



THE WIG-WAG

Official Newsletter of the Brig. Gen. E. Porter Alexander Camp No. 158

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Augusta, Georgia

"Be ye also patient; stablish yours hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."—James 5:8

JANUARY 2017

Happy New Year to All.

Commander's Comments

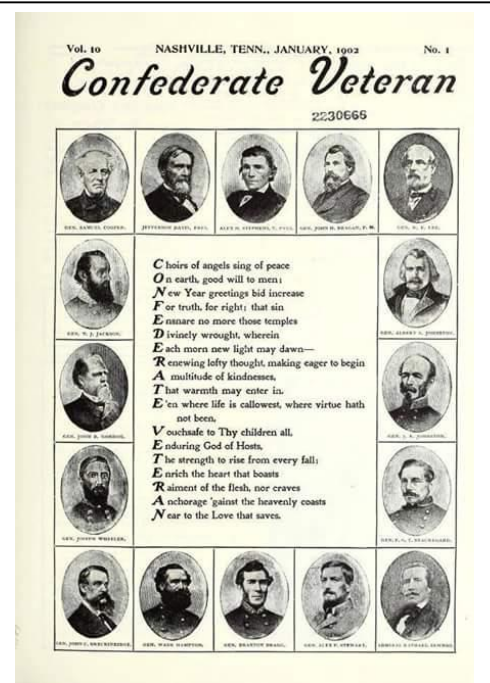
Dr. John Baxley

The December holidays were a special time for the Gen. Alexander SCV Camp. With meetings, parades, parties and other events, we were quit busy. The December meeting at Sconyer,s featured an entertaining and informative speaker from Germany, Professor Larry Krumenaker. Larry gave a riveting talk on the Battle of Atlanta and the 36 forts making up the defensive ring around the city during the War of Southern Independence. Those of you who missed this talk will have a chance to get back with the Professor when he returns later this year to give us a personal tour of the Atlanta battle line.

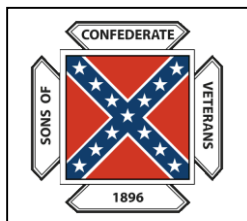
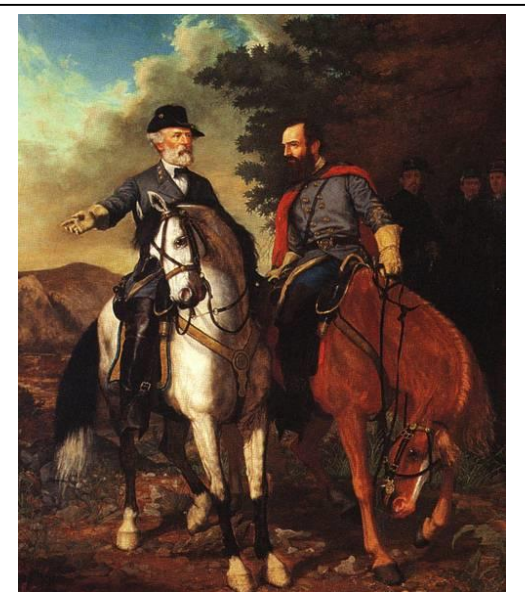
The North Augusta Christmas parade was a big event with over 100 entrants for the event. Our SCV float, graciously put together by compatriot Joe Winstead and his family, was again a big hit. Riding down Georgia Avenue with our honor guard firing double load black powder is always exciting and great PR for the SCV. I wish to thank not only Joe Winstead and his wife Diane, but also the honor guard under the command of Major Ron Udell. All gave a grand performance which included Tommy Smith waving the battle flag and Billy Belger, William Belger, Jr., Gary Hattaway, Joe Winstead, and Tobin Burnette firing over 15 rounds of black powder. Diane Winstead, Sissy Belger and Gail Smith road behind the float wearing period dress with Gail dressed as a Confederate widow. Their golf cart was well decorated for the event.

Our Christmas party at the Aiken County Historical Museum was well attended by over 30 of our members. Emma Givens and her family to include Ernie did a gracious job in providing refreshments as we all sat around in a large parlor listening to Christmas carols and socializing with our fellow compatriots and friends. All enjoyed the event which included touring the 85 year old mansion from the Aiken "Winter Colony Days". Please give a special word of thanks to compatriot Emma for her hard work putting on this event.

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The January 1903 cover of Confederate Veteran.





Heritage Update

Brandenburg, Kentucky—As we enter 2017, I wish to present you with image of resilience as our Heritage Update for January; as you are no doubt aware, the political cretins currently in charge of the city government of Louisville, Kentucky, orchestrated a pointless and highly disrespectful removal of that city’s long-standing Confederate Monument. The men and friends of the Ben Hardin Helm Camp in the Bluegrass State worked very hard to save the monument, and have re-erected it in Brandenburg, Kentucky, along the banks of the Ohio River, plainly visible from Northern soil across said body of water. It is saddening and maddening that it was moved at all, but that these men have found it a glorious new home, and that it and the men it stands for will be honored and respected there, paints a picture for all of us in making the best of this absurd situation thrust upon us, and finding meaningful ways around our well-funded, lying opposition.



Aiken, South Carolina—one of our local political leaders, who has in the past been very publicly on our side on heritage issues, most notably in standing against the insane drive to take down the Battle Flag in Columbia in the summer of 2015, has been—apparently—involved in a very significant instance of domestic violence. I will refrain from mentioning him here by name, but it is important to know how the externally-owned and controlled press in South Carolina (the Columbia and Charleston papers) chose to spin the matter, with titles along these lines “Confederate Flag Supporter Assaults Wife”—as though the flag, or his public support for it, had anything whatsoever to do with the incident between him and his wife. Gentlemen and Friends, it is important for us to remember how our enemies operate, and to do our best in the strength that we are given through faith to live beyond reproach, because our moral failings absolutely will be used by these fiends to misrepresent, cast aspersions upon, and to sneer at the good and noble things for which we stand.

West Monroe, Louisiana—the small northwest Louisiana town made famous by the Robertson family of Duck Dynasty fame is also home to West Monroe High School, which has as its mascot “the Rebels”, and, like so many other schools across the South (and for that matter, elsewhere as well) with this particular mascot has been a traditional association with the Confederate Battle Flag. This school happens to have a renowned marching band, which is set to perform in the upcoming inauguration of President-elect Trump. Well, the idiots in the mainstream media have covered this thusly “Most Racist High School in US set to Perform at Trump Inauguration”.

Charleston, South Carolina—Dylann Storm Roof has been sentenced to death for the Charleston Shooting. Given the havoc his actions were the pretext for, were his death to be by firing squad, I for one would be quite willing to volunteer. That being said, there remain unanswered questions concerning the events of that day, the photographs, etc., that do not and have not passed the smell test from day one. If the events went exactly as they have been represented, then he certainly deserves to die. If there were others operating behind him, orchestrating an event to push a political agenda, then may I humbly suggest that we have much bigger problems than this pathetic man, equally deserving a last day on the scaffold.

Adjutant & Treasurer's Update from Our Last Business Meeting in December of 2016

- Total number of members currently on camp roster - 111 (Date of roster - 11/16)
- Number of members that did not renew - 13
- Number of members transferring to Wright Camp 1914 in Evans - 6
- Number of members remaining on roster after delinquent and transferred members removed - 111-19 = 92
- Delinquent members to be removed from camp roster at end of December by SCV General Headquarters
- The Membership dues deadline for both SCV National and Georgia Division was November 30th, 2016
- Dues received from delinquent members after November 30th are \$59.00 (\$51.00 dues + \$8.00 reinstatement fees)
 - Georgia Division reinstatement fee - \$3.00; SCV National reinstatement fee - \$5.00

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The Story of the Ladies Memorial Association of Augusta, Part III.

[Excerpted from *History of the Confederate Memorial Associations of the South*, edited by Mrs. William J. Brahan, 1904; in the public domain]

The corner stone of the monument was laid in April, 1875. Mrs. F. A. Timberlake, President of the Memorial Association, and the following officers laid the first bricks of the foundation: Mrs. A. G. Whitehead, Mrs. Edward F. Campfield, Mrs. DeS. Ford, Mrs. M. B. Moore, and Mrs. John Clark. It was indeed a novel sight to a large number of spectators to see the ladies, with delicate, ungloved hands, laying brick and handling the trowel, but it was a holy duty they performed—one most appropriate to the occasion and the subject—that of rearing a shaft of marble in memory of the brave men who fought and died for a cause they considered just.

To the invaluable aid of the press, the Ladies' Memorial Association owe much of their success.

In October, 1878, the monument was unveiled. The officers at that time were: President, Mrs. F. A. Timberlake (formerly Mrs. M. E. Walton); Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. John T. Miller; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J. M. Adams, *Mrs. E. M. Whitehead, Mrs. J. J. Cohen, Mrs. M. Campfield, Mrs. J. M. Clark, Mrs. M. A. Dantforth, Mrs. W. H. Barrett, Mrs. J. T. May, Mrs. M. B. Moore, Mrs. J. J. Thomas, Mrs. Bredenberg, Mrs. Eastlebury.

The unveiling occurred in October, 1878. Upon both occasions there was a grand military and civic display, and addresses were delivered by distinguished orators. Upon the laying of the corner stone the address was delivered by Gen. Clement A. Evans, and upon the unveiling, it was delivered by Colonel Charles C. Jones, Jr. The monument stands seventy-six feet high. At the corner of the first section, twenty feet from the base, are heroic size marble statues of Generals R. E. Lee., Stonewall Jackson, Thos. R. R. Cobb and W. H. T. Walker, representing the Confederate Cause, the State of Georgia and the County of Richmond, in which Augusta is situated. The second section contains bas reliefs of Confederate emblems, the coat of arms of the Confederacy and of the State of Georgia. The obelisk proper rises gracefully to its commanding height and is surmounted with an heroic size private Confederate soldier, standing "at rest."

The monument was unveiled in five and a half years after it was undertaken by the Association. It is justly considered one of the handsomest in the South, and stands to-day "the pride of Augusta and cynosure of every Confederate eye." The Association also contributed \$150.00 to the fund for the erection of a monument to the memory of Jefferson Davis.

[The remainder of the account can be found in the above referenced book, available online and in reprint editions, as well as in the library of Augusta University]

Adjutant & Treasurer's Update from Our Last Business Meeting in December of 2016 [Continued]

Final total for donations to Georgia Division and camp from Camp #158 members:

Georgia Division Donations	\$191.00
Heritage Offense Fund	\$224.00
Awareness Fund	\$60.00
Disaster Relief Fund	\$40.00
Total:	\$515.00
Donations to Camp 158:	\$220.00

Commander's Comments

[Continued from Page 1]

Roger Combs and his charming wife Mandy represented our camp at the Marietta Confederate Cemetery of 17 December. They helped with the ceremony with involved putting out over 3000 wreaths on the Confederate graves with Marietta Mayor Steve Tumlin participating. Thanks to Rabbit and his wife for their over-the-top support of our camp and for their contribution of a new speaker system for our meetings.

Finally, I wish to give special thanks to Jack Bailie and his watch over the cemetery fountain. Jack replaced the fountain pump last month again on his own dime. Upon driving by the Confederate Dead Section last month, it was moving to see the flag flying with the fountain flowing amongst the Magnolia Greys standing guard over their domain.

The January meeting on the 12th at Sconyer's will feature David Moncus as our guest speaker talking about the Battle of Vicksburg. Our annual Lee-Jackson banquet will be at 7:00 p.m. on 21 January at the Burns Memorial Methodist Church on Lumpkin Rd. Get your tickets ahead of time at ten dollars per person from Nick Posey at the next camp meeting or by calling Nick at 706-294-7813 to R.S.V.P. no later than 16 January. Have a Great Dixie Day!

Commander Doc John Baxley.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The January meeting will be at Sconyer's at the usual time on the 12th (some of you will be getting this after that date; my apologies). Our speaker will be David Moncus discussing the Siege of Vicksburg.

The Lee-Jackson Banquet will be held on Jackson's Birthday, the 21st, at Burns Memorial Methodist Church on Lumpkin Road. Get your tickets ahead of time at ten dollars per person from Nick Posey at the next camp meeting or by calling Nick at 706-294-7813 to R.S.V.P. no later than 16 January

The Battle of Aiken Re-Enactment will be coming up next month on the 25th and 26th of February. Cost: Adults: \$12; Ages 6 to 12: \$6; under age 5: Free The event is held at 1210 Powell Pond Road, Aiken, South Carolina, 29801, and is hosted by our friends in the Bee Camp # 1575 out of Aiken.

In the month of January, we honor the memory of Robert E. Lee, born on the 19th of this month in the year 1807, and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, who was born on the 21st in the year 1824.

We also mark the 19th as a day of special significance in Georgia as the anniversary of the day when the people of this State, in convention assembled, acting in their absolutely sovereign capacity for themselves, withdrew all powers delegated to the old federal union by passing the Ordinance of Secession. We affirm their right to have done so, and their subsequent right to form a new partnership with other similarly situated seceded states, and to wage a just defensive war against an invasion. We reject any and all aspersions made against Georgia for having both seceded and waged war jointly together with the other Confederate States to defend herself from a government she had severed herself from, which had from her perspective clearly been usurped and subverted. To call secession "treason" merely begs or ducks the question, for if secession were rightful, and placed operationally into effect, then Georgia became by her own act a foreign State towards the remaining members of the Union, and it is an absurdity to speak of foreign states or foreign citizens committing treason against a government they have no longer any allegiance toward. Secession severed that allegiance, as each State rightfully had primal claim to the fealty of its own citizens. This, of course, was denied by the Lincoln government, and this, regardless of how one attempts to muddy the waters, is the constitutional question over which the contest of the 1860s was waged.

