

★ **Commander's
Comments** ★
by Lee Herron

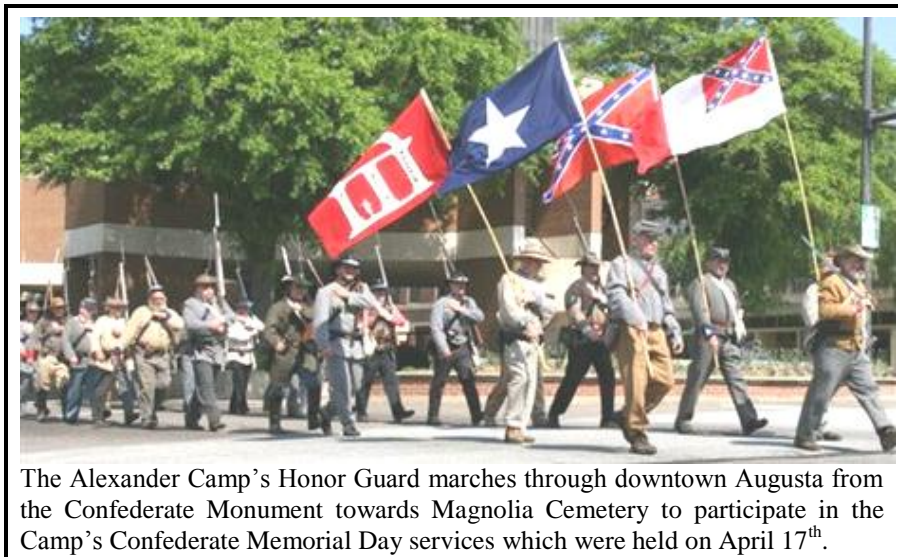
The month of April has come to a close and so does our Confederate Heritage and History Month celebration. Here is my question to most of the camp: What did you do, if anything, to celebrate Confederate Heritage and History Month along with Confederate Memorial Day?

Camp participation in our Confederate Memorial Day service has been confined to the core group of 25-35 members who do everything for this camp and who have my utmost admiration for their dedication to duty! My complaint is with the other 75-80 members who chose not to honor our Confederate ancestors or honor your duty to the camp by attending our memorial service. Excluding the core group, the camp member attendance at our service was absolutely pitiful at best! Where were you? Do you care? Evidently you do not!

Everyone has known about the service for a couple of months and barring family illness/issues or working, there is no excuse for not being there! It really ticks me off, given the time and effort this camp prepares for this service, to have most of the camp as "no shows" is inexcusable.

I would like to thank all of the men, women and children that helped get the Confederate cemetery section ready for our service and for the weekends prior, as time was spent cutting grass, raking,

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The Alexander Camp's Honor Guard marches through downtown Augusta from the Confederate Monument towards Magnolia Cemetery to participate in the Camp's Confederate Memorial Day services which were held on April 17th.

Col. "Black Jack" Travis Speaks on BGen E. Porter Alexander

Alexander Camp Remembers the Fallen during Confederate Memorial Day Ceremonies

The BGen. E. Porter Alexander Camp held its most important event of the year--Confederate Memorial Day services--on Saturday, April 17th at Magnolia Cemetery remembering those servicemen who served and died defending the Southland during the War Between the States.

The ceremonies began at the Confederate Monument in downtown Augusta where the Camp's Honor Guard fired a salute. Accompanied by five ladies dressed in mourning, and compatriots and supporters carrying flags with some dressed in period attire, the Guard marched through the city to the Confederate section of the cemetery firing rifle salutes along the route.

At the cemetery, Commander Lee Herron welcomed the attendees and stated that "we are remembering the men who have been forgotten by their families." Chaplain Ben Creech gave the invitation invoking God's blessings on the proceedings followed by pledges and salutes to the flags. Herron read the SCV charge and introduced special guests. Col. "Black Jack" Travis was the keynote speaker for the event, and he spoke on the topic, "The Life and Times of Brigadier General Edward Porter Alexander." Following a remembrance of Confederate ancestors by all attendees, Mrs. Jerry Grigsby read a poem entitled "I am the South." Ladies in period mourning attire then placed wreaths and the Honor Guard

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Last Camp Meeting

Compatriot Eddie Rogers Portrays SC Hero, Gen. Wade Hampton III

During the April meeting of the Alexander Camp, Eddie Rogers, a broadcaster, USC Aiken graduate, and member of the Wheeler Camp in Aiken did a first person portrayal of Gen. Wade Hampton. Mr. Rogers, dressed as the General, stated that Hampton's grandfather had served in the Revolutionary War and that his father had served in the War of 1812. Although, he was born in Charleston, his family moved to Millwood, a plantation near Columbia. Hampton liked fishing and hunting especially bear hunting. He became a planter and eventually a legislator who opposed the slave trade. In 1861, he organized and outfitted his own legion requesting 1300 men--but obtaining 3,000--training them at Camp Hampton near Millwood's racetrack. Rogers spoke of Hampton's exploits during the War from his wounding at Gettysburg, the death of his son Preston, and the Beef Steak raid in 1864. He continued by discussing Hampton's post war political career as the leader of the "Red Shirts", Governor, and Senator. Cmdr. Herron presented Mr. Rogers with a photograph of the Confederate Powder works Chimney following his excellent portrayal.

During the commander's report, Cmdr. Herron stated that the restoration of the Confederate Powder works Chimney is finally complete! He stated that the chimney rededication ceremony is likely to be held on June 19th. Herron thanked all those who helped with the Confederate cemetery clean up on April 3rd and all those who attended the Stone Mountain Memorial Service on April 10th. He announced a new addition to the Camp's Honor Guard--the Artillery Honor Guard--made possible by Compatriot Philip Weaver's purchase of a Parrott rifle. Herron distributed a list of camp officer positions for the coming year and asked compatriots to write their names if they are interested in serving in a particular position. He spent the remaining time discussing the upcoming Confederate Memorial Day service and obtained approval from the camp to expend funds to that effect.

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The Wig Wag

is the official publication of the BGen. E. Porter Alexander Camp #158, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Augusta, Georgia. The newsletter is published monthly for the benefit of camp members and those camps participating in a newsletter exchange. Opinions expressed within are not necessarily the official views of the SCV or the E. Porter Alexander Camp. Send all articles and comments to the editor at the address on the last page or email: Rebel eye@aol.com.

Important Dates to Remember:

- 10 May: Confederate Memorial Day (NC, SC)
- 20 May: North Carolina Secession Day
- 31 May: US Memorial Day
- 3 June: Jefferson Davis' Birthday
- 3 June: Confederate Memorial Day (Ky., La., Tenn.)

Coming Events:

- 8 May: Confederate Memorial Day Service
10:00 AM at Courthouse
St. Matthews, SC
- 13 May: BGen E. Porter Alexander
Camp #158 Meeting
Topic: Edgefield's Lost Generation
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**
- 14-16 May: Battle of Resaca Re-enactment
Resaca, Ga.

**11-12 June: Georgia Division Reunion
Milledgeville, Georgia**

http://www.sonsofconfederateveteransoldcapitolcamp688.org/Page_4.html

**21-24 July: SCV International Reunion
Anderson, SC**

<http://mansejollyvcamp6.com/>

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

- 9 May: BGen. William E. "Grumble" Jones*
- 13 May: Zebulon B. Vance, Gov. NC
- 14 May: BGen George P. Doles*
- 15 May: MGen. Isaac R. Trimble
- 16 May: Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith
- 19 May: BGen. Felix K. Zollicoffer*
- 21 May: MGen. Dabney H. Maury
BGen. Mosby M. Parsons*
- 24 May: Charles Clark, Gov. Miss.
- 26 May: **BGen. Edward P. Alexander**
- 27 May: MGen. Robert F. Hoke
- 28 May: Gen. Pierre G. T. Beauregard
- 29 May: MGen. Cadmus M. Wilcox
- 31 May: MGen. W.H. Fitzhugh Lee
MGen. Stephen D. Ramseur*
- 1 June: BGen John B. Floyd*
BGen John Hunt Morgan*
Gen. John Bell Hood
- 2 June: BGen Benjamin Hardin Helm*
- 3 June: **President Jefferson Davis**
BGen Martin E. Green*
BGen Otho French Strahl*
- 4 June: BGen Paul J. Semmes*
*Died in Confederate Service



Columnist Calls Confederate Soldiers "Terrorists"

In a polarizing article entitled "Confederates and Al Quaida are the Same: Terrorists," CNN African-American columnist, Roland Martin, ignorantly equates Confederate soldiers with the fanatical Muslim terrorists of today. Believing it was the desire of all Confederates "to continue slavery", Martin refutes those who would defend their soldier-ancestors stating, "We can't on one hand justify the honorable actions of Confederates as the duties of valiant men in the South, and then condemn the Muslim extremists who want to see Americans die a brutal death." He continues by maligning the SCV and those who would honor the Confederate soldier by stating, "Just like radical Muslims who have a warped sense of religion, Confederate lovers have a delusional view of what is honorable." He ends by adding "I will never, under any circumstances, cast Confederates as heroic figures who should be honored and revered. No, they have been, and forever will be, domestic terrorists." It makes wonder what African-American Confederate soldiers would say to him, if they were still living?

It is quite evident that no amount of information can influence Martin to change his bigoted and biased opinions of our soldier-ancestors; however, interested compatriots should continue to let him know they do not approve of his divisive commentary and his caustic attitude toward his fellow Americans.

Contact Mr. Martin at: roland@rolandmartin.com

Read the full gut-wrenching article at:

http://host.madison.com/ct/news/opinion/column/article_7745a99b-b735-5d08-bbd5-43a8f9b3dfa5.html

Georgia Baptist Church Removes Battle Flags from Veterans Graves

Members of Abilene Baptist Church in Carrolton, Georgia have been removing Confederate battle flags placed on the graves of Confederate veterans in the church cemetery because, according to the Pastor Gregory Drake, "they are offensive to other people."

When SCV Compatriot Donald Levans discovered that a battle flag placed on his ancestor's grave in the church cemetery was absent, he was told by the Pastor that the members had removed the flags placed on twelve Confederate veterans' graves in the cemetery because they were "offensive." When he asked that the flag be returned, he was told they were thrown away. The deacons, however, have decided to allow the "Stars and Bars" to be flown on Confederate graves at the cemetery.

Planning on Going to the Georgia Division Reunion?

All those who are planning on attending the 2010 Georgia Division reunion in June, should go to the following link and print out the registration form and mail it to the listed address. The registration fee is \$25.00 before May 15th and \$35 after that date.

All potential attendees should inform Cmdr. Herron of their decision to attend the reunion as Camp delegates are still needed, and he is required to forward the list of all Alexander Camp delegates to the host camp.

http://www.sonsofconfederateveteransoldcapitolcamp688.org/Page_4.html

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working on and painting the fountain, cleaning headstones, and the placing of the flags on each grave etc.

Again, to the Camp Honor Guard and the few members that did show, I give you a heartfelt "Thank You" for your dedication in doing your duty!

The speaker for the May 13th meeting will be Mr. Ken Temples, and he discuss his new book "Autumn Leaves, The Story of Edgefield's Lost Generation." I hope to see you there. Remember, it is your duty!

Confederate Memorial Day (continued from page 1)

fired three volleys in memory of the Generals and the soldiers, respectively. The 32nd Georgia Artillery responded in kind sending loud reports throughout the area. Chaplain Ben Creech gave the benediction, and the ceremony culminated with everyone singing "Dixie." As Confederate battle flags waved over each grave, those attending the services knew within their hearts that our ancestors would have been pleased.

Last Month's Meeting (continued from page 2)

Cmdr. Herron presented to the Camp a proclamation by Augusta Mayor Deke Copenhaver designating April as "Confederate History Month" and stated if anyone wished to write a letter to the editor noting it would be welcomed to do so.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead stated that he would attend the Redneck Festival in Augusta during the month of June, and the Oliver Hardy Festival in October. Compatriot David Shockey requested continued prayers for his father and Cmdr. Herron requested prayer for Timothy Bowers and Mike Millford's mother-in-law.

The meeting was adjourned by Commander Herron. After the benediction, the camp sang *Dixie*.

The Wig Wag

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<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

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Editor



Happy Jefferson Davis' Birthday June 3rd

145 YEARS AGO: Battle of Palmito Ranch, Texas

- 10 May 1865: President Davis is captured by Union cavalry near Irwinville, Georgia.
Confederate troops in Tallahassee, Florida surrender to Union forces.
- 11 May 1865: Confederate partisan M. Jeff Thompson surrenders at Chalk Bluff, Arkansas.
- 12 May 1865: Last major land engagement of the war, the battle of Palmito Ranch near Brownsville, Texas: It is a Confederate victory.
- 24 May 1865: Skirmish at Monticello, Arkansas
- 25 May 1865: Twenty tons of powder explodes in Mobile causing 300 casualties and 5 million dollars in damage.
- 26 May 1865: Lt. Gen. S. B. Buckner surrenders the Confederate army of the Trans-Mississippi for Gen. E. Kirby-Smith in New Orleans.
- 2 June 1865: Lt. Gen. E. Kirby Smith surrenders the Confederate Trans-Mississippi Department in Galveston, Texas .
- 6 June 1865: Guerilla leader William C. Quantrill dies of wounds received one month earlier in Louisville, Kentucky.

Right: The purported battle flag of the 18th Louisiana Infantry Regiment. When the regiment was disbanded on May 19, 1865, the flag was torn into ten sections to prevent its surrender and a section was given to each of the ten company commanders. One of the sections is on display in New Orleans' Confederate Museum.

Next Camp Meeting Thursday, May 13th at 7:00 PM



Sconyers - Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God.

--Hebrew 6:7 (NIV)

