



BRIGADIER GENERAL E. PORTER ALEXANDER CAMP NO. 158, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

FEBRUARY 2014

★ **Commander's
Comments** ★
by Dr. John Baxley

A good time was had by all at our annual Lee/Jackson Banquet held at Burns UMC fellowship hall on January 24th. Almost 60 compatriots and guests were in attendance to hear the SCV C-I-C Kelly Barrow given an interesting speech on the close relationship between Generals Lee and Jackson. Kelly who grew up in Columbia County and traces his Confederate heritage through Oliver Hardy of Harlem lives in Griffin, Georgia and is a retired history teacher. We were honored to have him swear in our new camp officers, and his cute son and daughter helped with the door prize raffle. "Major" Ron Udell did a great job of leading the color guard of over fifteen compatriots which included members of other camps. Dianne Grigsby is to be commended for providing the table decorations, and the meal prepared by Sammie Arrington of Matthews, Ga. was delicious. Thanks to all who worked diligently to make it a great night especially Lt Cmdr Posey, Quartermaster Joe Winstead, and, now, Past Commander Moncus!

I want to commend Compatriot Moncus for his excellent service as Camp Commander these past two years. I am honored to serve as your commander, and I ask each compatriot's assistance in insuring that our Camp will continue to be successful in fulfilling The Charge. Please contact me at (803)

(Continued on page 3)



LEE/JACKSON BANQUET 2015: Prepared to assume their duties: Alexander Camp officers for the next two years await to be sworn in by C-I-C Barrow during the Camp's annual Lee/Jackson Banquet on January 24th. They are (left to right) Commander Dr. John Baxley, Lt Cmdr. Nick Posey, Chaplain Ben Creech, Quartermaster Joe Winstead, Sgt-at-Arms Billy Belger, Newsletter Editor Dr. Arnold Huskins, Camp Webmaster Terry Bowers, and 2nd Lt Cmdr. David Armour. (Not present: Camp Surgeon Dr. Ed Johnson.)



Top Left: SCV C-I-C Kelly Barrow, the featured speaker, prepares to swear in new Alexander Camp officers. **Top Right:** The Miller family gathers for a photo after the Banquet. **Left:** The Alexander Camp Honor Guard, led by Major Ron Udell, assembles for the opening ceremonies.

Last Camp Meeting

Darlene Dowdy Speaks on the Deportation of the Roswell Mill Workers

During the January 2015 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Darlene Dowdy spoke of the tragic tale of the arrest and deportation of Roswell, Georgia female mill workers and their children by Gen. Sherman in 1864 to the North.

Ms. Dowdy, a native of Anderson County, SC is a member of the the Andrew Pickens Chapter, DAR; the Division Treasurer of the SC UDC, chapter president of the UDC in Belton SC, president of the CWRT of Anderson County, and a living historian portraying a lady of the 1860's.

Ms. Dowdy, who was dressed as a mill worker, began by stating that her presentation may arouse anger or invoke tears. She spoke how Roswell King a Northern born resident of Darien, Ga. ventured into northern Georgia with his son, Barrington, searching for gold and discovered the swift waters of Vickery Creek. They later returned, settled in the area and created the Roswell Manufacturing Company utilizing the waters to power three mills which produced textile from cotton and wool. At maximum capacity, the mills produced 30,000 yards of cloth per month and the estimated value of the machinery in the factories was \$400,000. Barrington built a white columned mansion on the town square named after his father and named it "Barrington Hall" which might have been the inspiration for Margaret Mitchell's "Tara".

At the outbreak of the War, the three mills employed 400 women who worked 12-14 hours per day, six days a week. They lived in company houses and were paid in scrip which was only valid at the company store. Uneducated and unskilled, the workers primarily of Scotch-Irish descent lived lives only better than slaves. However, three militia units answered the call from Roswell: the Roswell Guards, the Roswell Battalion, and the Roswell Troopers.

During the Atlanta Campaign, the city was captured by Union General Kenner Garrard on July 5th who found French flags being flown over the factories. After finding cloth with the initials, "CSA" on it, he ordered the three mills burned and Gen. Sherman ordered its workers arrested, charged with treason and deported to the North. Thirteen wagons were employed to transport the women along with their children to the abandoned Georgia Military Institute where they were imprisoned for a week. While there, several of the women endured assaults by their Yankee captors. Having been given nine days rations,

(Continued on page 3)

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

- 22 February: Confederacy Day
George Washington's Birthday
- 4 March: Confederate Flag Day—Fly the flag!

Coming Events:

12 February: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting
Topic: *The Day the War Stopped*
7:00 PM at Sconyers Barbecue

14 February: Firing on Columbia, SC re-enactment
Noon at Gervais St. Bridge

21 February: SCV Recruiting Seminar
9:00 AM at Elm Springs, Tenn.

21-22 February: Battle of Aiken re-enactment
<http://www.battleofaiken.org/>

28 February: Sherman's March Tour, 9:00 AM
East Georgia State College
Swainsboro, Ga.

31 Feb-1 March: Battle for Broxton Bridge re-enactment
<http://broxtonbridge.com/reenactment.htm>

7-8 March: Reenactment of Battle of Natural Bridge
Woodville, Fla.
<http://www.exploresouthernhistory.com/nbreenactment.html>

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

- 7 February: Leroy P. Walker, Secy. War
- 8 February: LGen Richard S. Ewell
BGen Barnard E. Bee*
- 11 February: **Alexander H. Stephens**, Vice-Pres.
- 12 February: MGen Robert Ransom Jr.
- 16 February: MGen James P. Anderson
MGen Camille A.J.M. Polignac
- 18 February: BGen Lewis A. Armistead*
BGen Jean J.A. Mouton*
BGen James Deshler*
- 20 February: BGen James B. Terrill*
- 21 February: BGen John H. Winder*
- 22 February: **President George Washington**
- 25 February: George A. Trenholm, Secy. Tres
- 1 March: George Davis, Atty. Gen.
MGen. James F. Fagan.
BGen. Hiram B. Granbury*
- 4 March: BGen. Elisha F. "Bull" Paxton*
- 5 March: BGen John Dunovant*
- 7 March: MGen. Henry D. Clayton
- 8 March: MGen. Matthew C. Butler

* Died in Confederate Service



NC's YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly Votes to remove Robert E. Lee's Name from Hall

The Board of the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, NC has voted to change the name of Robert E. Lee Hall to Eureka Hall.

This obviously "politically correct" action was done by the Board who felt that the name should be changed if the Lee name "makes some we serve feel less than welcome." Apparently, they do not care whether those who take pride in their Southern heritage are welcome.

The Assembly was founded in 1906 by William Weatherford, a devout Christian who chose the name, Robert E. Lee, for its premier building on the 1,200 acre campus because Lee was a "committed educator and a strong and respected leader".

The Board will decide a new name for the Hall in three years. "Eureka" was chosen as the temporary name because it is believed Weatherford exclaimed such when he first saw his training ground for YMCA professionals.

The Assembly hosts 30,000 guests each year and a variety of religious groups to include Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims.

Compatriots interested in contacting YMCA Blue Ridge to express their disappointment in their actions should call (828) 669-8422 or email the CEO Kurt Eckel at keckel@yblueridge.org.

Arkansas House Committee Rejects Proposal to Remove Lee Birthday from State Holiday

On January 28th, the Arkansas House State Agencies and Government Affairs Committee rejected a proposal that would have removed Robert E. Lee from the state holiday which jointly celebrates the lives of Lee and Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

According to news reports, "opponents of the measure packed the committee hearing room." which included the Arkansas Division SCV which was instrumental in its opposition to the change.

Republican Rep. Nate Bell, who along with Democratic Rep. Fredrick J. Love, introduced the bill, stated honoring both men on the same day "highlights racial divides". Bell's bill would not have created a separate holiday for Lee; however, legislators considered an alternative proposal to honor both Lee and Gen. Patrick Cleburne, the Irish born Confederate general from Helena who was killed at Franklin, with a separate holiday.

John Crain, an attorney from Mountain Home, said that removing General Lee from the holiday would mean that, "my ancestry and my heritage is not worth honoring.

Commander's Comments (continued from page 1)

295-3719 if you have any questions or suggestions.

On February 26th at 6:30 PM we will have an officers' meeting at Bobby's Barbecue at 1897 Jefferson Davis Highway on Highway 1 between Aiken and Augusta. All camp members are encouraged to attend including past officers. We will meet in the Carolina Room for privacy.

Our next meeting will be at Sconyer's Barbecue on February 12th. Make plans to be there and bring a guest!

Last Month's Meeting (continued from page 2)

the 400 prisoners were loaded into boxcars and deported to Louisville, Kentucky and Indiana. They were initially housed in barracks often in unsanitary conditions with no clean water, palatable food, bedding or schools for the children. As a result, many died from exposure or various illnesses. When they were released, they took menial jobs to survive and established new lives in the North and often remarried. Only a few were ever able to return to Georgia.

In 1998, the Roswell Mill Camp #1547 SCV erected a monument to the memory of the Roswell Mill workers and their children in Roswell Mill Village Park.

Commander David Moncus reminded the Camp of the upcoming Lee/Jackson Banquet which will be held at Burns UMC Fellowship Hall on January 24 at 7:00 PM and the Gen. Robert E. Lee Birthday March to be held in Milledgeville on January 17th. He discussed the problematic issue within the Georgia Division regarding Ray McBerry's continual insistence that he is legally Division Commander despite the GEC's decision to the contrary. Moncus stated that he forgot to include the additional officer positions of Camp Webmaster, Judge Advocate, and Sgt-at-Arms during November's camp elections. He commended Compatriot Terry Bowers for his excellent work as Camp Webmaster and stated that Bowers has volunteered to continue to serve in that position.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead spoke of the ongoing problems with the base pool and pump of the memorial fountain in the Confederate Cemetery and stated that the base needs to be entirely rebuilt. He made a motion that the camp should develop a formal request for Division tag funds to help complete the costly task. The motion was seconded, and approved by majority voice vote of those in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned by Cmdr. Moncus. Following the benediction, *Dixie* was sung by the Camp.

	Alexander Camp's Confederate Memorial Day Service April 25, 2015 at 11:45 AM Magnolia Cemetery Guest Speaker: Jack Marlar
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The Wig Wag

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Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

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Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.
Editor



Happy George Washington's Birthday

**Remembering Our African-American
Confederate Heritage!**

150 YEARS AGO: The Burning of Columbia, SC

- 10 February 1865: Capt. Raphael Semmes is appointed Rear Admiral in CSN
- 11 February 1865: Battle of Aiken, SC: Wheeler defeats Gen. Kilpatrick
- 12 February 1865: Five blockade runners sail from Nassau toward Charleston.
Only one will reach its destination.
- 15 February 1865: Battle of Congaree Creek, SC
- 17 February 1865: Columbia, SC is occupied by Sherman troops and 2/3rds of the city is looted and burned
- 18 February 1865: After 567 days of continuous land-sea attack, the city of Charleston, SC is evacuated by Confederate troops
- 20 February 1865: Confederates attack Union held Fort Myers, Florida
- 21 February 1865: BGen Douglas H. Cooper is assigned to command of the District of the Indian Territory
- 22 February 1865: After a bombardment by gunboats, the city of Wilmington falls to Union forces
- 24 February 1865: Camden, SC is burned by Sherman's forces
- 25 February 1865: Gen. Joseph Johnston assumes command of the Army of Tenn.
- 2 March 1865: Gen. Lee writes Gen. Grant to propose a military convention to open peace negotiations. Lincoln rejects Lee's proposal.
Battle of Waynesboro, Va. Sheridan scatters Gen. Early's forces.
- 4 March 1865: CS Congress approves design revision for final national flag
- 6 March 1865: Battle of Natural Bridge, Fla. Confederate militia repulse two Union assaults saving Tallahassee from occupation.

Right: Gen. Jubal Early's Headquarters Flag: This second national pattern flag was captured during the battle of Waynesboro, Va., on March 2, 1865 by Capt. Christopher C. Bruton, Co. C, 22nd NY Cavalry. Two days later the Confederate Congress would approve the addition of a vertical red bar to the fly which proved to be the final change to the national flag.

Next Camp Meeting

**Thursday,
February 12th
at 7:00 PM**



Sconyers Barbecue
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard

Scripture Thought

Bear with each other and forgive one another...as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues, put on love...

--Colossians 3: 13-14a.

