Commander’s column – by Nick Posey

There’s really no news to report at this time regarding the funding for the Confederate Powder Works Chimney Restoration Project. We have been waiting to hear back from the Watson-Brown Foundation in Thomson on the request for funding for the chimney project, but no word yet. Hopefully by the time of our meeting on Thursday night I’ll have an update.

It’s time for annual SCV membership renewals. We have from August 1st to November 1st to pay our 2008-2009 membership dues. Please make an effort to get your dues paid within the next four to six weeks to avoid being late. Dues payments can be given to Adjutant Perry Herron or Treasurer Henry Gilmer at the camp meetings.

We haven’t had a meeting in two months and it’ll be good to get back into the swing of things. Our program speaker this Thursday night will be Adjutant-in-Chief Mark Simpson from Spartanburg, SC. Mark will give a PowerPoint presentation and speak on the “War Conspiracy of 1861.” Make plans to attend and bring a guest to hear this interesting presentation, and enjoy a pleasant evening of Southern fellowship at Sconyers with like-minded Southerners.

►Annual SCV Membership Dues Information - Annual SCV membership dues for the new membership year starting August 1st are currently due. SCV National dues have increased $10.00 as of the start of the new membership year, which means our annual Camp #158 dues will increase from $41.00 to $51.00 per year. If you have questions about dues, Adjutant Perry Herron can be reached at 803-613-1246.

Camp #158 dues are $51.00 per year ($30.00 SCV National + $12.00 GA Division + $9.00 Camp #158)

■ If you are a Life Member of SCV National your annual dues are $21.00 ($12.00 GA Division + $9.00 Camp #158)
■ If you are a Life Member of the GA Division your annual dues are $39.00 ($30 SCV National + $9.00 Camp #158)
■ If you are a Life Member of SCV National and the GA Division your annual dues are $9.00 (Camp #158 dues = $9.00)

Make checks payable to SCV Camp #158.
Your dues can be paid at one of the next three camp meetings, or mailed to the Camp’s Post Office Box at this address:

Sons of Confederate Veterans
B/G E. Porter Alexander Camp #158
Post Office Box 3694, Hill Station
Augusta, GA 30904
Sons of Confederate Veteran’s Websites
B/G E. Porter Alexander Camp #158:
http://www.eporteralexander.homestead.com/Index.html
Georgia Division SCV Website:
http://www.georgiascv.com/
SCV National Website:
http://www.scv.org/
SCV News Blog
www.sonsofconfederateveterans.blogspot.com

*****Announcements*****

■ Thursday, August 14th – Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 will meet at Sconyers Bar-B-Que Restaurant at 7:00 p.m. Our program speaker will be Adjutant-in-Chief Mark Simpson. He will speak on the “War Conspiracy of 1861.”

■ Saturday, September 6th – Magnolia Cemetery Workday, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

■ Thursday, September 11th – Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 will meet at Sconyers Bar-B-Que Restaurant at 7:00 p.m. Speaker to be announced later.

■ Friday, September 19th – Sgt. Berry Greenwood Benson Camp #1672 will host its annual Lt. General Stephen D. Lee Banquet at the Acacia Masonic Lodge on Brookside Drive in North Augusta at 6:00 p.m. The Acacia Masonic Lodge is located next door to the North Augusta Community Center. Tickets are $25 for adults, $15 for children and must be purchased by September 12th. Contact Adjutant Reed Wakeley at 803-279-9021 to purchase tickets. The keynote speaker will be Pastor John Weaver. He’ll speak on “Revival of the Southern Army.”

■ Saturday, September 27th – The Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans will have its 3rd quarter Executive Council Meeting at 11:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Old Time Country Buffet Restaurant on 1343 Gray Highway in Macon, Georgia.

Scripture for thought...

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. - 2 Chronicles 7:14

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. – Proverbs 3:7-8

No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. – 1 John 4:12

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. – John 3:36

◄Southern Quotes►

"The principle for which we contended is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form." – Jefferson Davis

“The Army of Northern Virginia was never defeated. It merely wore itself out whipping the enemy.” – General Jubal Early

“The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time: the hand of force may destroy, but cannot disjoin them.” – Thomas Jefferson

"I am not a friend to a very energetic government. It is always oppressive." – Thomas Jefferson

"The government of the uncontrolled numerical majority is but the absolute and despotic form of popular government... If
we do not defend ourselves none will defend us; if we yield we will be more and more pressed as we recede; and if we submit we will be trampled underfoot." – John C. Calhoun

♦ Continued from last month — the following facts about the Confederate Powder Works were taken from excerpts of a speech, "The History of the Confederate Powder Works," by Colonel George Washington Rains given to the Confederate Survivors Association in Augusta on April 26th, 1882:

The great extent of the Powder Works and their immense capabilities, were the admiration of all visitors. This was mainly due to the foresight of the president of the Confederacy, who, comprehending the requirements of a great war, then scarcely commenced, strongly drew my attention to the probable necessity of very large supplies of gunpowder...

It is an interesting fact that Augusta was the only city of note in the South, which was not occupied at some time by the Federal forces during the war; here the flag of the Confederacy floated undisturbed to the end.

The extensive Sibley Cotton Factory has been erected on a portion of the site of the Refinery, Laboratory, and Incorporating Mills, and so arranged that the Confederate Obelisk stands conspicuously in front of the centre; the battlements and ornamental architecture of the Powder Works was adopted in the construction of the factory buildings, which gave them a fine and noble appearance.

Here we once heard the noise of the clanking wheels and muffled sounds of the ponderous rollers of war, as they slowly concentrated into black masses the enormous energies which were to shake the earth and air, with the roar and deafening explosions of the battlefield. Now the air is again filled with the sounds of moving machinery, but it is the busy hum of peaceful occupations which assist to clothe the world from the white cotton fields of Georgia. The black material of war has given way to the white staple of peace.

Of the extensive Confederate Powder Works nothing remains except the obelisk enclosing the great chimney. Its battlemented tower and lofty shaft, large proportions and beautiful workmanship, will bear evidence of the magnitude and style of their construction to future generations.

♦ The following letter was sent to The Augusta Chronicle by Camp #158 member Tom Stafford in response to a cartoon published in the paper that was derogatory toward white Southerners and the Confederate flag.

Letter to the Editor – Monday, July 28, 2008
South still has to stave off Yankees

I saw Rick McKee's cartoon in the July 20 paper about Southern states leading the nation in obesity. I could not help but notice the Yankee stereotypes of Southern people.

Could it be that the Yankees actually fear that the South will rise again? How else do you explain the endless attacks on all things Southern -- and especially our beloved Confederate Battle Flag and our Confederate heroes -- initiated by the Yankee stooges, the NAACP and the Southern Poverty Law Center?

I realize not everyone from the north is a Yankee. Yankees are people regardless of origin who embrace the New England Yankee philosophy of manifest destiny, a.k.a. nation-building, in which all people are to be conquered, subjugated, indoctrinated, micromanaged and standardized -- thus reconstructed into the New England Yankee image.

If history repeats itself, and it will, the South will rise again. For some reason, Southern people would rather be governed by themselves than to be governed at the point of a Yankee bayonet. Hopefully, with the ongoing wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and soon-to-be Iran, the Yankee imperialists will let the South leave the empire in peace. But I think not. After all there is a lot of oil in Dixie.
“Truth crushed to the earth is truth still and like a seed will rise again.”
-- President Jefferson Davis

Next SCV Camp #158 Meeting: Sconyers Bar-B-Que Restaurant – August 14th

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Sons of Confederate Veterans
Augusta, Georgia