and Jim Gilmore issued similar proclamations. But in 2002, Warner broke with their action, calling such proclamations, a "lightning rod" that does not help bridge divisions between whites and blacks in Virginia.

This year's proclamation was requested by the Sons of Confederate Veterans. A representative of the group said the group has known since it interviewed McDonnell when he was running for attorney general in 2005 that he was likely to respond differently than Warner or Kaine.

"We've known for quite some time we had a good opportunity should he ascend the governorship," Brandon Dorsey said. "We basically decided to bide our time and wait until we had more favorable politicians in Richmond."

Dorsey said the governor's stamp of approval would help the group publicize the month and aide tourism efforts in the state.

"As I read it, this proclamation is more designed to get people to study the issue rather than simply being a tribute," he said. "We would like everyone in the state to honor the sacrifice of the brave men who went out and died in battle. At the very least, we'd like them to study why they went out and did it. And I think the proclamation could be construed either way."

The language can be seen on the governor's Web site. Richmond is the former capital of the Confederacy.

Sen. A. Donald McEachin (D-Richmond) said he was "stunned" to learn of McDonnell's decision and even more stunned that the proclamation did not include any reference to slavery. "It's offensive," he said.

The proclamation is one of about two dozen McDonnell has issued since his inauguration in January. Many, but not all, are posted on the office's Web site.

Mississippi Gov. Barbour Backs McDonnell on 'Confederate History' Declaration

FOXNews.com

Published : Sunday, 11 Apr 2010

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour on Sunday defended fellow Gov. Bob McDonnell for his decision to declare April "Confederate History Month" in Virginia without initially acknowledging the legacy of slavery, saying the controversy "doesn't amount to diddly."

The Virginia governor took heat for his declaration from a slew of top officials, including President Obama and former Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder -- the first black elected governor and a grandson of slaves.

Under pressure, McDonnell on Wednesday apologized, acknowledging a "major omission" and adding in a paragraph condemning slavery. That helped ease the tension over the matter, but Barbour said Sunday that McDonnell did not do anything wrong in the first place.

"I don't know what you would say about slavery, but anybody that thinks that you have to explain to people that slavery is a bad thing, I think that goes without saying," he told CNN's "State of the Union."

"To me, it's a sort of feeling that it's a nit, that it is not significant, that it's ... trying to make a big deal out of something doesn't amount to diddly," he said.

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Mississippi Gov. Barbour (Continued): Barbour, a Republican, said his state for years has marked a Confederate Memorial Day, under the leadership of Democratic and Republican governors -- and a Democratic legislature.

"I'm unaware of them being criticized for it or them having their supporters feel uncomfortable with it," Barbour said Sunday.

McDonnell initially defended his decision not to mention slavery in the document, saying there were other aspects to the conflict and he wanted to focus on those "most significant" to his state.

He was the first Virginia governor to make such a declaration since Republican Jim Gilmore in 2001. In his clarification, McDonnell said the "abomination of slavery" led to the Civil War.

Building fans win round vs. war buffs

Mon Apr 5 *Associated Press*

GETTYSBURG, Pa. – Lovers of modern architecture have won a round in their fight to preserve a half-century-old building at Gettysburg despite efforts by the Civil War purists to demolish the structure to restore the battlefield to its original appearance.

The National Park Service has been seeking for a decade to demolish the Cyclorama Building, built in 1958 by famed modernist architect Richard Neutra to house a massive circular painting of the famous 1863 battle which has been relocated.

The building is near one of the highest points on Cemetery Ridge, a key defensive position where nearly 1,000 Union soldiers were killed or wounded during Pickett's Charge. The National Parks Service would like to remove the building to preserve the battlesite, but an architectural preservation group says the building is also historically important.

A federal judge in Washington ruled last week that the park service did not follow procedure on the matter. U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Hogan told the park that it must go back and reconsider its 1999 decision to raze the building before it can take any action to knock down the structure.

In March 2009, U.S. Magistrate Judge Alan Kay recommended that the U.S. District Court rule in favor of the suit by the Recent Past Preservation Network and ordered the park to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement evaluating the potential impacts and review alternatives to demolition.

Neither Gettysburg National Military Park nor the National Park Service has commented on the decision. Andrew Ames, a spokesman for the U.S. Department of Justice, said the agency is reviewing it and has not decided on the government's next step.

Los Angeles architect Dion Neutra, who worked alongside his father on the center a half-century ago, said the Cyclorama was "way up" on his father's list of the most important buildings of his career. Architectural luminaries like Frank Gehry and Robert A.M. Stern have agreed, sending letters in support of preserving it.

Neutra said his father had a broader vision for the museum than simply housing the 377-foot long, 40-foot high painting depicting Pickett's Charge.

"He wanted to commemorate the Gettysburg Address as opposed to just commemorating the battle," he said. "The idea was for a monument to address the notion of reconciliation as Lincoln had tried to do in the Gettysburg Address. We could do that in a dynamic way today."

Group seeks "Confederate History Month" in Washington County Tenn.

By George Jackson | Reporter-Producer / WJHL-TV News Channel 11 April 9, 2010

This week, Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell (R) declared April "Confederate History Month." He faced a barrage of criticism for excluding any reference to slavery.

McDonnell conceded, it was "a major omission," and amended the declaration, condemning slavery as "evil and inhumane."

Later this month, a group called the 'Sons of Confederate Veterans' plans to introduce a similar resolution in Washington County Tenn.

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TN Confederate History Month (Continued): “This is about history and heritage, it’s not about racism,” said Jonesborough Chapter Commander Joe Adkins. Last Year, Adkins’ group persuaded Jonesborough’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen to include Confederate soldiers in their veterans’ memorial.

Adkins said the current draft of his resolution for a Confederate History Month in Washington County does not mention slavery. “I personally condemn slavery,” Adkins said. “We did not bring the issue up in the resolution. It’s certainly something we can look at.”

Johnson City NAACP Vice President Ralph Davis contacted 11 Connects after the airing of the above video report. He said his branch takes their cues from the state office, but that he could not imagine Adkins omitting slavery from his proclamation.

“We have the same reaction [to McDonnell’s declaration] as the Virginia NAACP,” Davis said. “The main thing they reacted to is, slavery wasn’t mentioned in the statement. There is no way you can mention [the Civil War] without it,” he said.

“Everybody has a right to celebrate their history,” Davis said. “But we need to learn and talk about the whole history,” he said.

Confederate General returns to battlefield

Proud Confederate-history buffs erect a statue of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, causing friction with the state-owned Battle of Bentonville site.

By David Zucchino March 21, 2010 david.zucchino@latimes.com

Bentonville, N.C.



John M. Booker pushed for a statue of Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston at the Bentonville battlefield site in North Carolina. (David Zucchino / Los Angeles Times / March 20, 2010)

The proud lieutenant commander of the Smithfield Light Infantry of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is John M. Booker, a burly retired veterinarian with a trove of Civil War books and an abiding fascination with all things Confederate.

Since 2006, Booker has devoted himself to erecting a statue of Joseph E. Johnston, the last Confederate general to mount an effective fight against Union forces. Johnston ultimately surrendered to Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman after the pivotal Battle of Bentonville, fought in March 1865 on a site a few miles from Booker’s white-columned Greek Revival home.

In an era when public enthusiasm for Confederate memorials has waned, Booker and the 24 fellow members of the Smithfield Light Infantry want to honor Johnston and the soldiers who fought and died under him. The camp -- as such units are called -- erects tombstones on Confederate graves, cleans up Confederate cemeteries and attends historical lectures.

terms, and that has created friction with the state-owned battlefield site a few hundred yards away.

“Let me put it this way: We don’t have their cooperation,” Booker said, stomping across the sandy soil of a soybean field around the statue, which was to be unveiled Saturday.

Booker’s camp refused to submit to the state’s vetting process for historical memorials. Instead, it erected the statue on a sliver of farmland donated by a transplanted New Yorker with an interest in Confederate lore. Booker spearheaded a fund drive that he said raised \$94,500 for the statue. The farmland is part of the 6,000-acre battlefield, but outside the state-run historic site.

The state responded by erecting a low fence between the statue and the official state-run visitor center. Next to the fence are three new signs noting the state property boundary just a few strides from the general’s likeness.

The statue depicts Johnston with his left arm raised. It’s a call for his troops to hold the line against Yankee forces, Booker said. “And,” he added, “to hold the line against political correctness.”

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Confederate General (Continued): Political correctness, in Booker's view, has recast Confederate symbols and distorted history. "These days, political correctness means a lot of things aren't mentioned or aren't defended in the proper way," he said. "But that will not happen in this case, I assure you."

Booker pointed out that the plaque at the foot of the statue did not require anyone's approval. It reads: "Defender of the Southland to the End."

Nor was approval required for the 5-by-8-foot Confederate battle flag the camp intends to fly on a 30-foot pole next to the statue. The flag is a tribute to the troops who fought under it, Booker said.

He said his camp has persistently denounced what he calls "these racist groups that fly that flag for all the wrong reasons. That's not what we're all about." He added: "We want to teach history exactly as it happened. And that's the type of flag that flew on this battlefield."

Donny Taylor, site manager of the Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site, said the statue probably would have been approved for the site if Booker's camp had submitted a proposal.

Taylor said the fence and signs were erected so that hundreds of volunteers participating in an upcoming re-enactment of the battle wouldn't wander onto private property.

To critics, commemorating the Confederacy represents an unhealthy obsession with a racist past. But to men like Booker, whose family has lived in North Carolina for generations, it builds bonds and cements friendships through studying and honoring local history.

"I can't blame black people for getting upset" at the Confederacy's embrace of slavery, Booker said. But he added, "The majority of Confederate soldiers were not slave owners."

He avoids matters of race and slavery by simply saying that Confederate soldiers "fought and died for their cause -- they believed the Southland had been invaded."

Tombstone dedication ceremony scheduled in Chambersburg for Confederate officer

By Roscoe Barnes III Staff Writer The Chambersburg, PA *Public Opinion*

A Confederate colonel who died in Chambersburg during the Civil War will be honored in a special ceremony hosted by the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Described as a tombstone dedication, the event will be at noon April 10 at the Cedar Grove Cemetery in Chambersburg, near the intersection of Franklin and King streets.

The ceremony will honor Lt. Col. Benjamin F. Carter, who led the 4th Texas at Gettysburg, according to Benjamin Lewis II, commander of the Pvt. John Wesley Culp Camp 1961. Carter also had served as mayor of Austin, Texas, Lewis said. "We want to honor the men who served at that time," he said. "Many are forgotten or unknown. This man was denied a full Christian burial when he made the request." Lewis said Carter was severely wounded and was being taken back to Virginia with the wounded when he couldn't travel anymore.

"He was left in the home of a local man in New Franklin, where he was captured by Union Forces," Lewis said. "He was transported to Chambersburg to a hospital, where he came under the care of people who he had aided in obtaining the personal property of a Union artillery captain killed at second Manassas."

As the colonel was dying, he reportedly asked for a Christian burial. Lewis said that because of "the hatred of the times, no Christian church in Chambersburg would bury him."

Eventually an influential man called "Mr. McClaure," took a stand, according to Lewis. "He was the one person in town who said, 'I will bury you on my property on U.S. 11, where everybody can see the stone every day,'" Lewis said. The colonel was buried in the Methodist cemetery in Chambersburg. When the church expanded, the colonel's remains were moved to Cedar Grove in 1896, according to Lewis.

"In the process of the move, the headstones were not moved," Lewis said. "Two unknown confederate soldiers were buried at Cedar Grove. One was exhumed by request of the Masons and sent home. The other remaining had to be this colonel."

After being moved to Cedar Grove, the colonel pretty much disappeared from history for 114 years until recently, Lewis said. In addition to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the colonel will be honored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and other SCV units from Maryland.

The speaker will be SCV Pennsylvania Division Commander Jim Palmisano of Orrtanna. The event will also consist of a color guard, a salute firing event and other speakers. "This will be the Pennsylvania Division's first public event to celebrate the sesquicentennial years of the war between the states," Lewis said.

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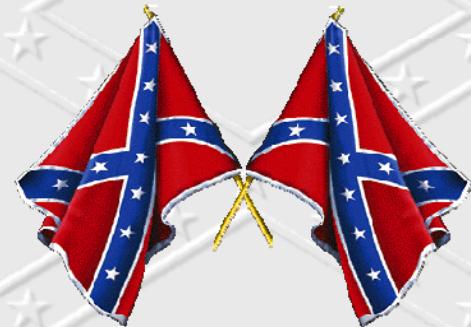
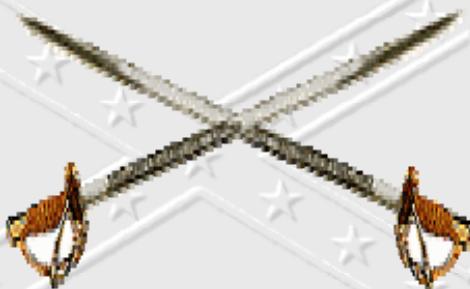
Confederate Colonel (Continued):

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Additional information on the event is available by calling Lewis at 446-0895.

Roscoe Barnes III can be reached at 262-4762 or rbarnes@publicopinionnews.com.

Audemus jura nostra defendere



We Dare Defend Our Rights

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the 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. Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers, who gave us the undeniable birthright of our Southern Heritage and the vision, desire, and courage to see it perpetuated.

"A People Without Pride in Their Heritage, Is a Nation Without Purpose." - Walter E. Dockery

You can know a man in all his depth or shallowness by his attitude toward the Southern Banner

Deo Vindice