



★ **Commander's
Comments** ★
by David Moncus

April is Confederate Heritage Month. There will be plenty of opportunities to participate in a Confederate heritage celebration somewhere. There are two very important ones right here in our area. The first will be ours on Saturday, April 20th, which should see everyone of us and as many family and/or friends as possible at Magnolia Cemetery. Secondly, will be our support of John and Emma Givens' efforts to keep a memorial service going in Hephzibah on April 27th. Remember, your commitment to "The Charge" given to us by our Confederate ancestors in 1906 which states that we will insure the "defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history". There is no better place to demonstrate these commitments than at a memorial service in a cemetery full of Confederate veterans.

Remember the whole liberal establishment is trying to demonize our ancestors under the guise of attacking our Confederate flags. Also remember, if they can get people to buy into the argument that our Confederate flags are evil then it will be easier to sell the argument that the men who fought under those banners had to be evil. The larger our crowds, the greater voice we will have in our fight against these lies. Remember, liberals are socialists and communists. They care nothing about true history. They only want to destroy

(Continued on page 3)

Editorial: Confederate Memorial Day

Not Always "Fun" Yet Worthy of Our Efforts

Recently, I was told by someone that their reason for their decision to discontinue their participation in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and its activities to remember our soldier-ancestors was that "it was not fun anymore." Though I highly regard this individual's opinion, their comments seemed incomprehensible, for though I have experienced great satisfaction and contentment while fulfilling "The Charge" and performing my SCV related duties, I have never considered my membership in the SCV to be "fun". On the contrary, what we do as members of the SCV is serious business.

I would suppose that prior to the 1960's, membership in the SCV could have been described as "fun", for most of American society considered the heroism and exploits of the Confederate soldier to be part of a shared national heritage and reflective of America's proud military tradition. Movies, shows, books and songs portrayed our ancestors in a positive light and high school students all across the country were proud to be "Rebels." Incidentally, during that time, SCV membership was surprisingly low.

However, in the late 70's, the prevailing attitudes began to change as empowered activists, having achieved their initial goals and hoping to fill their dwindling coffers by increasing the membership in whatever "civil rights" organization they belonged, began to attack Confederate flags and symbols. They were joined by academic liberals who taught their students untruths, wrote books that were critical of our Southern forbearers and raised victimization to a new national level. As these forces infiltrated the universities, the media became their tool and anti-Confederate propaganda reached a whole new level of acrimony to those of us who knew the truth and were proud of ancestors' struggle for independence. Employing the catch words, "racism," "bigotry" and "slavery" whenever the flag or the Confederacy became news worthy, the media pursued its own agenda to culturally cleanse the South of its proud heritage. This was followed by politicians and elected officials who, in their grasp for votes and in fear of being called the "R" word—even those who were once proud of their Southern heritage—to capitulate to the whims of the "perpetually offended".

Today, the forces arrayed against the flag and our Confederate heritage is staggering to comprehend. Like our ancestors' experience in the last year of the war, the heritage violations seem to outnumber

(See "Worthy" on page 3)

Camp Meeting

Mrs. Diane Brady Discusses the Confederate Submarine, *H.L. Hunley*

During the March meeting of the Alexander Camp, Mrs. Diane Brady, newspaper columnist, author, marketing manager and theatrical performer gave a PowerPoint presentation on the topic, "The CSS *Hunley*: Its History and its Mystery". She began by thanking the Camp for its role in keeping Southern traditions alive and stating that the *H. L. Hunley*, which is presently owned by the US Navy, was the pride of the Confederate Navy. Novelist Clive Cussler searched for the famous submarine for fourteen years and his team, the National Underwater Marine Agency, finally found it in 1995. Mrs. Brady stated the *Hunley* was the first submarine to sink a ship—a feat not repeated again until 50 years later. She stated the design of the vessel was innovative and the crew had experimented with electro-chemical batteries to power the vessel. Brady discussed the development of the submarine, its inventor, and its various crews and stated the Confederate Secret Service was involved in the project. She spoke of the recent discovery of the damaged copper sleeve at end of the spar which suggests the explosion was more forceful than presumed. She did not think the explosion critically damaged the submarine even though it was only 18 feet away. Brady stated that initially it was thought that some of the crewmen were European; however, it appears the men had been feted by Europeans in Charleston before embarking on their mission to sink the USS *Housatonic*. She stated it was the Lord's will that the submarine was covered with silt and hidden for so many years before it was found as it preserved the *Hunley* and its crew until such a time as proper preservation efforts could be developed.

Following her excellent presentation, Mrs. Brady was presented a Confederate Powder Works fly ash bottle by Lt Cmdr. Posey.

Lt Cmdr Posey, who presided over the meeting, stated he had sent emails to nearby camps encouraging them to buy memorial pavers. He reported that Camp webmaster, Terry Bowers, has created an area on the Camp's web site where compatriots may display a brief biography of his Confederate ancestor. Posey commented that flyers for the Camp's Confederate Memorial Day events were available and that the service will be held on May 20th

(Continued on page 3)

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

- 17 April: Virginia Secession Day
- 26 April: **Confederate Memorial Day** (Ala., Fla., Ga., Miss.)
- 6 May: Arkansas Secession Day

Coming Events:

13 April: Cemetery Clean-up Magnolia Cemetery

National Confederate Memorial Day Service
1:00 PM
Stone Mountain, Ga.

18 April: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting
Topic: TBA
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue

20 April: Camp's Confederate Memorial Day Service
11:00 AM: Heritage March
11:45 AM: Magnolia Cemetery Service

26 April: Confederate Memorial Day event at Powderworks Chimney @ 11: 00 AM

4 May: Confederate Memorial Day Services
Noon, State House
Columbia, SC

4-5 May: Battle for Columbia re-enactment

27 May: US Memorial Day Service
11:00 AM at All Wars' Monument
Augusta

7-9 June: Georgia Division Reunion
Statesboro, Georgia
<http://ogeecheerifles.com>

Notable Confederate Birthdays: *Died in CSA Service

- 10 April: LGen. Leonidas Polk*
- BGen. Thomas R. R. Cobb*
- BGen. James E. Rains*
- 12 April: BGen. George B. Anderson*
- 13 April: BGen. Leroy A. Stafford*
- 13 April: **President Thomas Jefferson**
- 15 April: Joseph E. Brown, Gov. Ga.
- 17 April: BGen. Philip St. George Cocke*
- 21 April: Robert M. Hunter, Secy. State
- 23 April: John G. Shorter, Gov. Ala.
- 25 April: BGen. James Dearing*
- 26 April: **MGen. Ambrose R. Wright**
- 1 May: MGen. John Bankhead Magruder
- 7 May: Varina Howell Davis, First Lady



Governor Authorizes Removal of Confederate Battle Flag from Historic Display in North Carolina's Old Capitol

On March 31st, North Carolina's Governor authorized the removal of a replica of the Army of Northern Virginia's battle flag from the old North Carolina Capitol building after the NC NAACP President William Barber, whose ignorance of history is egregious, complained about its presence. The flag was placed in the historic capitol to mark the sesquicentennial of the War Between the States and was to be removed in April 2015 to mark the anniversary of the arrival of Federal troops in Raleigh.

The flag was part of a display to portray the capitol as it was detailed in the diary of a Tarheel woman who visited the Capitol in 1863. The display included a replica of a large Union flag that was captured by Confederate troops at the Battle of Plymouth.

Governor Pat McCrory's administration, which initially defended the display, quickly capitulated to Barber's demands despite the fact that the Ohio-born Republican will never receive one vote from Barber's ilk. A spokeswoman for the governor said the flag will probably be relocated to the NC Museum of History. Given the fact that the Old Capitol serves as a museum, its display in the Museum of History is precarious when "civil rights activists" are easily "offended." Weren't they advocating that the flag be placed in a museum in the first place?

Contact Gov. McCrory and let him know how you feel about the removal of the flag at:

<http://www.governor.state.nc.us/contact/email-pat>

Worthy (continued from page 1)

our victories, and all of us in the Southern heritage community have experienced the sleepless nights of frustration, sorrow and anger whenever a flag or monument is removed. No, it is not "fun" to be a member of the SCV, nor will it continue to be. However, if there is one word to describe our involvement in this organization, it would be "joy". Joy in knowing we did our duty as descendants of those brave men and that it was right to do so.

All of us can experience that joy on Saturday, April 20th, when the BGen E Porter Alexander Camp will hold its annual Memorial March at 11:00 and its Confederate Memorial Day ceremony at 11:45 in Magnolia Cemetery. Like our ancestors of yesteryear whose struggle for freedom was rarely "fun", let us endeavor to fulfill their last request that their lives and their sacrifices would not be forgotten. In doing so, come experience the joy of fulfilled commitment and shared commonality.

Commander's Comments (Continued from page 1)

our freedom.

June will be here before we know it and with it will come our Georgia Division Reunion. This year it will be close to home in Statesboro, and I hope that many of you will make the effort to attend. We will be discussing this at the next two meetings. As one of the largest camps in the division, it is important for us to make a strong showing of our commitment to the SCV. If you have never been, it will be a great opportunity for you to ride over and see how things get done.

Remember we have cemetery clean up scheduled for April 13th at 9:00 A.M. Please plan to attend and support the effort to have the cemetery in great shape for the memorial service. The more people that we have, the quicker the work will get done. It is also a good time to fellowship with other camp members. Just bring rakes, shovels, weed eaters and mowers and someone will direct you in what needs to get done.

A special thanks to Nick Posey for all the extra work that he does for our camp. His dedication to making Camp #158 the great camp that it is puts us all to shame. So follow his example and just show up for any and all camp events. Become a participator and we will have a better camp.

Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

with Compatriot Don Gordon of SC as the principal speaker. Cemetery clean up dates will be April 6th and 26th. He asked that the Camp keep in prayer Compatriots John Gibbons and Mike Mull, both of whom are recuperating after recent hospitalization. He also requested prayers for Division Chaplain Jim Cavanah who has been diagnosed with cancer. Posey discussed whether the Camp's roadside cleanup on Augusta West Parkway project should be discontinued. Past Cmdr Ron Udell stated he believed it should continue as it is the only time the real Georgia flag is flown in public. The decision was made to continue the project and Compatriot John Sweat volunteered to be its coordinator.

Lt Cmdr Posey suggested a donation of \$100 be given to the Memphis Heritage Defense Fund and a motion was made, seconded and approved by the camp. He also suggested that the Camp donate \$50 to the Walker Family Cemetery Trust Fund which maintains the cemetery near Augusta State University where Gen. William Walker is buried. A motion was made, seconded and approved by the Camp.

Adjutant Posey stated that the camp now has 105 members with the re-instatement of Compatriot Roger Combs.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead reported the Camp Store did very well at the Broxton Bridge re-enactment. He stated he plans to be at the Redneck Festival on May 4th.

It was reported that the Confederate flag has not been changed in the Confederate section of Magnolia cemetery.

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

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<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

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Editor



April is Confederate History and Heritage Month

Confederate Memorial Day: April 26th

150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia

- 12 April 1863: Gen. Longstreet surrounds the Union held city of Suffolk, Va.
- 14 April 1863: Battle of Centreville, La.
- 15 April 1863: CSS *Alabama* takes two whalers off the coast of Brazil
- 20 April 1863: BGen. Robert Hoke captures Plymouth, NC and its 2800 Union garrison
- 22 April 1863: "Tax in Plan" passed by CS Senate requires 10% of all goods produced or grown be given to the government
- 1-4 May 1863: Battle of Chancellorsville, Va. Begins; Lee defeats Hooker
- 1 May 1863: Second National Confederate flag, the "Stainless Banner," adopted
- Battle of Port Gibson, Miss. Grant secures beachhead on the march to Jackson and Vicksburg
- Battle of Chalk Bluff, Ark. Gen. Marmaduke repulses Union Gen. Vandever
- 2 May 1863: Gen. "Stonewall Jackson" is accidentally wounded three times
- 3 May 1863: Second battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Salem Church, Va.
- 4 May 1863: Battle of Banks Ford, Va.
- 5 May 1863: Ohio Peace Democrat, Clement Vallandigham, arrested by the Federal Army for criticizing Lincoln and the war effort

Right: The battle flag of the 18th Mississippi Infantry Regiment was captured by the 77th New York Infantry on May 3, 1863 during the second battle of Fredericksburg (during the Chancellorsville campaign) at the stone wall on Marye's Heights in which 25 were killed, 43 wounded and almost the entire regiment captured. "A more heroic struggle was never made by a mere handful of men against overwhelming odds" BGen William Barksdale, brigade commander, stated after the battle.

Next Camp Meeting

Thursday

April 18th

at 7:00 PM



Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit that dwells in you.

--Romans 8:11(NIV)

