

July 2011

General Robert E. Rodes

Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #262

Tuscaloosa, Alabama



*I Salute the Confederate flag, with affection,
reverence, and undying devotion to cause for which it
stands*



From The Adjutant

Gen. Robert E. Rodes Camp 262, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will meet Thursday night, July 14, 2011, at 7 PM in the Tuscaloosa Public Library.

Members who have not yet paid their dues are reminded that re-instatement fees of \$7.50 are added, and their total dues are now \$67.50.

- 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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Upcoming Events



- 14** July - Camp Meeting
- August - Summer Bivouac / Stand Down**
- 8** September - Camp Meeting

- 13** October - Camp Meeting
- 23** October - Thisldu - **TBD**
- 10** November - Camp Meeting
- 8** December - 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, 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, Virginius 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.



Replace your regular Alabama car Tag with an 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.

NEW !!! Alabama SCV Car Tag T-Shirt



Most of you are aware that the Alabama Division has a new t- shirt that promotes the SCV car tag approved for sale in the State of Alabama. Pictured is Morgan Strain wearing the new shirt. The front of the shirt has an Alabama state flag on it with Alabama Division above the flag. Please contact Northeast Brigade Commander Tom Strain at tom@ssnurseries.com or at 729-8501 to order the shirts. Order blank here:

<http://www.aladivscv.com/forms/OrderBlank.pdf>

12th Annual Birthday Celebration of Ole' Bedford!

When: Saturday, 9 July 2011 Time: 3:00 PM - til ya wanna go home

**Where: FORT DIXIE; HOME OF BUTCH & PAT GODWIN 10800 COUNTY ROAD 30
SELMA, ALABAMA 36701
334-875-1690**

**CATFISH SUPPER & ALL THE FIXIN'S SERVED AT 6:00 PM
MASSA BUTCH WILL BE SERVING ICE COLD WATERMELON ALL DAY LONG!**

Keynote Speaker: Past SCV Chaplain-in-Chief, Pastor John Weaver also, Past SCV Chaplain-in-Chief, Dr. Charles Baker will speak on the Christian Salvation of General Forrest

Entertainers: Tallassee Armory Guards Camp 1921 Band and Southern Spirit (Kim & Kasey)

This year is the beginning of the Sesquicentennial Commemoration and we are planning to make this kickoff year very special. We hope yawl are planning to attend the CELEBRATION of the 190th birthday of Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest! This is our 12th celebration...just think, in 10 more years it will be his BICENTENNIAL year! LOL!

Last year we gave away the **last** COLD-CAST bronze mini bust of General Forrest; however, this year we will be drawing for one of the HOT-CAST REAL Bronze mini busts that we are now offering. The hot cast bronze is identical to the cold casts pieces we had in past years; poured from the original mold, created by Paul D. Spaulding, the original sculptor of the life-size real bronze bust mounted on the granite monument in Selma. This hot cast model is mounted on a finished block of beautiful cherry wood. It is an exquisite piece of fine art which will proudly enhance any Southern home, library or office! **The tickets are \$2 each.**

If you wish to participate in the drawing & wish to receive some tickets, please notify me & I will send the page of tickets via Word Attachment; you may print them off, fill out the information, make check payable to NBF Memorial Fund & mail to me at the above address. You do NOT have to be present to win. We will have some door prizes and the auction of a few very nice selected items. Since the economy is lousy, we are just going to have a few items to auction this year, as folks are having to stretch the "worthless dollar" these days.

If you did not receive a flyer & annual newsletter in the snail mail & wish to receive them, just let me know & I will sent them via Word Attachment. Also, if you are planning to attend & need directions to Fort Dixie, please contact me & I will send directions via Word Attachment.

In spite of the lousy economy, we hope you ALL are planning to attend this special day commemorating the birth of the GREATEST military genius who ever lived. We guarantee you a day of a little Southern education, a little Southern entertainment, a little Southern cooking...and a whole lotta Southern Fellowship with the BEST Confederate folks this side of the Big Muddy!

Y'all come!

Confederately yours,

Patricia S. Godwin
Zimbabwe on de Alabamy
a.k.a. Selma, Alabama

News of the Rodes Camp

Credentials Forms Available on SCV.org

Compatriots,

The Credentials Form for the 2011 Reunion, July 13-16 in Montgomery, Alabama, is available at the link below on scv.org.

<http://www.scv.org/pdf/2011Credentials.pdf>

Delegates from camps must have this form to vote on matters that may require a written ballot at the Reunion.

I look forward to seeing you in Montgomery!

Chuck Rand
AIC

Steven Dill Institute Dates announced for Savannah, GA

Stephen Dill Institute,

The Sons of Confederate Veterans are pleased to announce that the 2012 Stephen Dill Lee Institute will be held in the spectacularly Southern city of Savannah, Georgia. Hosting the event will be the oldest hotel in the City, the Desoto Hilton, centrally located in the historic old section of Savannah.

The theme for 2012 will be "The Costs of Lincoln's War" and will be once again led by Dr. Thomas DiLorenzo, author of many Lincoln books including the smash bestseller *The Real Lincoln*.

Dates for the event are February 3-4. More info will be forthcoming. Please mark your calendars.

Brag Bowling
Director
bragdonb@verizon.net

Message From the CIC Regarding the Montgomery Reunion

2 July 2011 Beaufort, South Carolina

re: 2011 National Convention

Dear Officers and Compatriots,

I hope this finds you well. I am writing you this evening to encourage your attendance at the upcoming national convention. This year we will not concern ourselves with elections or amendments. We will spend our time developing a strategy to take our organization to new heights of success.

The officers in your national office have been busy developing a plan that will guide our path to victory in the coming years. This bold move can only be accomplished with your input and help. It is imperative that you attend and voice your opinion about the direction to take the SCV. Your contribution and involvement is vital to the success of this operation.

(Continued Next Page)

Rodes Camp News (Continued): Come be an integral part of Southern history and together let's build a stronger more influential SCV that will impact the American mindset and preserve our noble heritage for generations to come. Be in Montgomery, Alabama, July 13-16, 2011 and we will begin a march down a new-cut path to vindication of the Cause of the South.

www.2011scvreunion.com

I look forward to seeing you there. Until then and after, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

Michael Givens

<http://sonsofconfederateveterans.blogspot.com/2011/07/message-from-cic-regarding-montgomery.html>

THE SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE

17TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE and 11th ANNUAL CONFEDERATE CEILEDH

All you politically incorrect folks, come celebrate the South with the Jones County Rosin Heels SCV Camp at the Southern Heritage Conference at Bethlehem Baptist Church about 5 miles east of Laurel, MS on Highway 184 E. We'll have in your face speakers, music, food and fellowship!

Our speakers are Thomas Di Lorenzo, author of THE REAL LINCOLN and LINCOLN UNMASKED, Drs., John Killian, past MOS&B Chaplin-in-Chief and Cecil Fayard, past Chaplin-In-Chief of the SCV.

We'll meet Friday, August 5, at 6:00 PM to visit, shop and get seated to start at 7.00pm . We meet again at 8:00 AM Saturday with speeches to start at 9:00 AM , August 6. We'll break for dinner at noon and eat on the premises, and come back afterwards for the afternoon session.

Saturday night dress casual or dress out in Confederate uniforms and antebellum ball gowns or wee kilties for the Saturday evening supper. Doors open at 5:00 . We will try to eat at 5.30. At a Ceiledh (kay-lee), everyone is invited to sing, tell a joke, read a poem, etc. At the Ceiledh we'll post the colors. We will need all uniformed Confederates and kilted Scots to bring weapons and join in to protect colors, and piper.

(They'll either enjoy it, or they need it!)

NOON DINNER \$10.00 PER PERSON, SUPPER \$15.00 PER PERSON

You MUST make MEAL RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE

By August 1 by 5:00PM

Mail check to: Jones County Rosin Heels, P. O. Box 52, Laurel, MS 39441

PHONE: 601/649-1867 days, 601/426-2041 nights, email: csaford@hotmail.com or

George Jaynes at night at 601-428-5570 or email: georgejaynes1953@yahoo.com.

Comfort Suites has a special rate of \$76.00 per night with hot breakfast. No limit on persons. Will accommodate whole family or is arranged so that two couples can stay in one suite. Call Sandy at 601-649-2620 Mon.-Thurs between 7am and 5pm and mention Conference for special rate. Should call early.

Historical Markers of the Tuscaloosa Area

The University of Alabama

Endowed by Congress 1819. Ordained by State Constitution 1819 and established by General Assembly 1820. Instruction begun 1831. Unofficial training school for Confederate officers 1861-65. Destroyed by Federal Army April 5, 1865. Rebuilding began 1867 and reopened 1868. Marker donated by Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity 1981.

Bridging the Black Warrior River

At this junction for all roads converging from the north, east, and west, seven bridges in succession have connected Northport and Tuscaloosa across the Black Warrior River. The first was built in 1834 by then-slave Horace King. Damaged by a tornado in 1842, it was replaced in 1852 by a second bridge – the one defended by the Tuscaloosa Home Guard before its destruction in April 1865. In 1872 a new wooden span was erected, again engineered by King, who had been freed in 1846 and who had become famous as a bridge builder in Alabama and Georgia. A 3-span iron bridge was built in 1882, then replaced in 1895 with a swing-span type to allow the passage of river traffic. A drawbridge was constructed in 1922, standing until the Hugh Thomas Bridge was built slightly downstream in 1974.

Website Report for June 2011

For June we had 62 visits for 148 page views. We had visitors from Alabama, Texas, Tennessee, Florida, Washington, Maryland, North Carolina, Arkansas, Kansas, South Dakota, California, Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, and Kentucky. We also had a visit from Prague.

2011 Reenactments in this Area.

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| June - TBA | Shiloh Living History | Shiloh, MS |
| June 10-12, 2011 | Battle of Brice's Crossroads | Baldwyn, MS |
| September 2-4, 2011 | Decatur | Decatur, AL |
| September 17-18, 2011 | Farmington | Farmington, MS (NE of Corinth, MS) |
| October 14-16, 2011 | Franklin | Franklin, TN |

Special thanks to Compatriot Robert Beams and the [Alabama Division of Reenactors](#).

Confederate Generals Birthdays for July

Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest - 13 July 1821 - Bedford Co., Tenn.

Lt. General Daniel Harvey Hill - 12 July 1821 - York Dist., S.C.

Maj. General John George Walker - 22 July 1822 - Cole City, Missouri

Brig. General John Adams - 1 July 1825 - Nashville, Tenn.

Brig. General William Edwin Baldwin - 28 July 1827 - Stateburg, S.C.

Brig. General Hamilton Prioleau Bee - 22 July 1822 - Charleston, S.C.

Brig. General William Montague Browne - 7 July 1827 - County Mayo, Ireland

Brig. General Thomas Lanier Clingman - 27 July 1812 - Huntsville, Surry County, N.C.

Brig. General Philip Cooke - 31 July 1817 - Twiggs Co., Ga.

Brig. General Julius Adolphus De Langel - 24 July 1827 - Newark, N.J.

Brig. General Josiah Gorgas - 1 July 1818 - Running Pumps, Penn.

Brig. General Daniel Chevilette Govan - 4 July 1829 - Northampton Co., N.C.

Brig. General John Marshall Jones - 26 July 1820 - Charlottesville, Va.

Brig. General James Henry Lane - 28 July 1833 - Matthews Court House, Va.

Brig. General James Johnston Pettigrew - 4 July 1828 - Tyrrell Co., N.C.

Brig. General Edmund Winston Pettus - 6 July 1821 - Limestone Co., Ala.

Brig. General Lucius Eugene Polk - 10 July 1833 - Salisbury, N.C.

Brig. General Roger Atkinson Pryor - 19 July 1828 - Dinwiddie Co., Va.

Brig. General William Andrew Quarels - 4 July 1825 - James City Co., Va.

Brig. General William Paul Roberts - 11 July 1841 - Gates Co., N.C.

Brig. General James Argyle Smith - 1 July 1831 - Maury Co., Tenn.

Brig. General William Duncan Smith - 28 July 1825 - Augusta, Ga.

Brig. General Thomas Hart Taylor - 31 July 1825 - Frankfort, Ky.

Brig. General Robert Augustus Toombs - 2 July 1810 - Wilkes Co., Ga.

Brig. General John Bordenave Villepigue - 2 July 1830 - Camden, S.C.

Brig. General Gabriel Colvin Wharton - 23 July 1824 - Culpeper, Va.

Brig. General John Austin Wharton - 3 July 1828 - Nashville, Tenn.

Brig. General John Stuart Williams - 10 July 1818 - Sterling, Ky.

Alabama Civil War Units

First Alabama Cavalry Regiment

This regiment was organized at Montgomery, in November 1861. Ordered to Tennessee soon after, the regiment was engaged at the battle of Shiloh with light loss. It fought at Boonville, suffering severely, and at Blackland with few casualties. The regiment moved into Kentucky with the army, as part of Wheeler's command; was engaged at Perryville, and skirmished for several weeks subsequently.

When the army reached middle Tennessee, the first was occupied in a series of skirmishes, and lost considerably at Murfreesboro. It guarded the flanks and front of the army, and protected the rear on the retreat to Tullahoma and Chattanooga, losing severely at Duck River. The regiment fought at Chicamauga with light loss, and moved into east Tennessee with Longstreet, fighting at Clinton, Knoxville, Mossy Creek, &c., with some loss in each.

It was part of the force on the Sequatchee raid, fought at Dandridge, and operated on and harassed the enemy's front and flank during the Dalton-Atlanta campaign. The First was in the brilliant fight at Decatur, with severe loss, and took part in the capture of Gen. Stoneman's column. Moving to the Tennessee, the regiment faced about and pursued Sherman.

It was in the fight at Waynesboro, and lost a number at Fiddler's Pond. In the attack on Kilpatrick, and the collisions at Averysboro and Bentonville, the First participated. Near Raleigh, a few days before the surrender, the regiment drove the enemy. It surrendered as part of Hogan's brigade, Allen's division at Salisbury, N. C., about 150 strong.

Field and Staff

Colonels - James H. Clanton of Montgomery; promoted. Wm. W. Allen of Montgomery; wounded at Murfreesboro; promoted. David T. Blakey of Montgomery; wounded at Dandridge.

Lieut. Colonels - M. W. Hannon of Montgomery; resigned. W. W. Allen; promoted. Thomas Brown of Montgomery; killed at Woodsonville, Ky. D. T. Blakey; promoted. Augustus H. Johnson of Montgomery.

Majors - W. W. Allen; promoted. Thomas Brown; promoted. D. T. Blakey; promoted. A. H. Johnson; promoted. Vincent M. Elmore of Montgomery.

Adjutants - James H. Judkins, Jr. of Montgomery; resigned. E. D. Ledyard of Montgomery; transferred. Wesley Jones of Montgomery; killed at Fiddler's Pond. B. L. Wyman of Montgomery.

Captains, and Counties from Which the Companies Came

Autauga -- Thos. Brown; promoted. W. T. Lary; wounded at Middleton, Tenn; resigned. John A. Whiting; captured near Nashville.

Montgomery -- J. F. Gaines; resigned. W. G. Campbell; resigned.

Morgan -- J. W. Harper; resigned. Josiah Patterson; (company detached).

Tallapoosa -- John G. Stokes; resigned. Jesse Fitzpatrick; resigned. Henry Washburn.

Calhoun -- D. T. Blakey; promoted. Warren S. Reese; transferred. J. Monroe Anderson.

Pike, Dale, Coffee -- A. H. Johnson; promoted. George P. Fuhrman; captured at Middleton.

Autauga and Montgomery -- Joseph Hodgson; resigned. George Speed; killed at Noonday Creek.

Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Monroe and Butler -- Orlando H. Abney; resigned. Jas. Hightower; resigned. V. M. Elmore; promoted. Bolling Kavanaugh.

Pike and Butler -- C. H. Colvin; resigned. Sydney E. Allen; killed at Murfreesboro. Robert Allen; wounded.

Montgomery -- Britton C. Tarver; resigned.

Second Alabama Cavalry Regiment

This regiment was organized at Montgomery, May 1, 1862. Proceeding to west Florida, it operated there about ten months, and was engaged in several skirmishes. Ordered to north Mississippi, and placed under Gen. Ruggles, the regiment lost 8 men in a skirmish at Mud Creek. It was then placed in Ferguson's brigade, and operated in the Tennessee valley, taking part in numerous skirmishes.

The Second fought Grierson at Okalona, with a loss of about 70 men killed and wounded, then harassed Sherman on his march to and from Mississippi. Joining Gen. Wheeler, the Second performed arduous duty on the flank of the army in the Dalton-Atlanta campaign, and lost a number of men in the battle of July 22 at Atlanta.

Having accompanied Hood to Rome, the Second then fell on Sherman's rear, and skirmished almost daily with some loss. The regiment tracked Sherman to Greensboro, N. C., then escorted President Davis to Georgia. At Forsyth, in that State, the regiment laid down its arms, 450 strong.

Field and Staff

Colonels -- F. W. Hunter of Montgomery; relieved. R. Gordon Earle of Calhoun; killed at Kingston, Ga. John N. Carpenter of Greene.

Lieut. Colonels -- James Cunningham of Monroe; resigned. John P. West of Shelby; resigned. J. N. Carpenter; promoted. Jos. J. Pegues of Tuscaloosa; wounded at Nickajack.

Majors -- Mathew R. Marks of Montgomery; relieved. J. N. Carpenter; promoted. J. J. Pegues; promoted. Richard W. Carter of Butler.

Adjutants -- James M. Bullock of Greene.

Captains, and Counties from Which the Companies Came.

Calhoun -- Richard G. Earle; promoted to colonel. Jacob W. Whisenant; wounded at Kennesa.

Shelby -- John P. West; promoted to lieutenant colonel. Frank King.

Greene -- John N. Carpenter; promoted. James A. Anderson; wounded at Nickajack.

Tuscaloosa -- J. J. Pegues; promoted. James Eddins.

Butler -- R. W. Carter; promoted. Joseph Allen.

Montgomery -- Wm. L. Allen; died in the service. Bethel J. Bonham.

Coosa -- Wm. P. Ashley; wounded at Decatur, Ga.

Monroe -- Jas. H. McCreary; resigned. F. E. Richardson.

Montgomery and Dallas -- Felix Glackmeyer; resigned. A. N. McIver; resigned. Walter H. Daniel.

Montgomery -- Thomas R. Stacey; resigned. A. P. Wilson.

Alabama Civil War Units (Continued):

Monroe and Butler -- Orlando H. Abney; resigned. Jas. Hightower; resigned. V. M. Elmore; promoted. Bolling Kavanaugh.

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Montgomery and Dallas -- Felix Glackmeyer; resigned. A. N. McIver; resigned. Walter H. Daniel.

Montgomery -- Thomas R. Stacey; resigned. A. P. Wilson.

News From the Civil War Trust

June 2011

Dear Civil War Preservationist,

It's hard to believe, but 5 years ago, the Civil War Trust embarked upon one of its most ambitious and expensive battlefield preservation efforts in its history -- the preservation of the Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg. Thanks to the great generosity of our members, we've raised \$7m in support of this \$12m purchase. With that said we still have ways to go to raise the full amount to preserve this ground once and forever. Join us in that quest.

And for those who are getting ready for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run (First Manassas) I do hope that you will check out our brand new Bull Run Animated Map. These animated maps are a great way to learn about how the battles of the Civil War unfolded on the battlefields that we hold so dear.

I do hope that many more of you will join us in Richmond, Virginia for next year's conference.

Jim Lighthizer, *Civil War Trust President*

Determination in The Wilderness

The Battle of the Wilderness, the opening battle of U.S. Grant's Overland Campaign, was not going well for the Union army. The Army of Northern Virginia's tenacious stand in the dense thickets of the Wilderness had bloodied a Union foe accustomed to facing defeat in this very region. But unlike 1862 or 1863, matters would be different in 1864. Ulysses S. Grant, the hero of the West, brought a new, gritty determination to the Army of the Potomac. Rather than retreating back across the Rapidan and Rappahannock, Grant ordered his cheering Federal army to the south, towards Richmond and Petersburg, and ultimately to victory at Appomattox Courthouse.

Now we have the chance to save the very ground where Grant made his headquarters at the Battle of the Wilderness. A terrific match from the Commonwealth of Virginia will make it possible for us to save this historic ground and to further our own determined campaign to complete the preservation of the Wilderness Battlefield.

<http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/wilderness/wilderness-2011/grants-hq-at-the-wilderness.html>

Save the Slaughter Pen

Five years ago the Civil War Trust embarked upon its most ambitious and costly battlefield preservation effort in its history - the preservation of the 208 acre Slaughter Pen Farm.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have now raised \$7m of the \$12m needed for this historic land. Our next scheduled payment would normally be \$200,000, but through a generous gift from the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, we will now need to **raise just \$150,000 this year.**

<http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/fredericksburg/fredericksburg-2010/>

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Civil War Trust (Continued): Why bother with this Slaughter Pen Farm? Well, as historian Frank O'Reilly puts it, this is the "very heart and soul of the Fredericksburg battlefield." Put frankly, it is for places like the Slaughter Pen Farm that the Civil War Trust exists.

<http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/fredericksburg/fredericksburg-2010/>

Missouri's Bloody Hill CIVIL WAR ERUPTS AT WILSON'S CREEK

BY JEFF PATRICK; *HALLOWED GROUND* MAGAZINE, SUMMER 2011

<HTTP://WWW.CIVILWAR.ORG/HALLOWED-GROUND-MAGAZINE/SUMMER-2011/MISSOURIS-BLOODY-HILL.HTML>

HISTORY OF THE DOG TAG

The Civil War provided the first recorded incident of American soldiers making an effort to ensure that their identities would be known should they die on the battlefield. Their methods were varied, and all were taken on a soldier's own initiative. In 1863, prior to the battle of Mine's Run in northern Virginia, General Meade's troops wrote their names and unit designations on paper tags and pinned them to their clothing. Many soldiers took great care to mark all their personal belongings. Some troops fashioned their own "ID" (identification) tags out of pieces of wood, boring a hole in one end so that they could be worn on a string around the neck.

The commercial sector saw the demand for an identification method and provided products. Harper's Weekly Magazine advertised "Soldier's Pins" which could be mail ordered. Made of silver or gold, these pins were inscribed with an individual's name and unit designation. Private vendors who followed troops also offered ornate identification disks for sale just prior to battles. Still, despite the fact that fear of being listed among the unknowns was a real concern among the rank and file, no reference to an official issue of identification tags by the Federal Government exists. (42% of the Civil War dead remain unidentified.)

The first official advocacy of issuing identification tags took place in 1899. Chaplain Charles C. Pierce, who was tasked to establish the Quartermaster Office of Identification in the Philippines, recommended inclusion of an "identity disc" in the combat field kit as the answer to the need for standard identification. The Army Regulations of 1913 made identification tags mandatory, and by 1917, all combat soldiers wore aluminum discs on chains around their necks.

By World War II, the circular disc was replaced by the oblong shape familiar to us today, generally referred to as "dog tags."

Since then, some myths have arisen in connection with the purpose of the identification tags. One of the more common myths involves the reason for the notch on the tag issued between 1941 and the early 1970's. Battlefield rumor held that the notched end of the tag was placed between the front teeth of battlefield casualties to hold the jaws in place.

No official record of American soldiers being issued these instructions exists; the only purpose of "the notch" was to hold the blank tag in place on the embossing machine. The machine used at this time doesn't require a notch to hold the blank in place, hence, today's tags are smooth on all sides.

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Dog Tag History (Continued): The sole purpose of the identification tag is stated by its designation. Tags found around the neck of a casualty, and only those tags found around the neck, stay with the remains at all times tags found any place besides around the neck are made note of in the Record of Personal Effects of Deceased Personnel, and placed in an effects bag. They are not removed unless there is a need to temporarily inter the remains. If there is only one tag present, another is made to match the first. If the remains are unidentified, two tags marked "unidentified" are made.

One tag is interred with the individual, the other placed on a wire ring in the sequence of the temporary cemetery plot. This enables Graves Registration personnel to make positive identification of remains during disinterment procedures; when the remains are disinterred, the tag on the wire ring is removed and placed with the matching tag around the neck.

The Department of the Army has developed and is currently testing a new tag, which will hold 80% of a soldier's medical and dental data on a microchip. Known as the Individually Carried Record, it is not intended to replace the present tag, but rather to augment it as part of the "paperless battlefield" concept.

This development is in keeping with the Army's dedication to positively identify each and every fallen soldier. The yellow TacMedCS being tested by the Marines uses radio frequency technology, electronics and global-positioning systems to pin-point wounded.

The Armed Forces make every possible effort to eradicate discrepancies and remove doubts about casualties, not least those doubts that families may hold concerning the demise of their loved ones. In recent years, a near perfect record of identifying service members who have died in the line of duty has been achieved, a far cry from the 58% rate of identification that stood during the Civil War. The ID tag has, been and remains a major part of the reason for this record. Are you wearing your ID tags today? Too many military personnel, particularly those who are part of the peacetime force stationed in CONUS (Continental United States), forget how vital those tags can be, forget that as soldiers they are always on the line. Wearing your ID tags is one of the easiest actions you can make towards achieving total readiness, so take those tags out of your dresser and put them around your neck.

Remember -the simple information contained on that small aluminum tag can speak for you if you can't speak for yourself; it could mean the difference between a positive identification and an uncertain future for those who survive you, should your identity be "...known only to God."

We've come a long way from tying pieces of wood around our necks.

This article was written by CPT Richard W. Wooley, who was Chief of Individual Training. Graves Registration Department (now the Mortuary Affairs Center), U.S. Army Quartermaster School, Fort Lee, Virginia.

80 Million Descended From Confederate Soldiers

50 to 80 million Americans are descendants of a Confederate soldier!
150 years after the War for Southern Secession, a conservative estimate would say 1 in 6 Americans are Southern by blood!

by Mark Vogl June 17, 2011

The numbers are stunning, but the formula to get them is pretty conservative.

To begin with, the estimate assumes 500,000 as the number of Confederate veterans who had children. This reflects half of the actual number of Southerners who served, close to one million. And though 300,000 died during the war, many could have had sizable families before the shots at Ft. Sumter were fired.

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Descendants (Continued): Then one must estimate the number of children he had.

This estimate is six in the first post veteran generation; from here to the next generation, and so on. We are presently in the sixth generation after the war. But, if you only use five generations and the numbers of children per generation as follows, six x five x four x four you come up with eighty million! Again, these numbers are based on half the number of men who fought for the south, and one generation shy of what is living. So the estimate is fairly conservative.

80 million Americans could be descendants of Confederate soldiers who fought for the South in the great war. If just one of your grandparents was born in the South the odds are in your favor that you are kin to a Confederate soldier!

Because of historical revisionism, the great tragedy of slavery, and the mobility of the American public interest in ancestry back to the time of the American war has faded somewhat. The Sons of Confederate Veterans, a heritage organization composed of lineal and collateral descendants of Confederate Veterans is the largest Southern heritage organization with about thirty thousand members. But the comparable Union organization is only about one fifth the size!

But with the Sesquicentennial Anniversary interest is rising. And, as more people begin to study why the nation divided they may be stunned by the Southern accuracy in predicting the problems of America today. A study of the Confederate Constitution is worth the time. Why? Because is substantially different in many ways For example, in the Preamble the Southern nation called for the protection and guidance of Almighty God. thus the Confederates included God at the table of governance. This combined with a much less powerful central government all but eliminates a Roe v. Wade decision in the South, and thus abortion would be illegal in the Southern nation. But other parts of the Southern Constitution prohibit bail outs for industry, and earmarks for Congressman. And lastly, and most importantly, the Confederacy was caused by the third series of secession between the sovereign states and a higher government. The first secession came when the colonies left the British Empire. The second secession came when the original thirteen states individually withdrew from the Articles of Confederation to form the United States under the Constitution. And the third secession occurred when Southern states and territories formed the Confederacy. Secession would have been a recognized political act in a Southern nation, and thus would have placed a great restraint on over reach by the central government.

The issue of slavery has been an intellectual black hole in American schools when discussing the Causes of Secession. A study of early American politics and political theory, and the events which led to secession, combined with the Confederate Constitution point to many reasons for secession, not the least of which was a commitment to original compact known as the Constitution. Limited government, the sovereignty of the states, and individual liberty were all fundamental to the Southern view of the Constitution.

The Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the War for Southern Independence provides an opportunity to look an alternative form of American democracy, one where the states retained the power position, the central government formed for defense and interstate commerce purposes. And since so large a segment of the American population today are related to the men who served under General Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and the other heroic warriors of the South it might be time to take a look at what they were fighting for, and not be blinded by the one issue which certainly was a black mark for the Europeans and northerners who brought the slaves to America, and sold them to the South, and then purchased the products produced on Sothern plantations. There is enough fault for all when discussing slavery, but the there are other issues which could help us find our way to the future.

http://www.nolanchart.com/article8748_50_to_80_million_Americans_are_descendents_of_a_Confederate_soldier.html

South Had Legitimate Complaints Against Yankees A Fiscal Quarrel Called The Civil War

by Devika Patel June 03, 2011

Confederates are a misunderstood bunch. April marked 150 years since the first shots were fired at Fort Sumter, launching the Civil War. Though hostilities didn't last half as long as Vietnam or even our current Afghan skirmish, it's the war that killed the most Americans and also is believed by many to be the most justified of our nation's wars. After all, the bloodshed freed the slaves and paved the path for civil rights and Kumbaya. But even if the story has a happy ending (sort of), and even if slavery was intolerable, inhumane, evil, and economically idiotic, modern Americans stubbornly ignore the obvious fact that Lincoln's war directly opposed the spirit with which this nation was founded, when 13 states decided to secede from their union, or "the British Empire" as it's sometimes called. They founded a new nation through secession four score and seven years prior to Lincoln's famous proclamation, which ludicrously implied his fight against secession was in the same spirit as our nation's founding. In truth, Lincoln's tyrannical, tax-loving nature was exactly the sort of oppression that Washington, et al., tried to dispose of back in 1776. The war was barely about slavery.

The rebellious Founding Fathers were quite clear when drafting the Constitution:

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

These idealists understood that centralized government was a necessary evil, but they limited federal power and its revenue sources to the best of their ability. The Civil War was a battle over revenue.

Ask any knowledgeable Southerner, and he or she is likely to agree with Charles Dickens, who wrote:

"...the Northern onslaught upon slavery is no more than a piece of specious humbug disguised to conceal its desire for economic control of the United States....Union means so many millions a year lost to the South; secession means loss of the same millions to the North. The love of money is the root of this as many, many other evils. The quarrel between the North and South is, as it stands, solely a fiscal quarrel."

This fiscal quarrel dated back to the country's founding, when a tariff was drafted into the Constitution and one of the first pieces of legislation the new Congress passed was the tariff of 1789, a duty of five to ten percent on imported goods. Before the Civil War, this tariff raised more than nine of every ten dollars in federal revenue.

"Money, the root of all of evils, was also the root of US history's deadliest war. Slavery had little to do with either side's hurt feelings."

The first protective tariff was born in 1816, aimed at protecting Americans from having to compete with Europe's cheap labor. This duty was also aimed at spreading around the Southern wealth and boosting the Northern industrialists' selling power. Since the South exported most of its cotton and tobacco crops (only 20% of the Southern crop was sold domestically), it could either be paid for its exports in hard cash or through manufactured European goods. If Southerners chose the latter, they got a better price. It was a no-brainer, since before 1824, US tariff levels hovered around 20%. It was economical to buy from Europe, whose lower labor costs allowed their manufacturers to undercut their higher-paid counterparts in the Northern US.

Northerners, who initially wanted protection for their burgeoning manufacturing industry, now saw an opportunity for monopoly through what was slowly becoming a prohibitive tariff.

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Quarrel (Continued): If Congress kept raising the duty rate on imported goods, those rich Southerners would be forced to buy manufactured knickknacks such as iron and textiles from Northern factories. It was a sweet deal for the industrialists. Northern political dominance enabled Congress to pass a tariff averaging 35% late in 1824. When Congress passed the “Tariff of Abominations” in 1828, under which duties averaged over 50%, Southerners were more than a bit ticked off. They wound up paying 87% of total federal revenues.

In response to the Tariff of 1828, South Carolina refused to collect any duties on imported goods sold in her ports, and this so-called “nullification” of federal tax law precipitated a crisis in which the very first talk of secession was heard. President Andrew Jackson eventually caved, and the feds agreed to roll back tariffs to their 1816 levels over a ten-year period, and the levies would settle at around 15% by 1842. Congressional Democrats, mostly Southerners, were able to reduce the tariff laws further in the 1840s and 1850s. The 1857 rates were the lowest in history. Peace was achieved until the Panic of 1857, when protectionists again rallied for a high tariff as a remedy for the ensuing recession.

In May 1860, Congress waited until the senators from the lower six Southern states were missing from the rosters and spawned the Morrill Tariff, which took effect in March 1861, a few weeks before fighting began at Sumter. This tariff effectively undid Jackson’s compromise. The average tariff rose from about 15% to 37%, with increases to 47% within three years. And with the Southerners missing from the US Congress during the four-year war, tariffs on European goods skyrocketed to 49% by 1868. (Hey—who said war was cheap? But after the war had ended and funding for its efforts was no longer needed, high tariffs remained. Big surprise. When have the feds EVER given up a revenue stream?).

Northern citizens knew which side of their bread was dripping with Dixie butter. On December 10, 1860, the Chicago Daily Times wrote of secession’s potential economic impact:

In one single blow, our foreign commerce must be reduced to less than one-half of what it is now. Our coastwise trade would pass into other hands. One-half of our shipping would lie idle at our wharves. We should lose our trade with the South, with all of its immense profits. Our manufacturers would be in utter ruins.

Money, the root of all of evils, was also the root of US history’s deadliest war. Slavery had little to do with either side’s hurt feelings.

But beyond the tariff war, the Southerners had an even bigger gripe: They despised Lincoln. His Republican party was strictly a Northern invention, founded only a few years before Sumter in 1854, and his election meant that Southern issues would be ignored for four years. In truth, they had no idea how bad a president old Abe would be. The “Great Emancipator” showed how much he respected liberty when he suspended habeas corpus rights a month into the conflict and declared martial law.

Not only did Lincoln hijack Southern citizens’ right to govern themselves, he now sought to expand his executive power at the expense of his citizens’ civil rights. Americans are surprisingly willing, both then and now, to hand over their liberties without demanding proof when the state claims the country is under threat.

Lincoln had no beef with slavery. This is the same guy who said:

“I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so....If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it....What I do about slavery, and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union.”

He wanted a strong, centralized government that ruled over the weakened states with as much power as he could seize. Though he never lived to see fascism or communism, Lincoln clearly understood the role of dictator.

Even after Lincoln’s death, and for twelve years after the war had ended, Reconstruction further proved that the fighting had little to do with slavery.

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Quarrel (Continued): If the North cared primarily about freeing slaves, soldiers would have vacated the South shortly after Lee's surrender. Instead, there was nation-building in Dixie. Anyone connected to the previous regime or military (essentially all Southern males) could no longer vote, run for office, or exercise any of their constitutional rights without pledging support for the Union. A Southerner was forced to surrender his dignity and vow allegiance to the conquerors who had ravaged his people and his land. Southerners had their right to a representative government suspended indefinitely, their dignity trampled, and over a quarter million of their citizens killed by foreign invaders from the North, then were forced to suck it all up and like it. Not surprisingly, the vanquished South held onto its anger for generations after Appomattox. Even now, in the modern, post-industrial South, being called a Yankee is no compliment. And it has little to do with the Emancipation Proclamation.

It's comforting to think that the crux of the conflict was slavery and that the war was a victory for all Americans, but that theory isn't rooted in reality. Still, teachers continue to spoon-feed their students this nonsense for the same reason they often show movies in class: It keeps the kids entertained, in their seats, and it prevents curious minds from asking difficult questions that could cause trouble with parents, principals, or school boards. (I taught at a public high school for a year and breathe audible sighs of relief every day that I'm free of that job. Teenagers are gruesome, volatile creatures, much like feral dogs in heat. And my fellow educators in the faculty room were even worse. It was hardly a good recipe for serious education.)

Though history is written and rewritten by the victors, and is therefore a load of self-aggrandizing crap, it behooves us to examine our actions and learn from our myriad mistakes. Self-reflection is never fun and the huddled masses typically prefer propaganda to unbiased representations, but our refusal to acknowledge that the Southern states had a multitude of legitimate gripes against the Union is as blind as believing that instability and oppression in Libya were threats to US interests: It may sound pretty but has no basis in fact.

http://takimag.com/article/a_fiscal_quarrel_called_the_civil_war/print

Arlington Memorial To Confederate Veterans

"An Obedience To Duty As They Understood it; These Men Suffered All; Sacrificed All and Died!"

Calvin E. Johnson Jr. Saturday, June 4, 2011

While they lived, few criticized the men of Union Blue and Confederate Gray.

Let me tell you of the Arlington National Cemetery where this nation honored the men who fought for the Confederacy, the Union and those men and women who fought our nations' wars since the War Between the States.

Did you know there are 245,000 service men and women, including their families, buried at Arlington?

The world famous Arlington National Cemetery is located in the shadow of the Custis-Lee Mansion (Arlington House) that was home to General Robert E. Lee and family until 1861 at the beginning of the War Between the States. This cemetery is on the Virginia side of the Potomac River across from the nation's capital.

In 1864, Union soldiers were first buried here and by the end of the war the number rose to 16,000.

The Union burial site at Arlington National Cemetery is at section 13. Also buried in Arlington include: President John F. Kennedy, General Jonathan M. Wainwright and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

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Arlington (Continued): Around the start of the 20th century this country also honored the men who fought for the Confederacy. The site of men who fought for “Dixie” is section 16.

There is an inscription on the 32.5 foot high Confederate monument at Arlington National Cemetery that reads, “An Obedience To Duty As They Understood it; These Men Suffered All; Sacrificed All and Died!”

Some claim this Confederate Monument at Arlington may have been the first to honor Black Confederates. Carved on this monument is the depiction of a Black Confederate who is marching in step with the White soldiers. Also shown is a White Confederate who gives his child to a Black woman for safe keeping.

In 1898, President William McKinley, a former Union soldier spoke in Atlanta, Georgia and said, ” In the spirit of Fraternity it was time for the North to share in the care of the graves of former Confederate soldiers.

In consequence to his speech, by Act of the United States Congress, a portion of Arlington National Cemetery was set aside for the burial of Confederate soldiers. At this time 267 Confederate remains from and near Washington were removed and re-interred at this new site.

In 1906, the United Daughters of the Confederacy asked permission from William Howard Taft to erect a monument. Taft was at the time serving as the United States Secretary of War and was in charge of National Cemeteries.

With permission the Arlington Confederate Memorial Association was formed and the United Daughters of the Confederacy was given authority to oversee work on the monument.

An agreement and contract was made with Sir Moses Ezekiel who was a Jewish Confederate Veteran by the record of his service at the Battle of New Market while he was a Cadet at Virginia Military Institute. Work started at his workshop in Italy in 1910, and upon his death in 1917, the Great Sculptor, was brought back home and buried near the base of the Arlington Confederate Monument.

Sir Moses Ezekiel was honored in his life by being Knighted by the German and Italian Governments.

On June 4, 1914, the Arlington monument was unveiled to a crowd of thousands that included former Confederate and Union soldiers.

The Memorial Event was presided over by President Woodrow Wilson and the people applauded the stirring speeches given by: General Bennett H. Young- Commander In Chief of the United Confederate Veterans; General Washington Gardner-Commander In Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and Colonel Robert E. Lee - grandson of General Lee.

The Confederate monument unveiling was concluded by a 21 gun salute and the Arlington monument was officially given to the United Daughters of the Confederacy and was given back to the U.S. War Department for keeping and accepted by President Woodrow Wilson who said:

“I am not so happy as PROUD to participate in this capacity on such an occasion, Proud that I represent such a people.”

Since Woodrow Wilson, wreaths have been sent to both sections of Arlington, including the Confederate section, to honor those who died for freedom. Some Presidents have also spoken at Arlington on Confederate Memorial Day.

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/37226>

Lexington, Virginia Goes PC

Confederate-style flags could be a thing of the past in one college town. A new proposal would only allow for city, state and American flags to fly on flagpoles in Lexington.

June 30, 2011 WDBJ-TV Roanoke, Virginia

LEXINGTON, Va. — Flying Confederate-style flags could be a thing of the past in one college town. A new proposal would only allow for city, state and American flags to fly on flagpoles in Lexington. The issue came to a head during Lee-Jackson day in January.

More than 300 people later signed a petition that expressed their displeasure with Confederate-style flags on city flagpoles. Lexington's mayor feels this new proposal is a fair compromise.

“People still have their freedom of speech. They can do whatever they want to with their flags,” Lexington mayor Mimi Elrod said. “Not everybody is going to be able to fly their flags from our flagpoles whenever they want to.”

Traditionally, Lexington flies Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University flags. If the proposal passes, that would no longer happen. Private businesses will also be able to display any flag of their choice. Now, you'd still be able to carry any flag during the Lee-Jackson celebration.

But one group doesn't feel that it's a compromise. “Who knows maybe one day we won't even be able to fly the flag of our country,” said Brandon Dorsey of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

SCV Works for Texas Plates Over Ignorant Opposition

Confederate Flag License Plate Sparks Debate as Texas Might Allow Confederate Flag On License Plates

June 23, 2011



FORT WORTH (CBSDFW.COM) – Would you buy a license plate with a Confederate flag on it? State officials are looking at possibly launching a new Texas state license plate honoring veterans of the War Between the States.

Mr. Hilary Shelton, with the NAACP in Washington, D.C., said that the Civil War may not be something we want to celebrate.

“When many look at that history, we think about it in terms of secession, that is we were seceding from the Union in the southern parts of the country,” explained Shelton. “Many would view that, quite frankly, as treason, because they meant to actually destroy the existing governmental structure. But when we dig deeper, the issue becomes even more offensive to many African Americans and those that sought freedom for those of darker skin in our country.”

“When you understand the Confederate history, and what it stood for,” said Dallas resident Mark Jones, “it's directly slapping African Americans in the face.”

In terms of the Civil War, Shelton said that the Confederate flag was actually very un-American. “It was the flag that was flown during a war to actually tear the nation apart,” Shelton explained.

“I don't think that this will unify us,” said Carrollton resident Carolina Arreola. “Our patriotism is to the United States flag.”

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TX SCV Tag (Continued): But the Texas Sons of Confederate Veterans have renewed their push for a Texas license plate that includes the rebel flag in its design.

Thomas Muhammed founded an organization to recover reparations for slavery. Still, he would not oppose the license plates. "I don't see how a flag hurts someone, as long as the people displaying these license plates are not killing people physically who are of African descent." Muhammed said.

Currently, nine states already allow the license plates. A statement in a recent newsletter from the Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans said, "...the Florida Division, the eleventh state, has just filed a lawsuit against the DOT there after their request was denied. I am confident their case will prevail, because legal precedents are in place. I am hopeful that the Texas DOT also realizes this as they consider our application."

Shelton said that, ultimately, the issue is not about feelings over the Confederacy or those who fought in the Civil War. "The issue here is whether or not we should allow state dollars to be utilized to actually continue to advance these notions of the 'Old Confederacy,' and somehow or another that slavery and all those other things that were parts of that Confederacy were something worth celebrating. I think many, many of us would say the answer is absolutely 'no.'"

However, the City of Dallas already has a large Confederate memorial and several schools named after Confederate generals.

The state board that regulates license plates has rejected Confederate flag license plates before, but the issue is set to come up again at an upcoming meeting that has not yet been scheduled

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2011/06/23/license-plate-featuring-confederate-flag-hot-topic-at-txdot/>

1 Vote Needed For SCV Plate Featuring Flag

June 25, 2011

HOUSTON (AP) – The Sons of Confederate Veterans stands in need of just one vote for approval of a Texas specialty license plate that prominently features the Confederate flag.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles license board voted on the request for the SCV plate in April, but it was a tie. One of the nine members was absent, so the board opted to reconsider the request at its June 9 meeting. However, a board member from Houston died June 3, and that meeting did not take place.

A DMV spokeswoman says another vote must now wait until Gov. Rick Perry appoints a new board member, which might not happen until fall.

A mock plate was posted on the DMV's website in March. Comments were overwhelmingly positive: 186 in favor, 3 against.

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2011/06/25/1-vote-needed-for-scv-plate-featuring-flag/>

Will Perry of Texas Go "PC" on the License Plate?

In Texas, License plates are a hot issue as the descendants of 120,000 Texas Confederate soldiers apply for a special plate... my bet is Governor Perry will go with the politically correct!

Mark Vogl *America Today*, June 27, 2011

Late last week stories flooded Texas newspapers, and the airwaves about the efforts of one Not-for-profit veterans' organization attempt to get a specialty license plate in Texas.

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Perry (Continued): Texas has issued more than 100 specialty plates, and has never turned down an application. But times they may be a changing, as Texas Department of Transportation waffles on a request made by the Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans (S.C.V.) for a plate. the controversy? The seal of the S.C.V. is nothing less than the crimson cross of the Confederate battle flag!

A recent estimate indicates that between 50 and 80 million Americans, of all ethnicities are descendants of Confederate soldiers. Though little known and seldom reported, African Americans, Mexicans, and even American Indians served in the Army of the Confederate States. The last Confederate general to surrender, Stand Watie, was an Indian! General Watie surrendered Cherokee, Creek and Seminole forces on June 19 at Doaksville, Indian territory (present day Oklahoma.) And while there were no African American officers in the US Navy, there was at least one in the Confederate Navy! In Texas, these specialty plates would be available to all.

The crimson battle flag which is a symbol for the Sons of Confederate Veterans has been seized on by racially oriented groups like the NAACP and the KKK. But the flag originally was a banner used on the battlefield. Hundreds of thousands of southerners, of all ethnicities, died while fighting under that flag. Tens of thousands of African Americans fought for the south, and it is an untold, ignored story of American history. Some would argue that many African Americans who fought for the South were slaves and thus had no choice. Is that different from the whites on both sides who were drafted and had no choice? One of the ugly truths of the great war is that the blacks were, for the most part, as loyal to the South as any other group. Though there were more than 3 million slaves in a nation of 9 million there was no slave revolt during the war. African Americans were truly loyal citizens of the Confederacy. A story not told because it is inconvenient. History is full of inconvenient truths.

But the battle flag is undeniably the most recognized symbol of the South in the South, in the United States, and across the globe. No other region in the United States has a symbol, much less a symbol so universally recognized. Until political correctness came along, and the agenda of social engineers to homogenize the United States, schools across the South played Dixie proudly. If you look at movies made in the 30's through the 60's you will hear Dixie and see the Confederate battle flag as sentimental symbols of regional pride used to stir the martial attitudes of much of the nation. When the wall fell in Berlin at the end of the Cold War, the Confederate battle flag was there! Why? Because across the world, the crimson flag is a symbol of opposition to an oppressive government!

For Rick Perry, whose aspirations for the White House seem to be blooming, this issue is a preliminary litmus test. You see the typical way to prove your moderation, or your development as an acceptable southerner is to turn your back on your own people. Perry has not been mister Courage in Texas. Last year when Arizona stood alone against the national media in its fight to gain control of the open borders of the state, Governor Rick Perry of Texas was nowhere to be found. Nope he was silent. While he has made speeches in the state, and apparently out of the state, chastising the US government for it's lack of border enforcement, he has done nothing as governor of the states with the longest international boundary. Just last week Mexican military forces crossed into Texas for a brief moment. But, Perry has not been a voice on this issue, not done anything to spur federal action.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans are a small organization nationally, only about 30,000. But they are growing as America experiences the 150th Anniversary, the Sesquicentennial, of the American Civil War, also known as the War for Southern Independence, the War of Secession, the War Between the States, Mr. Lincoln's War, or the War of Northern Aggression. Much of the centralized government we experience today, including the income tax, and the draft, come from this period of time.

Many other southern states already have the plates which the SCV seeks in Texas. In every Court battle concerning these plates, the Sons of Confederate Veterans have prevailed.

So will Governor Perry save taxpayers the expense of an expensive Court battle they will surely lose? Or will he allow his administration to block freedom of speech and go to Court so that he can appear to be some kind of compassionate conservative.

Perry (Continued): Rick Perry may be compassionate, but his record indicates he is no conservative!

The battle in Texas indicates that the social phenomenon of "diversity" has its limits. There are groups which diversity does not include. 50 - 80 million Americans who are descendants of southern heroes are one of the groups not included in present day "diversity".

http://www.nolanchart.com/article8770_Rick_Perry_Courage_or_Conformity__I_bet_on_conformity.html

Confederate Veterans and Buffalo Soldiers both have their detractors

July 2, 2011 BY JERRY PATTERSON Special to the Ft. Worth, TX Star-Telegram

"I'll not willingly offend, Nor be easily offended; What's amiss I'll strive to mend, And endure what can't be mended." -- Isaac Watts

In his Wednesday column, Bob Ray Sanders began with a quote -- of himself -- so I took the liberty of doing the same. Since I've never said anything worth quoting, I instead used this quote, which sums up much of the debate over symbols on license plates: Being offended is often the responsibility of the person offended, not the offender.

I want to commend Sanders on a well-written commentary that framed his opinion without relying on the kind of tired, race-baiting rhetoric regurgitated by the NAACP's Gary Bledsoe. (See: "What's heroic to one person is offensive to another") This issue would be well-served with more examination and less inflammation.

To begin, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a private nonprofit established in 1896, is requesting to pay for a license plate displaying its logo and name. The plate would be primarily for SCV members but would be available to all Texans. The logo does include the flag of the Army of Northern Virginia, commonly known as the Confederate battle flag. If approved, the SCV would pay the state \$8,000 for the right to have a plate, then recoup costs with each plate sold.

I am proudly a member of the SCV; my great-grandfather James Monroe Cole served in the Louisiana Infantry during the War, died in the Confederate Veterans Home and is buried in the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

As a statewide elected official, I sponsored the plate because of my personal heritage and my commitment to Texas history -- even the history others might find offensive.

It's the same reason I sponsored a license plate to honor the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, another private, nonprofit organization interested in marketing its heritage with a license plate that displays its logo and name.

Both plates represent private organizations proud of their history. Both are symbols for larger ideas. But political correctness has warped perception of those ideas.

I am proud to support the Buffalo Soldiers license plate because these black troops deployed to the Western frontier after the Civil War served with great distinction in Texas. They included many early black recipients of the Medal of Honor.

But an examination of the Buffalo Soldiers' actions could easily offend anyone familiar with history. They were sent to Texas on a mission to subjugate and enslave the American Indian population, which is exactly what they did. Their fierce determination forced Indians into reservations to live essentially as prisoners of war held by the U.S. government.

Is this a history of which we should be proud? Should these soldiers be commemorated on a license plate?

Of course they should. The Buffalo Soldier license plate, just like the Confederate plate, is intended to honor soldiers who served with pride and dignity in defense of Texas. That's all.

(Continued Next Page)

Detractors (Continued): In the end, offensive behavior can be found throughout history if you're looking to be offended.

There is no statutory protection against being offended. Actually, it's the privilege of every American to be offended.

And for those who believe every Confederate soldier was fighting to perpetuate slavery, I'll end with the quote of one of the greatest Americans of all time.

"There are few, I believe, in this enlightened age,"

wrote Robert E. Lee while stationed in Texas in 1856,

"who will not acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil. ... We see the course of the final abolition of human slavery is still onward, and give it the aid of our prayers."

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www.glo.texas.gov

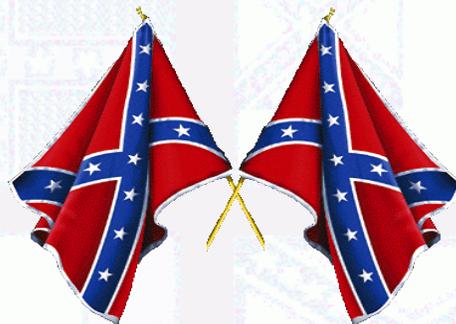
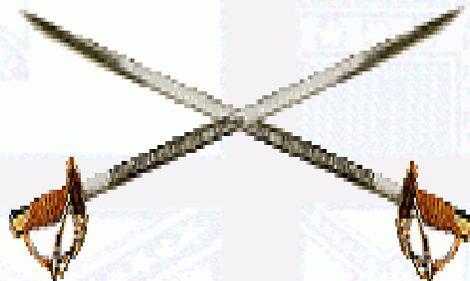
Read more: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/07/02/3195632/confederate-veterans-and-buffalo.html#ixzz1Rg43v8x5>

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Read Bob Ray Sanders at <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/06/28/3186346/confederate-battle-flag-doesnt.html>

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Audemus jura nostra defendere



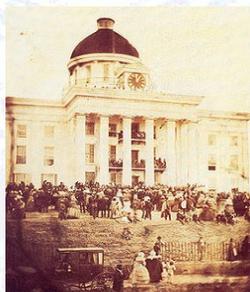
We Dare Defend Our Rights

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.



LEST WE FORGET

Our quest shall ever be
That we shall again see
The Battle Flag of Lee
Returned to the dome of the
First Capital of the
Confederacy

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

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