



# National Reunion

## July 21st - 24th

### Anderson, S.C.



#### Wednesday, July 21

2:30 pm - 5:00 pm GEC meeting

#### Thursday, July 22

8:00 am - 8:45 am Opening Ceremony  
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Business session I  
 12:15 pm - 1:45 pm Awards Luncheon  
 2:00 pm - 6:30 pm Abbeville Tour  
 4:45 pm - 5:45 pm Abbeville Memorial Service  
 8:00 pm John C. Calhoun Oratory Contest

#### Friday, July 23

7:00 am - 8:20 am Forrest Cavalry Breakfast  
 8:30 am - 12:00 pm Business Session II  
 12:15 pm - 2:30 pm Heritage Luncheon  
 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm True Confederate History Sessions

#### Saturday, July 24

7:00 am - 8:00 am Chaplain's Prayer Breakfast  
 8:15 am - 9:30 am Army meetings  
 9:45 am - 12:00 pm Business Session III  
 10:00 am Debutante Brunch  
 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Tour John C. Calhoun Home  
 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm GEC Meeting  
 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Commander-In-Chief's Reception  
 7:00 pm Debutante Presentation, Grand Banquet & Ball

#### *Division Memorial Service, Eufaula*



# Brigade Reports

## *Southwest*

I want to thank the members of the Southwest Brigade for their support over the past two years. It has been a pleasure to serve as Brigade Commander and I look forward to the next two years. Our Brigade has accomplished a lot but there is still much work to do.

The Semmes Camp has recently completed the installation of a historical marker at Confederate Rest in Mobile's Magnolia Cemetery. The wording on the marker offers an excellent explanation of Confederate Rest and the Cause for which these men fought. The marker was funded by the Alabama Division and it was money well spent. The Semmes Camp also has in its possession an original copy of the Official Records of the War of Rebellion. When the Jefferson Davis Library is completed at Beauvoir, the Camp is going to make a permanent loan of the books to the library.

The Fort Blakeley Camp #1864 is a real powerhouse in the Brigade. They have worked hard to recover after falling on hard times and they now have over 50 members. They make their presence known at local gun shows, Fort Morgan events and other local festivals. One of the best programs I have seen a camp use in an effort to make the camp family oriented is called the Heritage Guards. This is basically the women's auxiliary for the Camp. Judy Johnson is the Lieutenant of the group and is a real asset to Commander Rhodes and his staff.

One of the best Memorial Services I attended in April was the one hosted by the Pvt. James C. Anderson Camp of Grove Hill. We went to the cemetery at Sugsville and honored 5 Confederate soldiers. I want to commend the Anderson Camp as well as other camps in our Brigade for the close association they have with local historical groups.

Also during Confederate Heritage and History Month, The Unknown Confederate Soldier Camp and the Col. Pickney Bowles Camp had a unique program on the local radio station in Evergreen. Compatriots James Windham and Steve Stacey went on air and had people to call in about their Confederate ancestors. They had a lap top handy and would give the caller a history of his ancestor's unit. It was well received and it paid off in recruitment efforts.

For the past twelve years, Compatriot Stacey has worked to compile a list of graves for all the soldiers from the War Between the States in Monroe County and the counties that border it. The list is now complete and has been placed in the Monroe County Library. There are plans to publish this list in the future. We commend Compatriot Stacey for his efforts.

Over the past few years the Dabney H. Maury Camp of Grand Bay has hosted a Jefferson Davis Birthday party at Magee Farm. This year's event at the Farm was well attended and a real success for the Camp. Compatriot Steve Kennedy was the keynote speaker and the Kracker Dan Band provided the entertainment. I also want to thank the Camp for their support of events at Fort Gaines. It is always fun to join them at these events.

Commander Raymond Reils and the members of the Lee-Moses-Dixon Camp are responsible for the Confederate Battle Flag at mile marker 7 on I-10 in west Mobile County. We appreciate what they do with the flag site. Just recently they installed a new flag on the pole and it is a beautiful sight to see.

On a recent visit to the Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest Camp I saw their Camp flag for the first time. This flag truly makes a statement with its appearance. It is a black flag with a Confederate Battle Flag sown into the canton. They are proud of this flag and rightly so.

Our camp in Atmore, Pvt. William Carney Camp #2088 recently located the grave of 1st Lt. William Wallace. He served with the 56th Alabama Cavalry. The grave was badly overgrown with brush and trees. They cleared the site and installed a Confederate headstone. On June 12th we will assemble at the site for a dedication service.

Actually we will be doing two dedication services on June 12th. We will be in Atmore in the morning and that afternoon we will be in Evergreen for a monument dedication. The monument in Evergreen is for Pvt. John A. Murphey who served with the 6th Alabama Infantry.

The SW Brigade also has another monument project that will be our priority as we move into a new year. Compatriot Bobby Ellis has donated a piece of property on U.S. 31 in Canoe, Alabama. Our plans are to erect a monument and a flagpole there.

In closing, let me take a moment to encourage all of you to stand fast in your resolve to defend and promote our heritage. The heritage of our Confederate ancestors is one of honor, dignity and loyalty. It is truly a heritage to be proud of and one that we should promote at every opportunity.

Terry "Beetle" Bailey  
Commander



# Brigade Reports

## *Northwest Central*

The North West Central Brigade is currently 306 members strong. The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp being the largest and the Col. Holland M. Bell and Mortimer Jordan Camp being the smallest. All Camps in the Brigade are still active in Local and County issues of their Counties. On the State Division Level we are well represented from our Brigade in State Staff and Operations Committee.

Each of our Camps in the Brigade has had different camp activities such as Grave Dedications, Reenactments, Grave Cleanups, and Membership Booths set up at many locations around the Brigade. These events in and around each camp are the ways that camps can get our voice heard in all corners of the Brigade. I am proud of all our camps here in the Brigade. It is the camps that make us a strong division. The Camps in our Brigade have participated in State Division Projects all across the great state of Alabama.

When all of you in the Brigade read this report, I will be ending my term as Brigade Commander as of July 31<sup>st</sup>. I want to say that it has been a privilege and honor serving you as your Brigade Commander for these past 2 years. We have accomplished a great many things Brigade wise and I would like to see it continue to grow. I have been to every Operations Committee meeting and every Teleconference scheduled. I have been your voice on the Operations Committee and many times they have heard your voice. The Brigade has the potential to grow to be the biggest brigade in the Division.

The Compatriot that is taking over duties as Brigade Commander is a man that I consider as a Brother who will do his best for anyone. Compatriot Carl Jones from the Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp is going to be our new Brigade Commander. Let us all get behind Compatriot Carl Jones as he becomes Brigade Commander as of August 1<sup>st</sup>. Carl is one who is a person that has a heart of gold and a fire and a passion for the CAUSE. Let us all stand behind him as he takes his place of Leadership in the Division. He has a great deal of knowledge that will benefit both the Brigade and the Division. I wish him the very best success in doing his duties of Brigade Commander. Remember it is not just one man who runs this Brigade, its all of us. Let us do our part to make the Brigade grow.

Once again I want to thank the members of the Brigade for allowing me to serve as your Brigade Commander. Let us now go and FORWARD THE CHARGE!!!!

To Service to the Brigade, Division and To our Great Organization

Allan Koester

North West Central Brigade Commander

## *More News Around the Division . .*

Bob McClendon poses beside the new monument dedicated on May 22 at Allatoona Pass battlefield, in Georgia. The completed monument is due to the efforts taken by the Alabama Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Alabama Division, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, Order of the Southern Cross and various Chapters and members of the Alabama Division UDC as well as various other Chapters, Camps and interested individuals



Past Division Commander Gayden Latture has donated 100 books to the Confederate Library. He is shown here with Librarian Leonard Wilson as the collection was loaded for delivery to the library.

## Jefferson Davis Birthday Commemoration

Montgomery - Thursday, 3 June 2010 at 10 a.m., Camp 2002 (Henry C. Semple) and Camp 1524 (Prattville Dragoons) hosted this year's Jefferson Davis Birthday Commemoration at the Capitol in Montgomery. Master of Ceremonies was Alabama Division Judge Advocate Philip C. Davis, The Color Guard was provided by Compatriot Larry Owens, Camp 1524.

The Commemoration Program was held on 3 June, a workday because that is the only way we could have access to the Capitol Auditorium and other facilities, and because it is the actual date Of President Davis's birthday.

The program featured Episode 1 from the Jefferson Davis Bicentennial Video, a recently issued 3- DVD set that offers a comprehensive look at Jefferson Davis. Episode 1 covers President Davis's childhood, adolescence, time at West Point, his courtship and marriage of Zachary Taylor's daughter Sarah (who died of malaria after only 3 months of marriage) and subsequently of Varina Howell, plus his life on Brierfield Plantation before he began his life in politics.

Following the program in the auditorium, Compatriot Davis and Mrs. Clara Bass, State President of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, set a wreath at the Jefferson Davis statue in front of the State Capitol. Finally, we preceded to the First White House of the Confederacy, where James Pickett, a member of the Thomas Goode Jones SCV camp in Montgomery, spoke briefly on Jeff Davis's character. Mrs. Ann Tidmore, Regent of the First White House Association, put a fine finish to the day's activities by offering Jeff Davis birthday cake to all those present.

D. Tyrone Crowley  
Special Assignment  
Alabama Confederate  
Communications Officer  
Prattville Dragoons Camp 1524



## Kentucky Monument at Vicksburg is Dedicated



Kentucky Confederate Monument Dedicated! After nearly 15 years of work by the officers and men of the Kentucky Division (and quite a lot of help from our allied organizations, the UDC and OCR), the Kentucky Confederate Monument is a reality. On a beautiful Saturday, the 8th of May, with flourishes from an Alabama brass band, musket volleys from the 3rd Kentucky Infantry re-enactors and cannon salutes by several Mississippi batteries of artillery, SCV Executive Director Ben Sewell, acting as the appointed representative of Governor Steve Beshear, accepted "title" to the monument from Division Commander Dr. T. Y. Hiter and he passed it on to Mike Maddell, the Superintendent of the NPS.

It was, as stated, a glorious morning, all round. Re-enactors from Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi formed a guard of honor that marched to the site of the monument and rendered military honors. Children from Kentucky and across the South, led by CoC national president Richard Fairchild unveiled the massive granite marker, and ladies from both the Kentucky and Mississippi Divisions of the UDC and OCR laid wreaths. Pictures were taken.

Speeches were given. Most of all, though, the men of the Kentucky regiments who served there were honored. So may it always be.



**Aug 27-28-Pigeon Forge, TN - First Annual Smoky Mountain Relic Show at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center, 4010 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN, adjacent to the Ramada.**

The TN Division SCV and the city of Pigeon Forge are co-sponsoring a relic show like none other. Along with vendors from across the country offering their wares and free appraisals you can witness the H. L. Hunley mobile exhibit,

Living History encampments of both CSA and USA soldiers, artillery demonstrations, period fashion show and displays. Listen to first-person impressions by famous WBTS historic personalities such as Gens. Lee, Grant, Forrest, Jackson, Stewart, Polk and many others. All for the one daily admission price of \$8, children under 12 \$4. Plenty of free parking.

Should metal detecting be of interest to you bring your equipment and participate in a "Treasure Hunt" for an additional fee. In the evening take in any of the attractions and restaurants this family fun destination has to offer. 8' vendor space is available for \$65 through the end of May, after which the price is \$80. Hours are 9-5 on Saturday and 9-3 on Sunday.

For registration and lodging information please contact Pete Smith at Smoky Mountain Hospitality Group, phone toll free 1-800-223-6707, phone local 865-908-3015 or fax 865-908-1046

## ALABAMA GUARDIANS

We continue to enroll compatriots of the Alabama Division into the Alabama Guardian program. The Guardian program is designed to do three things. First, a part of the required paperwork is the registration form of the soldiers grave. This form is sent to the National SCV grave registry project and is kept on file at the Division level. Second, by marking the grave or by tending to the grave pays honor to the soldier and his family. Third, by fulfilling your pledge to tend to the soldiers grave, it shows activity in the cemetery.

Cemeteries tend to disappear when people think they are abandoned.

Full details of the Alabama Guardian program are online at the Division website.



### U.S. Constitution "The Right To Secede" March 4, 1789

The first union of the original 13 colonies was effected by the Articles of Confederation, adopted in 1781. The articles established a confederation of sovereign states in a permanent union. The "permanence" lasted only until 1788, when 11 states withdrew from the confederation and ratified the new Constitution, which became effective on March 4, 1789. The founding fathers recognized the defects in the Articles of Confederation, learned from these defects, and scrapped the articles in favor of the "more perfect union" found in the Constitution.

Nowhere in the Constitution is there any mention of the union of the states being permanent. This was not an oversight by any means. Indeed, when New York, Rhode Island, and Virginia ratified the Constitution, they specifically stated that they reserved the right to resume the governmental powers granted to the United States. Their claim to the right of secession was understood and agreed to by the other ratifiers, including George Washington, who presided over the Constitutional Convention and was also a delegate from Virginia. In his book *Life of Webster* Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge writes, "It is safe to say that there was not a man in the country, from Washington and Hamilton to Clinton and Mason, who did not regard the new system as an experiment from which each and every State had a right to peaceably withdraw." A textbook used at West Point before the Civil War, *A View of the Constitution*, written by Judge William Rawle, states, "The secession of a State depends on the will of the people of such a State."

Well into the 19th century, the United States was still viewed by many as an experimental confederation from which states could secede just as they had earlier acceded to it. It took a bloody war to prove them wrong.

**Fascinating Fact:** It is significant that no Confederate leader was ever brought to trial for treason. A trial would have brought a verdict on the constitutional legality of secession. Federal prosecutors were satisfied with the verdict that had been decided in battle.

## News From Around The Alabama Division . . . . .



Proclaim Your Southern Heritage

**Join Now**



**1-800  
MY-DIXIE**

**Fort Blakeley Camp #1864, Baldwin Co., AL  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

On May 1-2, Fort Blakeley Camp 1864 members manned an information- recruitment table at the Baldwin County Coliseum in Robertsedale, Al. Recruiting at this quarterly event during the past has been a great success.

Pictured L to R, Commander Tommy Rhodes, Historian Bob Ridle and Quartermaster Larry Johnson.



In April members of the Ten Island Camp 2678, Ohatchee placed flags on the final resting places of 170 brave Confederate soldiers in the Alexandria and Ohatchee area.

**MAY THEY NEVER BE FORGOTTEN**

L to R

Kneeling - Larry Hill, Gary Frazier

Standing - Jimmy Freeman, Stanley Mulkey, Bill Johnson,  
Leon Dodd and Johnny Woodruff



**REENACTMENT!**

**Battle of Decatur**

September 4-5, 2010

School Day Presentation 9/3, 10AM  
Saturday & Sunday Battles, 2 PM

Ladies Tea, Sat. 9/4, 9:30 AM

*Sponsored and Hosted By*

**The Sons of Liberty Camp #580**

**Alabama Division**

*Sons of Confederate Veterans*

**P.O. Box 1444**

**Decatur, Alabama 35601**

**Free Admission to the Public**

The Event is held at Point Mallard Park

**For general information, Contact:**

Larry Thomson, 256-881-3712  
[www.thomsonlarry@hotmail.com](mailto:www.thomsonlarry@hotmail.com)

**For Re-enactor Info, Contact:**

Glen Carpenter  
256-308-0762

*For Sale*

**3/4 Parrot Gun on a 7/8 carriage**

**\$4500**

**Contact:**

**Jimmy White**

**1174 Curt Jarrett Rd**

**Ashville, Alabama 35953**

**205-594-0136**



## *News From Around The Confederation . . . . .*

### **HELP!**

the  
**INDIANA DIVISION**  
**Honor 75 Confederate Soldiers**  
**From Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia**  
**Kentucky and North Carolina**  
**Buried in Montgomery County, Indiana**

**The Indiana Division is placing a 8' tall, 4'6" wide  
 8 ton granite monument to honor these soldiers.  
 The monument will list the name, state, regiment  
 and place of burial for each man and will be  
 erected in Ladoga, Indiana at a cost of \$10,000.**

**We need your help!**

**Please send your tax deductible contribution to:**  
**Robert Henry Brown**  
**Indiana Division Financial Officer**  
**10830 Maze Road**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana 46259-9646**

### **Funding Sparse For Sesquicentennial**

Communities face shortage of funds to commemorate the Civil War. During much of the Civil War, Confederate troops were short on manpower, funding and equipment. Nearly 150 years later, as local officials make plans to commemorate the war's sesquicentennial anniversary, they face the same challenges. Local governments, historic groups and tourism leaders hope to capitalize on tourists they hope will flock to local sites during reenactments and other anniversary events. But trying to raise money for marketing campaigns during a recession and a major state budget shortfall has proven to be difficult.

Every time Chickamauga City Manager John Culpepper has gone to Atlanta seeking money for various campaigns, he has found only empty pockets. Mr. Culpepper, who also is the Georgia Civil War Commission president, said the state initially budgeted \$500,000 toward publicizing state sites and events for the 150th anniversary. That funding was stripped out with the first round of budget cuts, he explained. For comparison's sake, Virginia included \$2 million in its budget to prepare for the anniversary, Mr. Culpepper said. "The state of Georgia hasn't budgeted anything," he said. Established re-enactments are faring better than new ones, according to Ken Sumner,

founder of the Battle of Tunnel Hill re-enactment. "It is a difficult time," he said. Tunnel Hill, which takes place in September, gets all of its funding from private sources and is run by volunteers. Manpower and funding, however, remain a problem for similar events across the South, said Mr. Sumner, who works with other re-enactments in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. Because the financial situation is so tough, Mr. Culpepper recently started the Tri-State Civil War Association to combine resources and promote related sites and events in Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee. "By pooling our resources together, we can get the job done," he said. In 2013, the Battle of Chickamauga re-enactment will be the largest in the Deep South with as many as 12,000 re-enactors expected, Mr. Culpepper said. The key, he said, will be getting these visitors to stay an extra day or two to visit Resaca, Ringgold or other nearby towns with historic sites. "Ringgold, Trenton, Dalton, modern Chickamauga - you had all these communities that were touched during the (Civil War) campaign," he said. Catoosa County Commissioner Ken Marks said tourists coming to the Chickamauga National Military Park present an opportunity for businesses in Catoosa and Walker counties as well as the counties themselves. "Our county lives off sales tax," Mr. Parks said. "We have to promote tourism. Walker County Commissioner Bebe Heiskell called the potential tourism boost from the Civil War anniversary "very important."

*Excerpt from The Chattanooga Times Free Press*

### **Delaware Grays tribute to Confederate History Week**

An event sponsored by The Delaware Grays, Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #2068 was held Saturday, May 8 at the Confederate Soldiers Monument, at the Nutter B. Marvel Museum, South Bedford Street in Georgetown. The program included speeches by local dignitaries as well as special guests General Robert E. Lee (as portrayed by Phil Carpenter of Chiciteague, Va) and Marine Gunnery Sgt (Retired) Donald Willey of Hoopers Island, MD. Mr. Carpenter (Lee) reminded the gathering that the men of Delaware who went South to fight in Southern armies were following their conscience and convictions. Sgt. Willey, in his Marine Corps dress uniform, shared his experiences in the First Gulf War and related how the men of Delaware may have felt as they left home and loved ones to fight 150 years ago. Tributes declaring May 8-15 to be "Confederate History Week" were presented.

## Gettysburg Casino Why Should We Care?

### Gettysburg.

The name alone evokes emotional responses in people from all walks of life, north and south, from all over this nation. It was here so many struggled and suffered – soldiers and civilians alike. It is where so many continue to gather, reflect upon, remember and work to preserve some of our country's most hallowed ground.

Gettysburg now faces an impending crisis as residents and others concerned about the historical legacy of Gettysburg vehemently oppose a new proposed plan to build a gambling casino complex just one half mile from the national park boundaries. Needless to say, if this resolution passes, the character of Gettysburg is changed forever.

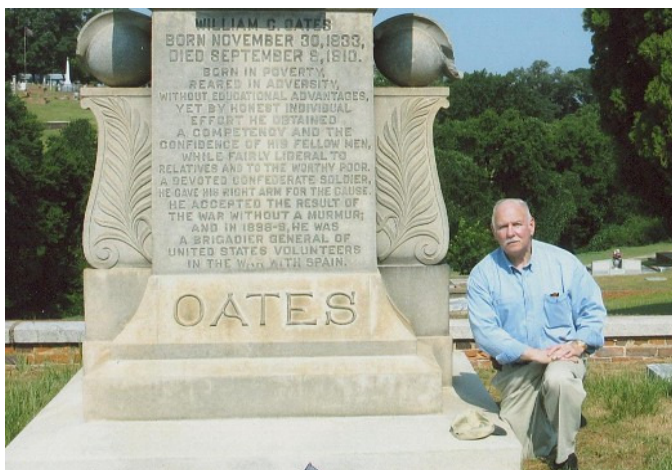
It was here, on this battlefield, Alabamians, bore the heat of battle on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> 1863. It was here Colonel Edward A. O'Neal, born in Madison County, Alabama, led his Alabama Brigade in a general attack that finally dislodged Union forces on Seminary Ridge but only with heavy losses. It was here Brigadier General Evander Laws' Alabamians led the assault on the Round Tops as somewhat depicted in the film, Gettysburg.

Today the cannon, spread over 45 acres within the national battlefield, remain silent, but those of us who treasure our southern heritage and the legacy of all those who suffered on this hallowed ground should not remain silent on this issue. Our southern ancestors gallantly carried the colors forward in July 1863. However, only we can preserve the legacy of Gettysburg if we act now to express our opposition to a gambling casino complex.

For more information on what you can do – go to [www.nocasinogettysburg.org](http://www.nocasinogettysburg.org)

Stan Williams

SCV Life Member and member of the Gettysburg Foundation







### Taking Aim

A Pro-Southern View of Confederate History Month—Dedicated to Randy Evans, the Historical Know-Nothing from Vestavia Hills, Alabama.

I guess you could say that the education system in this country and State is sadly lacking when it relates to the circumstances surrounding the War Between the States. A bizarre letter from Randy Evans of Vestavia Hills appeared in the Sunday, April 18, 2010 edition of the Birmingham News. This letter was an attack on the Confederacy and those who honor their Confederate ancestors. My first thought was that this is a “textbook example” of someone voicing their opinion on a topic they know absolutely nothing about. There was also a recent controversy surrounding the issuance of a Confederate History Month Proclamation in Virginia. It seems that Virginia’s original proclamation omitted slavery—anyone who knows anything at all about this period should know the original Virginia proclamation was historically accurate.

When it became apparent that Abraham Lincoln would be elected, several States in the Deep South began secession procedures. Lincoln was not on the ballot in most Southern States; as a completely sectional candidate he did not represent any Southern Interests. Lincoln represented the Northern industrial interests, including the politically connected railroads. He also represented the Republican Party, which was the heir to the defunct Whig Party (which was the heir to the Federalist Party, complete with the “nationalistic” goals of Alexander Hamilton). The Republican Party practiced what it commonly referred to as “corporatism,” “mercantilism,” “crony capitalism,” “Hamiltonianism,” etc. and their platform was based on a national bank, corporate welfare and protection from competition for any politically

connected businesses. (this should sound familiar). The Republican Party’s 1860 platform also called for a return to the “1828 tariffs” - the source of the schism between Andrew Jackson and John C. Calhoun that led to South Carolina’s nullification of the unconstitutional and discriminatory “tariff of abominations.” The South was primarily Jeffersonian States’ Right constitutionalists (see the 1798 Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions) and they were (laissez-faire) free traders. Relative to slavery, there was never a time in history when slavery was so protected (constitutionally, in the courts, etc.) and Lincoln even supported the North’s original 13th amendment (the Corwin Amendment), which would have ostensibly made slavery legal in perpetuity. The South rejected this amendment. As a matter of fact, if slavery had been the real issue, the best thing for the Southern States to have done was to remain in the Union. Leaving the Union and implementing the libertarian Confederate Constitution would have actually hastened the end of slavery (something Robert E. Lee and other of “the best men of the South” strongly supported) - from an economic standpoint, free labor is always better than slave labor.

There was a fear in some of the Southern States that immediate emancipation (without compensation) would have bankrupted several thousand people. Since the slave trade had been run out of New England and the Northern States had built much of their infrastructure from their slave-trading profits, the South saw this as complete hypocrisy. Therefore, some of the first seven Southern States to leave the Union mentioned slavery as one of many factors. The last four Southern States that left the Union - Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee - did so primarily because of Lincoln’s use of coercion. His call for each of the States to raise 75,000 troops to subdue what Lincoln strategically called a “rebellion” and coerce the seceded States back into the Union was unconstitutional, despotic and blatantly un-American. Not only did the last four States that seceded take offense to Lincoln’s dictatorial edict, there were several blistering responses from the governors of Border States such as Missouri and Kentucky.

The New England States had threatened secession on at least three different occasions (1803, 1814, 1845), but they never followed through - the South could not have cared less if they had seceded. Secession from a voluntary union was an act of peace, not war. The South simply

wanted to get out of a union that had been corrupted (as Patrick Henry had predicted). The South took the words of perhaps the greatest secession document in history - the Declaration of Independence - literally. It is an historical fact that the Thirteen Original Colonies seceded from the British Empire - an involuntary union. If the Southern States had been allowed to leave the Union as they desired, the “United States” would have remained intact, just with fewer states. Secession did not cause the war. All you have to do is to read Abraham Lincoln’s First Inaugural Address, presented on Monday, March 4, 1861. In it, Lincoln stated the only condition in which he would authorize an invasion of the Southern States as follows: “The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Government and to collect the duties and imposts; but beyond what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion, no using force against or among the people anywhere.” The Southern States had offered to reimburse the United States for forts, tax collection points, etc but there was no compromise of tax collection. To embellish the point, Lincoln said the South could have slaves, its own post office, etc as long as they continued to pay taxes to the U.S. Treasury. Furthermore, to win Northern sentiment for war, Lincoln conspired with Gustavus Fox, who developed a plan to reinforce Fort Sumter and induce the South into retaliation. (Doesn’t this also sound familiar?)

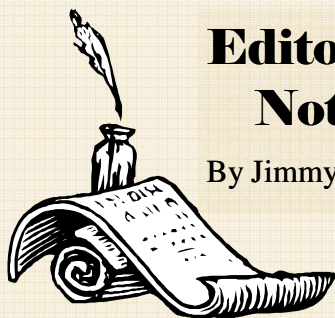
It is a shame that the Southern point of view is rarely given the light of day - it creates a high level of ignorance, even amongst Southerners (who should know better). A small amount of research would easily validate the South’s correct moral, constitutional, and patently American stance in their efforts to create an independent republic and repel an invading army in defense of their homeland. That is precisely why many of us our Confederate ancestors every day and with special emphasis during Confederate History and Heritage month (April) and on Confederate Memorial Day (April 26). Who knows, maybe Randy Evans will read this and actually learn something about Confederate History.

God Bless the Southland!

John M. Taylor

## Editors Notes

By Jimmy Hill



In trying to come up with something to write about this month, I found numerous references online concerning the erosion of different freedoms (depending upon whose web site you were on). In talking to young men, especially in the age group that fall between 12 and 18, I found many had not read the Constitution of the United States and they definitely were not being taught much about it in the classroom. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out why we have



problems in this country. When the people no longer understand their basic freedoms, then they will never miss what they did not know they had. Free copies of the Constitution are available from a variety of online sources. Maybe a program or two at your camp might be in order to teach the basic principles that this country was founded on and our Confederate ancestors were willing to go to war to defend. This being the Sesquicentennial of the War, a

program on the constitutionality of secession or the 10th amendment would be great topics.

There is a place where young men can go where they will be taught the basic principles of liberty and freedom along with a healthy dose of Southern history and heritage.

The Sam Davis Youth Camp sponsored by the SCV for young men, ages 12 to 17 is now in its 8th year. There is a camp in Texas and another in South Carolina. The Alabama Division has set aside the funds to send eight deserving young men with the only cost involved being the expense of getting to the camp. This year only two took advantage of this money. We should easily have eight and be asking for more to be allocated. The young men in this age group are the future leaders of this organization.

Look around in your own camps, Brigades and the Division as a whole. What is the median age of your camp? If you are like most, it is around 50 with many of your members in the 60 and up age group. In contrast where are your younger members? In most camps they are few and far between. I readily admit there are a lot more distractions that make it hard for us to recruit the younger members, much less get them to attend meetings. But this is something we have got to do a better job with if we are going to survive as an organization. Somehow we have got to come up with fresh ideas to reach the younger age groups. The internet is an untapped source for most camps, not only in this Division but for National as well. Each camp should have a Facebook page. Did I just lose 50% or better of the reading audience? Ask your teenage son or daughter or someone in their twenties to mid thirties and they can explain the concept to you. We have to go where they are at if we are going to attract them.

Once you are able to attract them, how are you going to retain them?

Your meetings have to be attractive to them. We are in an entertainment based society. Many base their schedules around *American Idol*, *Dancing with the Stars* or whatever new version of *Survivor* is on. How do we compete?

To start with, we could establish a committee at the Division level made up of existing young members. These members could get together by email and discuss what interests them and how to implement it into the camps. We have to get them involved now to turn the tide we are currently facing.

Another way would be the better use of the existing cadet program. We sign them up and then we seem to forget to include them in our activities. Plan camp trips that would be interesting to the younger members as well as the older. A camp trip to a major battlefield site probably interested you years ago but now you have been so many times it has lost its appeal. You, my friend are now the expert! The ability for that young member to touch a real cannon or go onboard a period gunboat could be the spark that sets their interest in Confederate history ablaze. All it takes is a commitment from older camp members to take them and act as tour guides. Who knows, along the way you may learn something as well. Start a Color Guard and include them in it. You may have to have a fundraiser to help defer the cost of outfitting them. When they have the ability to be a part of the camp they will in turn bring more members there own age into the camp.

The task of getting the youth involved is difficult but the rewards will be great.

Where might we stand 20 years from now if we do not accomplish this?

Sadly, a footnote in history.





### Life Membership General HQ

Life Membership for the National SCV is available through Elm Springs. The cost is \$750 for ages 12 to 64. You may also use an available payment plan. Forms and more information is available at [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org).

### Life Membership Alabama Division

Life membership is available for the Alabama Division. For a one time payment of \$200 you will receive a certificate, lapel pin and life membership card.

You can get an application online at [www.aladivscv.org](http://www.aladivscv.org).

### Cadet Program

The Cadet Program of the Sons of Confederate is an option for camp participation. Young men up to the age of 11 can join the cadet program. The dues are \$10 and they will receive a lapel pin and certificate. At age 12 they are available for membership as a full member in the SCV. Forms are available online at [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org).

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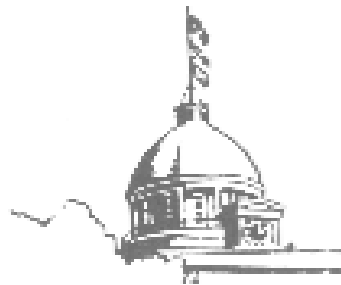
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SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS  
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LEST WE FORGET  
*Our quest shall ever be  
That we shall again see  
The Battle Flag of Lee  
Returned to the dome of the  
First Capitol of the Confederacy.*

### **REPLACE YOUR REGULAR ALABAMA CAR TAG WITH AN ALABAMA SCV SPECIALTY CAR TAG!!**

Remember:

1. The SCV Specialty Tag is an OFFICIAL, LEGALLY RECOGNIZED ALABAMA 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 their 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 do NOT have to be a member of the SCV to buy this SCV Tag. Therefore, encourage all your friends and relatives to also buy this SCV Car Tag for ALL of their vehicles.

How to Buy:

1. When your current regular tag expires, go to your 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 SCV Tag with up to 5 letters/numbers for a small additional fee. Ask the Tag Clerk when ordering.

This cost is \$50.00 (in addition to the regular cost of an Alabama car tag), of which **\$41.00 goes to the Alabama Division, SCV** to promote and protect our Confederate Heritage and History.



