

Alabama Confederate



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Sons of Confederate Veterans

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“We Dare Defend Our Rights”

October 2010

Sam Davis Youth Camp 2010

By Carl Johnson, Capt. Thomas H. Hobbs Camp, Athens, Al.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy sponsored the Sam Davis Youth Camp, held on July 4 – 10, 2010 in Batesburg-Leesville, South Carolina. Currently the camp in Clifton, Texas serves the Army of Trans-Mississippi and the camp in South Carolina serves the Army of Tennessee and the Army of Northern Virginia regions of the SCV.

I was fortunate to have been a recipient of the Alabama Division's annual scholarship for young campers between the ages of 12-21. My father, Les Johnson, and I are members of the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768, Northeast Brigade. The Mary Fielding Chapter of the Order of Confederate Rose, Athens, graciously presented Cameron Coggin and I with funding to cover travel expenses.



An average day at the camp consisted of being awakened by the trumpet's resounding “Reveille,” a quick shower, and rush to the Dining Hall, where fellow campers and counselors alike were clustered in rocking chairs in a Southern and friendly environment, drinking coffee and conversing, waiting for the facility to open for breakfast. Immediately after breakfast was served, we would file outside into formation. The Chaplain would read aloud a passage of scripture and lead us in prayer. The Color Guard would ceremonially raise the Battle Flag of the Confederacy, and we would salute the flag in full military formation, followed by the prompt firing of the cannon.

For the rest of the day until three o'clock in the afternoon, we would be in the Lecture Hall listening to some of the South's most captivating and inspiring speakers. We would be given three or more breaks consisting of no more than ten minutes, and the necessary mid-day meal. Unfortunately, I can't even begin to describe every topic that was discussed, for so much information was covered in such a short amount of time that attempt would prove futile. Among the topics covered were: Dewitt Jobe, Sam Davis, Archaeological findings in South Carolina, Etiquette of the WBTS era, John Pelham, Causes of the War, Sherman's March to the Sea, Nullification and Constitutional/Economic issues as pertaining to our own times, Toys in the WBTS era, How to “live off the land” - techniques the Confederate Army used and the C.S.S. David and some other Confederate torpedoes used to break the Yankee blockade of Southern ports. After the packed (and sometimes exhausting) lectures for the day were over, we were allotted three hours of personal time, in which we could either return to our dorms, go to the lake and fish, talk, swim, canoe or congregate at the pool. Twice I personally chose to go to the pool, and twice to the lake to talk to friends. I spent one afternoon in the dorms having a discussion with a Camp Counselor about the Causes of the War Between the States, to write letters home and to prepare for the Oratory Competition.

After supper was an hour or two of more lectures. Immediately after this we moved back to the dining hall and sang songs of the Confederate Army while socializing. We soon had to find dance partners for the annual evening Old-South dancing classes, preparing us for the final Cotillion. Of the many dances we learned, my favorites were the Virginia Reel, the Turkey and the Straw and the Queen Elisabeth's Dance. On two occasions, (potentially more, had the proposals not made by the Camp Counselors been voted down in favor of dancing) as the final dismissing event, we had a campfire in which we would meditate on our Confederate ancestors, sing Old South songs and talk of how to perpetuate the memory of our ancestors. On the final evening, parents were invited to a special supper and the Cotillion (for which we had prepared for all week in dance classes) was held. I was selected to be a member of the Decorating Committee and I was asked to play on the piano, “Variations of Dixie” for the opening promenade.

Overall, the camp experience was a very memorable and highly enjoyable one. I wish to come back if I can.



From the DIVISION COMMANDER



Gentleman, Compatriots

I hope you have all enjoyed a productive summer. As fall comes on, it is time for us to once again make sure we retain as many of our camp members as possible by making sure they get their dues in for renewal. It was my hope that this year would be the first to see the new MRS (Membership Retention System) enacted in Alabama. Unfortunately, the camps did not get the Camp Adjutant and Camp dues information in to the Brigade

Commanders to allow the system to be enacted. It is my expectation that the system will be in place next year to help the camps make a first mailing out to all members of the Division.

Much as happened this summer. In June, we were treated to an Outstanding Convention at Eufaula, by the Dent's Artillery Camp. The Facilities, food, activities, and accommodations were excellent. In short, the Camp did a wonderful job of hosting the Convention, which has certainly raised the bar for future Conventions. There were a number of prestigious and well earned awards. These awards will be listed elsewhere, but I especially would like to mention a new lifetime achievement award with its first recipient Dr. Charles Baker. Secondly, I would like to recognize our Compatriot of the year, Jimmy Hill. Dr. Baker has been active and in the forefront of this Division since its re-formation in 1980, which occurred largely due to his efforts. Jimmy Hill's contribution over the last year (and more) are too numerous to mention here. These men, along with the other awards recipients, through their past and ongoing efforts, represent the "backbone" of the Division, and should be appreciated and emulated.

About twenty Alabama Division members attended the National Convention in Anderson, SC last July. I would like to commend Tom Strain for his election to the Commandership of the Army of Tennessee, the Hobbs Camp for its runner-up status for Camp of the Year, and the Bay Minette, Ft. Blakeley Camp for its Newsletter of the year. All of these awards bring great esteem to the Alabama Division. I greatly appreciate the efforts of the men and camps of the Alabama Division represented in the awards.

The National SCV announced a new fund raiser for a building for "The Confederate Museum" to be built at the national HQ at Elm Springs. This is going to be a major museum, and an excellent way for the SCV to tell the true story of the Confederacy. There are three levels of contribution (\$1000, \$5000, and \$10,000) by which individuals and/or organizations will receive recognition on a permanent plaque at the museum. I took the liberty of

signing up the Alabama Division as one of the first contributors at the \$1000 level. During the course of fundraising for the museum, we will have the opportunity of adding to this amount and to raise us up to higher levels of contribution. I encourage all camps and members to consider donations to this museum also.

On Aug 7 we held our first Operations Committee meeting of the new 2010-2011 administration. We welcomed two new Brigade Commanders, Carl Jones (NWC) and Bill Myrick (SWC), and announced the appointment of Larry Spears to Division Chief of Staff. The primary item of business was to approve a preliminary budget, which was done. Our carry over is not as great as last year, so our budget is not as big as before. A full report on this will be provided at the Executive Committee meeting. The next OC meeting will be held immediately following the Executive Committee meeting, and may be attended by any Division members.

There has been activity on the Taylor Lawsuit. As it is confidential information to the membership of the Division, I will be sending out a letter to all Camp and Brigade Commanders for distribution to all interested members.

The Executive Committee meeting will be held at "Helen's Place" in Clanton on Sat. December 4. To get there take I-65 to exit 208. Head west on county road 28 for about 1.8 miles and the restaurant will be on your left at 407 2nd Av. S. Registration will open at 8 AM and the meeting will start at 9. Dinner will be served at noon. As this is a formal business meeting, business attire is expected. Camp Shirts and Confederate uniforms are always welcome.

Per the Division Constitution, "The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Commander, First Lieutenant Commander, Second Lieutenant Commander, Adjutant, Treasurer, Chaplain, Past Commanders of the Alabama Division, Brigade Commanders and each Camp Commander." Camp Commanders who cannot attend may send an appointed camp member representative with a signed note of authorization. Any other Division members are welcome and as many will be allowed in the meeting room as space is available, but they will not be allowed to vote.

With Sincere Regards to you all for a joyful Thanksgiving and Christmas season,

Robert Reames
Commander, Alabama Division, SCV

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Compatriots,

I hope that this edition of the Alabama Confederate finds you all well. Fall is around the corner and I know many of you are busy going to High School and College football games. If it is the same way around

your homes as it is at mine it seems like the weekends don't last anytime.

This year at the National Reunion in Anderson, SC we had a great delegation from the Alabama Division. I do believe we had more camps represented this year than in the last three or four years. I would also like to thank each of you for your support in my running for Army of Tennessee Commander. It was a tough fight but in the end I prevailed with your help. We have a lot of work to do over the next few years to make sure that our ancestors memories are represented the proper and true way in which they deserve.

The Alabama Division has the honor of hosting the first National Sesquicentennial event next year. The event will be held in Montgomery on the 18th and 19th of February. We have a number of things planned for the weekend beginning with a meet and greet on Friday evening at the Embassy Suite Hotel in downtown. On Saturday we will have a parade up Dexter Avenue to the Capital and there we will be holding a re enactment of the inauguration of Jefferson Davis and also a re enactment of the first flag rising. On Saturday evening the Division will be hosting a banquet to cap off the festivities. In order for this event to be a success we need all of the camps within the Division to have representation in Montgomery. Please check out our website www.confederat150.com for more information as it is made available.

In closing, I look forward to working with you over the next two years.

Deo Vindice

Tom Strain

1st Lt. Commander



Lt. Commanders Reports



Hope the Sons and Daughters of the South are having a Dixie summer!

As I travel across the Division, I am very impressed by so many of the SCV members and am honored to be counted among them.

I have come to realize to limit the South and the Confederacy to 1861-1865 is a huge error. Before the United States existed there was a South. The Jamestown Colony located in Virginia rescued the Plymouth Colony many times from starvation and massacre. But our schools tell of the ship that brought the Pilgrims and rarely mention the ships that brought the English settlers who became the first Southerners. Why do we not study the first Thanksgiving in America that was on the grassy banks of the James River? Was the Boston Tea Party the first? What about the ones in the Southern ports? Our children are taught about the shot heard around the world with nineteen Patriots in Lexington, Mass., but what about the one much earlier in Alamance, North Carolina involving over 100 Patriots? Where was the first factory, the first public school, the first free election to each citizen and the list goes on. Why is anything Southern left out of our history books? The South was developing into what the founding Fathers had in mind. The South was becoming what the United States was supposed to become. The Southern education was based upon stewardship and duty, not on humanism and profit. It was thought, with Christian values and educational skills the citizens could govern themselves and needed little interference from the government. A Southerner wrote the Declaration of Independence and a Southerner wrote the Constitution of the U.S., what did the North write? It has been said of the forming of the U.S. and secession, "It was the yoking together of two jarring nations having different interests which were repeatedly brought to the breaking point by selfish and unconstitutional acts of the North. The breaking point was nearly reached in 1786, when the North tried to give away the Mississippi River to Spain; in 1790 when the North by Congressional Act forced the South to pay the Revolutionary debts of the North; in 1801, when they tried to upset the presidential ticket and make Aaron Burr President; in 1812 the North would not fight with the other states against England but traded with them; and in 1828 and 1832, when they imposed upon the South, high protective tariffs for the benefit of Northern manufacturers. The breaking point was finally reached in 1861."

Yes, the Noblest Blood Line in America is in the Southern people. Let us claim, protect and declare our Heritage.

God Bless the South!

Your servant,

Gary Carlyle
2nd Lt. Commander
Alabama Division, SCV

Chaplain's Comments

The Spiritual Revival in the Southern Armies

One of the often-neglected but thrilling aspects of the War Between the States is that of the great moving of the Lord upon the souls of the Confederate soldiers. Two outstanding books written by men who participated in these revivals are yet in print. The first, written by Confederate chaplain Dr. W.W. Bennett, entitled *The Great Revival in the Southern Armies*, and the most extensive, also by a C.S.A. chaplain, Dr. J. William Jones, entitled *Christ in the Camp or Religion in Lee's Army Supplemented by a Sketch of the Work in the Other Confederate Armies*. I highly recommend these two volumes to our readers.

Preaching and teaching the old time-honored King James Version of the Holy Scriptures was, of course, the central aspect of the revivals, but there were also other aspects such as the work of the colporteurs.

Dr. Bennett wrote, concerning these men, whom the soldiers called the "tract men":

"Receiving but a pittance from the societies that employed them, subsisting on the coarse and scanty fare of the soldiers, often sleeping on the wet ground, following the march of the armies through cold or heat, through dust or mud, everywhere were these devoted men to be seen scattering the leaves of the Tree of Life. Among the sick, the wounded, and the dying, on the battlefields and in the hospitals, they moved, consoling them with tender words, and pointing their drooping spirits to the hopes of the gospel. The record of their labors is the record of the army revival; they fanned its flame and spread it on every side by their prayers, their conversations, their books, and their preaching. They went out from all the churches and labored together in a spirit worthy of the purest days of our holy religion. The aim of them all was to turn the thought of the soldiers not to a sect, but to Christ, to bring them into the great spiritual temple, and to show them the wonders of salvation. If any man among us can look back with pleasure on his labors in the army, it is the Christian colporteur."

There were a multitude of different tracts published. The most popular and most widely distributed was entitled "A Mother's Parting Words to Her Soldier Boy." We reproduce it here, for the edification of your soul. Read it with a prayerful, humble heart, and it will speak to you as it spoke to your ancestors.

NO.18

A Mother's Parting Words to Her Soldier Boy

My Dear Son; -

At the time of our separation, my heart was too tenderly and deeply affected to permit me to give utterance to the words of affectionate course, which I longed to pour into your ear. My mingled emotions of love, grief, and anxiety could find vent only in tears. But I have concluded in this manner to transmit to you in the words of instruction, warning and encouragement, which I should have preferred to speak to you with my lips, had not the feelings awakened by your departure for the army, overpowered my self-control. You need not be told that I love you, that I cherish a deep solitude for your welfare, and that my happiness is bound up with your prosperity. I have a claim to your attention which I am sure your filial affection will not allow you to disregard.

I gave up my son, without reluctance, indeed, I might say with joy, to enter the army of his country. The war in which we are unfortunately involved, has been forced upon us. We have asked for nothing but to be left alone. We are not contending for the great fundamental principle of the American Revolution: that all authority is derived from the consent of the governed. The attempt on the part of the Federal Government to coerce, not, as it is falsely pretended, a factious party, but free and independent States, governed by unprecedented majorities, is utterly subversive of republican government. The question to be settled by this conflict is, whether the Confederate States shall be permitted to govern themselves, or whether they shall be governed by States whose political views, and social institutions, are widely different from their own. To the South nothing remains but absolute subjugation and debasement, or victory. In such a strife, I cheerfully offer my son, the cherished jewel of my heart, on my country's altar; and I had ten sons, I would resign them all with equal pleasure. I trust that my son will act the man. Fighting, as he is, for independence, home, honor, everything clear to the heart of a freeman, he would be unworthy of the soil that gave him birth - the land of patriots and heroes - the father whose name he bears, and the mother who nursed him, if he should not prove himself to be loyal and brave. Let me urge you to be a good soldier. Obey the commands of your superiors, be courteous to your equals, and be kind to the distressed, even to your enemies, so far as you may be without strengthening the cause in which they are engaged.

But I write to you chiefly, my boy, to impress on your heart the importance of enlisting under the banner of the Cross. The searcher of hearts knows that my greatest desire is, that you should be a sincere and consistent Christian. I have feebly endeavored by my instructions, prayers and example, to win you to the service of Christ. You may have thought it strange that I have conversed directly with you so little concerning your religious state and destiny. I desire to confess to you, and shame before God, my deficiency in this respect. I have ever found a difficulty in speaking to my children on the subject of salvation, arising from I know not what else but timidity, that has caused me great sorrow, and especially since you have passed to the dangers of the tented field, and beyond the reach of my anxious, beseeching words. Forgive me this wrong, and accept this communication as the best atonement which under the circumstances, I can offer. I feel now, that if I could see you, I would, from the fullness of my fond and burdened heart, entreat you in such words as follows:

You did not cease to be a moral agent when you became a soldier. Assuming new responsibilities to your country, you did not weaken your responsibilities to God. You should not only render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's but unto God the things that are God's. Many good and intelligent men have maintained that a profession of arms is incompatible with a life of piety. It must be conceded that the genius and spirit of Christianity are utterly opposed to war. Christ is the Prince of peace; (continued on page 6)

(cont. from page 5) at his birth the heavenly host sang “peace on earth;” the Gospel is a message of peace, and its universal diffusion and influence will banish war from the earth. Isa. 11 2-4. But a careful examination of the Scriptures must convince us, that there is nothing in the demands of a just and defensive warfare as variance with the spirit and duties of Christianity. To say nothing of Moses, Joshua and David, who were renowned alike for their piety and their military achievements, we find that several Roman Centurions, in the very sunlight of the Apostolic age, were commended for their faith devotion, and good works. Lu. VII, 9. Acts X. John, the fearless harbinger of Christ, exhorted the Roman soldiers, not to abandon their standards, but to avoid the vices incident to their profession. “Do violence,” said he, “to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.” Lu. III, 14. I refer to these texts for the two fold purpose of confirming my views, and leading you to consult the Scriptures, the only safe guide in faith and practice.

There are great and appalling obstacles in the way of your conversion amid the din and temptations of a camp. The lack of religious instruction, and of opportunities for retirement and secret prayer, together with the excitements and corrupting influences which attend a soldier’s life, are serious but not insuperable hindrances to piety. Without abating one iota from his duties to the country, the soldier may find time for religious meditation, secret prayer, and the consecration of himself to Christ. Two young men, I have been credibly informed, at the close of the battle of Bethel, were so impressed with the Divine goodness in their preservation, that they retired to the forest, and made a full, solemn and joyful surrender of themselves to the Prince of peace.

Let me urge you then, my dear son, to make it your first, chief, constant concern to become a Christian. God demands nothing but a willing heart. In the hour when you are willing to forsake all your sins, and to receive Christ as your Prophet, Priest and King, you shall find mercy, and there will be joy in the presence of the angels of God over you. Christ never rejected a repenting sinner, and he never will. Ah, my son, if you have no soul to save, - no sins to be forgiven, if Christ did not die for you, - if there is no Heaven, no Hell, no immortality, - then you may live without repentance and salvation. But you have a soul—you are a sinner—Christ shed his blood for you—you are immortal, and destined to the joys of Heaven or the woes of perdition, and therefore, religion is your supreme necessity. You have motives to piety, not only as a man, but as a *soldier*. Of all men the soldier has the greater need for piety. Under the privations and hardships of camp life, he greatly needs the consolations that nothing but grace can minister. And, what but grace can preserve him from the seductions to vice by which so many promising soldiers have been ruined? He is in frequent peril of losing his life, and should have that constant preparation for death, which can be found only in sincere devotion to Christ. Let me urge you then, my child, by all the tenderness of a mother’s love, by all the anxieties of a father’s heart, and by, what should have more influence with you, all the compassion of the Redeemer’s bosom, to enlist under the banner of the Prince of life and glory.

You must, my dear boy, be a Christian or suffer a sad and irreparable defeat. You may, without faith in Christ, storm cities, win battles, achieve the independence of your beloved country; and gain imperishable renown: but you cannot secure the Kingdom of Heaven. Mohammed promised Paradise to all who should love their lives in this war; but Christ does not promise eternal life to them that fall in the battles of their country. He that would win a crown of life, must gain a victory over sin. The kingdom of God must be taken by storm; but it can be stormed only by faith, and prayer, and obedience. “The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force, “It is not reasonable to suppose that God will accept the services rendered to Caesar for those due to himself; or, that patriotism should be a substitute for piety. The heroic, but ungodly soldier, may fill a grave honored by a nation’s tears and marked by a towering monument; but his soul, alas! Must perish.

I would have you, my son, not only to be a Christian, but to honor that sacred name. Make the Bible your constant companion—prayer your delightful employment—and the glory of Christ the end of all your deeds. Seek to be adorned with all of the graces of the Spirit, and to abound in all the fruits of righteousness. Keep aloof from all the vices which corrupt and degrade the army. I need not warn you against profanity, that common but ill bred sin, which you have been taught to detest; but I would specially guard you against drunkenness, that most insidious, prevalent and degrading vice. I would have you abstain from strong drink as you would from henbane. All experience has demonstrated that it is never necessary but as a medicine. All the toils, exposures and privations of a campaign may be endured without it, and better without it than with it.

I am sure my child, you will not be a worse soldier for being a good Christian. Piety will not make you effeminate or cowardly. Some of the bravest soldiers of the world have been humble Christians. Cromwell, Gardiner and Havelock, thunderbolts of war, were as devout as they were heroic. Our own illustrious Washington maintained the claims of Christianity, amid the demoralizing influences of the Revolution, with a zeal corresponding with the heroism with which he fought the battles for our independence. Why should not the Christian be courageous? He has cause to love life or dread death than other men. In the path of duty he has nothing to fear. Life and death may be equally pleasing to him. The apostle Paul, in the prospect of martyrdom, could say; “I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and be with Christ; which is far better— nevertheless, to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.”

And now, my dear soldier boy, I must take leave of you. Remember that you have a large share in my love, my sympathies, and my prayers. By day and night, you are in my thoughts: and often the unbidden tears flow down my cheek when I think of your sufferings and dangers. Let me have joy of you, my son, and I can have no greater joy than to hear that you are doing your duty—your whole duty—to your country and to God. I trust we shall meet again. I pray the Father of mercies to cover your head in the day of battle. Should life be preserved through the perils of the camp and conflict, and you be permitted to return in triumph to your home, I need not assure you that you will find a welcome, and that your presence will diffuse a sunshine over our domestic circle; and among all the loving hearts that will greet your return, none will be so thrilled with delight as your mother’s. And should you come back to my fond embrace, not corrupted and degraded by the temptations of camp life, but purified and adorned by the grace of the gospel, in answer to my poor prayers, then I can exclaim with the patriarch Jacob, when he heard that his favorite son, Joseph, “was living, and raised to the Viceroyship of Egypt. “It is enough!” But should you fall in the stern conflict for your country’s rights, you will fill an honored grave; and I humbly trust that, through the grace and righteousness of our Redeemer, we may meet in a world, where wars and rumors of wars can never disturb is; but where love, peace, and joy, forever reign. It shall be my earnest endeavor, as I entreat you that it may be yours, to be meet for a participation in the delights and glories of that world. Receive now the blessing of your own and only. Mother

**Sincerely in Christ Jesus, our Lord,
Rev. Charles Estell Baker, D.D.**



The Alabama Corps of Cadets (ACC) was established at The University of Alabama in 1860. After taking command of the Crimson Tide of the Army Battalion in 2006, Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Dan Clark, an Alabama alumnus, decided to commission an art print to commemorate the ACC's defense of the campus on 3 April 1865. Despite misgivings by many of the project's difficulty, potential cost, and resistance from the politically-correct, he proceeded with a target completion in 2010 – the 150th anniversary of the ACC's founding in 1860.

LTC Clark drew a concept sketch and developed a military-style decision briefing to present to President Robert Witt. The plan included earmarking print proceeds for an educational

account to generate scholarship funding for ROTC cadets at The University. Dr. Witt agreed that the project was worthwhile and approved its execution. LTC Clark refined and coordinated the plan with campus agencies, then began searching for a suitable period artist to paint and commission the print.

Sponsorship was a concern since commissioning high-quality art prints are expensive. LTC Clark proposed the print concept to The Brigadier General John Caldwell Calhoun Sanders (JCCS) Committee that sponsors a lecture series each April. The JCCS members agreed unanimously to sponsor the project.

Several interested artists were unable to perform the work for various reasons. However, all recommended John Paul Strain – arguably the top Civil War artist – as their artist of choice. Initially Mr. Strain declined due to other on-going projects, yet LTC Clark stayed in close touch. Eventually persistence paid off and he agreed to enter contract negotiations with the JCCS. In late spring 2009 Mr. Strain signed the contract and visited The University of Alabama that August. By that time LTC Clark had transferred to Fort McPherson, Georgia and he returned on leave to assist Mr. Strain with photos and the remaining historical research. His successor, LTC James Shaver, picked up project oversight along with Mr. Randy Mecredy, Director of the Alabama Museum of Natural History.

In mid-November 2009, Mr. Strain sent the rough design sketch to LTC Shaver for presentation to the JCCS members. The committee approved the sketch with only a minor caveat and Mr. Strain forged ahead with the painting. In early March 2010, Mr. Strain completed the painting and emailed a photo for review. Suffice to say, Mr. Strain exceeded expectations with a quality, historically accurate depiction of the ACC Cadets dutifully responding to the call to battle to defend their beloved campus. The chosen title is “Alabama Corps of Cadets Call to Battle.”

The original print was dedicated during the Brigadier General John C.C. Sanders Lecture at The University of Alabama on 3 April 2010. The prints are now available for sale to the public on campus at the Alabama Museum of Natural History and via John Paul Strain's website. Reaction from reviewers was extremely positive and now ACC prints grace many homes and offices. After all these decades, the ACC and its valiant Cadets are finally immortalized in a painting that its owners and their descendants will enjoy for generations. Deo Vindice!

Alabama Museum of Natural History— To order a print call (205) 348-7551 For more information on the JCC Sanders Memorial Committee, go to www.jccsanders.ua.edu

John Paul Strain— www.johnpaulstrain.com

News From Around The Alabama Division



L to R – UDC President Barbara McCamish, SCV Camp Commander Tommy Rhodes.

SCV Donates to the UDC Fort Blakeley Monument Fund

Fort Blakeley Camp 1864 of Baldwin County, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and members presented a donation to the United Daughters of the Confederacy Charles Stewart Chapter. President Barbara McCamish was present at the June meeting to receive a total of \$500 for the Alabama Monument to be placed at the Blakeley Battleground. Individual members making additional donations were Paul Williams, Tim Garner and Larry Johnson. All members of the Fort Blakeley Camp are honored to help the UDC with their project to place the monument at the site of the Blakeley battlefield.

This monument will be placed in honor of all Alabama soldiers and sailors who answered the call to defend their state and their new country from invasion. It will be the first Confederate monument placed in the Blakeley State Park. Missouri has a monument there to honor their Union troops who fought there.



Rick and Jennifer Lanclos and their children, of Houston, Texas recently visited the Confederate Library at Mt. Creek. Jennifer's ancestor, J.G. Dean is buried in Cemetery #2 at Confederate Memorial Park in Marbury.



The Color Guard of the Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp 768, Athens at a grave dedication service recently held at the Mitchell Cemetery in Lauderdale County.

The graves of six Confederate veterans were dedicated. They were:

Pvt. John B. Lamar,
Pvt. L.H. Lamar,
Pvt. Thomas M. Downs,
Pvt. Jesse Williams,
Pvt. Harrison McCafferty
Pvt. Jonathan McCafferty.





We mourn the passing of Compatriot Garland Ray Minor of the St. Clair County Camp 308. Funeral services were held on July 27th for Compatriot Minor. He was interred at the National Cemetery in Montevallo, Alabama. An Honor Guard from Maxwell AFB was dispatched to conduct the ceremony at the cemetery. A Memorial Service was held at the Kilgore Funeral Home in Leeds, Alabama. Pictured with the coffin containing the remains of Compatriot Minor are (L to R) David Murphree, Edward V. Gunter, Dennis White, Benjamin Hestley, William Watkins-Camp Commander, Tommy Vaughn-Assistant Chaplain, Benny Peavey-Adjutant, Brad Weaver-2nd Lt. Commander, James Collins, Edwin Camp-Bugler.

Compatriot Minor served on the Board for the Inzer House for many years and was the driving force for the camps cemetery guardian program. He also served as Camp Adjutant of #308. He will be sorely missed,



At the August 7th Operations Committee meeting, Alabama Division Commander Robert C. Reames (center) swore in Bill Myrick (Left) as the Southwest Central Brigade Commander and Carl Jones (Right) as the new Northwest Central Brigade Commander

Battle for Decatur

The annual Battle for Decatur was held September 3-5 at Point Mallard Park in Decatur. On the 3rd the school kids were brought in to see a working encampment. A camp spokesman said the kids ate it up. A crowd of over 1,000 each day came to view the battle and to shop the sutler area. Camp 580 worked to make changes in this years event. They listened to the reenactors to find out what needed to be changed to make it a better event. Changes were made and the comments mostly were positive as the event drew to a close.

The NE Brigade set up a recruiting / info area and passed out everything we had. Several good contacts were made.



Real Daughter Vivian Denney Smith (R) of Cullman was recently inducted as a UDC member by Bettye Moore, President of the Joe Wheeler Chapter. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Thomas J. Denney. Thomas J. Denney is the namesake of SCV Camp 1442 in Cullman, the Thomas J. Denney Camp. Her brother Thomas Denney is a member of the SCV and is the oldest of the children.



National Reunion 2010

Anderson, South Carolina



The 2010 National Reunion was held in Anderson, South Carolina. About a week before the reunion was to be held our weather took a turn towards hot. Rain became scarce in Alabama. We would not find out what hot was until we got to Anderson. With the humidity level and the temperature itself, daylight hours were at or over 100 degrees. Many of the antebellum homes usually open for tours were closed. With no air conditioning it was too unbearable for the guides to be there. One exception was the home of John C. Calhoun located on the campus of Clemson University. It was open, had a/c and was a nice example of an 1830's era politicians home. Calhoun's daughter would inherit the house. She and her husband Thomas Clemson lived in the house and upon their deaths the home became the property of the University and South Carolina.

We arrived on Wednesday and enjoyed getting reacquainted with fellow SCV members. We caught up with some fellow Alabama delegates and an impromptu dinner was set up for the evening. Thursday morning the convention was kicked off in fine fashion.

The posting of the Colors and the usual opening remarks were done and the convention was finally called to order. Two Real Sons were in attendance, both in their 90's. A standing ovation was given to these men. A later report noted there are only 38 Real Sons left in the SCV. Other reports were given before the close of the first day Friday and Saturdays sessions would bring the business of the convention. Thursday night a dinner was held at a local restaurant for the members from Alabama.

Friday morning's session got underway and the discussion of various amendments and resolutions was held and votes were taken on the passage of these. A full report of these is available online and will be in the next Confederate Veteran.

On a sad note, SE Brigade Commander Joe Clark suffered a stroke and was taken to an area hospital. Luckily by Sunday he was well enough to leave the hospital and return home. Friday night, the oratory contest was held and our own Tom Strain won the contest. The topic was "The War is over, the South won, Where are we moving the Capitol? You had 5 minutes of lies and exaggerations to make your point.



Saturday morning the Army of Tennessee held its meeting before the convention reconvened. With no one running against him, Larry McCluney of Mississippi was elected AoT Councilman and will represent us on the GEC at the National level. The vote was taken for Army Commander between Tom Strain and Ed Butler. The vote was announced as a tie. We were finally told we would have to revote after the convention ended. We went into the final session of the convention. Our business at hand was to elect the two men who would lead the SCV over the next two years. Lt. Commander Michael Givens was running unopposed for Commander in Chief and was elected by acclamation. Paul Gramling and Kelley Barrow were running for Lt. Commander with Kelley Barrow being elected for the position.

We reconvened for another vote for the AoT Commanders position and the final vote tally gave Tom the win by 17 votes. Congratulations to Tom and to Ed as well. They both ran good, clean campaigns. Saturday night ended the event at Anderson with the Commanders Banquet and Ball.

See you in Montgomery in 2011.



National Awards 2010

Anderson, South Carolina



At the recent National Reunion held in Anderson members of the Alabama Division received recognition for individual work on behalf of the SCV as well as two of the Alabama Division Camps received special awards.

Runner up Camp of the Year: Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768, Athens

Top Camp in the Army of Tennessee: Captain Thomas H. Hobbs Camp #768, Athens

S.A. Cunningham Newsletter Award: Fort Blakely Camp #1864, Baldwin County

Robert E. Lee Award (2nd highest individual award given): Joe Ringhoffer

Graves Award: Charles F. Kilpatrick,

Dixie Club (Recruiting) - Marion Patrick, Tommy Rhodes, David Myers, David Currey, John Thomas, and John Woodruff

Heritage Preservation Award: Dan Williams

Superior Achievement Award: Leonard Wilson

Leadership Award: Johnny McDonald, Tommy Rhodes

Meritorious Service Medal: Joe Clark, D. Tyrone. Crowley, Benje Evans, Larry Muse, Billy Parker, Alan Pattillo, Tim Steadman, Mike Williams, Terry Bailey

Distinguished Service Medal: Gary Carlyle, Jimmy Hill, Terry Honan, Carl Jones, Robert Reames, Tom Strain, Joe Ringhoffer



Some of the members of the Alabama Division delegation at the Reunion in Anderson

SCV Member William Howard “Doc” Holley

By D Tyrone Crowley, SCV Camp 1524, The Prattville Dragoons

William Howard “Doc” Holley, 103 years old, an SCV member who lives alone with limited assistance in Headland, Alabama, is the oldest living alumnus of Auburn University and so was featured in the Summer 2010 of *Auburn Magazine* (“Oldest Living Alumnus Tells All”). “Doc” Holley truly is a remarkable man. Mr. William H Holley, then 97 years of age, was brought into the SCV by Past Commander Wyatt Willis of the Prattville Dragoons, SCV Camp 1524. Mr. Holley was interested in joining the SCV to keep the legacy alive of his Confederate Ancestor, Daniel Franklin Powell of the 6th Alabama Cavalry, Company A. Due to his advanced age, Mr. Holley does not attend meeting but supports his camp and the SCV in several other ways.

Mr. Holley was born in Samson, Alabama, Feb 1st, 1907, attending and graduating from school there in only 11 years. He attended Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn University) in 1926, graduating with a Pharmacist degree in 1929. He started a drug store in Abbeville, Alabama, and was married to Miss Sarah Solomon in 1935. His Daughter Sarah Holley was born in 1937. In 1944 at 36 years of age Mr. Holley was drafted into the US Army, where he served with the 179th Hospital Group, part of General George Patton’s Command. In 1945 when Mr. Holley was discharged, he had attained the rank of Tech Sergeant (officers’ commissions were not given to pharmacists).

Following his discharge, Mr. Holley came home and bought a drug store in Headland, Alabama, keeping it until he retired in 1973 at the age of 66. He suffered a heart attack when he was 80 years young but other than that, he says, he has “had a very pleasant life”. In addition to his drug store, Mr. Holley also owned two farms, working one of them himself while depending on a tenant to work the other. He states that he learned from his father to both work with his hands and his mind. Mr. Holley lost his wife in 1988, and is the father of a son and daughter, four grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Pictured below are Wyatt Willis and William Howard “Doc” Holley



Monument Dedication, Washington County, Alabama

My dear Compatriots,

On behalf of the Alabama Division and the Southwest Brigade I want to offer a sincere thank you to all of you who attended the dedication ceremony for the Washington County Confederate Monument. Our Division was well represented and your attendance was a blessing.

My friends, rest assured that the donation our Division made towards this monument was money well spent. The inscription on the monument is a very touching tribute to the heritage of our Confederate heroes. It reads as follows:

For these were men
Whom power could not corrupt
Whom death could not terrify
Whom death could not dishonor

I had the privilege of offering the greeting from the Alabama Division to the attendees. I used this moment to tell them how we are living in exciting times for our Confederate Heritage. We have seen the burials of Confederate seamen, 200 year celebrations of men like Robert E. Lee, Raphael Semmes and Jefferson Davis. We have seen the restoration of Beauvoir and soon we will have the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library reopened to the public. Now we are on the threshold of the Sesquicentennial of the War for Southern Independence. What a great way to start the commemoration of the sesquicentennial, the placing of this beautiful monument to our Confederate ancestors.

There are so many people who need mentioning for their efforts here in Washington County. First and foremost are the ladies of the UDC who put together the placement of this monument. It was good to see Deacon Cox and the Confederate Cavalry Corps (MC) in attendance along with members from Mississippi of the SCV Mechanized Cavalry. There was also a contingent of the 5th Brigade of the Mississippi Division there for the ceremony. Several of them served in the Color Guard. I would also like to take a moment to thank the Washington County Commission and other officials for the part they played in the placement of the monument. Too often public officials shy away from being involved with the preservation of our Confederate Heritage. This was not the case in Washington County. I also want to thank Reverend Danny Wilson.

His keynote address on the Confederate Cause not being a "lost cause" was well received and taken to heart.

After the ceremony many of us retired to the Tibbee Baptist Church. The Sullivan UDC Chapter provided us with a lunch of fresh salad, pork roast, green beans, mashed potatoes with cheese and bacon, sweet tea and a variety of desserts. Yes sir, a monument dedication ceremony, Confederate fellowship, good down home cooking served at a Southern Baptist Church

Heaven truly was in Washington County today.

Terry "Beetle" Bailey
SW Brigade Commander
Alabama Division, SCV



Brigade Reports

Southeast Central

Greetings from the Southeast Central Brigade!

It has been another great year for our Brigade in the Alabama Division. The Southeast Central Brigade consists of nine Counties (Coosa, Tallapoosa, Chambers, Lee, Russell, Macon, Elmore, Bullock and Montgomery. With over Thirty-five new members this year we are currently the largest Brigade in the Alabama Division.

We currently have ten Camps in the Brigade. In Montgomery County the Camps are: Cradle of the Confederacy, Thomas Goode Jones, Confederate Constitution and Captain Henry C. Semple. In Elmore County the Camps are: Heart of Dixie, Morgan's Partisan Rangers and The Tallassee Armory Guards. Coosa County has the Coosa Cavalry, Lee County has General Robert E. Lee and Tallapoosa County has General Edmund W. Pettis. The Tallassee Armory Guards currently are the largest Camp in the state at the present time.

We had a very successful Re-enactment in Tallassee this past year. Over 900 School kids attended. It was rewarding to see the students learn about Confederate Heritage. We were also able to give a current Alabama Division poster to each teacher attending. This year's event will be held from October 30th – November 1st. Our Camp also participated in the Tallassee Christmas Parade. We passed out over 650 miniature CSA flags at the parade.

In April many of the local Camps attended the Confederate Day activities in Wetumpka. One of the highlights was when we were able to hang a 20'x30' Confederate flag off of the Bibb Graves Bridge. We also attended many of the events in Montgomery at the State Capital.

This coming year will be as busy as ever. The Captain Henry C. Semple Camp is spearheading the 2011 National Convention with help from other SEC Camps and The Prattville Dragoons. In February 2011 there is the Jefferson Davis Inauguration at the Capital. This SCV National event will kick off the year's Sesquicentennial activities to which we would like to welcome everyone to the Southeast Central Brigade.

Larry Warren
Commander
Southeast Central Brigade

Northwest

No Report Sent

2011 Division Convention

I wish that I could report that we had several candidates vying to hold the 2011 Division Convention but as of September 15th we have not had any camp express interest in holding the convention. Eufaula was a great Reunion and they followed the guidelines and actually went above the expectations. But we are not looking ahead to 2011.

There are several positives to holding the convention in your city. One, you don't have to travel to go to the Reunion! Second, it gives your camp a major project to work on and it will help your camp grow. There are also some negatives. It does require a lot of effort to plan, prepare and execute. When was the last time that anything worthwhile was easy?

Talk about it in your camp meetings and if you have questions contact me at 256-233-3366 or 615-476-3053. You can also email me at NEBrigade@aol.com

Jimmy Hill
Time & Place Committee

Editorial

I am writing this in response to concerns about the coverage of a certain case in the *Alabama Confederate*. Although the *Alabama Confederate* is our memberships newsletter, it is also sent out to people who are not members of the Alabama Division. This issue is being addressed by the Division Commander by sending each camp a letter outlining the specifics of the case and where it stands. As editor of the *Alabama Confederate* my responsibility is to the membership and unlike some, I see no reason to air the Division business in a public forum. If I printed a story about the case and where it stands I would be doing the same thing that this person did. Proper protocol dictates that Division Business be discussed in the proper setting.

The Executive Committee meeting is coming up on December 4th in Clanton. Anyone that wishes to discuss the status of this issue can do it there or at the next Division Convention.

Jimmy Hill
Editor

More News Around the Division . . .



Members of the DeKalb Rifles, DeKalb County and the Colonel Snodgrass Camp Jackson County joined together recently to hold a grave dedication service for Alexander Potter at the English-Middleton Cemetery.

About 75 people attended the service and responded well to the celebration of their Confederate Heritage.



Battles for the Armory 2010

Mark October 29, 30th and 31st on your calendar and make plans to be in Tallassee, Alabama for this years "Battles for the Armory". The three day week-end begins with the school day Living History Encampment. On Saturday and Sunday the battles will be fought at 2 PM. Come early though as there are other items of interest going on. There will be carriage rides over the plantation, a working blacksmith shop, period foods, crafts and a sutler area so visitors can purchase WBTS goods. Gates open to the public at 9 AM.

Historic Gibson's View Plantation provides expansive open fields well suited to cavalry, with modern camping areas that have piped water and shower facilities. Modern camping available with water but no hook ups. As always firewood will be available there will be ample powder rations to the first 10 full scale guns registered before October 1st, 2010. We will make every effort to provide hay but we need rainfall.

Battles for the Armory is sponsored by the "Tallassee Armory Guards" SCV Camp 1921 and is hosted by the 53rd Alabama Cavalry. Proceeds from the event go towards various War Between the States historic preservation projects with the main emphasis on the Confederate Armory Project in Tallassee.

Correction!

On page 7 of the July issue of the *Alabama Confederate* we listed Keith Nicewonger and Ivan Nicewonger as being members of the wrong camp.

Keith is the Commander of the Hartsook Guard Camp #2163, Bankston, Alabama and Ivan is the 2nd Lt. Commander of the Hartsook Guard Camp.

Sorry for the mix up!

Editor



Past Alabama Division Commander Leonard Wilson at a recent Wheeler Foundation Board meeting with fellow board member Nell Dirks of Decatur and Board President Milly Caudle of Athens.





*Sesquicentennial of the Inauguration
of Jefferson F. Davis*

*February 18 - 19, 2011
Montgomery, Alabama*

*You are invited to celebrate the Sesquicentennial
Commemoration of the Inauguration of our President,
the Honorable Jefferson F. Davis of Mississippi.*

*Join us in Montgomery, Alabama on February 18 - 19
To commemorate this event.*

*The festivities will begin on the 18th with a reception hosted
By the Alabama Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
With entertainment provided by
Kracker Dan and the Demons "O" Destruction Minstrals*

*On the 19th A parade will bring Mr. Davis to the steps
Of the Capitol where Mr. Davis will be sworn in as
The first President of the Confederate States of America.
Mr. Davis will be sworn in as he was 150 years ago.*

*After the swearing in ceremony, tours of the Capitol will
Be available as well as a visit to the
White House of the Confederacy.*

*Later in the evening join us for the Inaugural Banquet.
A sumptuous supper of fine Southern cuisine
That will tempt the pallet of all Southern
Gentlemen and Ladies.*

*More details to follow on
The Alabama Division website
[Www.aladivscv.com](http://www.aladivscv.com)*

*Host hotel will be the
Embassy Suites
300 Tallapoosa Street
1-334-269-5055*

*This event is the 2011 National Sesquicentennial Event
for the
Sons of Confederate Veterans
R. Michael Givens
Commander - in - Chief*

*Alabama Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Robert C. Reames
Commander*

The Alabama Division provided \$10,000 to help revitalize the Wheeler Foundation some years ago, The Wheeler Foundation has been able to raise another quarter million dollars for the effort to restore the Wheeler Home. The Division is represented on the Board by Commander Robert C. Reames, Past Commander Leonard Wilson and McBride Camp Commander Leland Free. Below is a recent Resolution from the Board.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, General Joseph Wheeler is one of the most distinguished military and political figures to grace the pages of American history; and

WHEREAS, General Wheeler adopted Lawrence County, Alabama, as his home following the War Between the States and spent the remainder of his life here; and

WHEREAS, General Wheeler was such a noted figure that his adopted home and community came to be known as Wheeler, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Wheeler, Alabama, is still recorded on the official map of the State of Alabama, thus confirming the name and location of the Wheeler home and plantation; and

WHEREAS, designating the Wheeler home and plantation by any name other than the General Joseph Wheeler Home is a distraction from the historic nature and significance of this landmark.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Friends of the General Joe Wheeler Foundation, acting by and through its board of directors, insists that the site be referred to as the General Joseph Wheeler Home and that we encourage the Alabama Historical Commission to cease using the Pond Spring designation and in lieu thereof use the Wheeler name, which we believe will create a greater public awareness of and interest in visiting the historic site.

Done this 19th day of June, 2010, at the annual meeting of the Foundation Board.



Taking Aim By John M. Taylor

The Fourteenth Amendment

There has been a great deal of chatter recently about the Fourteenth Amendment. The central controversy has been the situation with “anchor babies” and the ability to take advantage of the U.S. welfare system. However, one only needs to look a little deeper into the origin and history of the Fourteenth Amendment to surmise that something indeed stinks in Denmark. Although it was “adopted” on July 28, 1868, it was never legally ratified (to be explained in a future article). Let’s look at the nuts and bolts of this amendment just to see what it is all about.

Section 1: *All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.* The Radical Republicans did not care for Blacks but they never missed an opportunity to use them as pawns to advance the Republican agenda – this section was, at least superficially, intended to recognize former slaves as full citizens. However, “Section 1 has become a source of judicial power, and a limitation on state powers.” (N.S.) Also, it “defines for the first time a citizen of the United States. Its prohibitions are solely against the states. There are no provisions against the Federal government engaging in oppressive acts or usurping powers not belonging to it.” (Ken.) The Feds defining anything should frighten every patriotic American.

Section 2: *Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers counting, the whole number of persons,*

in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, representative in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state. We see one reason for this section as guaranteeing voting rights for Blacks. Also, we see the disdain the Radical Republicans had for the U.S. Constitution as well as anyone who dared question their authority by the reference to anyone who participated in what they fallaciously called “rebellion.”

Section 3: *No person shall be a senator or representative in congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any state, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any state legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any state, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each house, remove such disability.* “Under this section more than 150,000 persons who had served the Confederacy were barred from holding office.” (N.S.) It was just one more authoritarian measure designed to force the will of an illegitimate federal government on Southerners who dared to fight against the bastardization of the Original Republic. “This was the legal excuse used to disenfranchise white Southerners. It bars from state or Federal office any person who, as an official of any kind had previously taken an oath of office, and later participated in the ‘rebellion.’ This is what is known as *ex post facto* law. It should be noted that *ex post facto* laws are specifically forbidden in Article 1, Section 9 of the Constitution.” (Ken.)

Section 4: *The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any state shall assume or pay any*

debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void. The crux of this section was to absolve the Federal government from paying for their unnecessary invasion and destruction of the South – a debt of about \$2 billion – and to make sure that no slave owners were reimbursed. “According to the census of 1870, property valuations in the state (Alabama) had dropped from \$725,000,000 in 1860 to less than \$200,000,000 in 1870.” (MCM) This was a means of making the maximum amount of Southerners destitute. “Shortly after he became provisional governor in 1865, Lewis E. Parsons issued a proclamation declaring that tens of thousands of people were on the verge of starvation in the state.” (MCM) This devaluation of property also allowed the trash known as Carpetbaggers and Scalawags to purchase prime land and property at dirt-cheap prices.

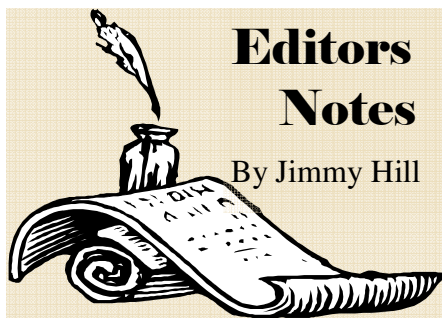
Section 5: *The Congress shall have power to enforce by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.* “This is the enabling clause which allows Congress a free hand in the internal policies of a State. The enabling clause is the legal excuse that allows the Federal government to impose upon the Southern people such things as controlling the voting qualifications in the Southern States, busing, reverse discrimination, minority set asides, etc.” (Ken.) Again, we see the venom of the Radical Republicans as they did everything in their power to concurrently destroy and control the South. They wanted to put “legal” teeth in the legislation to further control the South. The after-effects of their evil regime remain with us to this day.

The “passage” of the Fourteenth Amendment is a disgraceful episode in American history. It is another classic example of the way the Radical Republicans twisted the laws and connived to force their will on a nearly defenseless Southern people. Is it any wonder the Republicans were so hated in the South? These incredibly odious people earned all of the hatred cast in their direction.

(See this article and others at: <http://graymessenger.squarespace.com/>) Sources: *The South Was Right*, by Kennedy & Kennedy (Ken.); *The Land Called Alabama*, by M.C. McMillan (MCM); and New Standard Encyclopedia (N.S.)

Editors Notes

By Jimmy Hill



By the time this copy of the Alabama Confederate makes it to you, we should be entering my favorite time of the year. Fall brings cooler temperatures, college and pro football and for the SCV it is our most active time of the year.

The buzz word for the past year has been sesquicentennial. With the recent Reunion in South Carolina we have officially started. National and Division events are being planned as I write this. Each camp needs to be involved in supporting these events but we need camps to also plan events.

My camp recently participated in a state sponsored event called Small town Homecomings. The committee plans for the day included the unveiling of a new historical marker for Athens. Since the marker mentioned soldiers going to fight in the war, it seemed like a natural fit to have the Hobbs Camp Color Guard involved in the unveiling. The camp was able to post the Colors and then Lt. Commander Tom Strain spoke on the Sesquicentennial and commented on the new marker. The guard then fired a volley of three shots and marched away. A booth was set up nearby to meet people who wanted to talk about the SCV.

A small event that will yield big results for us. We had several former members of the SCV come by and tell us they needed to get back in. They were not from our camp, they were here visiting and we rekindled that spark that had been lying dormant in them. They knew they needed to be in the SCV but other priorities in their life took center stage. Now they are back. It is our opportunity to take that spark and

and fan the flame. We used this event to officially kick off our camps Sesquicentennial commemoration.

One of the most overlooked items in our events is communicating that we are holding the event. We do a good job of letting our camp members know but in many cases the surrounding area camps know little or nothing about it. Be sure to utilize the calendar on the Division web site to advertise your event.

Right now you have the opportunity to get press coverage and help from city and county officials that used to have closed doors to us. The press is looking for stories, the media is looking for anything dealing with the war and government officials are trying to take advantage of funds that have been set aside for tourism. The events we plan, if done right are good for tourism. That is the angle we should take when we approach someone about our group participating in their event. We bring in dollars, whether it is in gas sales at the local convenience store, hotel rooms or restaurants money will be spent.

One reason fall is my favorite time of the year is the festivals and fairs that start in mid September and continue all the way through Christmas. These events offer a perfect venue for our message. My camp participates as a food vendor in the Athens Fiddlers Convention. This event will attract around 20,000 people over a two day period. It is a great fundraiser for the camp but it also provides us an opportunity to meet people who have an interest in the war era. The conversation almost always starts the same way, "I think I had somebody in my family who was in the war". I never knew Robert E. Lee had so many relatives! We get to fly our flags on the Athens State University Campus which is always a good thing.

Most of us have members in our camps that have connections in the community. Whether it is someone who knows the Mayor or their wife is

in the same Sunday School class with the newspaper editors wife. The connections are there. We need to learn how to utilize them to our advantage. Once you get your foot in the door you will have the ability to build that relationship and you will find that they will call you when they need something. One place to start is to join you local Chamber of Commerce. It provides unique opportunities. An event that we held a couple of years back was advertised on the Chambers Calendar. Our first pair of tickets was sold to a Chamber member who told me to find someone to use the tickets. He couldn't attend but he wanted to support another Chamber member.

What we do over the next five years can have a big impact on the SCV at Camp level all the way to the National level. We cannot afford to let this opportunity pass us by.

As I close out my comments for this issue I would like to issue a challenge. One of the new programs brought forward at the National Reunion was a drive to build THE Museum of the Confederacy at Elm Springs.

For a \$1000 donation your camp can have its name on the donors list that will be displayed at the Museum. I want to challenge each camp to have their name on that display. There is a \$5000 and \$10,000 level as well. If the amount is to large then give what you can or contribute to the Division and lets get the Division to the \$10,000 level. Also is your Camp a member of the Sesquicentennial Society?

Take pride you are Southern!

The opinions expressed in the Editors Notes section are of the Editor and not necessarily of the Alabama Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Comments are welcome and can be sent to: Editor

PO Box 375

Capshaw, Alabama 35742



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.

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.

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.

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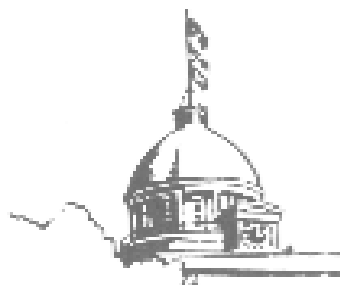
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For corrections or changes please notify
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SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
ALABAMA DIVISION
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LEST WE FORGET
*Our quest shall ever be
That we shall again 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.