

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

I hope that everyone is having a good Confederate History Month. I hope that by now you have heard that our Confederate Memorial Service date has been changed to April 19th. I was notified by a camp member that there was going to be an undesirable music concert at the Augusta Fair Grounds on April 26<sup>th</sup>, and due to the loudness and less than decent lyrics that would be put forth, I decided to change the date for our service to Saturday, April 19th at 11:45 AM. The memorial service in Hephzibah will still be on Sunday, April 27th at 2:00 p.m. It is not often that we get the chance to have our memorial service on the day that the state of Georgia designates as Confederate Memorial Day (April 26th) and that is the main reason that I was hoping to be able to have it on that date. We still plan to march from the Confederate Monument on Broad Street at 11:00 AM so try and be there at 10:30 AM. Our service at the cemetery is scheduled to start at 11:45. Once again, remember the date is Saturday, April 19th. Please be there and bring someone with you so that we can show strength in numbers.

We really need some help at the cemetery to get it in shape for the service. As announced at our last meeting, we would have a cleanup day on Saturday, April 5th. Unfortunately, **nobody** showed up to help so I did the best that I could do by myself. I was only able to get the grass cut and weed

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*Editor's Note: The following is a Confederate Memorial Day address given by Michael Tuggle in 2008 to an SCV Camp in Thomasville, NC. As we remember our Confederate ancestors this month, his comments, which are edited for brevity, are indeed timely.*

### Why We Observe Confederate Memorial Day

Honoring our families and their place in history is what Confederate Memorial Day is all about.

It is that sense of belonging, of community, and duty that made our Confederate ancestors the heroes that they are. And our message today is that their Cause is not over. The South is still alive. We are still here, we are still Southerners, and some people can't stand it. Despite the odds, we are still a distinct people. If you compare the election maps of the 1860 and 2004, you'll see they've hardly changed east of the Mississippi. Southerners are predominantly Scots-Irish. Senator James Webb of Virginia wrote a book about us entitled "Born Fighting" stating that the Scots-Irish are "family-oriented, take morality seriously, go to church, join the US military, support America's wars, and listen to country music." In other words, we're the heart and body of America.

Observances like this are occurring all over the South, and they're not just celebrating who we were, but what we are today. Honoring our Confederate heroes says a great deal about our role models, about what we aspire to be. I'd like to take a somewhat different look at these heroes through the wisdom of another Southerner you may not have heard of.

Edward O. Wilson is a Harvard Professor who was born in Alabama and studies insects. He founded the study of sociobiology, which focuses on the biological basis of behavior. Wilson wanted to explain altruism--the sacrifice of oneself for others. Why do soldier ants fight and die for their colony? Why do parents risk their lives for their children? Why do warriors risk their lives for their tribe? Wilson's research has influenced not only the fields of biology and ecology, but also psychology, sociology, and political theory.

Little attention has been given to how his Southern upbringing influenced his career and his thought. In his autobiography, Dr. Wilson wrote about his childhood in Alabama:

*Young men could aspire to no higher calling than officer rank in the military. The South continued her antebellum dream of the officer and gentleman, honorable, brave, unswerving in service to God and country. He comes to our mind, the newly graduated second lieutenant, clad in dress white, escorting his bride, pretty and sweet, out of the church beneath the raised crossed sabers of his classmates, as his proud family watches. His conduct will henceforth affirm the generally understood historical truth that we lost the War Between the States for lack of arms and the*

(See **Why CMD** on page 4)

## *Last Camp Meeting*

### **Confederate Engineer Re-enactor, Evan Castle, Speaks on Stonewall's Mapmaker, Jedidiah Hotchkiss**

During the March 2014 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Mr. Evan Castle, a Confederate engineer re-enactor, fellow compatriot, and surveyor for 40 years, spoke to the camp about Jedidiah Hotchkiss, "Stonewall" Jackson's mapmaker.

Hotchkiss was a Northerner—born in Windsor, New York—who toured the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia one summer and decided to make it his home. At the age of 19, he became headmaster of a school in Harrisonburg where he taught surveying and geology. In 1859, he and his brother started a school in Churchville; however, the War preempted their plans and "Jed" stayed in the Confederacy, having been a Virginian for 13 years, while his brother returned to the North.

Though he never officially enlisted in the army, Hotchkiss initially served as a teamster. He offered his services as a topographer to Gen. Richard Garnett until an episode of typhoid fever waylaid the thirty three year old. He returned to military service in 1862 as an officer when Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson asked him to make a map of the Shenandoah Valley—a feat which had never done before. Hotchkiss completed the task on horseback naming every farmhouse, ford and bridge, yet only two roads were named. The map was 8.25 x 3.5 feet and based on ratios and not scales. A devout Christian, Hotchkiss and Jackson had a close friendship, and he directed troop movements and led the flank attack at Chancellorsville. Interestingly, before his death, Jackson asked Hotchkiss to make a map from Winchester, Va. to Philadelphia, Pa.

Hotchkiss continued to serve various Confederate commanders after Jackson's death to include Gens. Lee and Early and was instrumental in the Confederate surprise attack at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Va. After the war, he was involved in economic activities to promote recovery of the war-ravaged Shenandoah Valley and opened an office as a civil and mining consulting engineer. The Yankee Confederate, Hotchkiss, died in 1899 at the age of 70 and was buried facing south.

Following his presentation, Mr. Castle displayed period surveying and mapping equipment and a Hale rocket launcher which was accurate for one mile. In apprecia-

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### *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:**

**12 April: National Confederate Memorial Day Service @ 1:00 PM**  
Stone Mountain, Georgia

**17 April: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting**  
**Topic: SC's Reconstruction 1865-1877**  
**7:00 PM**  
Sconyers Barbecue

**19 April: \*\*\*Alexander Camp's Annual Confederate Memorial Day Service\*\*\***  
**Memorial March 11:00 AM**  
**Magnolia Cemetery 11:45 AM**

**27 April: Confederate Memorial Day Service**  
**2:00 PM**  
**Hephzibah, Georgia**

**Ambrose Wright Camp CMD Service**  
**2:00 PM**  
**Columbia County Library**

**5 May: Confederate Memorial Service**  
**Noon at the State House**  
**Columbia, SC**

**16-18 May: 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Resaca re-enactment**

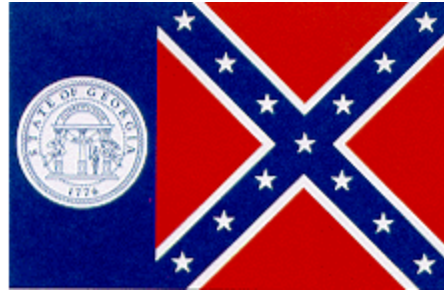
[http://www.georgiadivision.org/bor\\_reenactment.html](http://www.georgiadivision.org/bor_reenactment.html)

**13-14 June: Georgia Division SCV Reunion**  
**Columbus, Georgia**

### **Notable Confederate Birthdays:**

- 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\*
- 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

\*Died in Confederate Service



# CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

&

## ANNUAL SOUTHERN HERITAGE MARCH

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2014**

### MAGNOLIA CEMETERY

**3<sup>RD</sup> STREET & WALTON WAY - AUGUSTA, GEORGIA**

THIS SERVICE IS IN HONOR OF THE BRAVE CONFEDERATE AMERICANS IN GRAY WHO FOUGHT AND DIED FOR THE SOUTHERN CAUSE.

OUR SOUTHERN HERITAGE MARCH WILL BEGIN AT **11:00 A.M.** ON BROAD STREET AT THE BASE OF THE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT, LOCATED BETWEEN 7th & 8th STREETS, AND WILL END AT THE CONFEDERATE DEAD SECTION IN MAGNOLIA CEMETERY. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

Seating for the memorial service will be available at 10:30 a.m., at the Speaker's Platform located adjacent to the Confederate Dead Section in Magnolia Cemetery.

**Memorial Service starts at 11:45 a.m.**

\*\*\*\*\* Program Speaker \*\*\*\*\*

*Mrs. Betty Jane Miller – Past President of Bratton-Jenkins  
United Daughters of the Confederacy Chapter 1782 in Ehrhardt, South Carolina.*

For additional information call: **706-840-9439** or **706-294-7813**

This Event is Sponsored By:

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

**Sons of Confederate Veterans - Augusta, Georgia**

The Sons of Confederate Veterans reserves the right to approve flags & banners carried in the Southern Heritage March, and flags displayed at Magnolia Cemetery during the memorial service. We also reserve the right to restrict the participation of anyone who does not adhere to proper codes of dress and behavior.



## Why CMD (Continued from page 1)

*and the exhaustion of battle-depleted troops. Our men, and especially our officers, were nonetheless individually the finest soldiers in the world at that time. They were Southerners, men not to be trifled with.*

*Now you understand why commanding officers interviewed on television at Vietnam firebases so often spoke with Southern accents. (Naturalist, p. 18)*

*I have a special regard for altruism and devotion to duty, believing them virtues that exist independent of approval and validation. I am stirred by accounts of soldiers, policemen, and firemen who have died in the line of duty. I can be brought to tears with embarrassing quickness by the solemn ceremonies honoring those heroes. The sight of Iwo Jima and Vietnam Memorials pierces me for the witness they bear of men who gave so much, and who expected so little in life, and the strength ordinary people possess that held civilization together in dangerous times. (p. 25)*

Dr. Wilson's last sentence says much about the worldview that led him forward in his insights into how societies work. The basic teaching of sociobiology, the discipline he founded, is that social behavior can be explained by the biological drive to preserve one's genetic inheritance. Parents sacrifice for their children, and soldiers sacrifice for their nation to ensure the survival of their kin.

Society is held together by the loyalty and affection of extended families--in other words, their blood ties and shared history. This continuity with the past not only provides the individual with identity and purpose, but maintains social order and cohesion, preserving the traditions and way of life that reflect our God-given character as a people.

It is that respect for the history that made you what you are that inspires you to respect your elders, and makes you address them as "sir" and "ma'am". That respect is what holds society together. I would add that the loss of that respect is why society is tearing itself apart these days.

Not long ago, a Northern transplant wrote this letter to the editor:

*I find it disturbing that these white southerners have chosen to identify with their Confederate past. If they wanted truly heroic ancestors to venerate, how about those patriots who defeated the British Empire and created a free nation on this continent? Or the "Greatest Generation," which survived the Depression and won World War II?*

And every now and then, you'll see another slam against the South for honoring the "losers" of the Civil War. As a matter of fact, we Southerners do venerate the heroes of the American Revolution and of World War II. We consider them role models. George Washington's image was on the Confederacy's official seal. Any objective history of the American Revolution will tell you the war was lost in the North, but saved by the South. The next time some know-it-all Yankee tells you we Southerners are traitors, remind him that New York contributed more volunteers to the British Loyalist army than to George Washington's rebel army. The

American Revolution was won in the South through the heroism of such men as Francis Marion, known as the Swamp Fox, and Daniel Morgan, who defeated the British at the Battle of Cowpens. The British met defeat at Yorktown, largely thanks to Southern militias. The principles of 1776 were frequently invoked by Southerners during their own war for independence.

We Southerners have nothing to apologize for. We have sacrificed our flesh and blood for this country far out of proportion of our numbers. That devotion to duty that Dr. Wilson wrote about still inspires young Southern men. We Southerners are only about 25% of the general population, yet the South has provided more than her fair share of troops for the wars the United States has fought. Southerners made up 26% of the armed forces during WWI, 34% during WWII, 35% of the troops in Korea, 36% of the men in Vietnam, and an astounding 41% in the Persian Gulf War.

And what do you think motivated the men who fought to defend their civilization against foreign invasion in World War II? They weren't fighting for an ideology, or some meaningless abstraction. They were instead determined to fight and die to preserve their way of life, their rights, and their existence as a distinct people, rather than submit to foreign conquest. They are heroes to us because they embody the ultimate example of patriotism, which is loyalty to one's own people, their history, their culture, their unique identity.

And that's what our Confederate heroes fought for. Did they lose? Just look around, and you'll see two things--that our culture is still alive--and it's also under attack. That means one thing--that there's a battle for this generation to fight as well.

As for Southerners honoring losers, we're not the only ones, and thank God for that. Think about the 300 Spartans who died holding back the Persian army more than 2,000 years ago, saving Greece, and maybe all of Europe from Asian conquest. Think about the heroes of the Alamo--200 men holding off an army of 3,000, knowing they were risking their lives--which they lost and, the Warsaw uprising 100 years later in Poland? In the middle of WWII, Jews in Warsaw rose up against the Nazis who were murdering their people. They resisted them for five months. All three of these heroic actions ended in defeat and death. But even though they lost their battle, they inspired others who went on to win their greater battles. Greece would have died, and there would never have been a Republic of Texas or an independent Israel if these fighters had not sacrificed themselves for their own people.

Every people has its own heroes, men and women who sacrifice to preserve their heritage. Every people have the right to exist, to be proud of its own, and to strive to continue their heritage into the future. Carrying on a cultural heritage means loving and perpetuating those things that make us what we are, and rejecting those things that diminish our uniqueness. Understanding one's place in the story of one's people gives meaning and direction to our lives.

We hear about young people who are lost in a world of drug addiction and crime. We hear that they feel unconnected to

(See **Why CMD** on page 5)



## Executive Director, Two Board Members Resign from Beauvoir Board

The executive director of Beauvoir, the great great grandson of Jefferson Davis, Betram Hayes-Davis, and two board members, Ed Funchess and Don Barrett, have resigned from the Board of Directors of Beauvoir, the last home of President Jefferson Davis in Biloxi, Mississippi. Additionally, a volunteer, who was named Mississippi's Volunteer of the Year, was dismissed.

Though the local newspaper, *The Sun Herald*, blames the resignations solely on the display of the Confederate battle flag on the property, Mississippi Division SCV Cmdr. Alan Terrell states the resignations were a result of many factors to include the financial future of Beauvoir, which is owned and operated by the Division. However, the volunteer did ask the board to remove a large Confederate battle flag that is prominently displayed on the mansion on specific occasions i.e. Confederate Memorial Day. Cmdr. Terrell remains committed that Beauvoir, as a memorial to Confederate soldiers and sailors, will continue to fly the Confederate battle flag.

## Alexander Camp is Tops in Division Donations!

The Division's newspaper, *The Georgia Confederate*, reported that the E. Porter Alexander Camp's donations to the Georgia Division exceeded those given by all other camps in the Division with a total of \$391. Alexander Camp compatriots are to be commended for their willingness to pay their dues and for their generosity in supporting the Division's projects i.e. Flags Across Georgia, Heritage Defense, Heritage Awareness, and Disaster Relief.

## Why CMD (continued from page 4)

the world, that they do not know who they are. Modern society and political correctness have stolen that from them. I cannot think of a greater crime against young people.

We are here today honoring our Southern heroes, and at the same time, exploring our own connections to our past, to our heroes. These are connections that are vital, noble, and worthy of honor. We are not living in the past, but are instead acknowledging the heroes, the sacrifices, and the loyalties that make our future possible. For that reason, we gather here to proudly say, "God Save the South!"

## Commander's Comments (Continued from page 1)

eating done in the Confederate Dead section. I know that a lot of folks are planning to be at Stone Mountain on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, but if you are not attending that event, please go to the cemetery and support cleanup. If there is anyone who can work down there during the week, please let me know. I will be working down there during the week next week and would be glad to have any help I can get. I still believe that keeping Confederate graves clean and neat is one of the greatest services that we can do in memory of these great men.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We have some important business to discuss, and it would be helpful to have as many members there as possible.

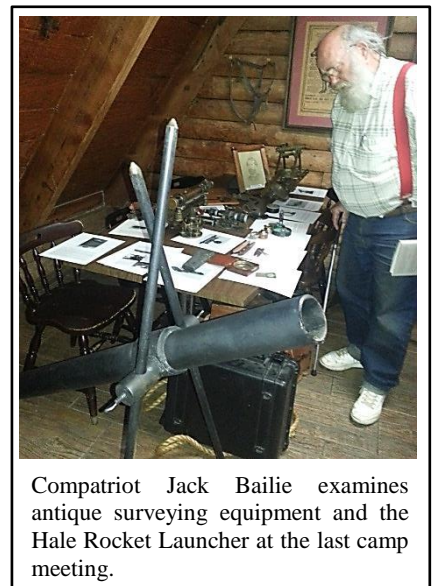
## Last Month's Meeting (continued from page 2)

ation of his efforts, Cmdr Moncus presented Mr. Castle with a flask of fly ash taken from the Confederate Powder Works chimney.

During the meeting there was one application for camp membership: **Michael J. McCann** who joins on the record of his Confederate ancestor, Second Lieutenant Daniel M. Asbury, who served in Company G, 52<sup>nd</sup> North Carolina Infantry Regiment.

Cmdr. Moncus thanked all those who attended the Division's Lee/Jackson Birthday celebration in Milledgeville and the Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet in January. He reported that he gave a program on Confederate railroads to the Montgomery County SCV camp on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Moncus discussed the Division's new SCV license plate which has proven controversial. However, the media attention has brought increased awareness of the plate to the public. He described the devastation in Magnolia Cemetery as a result of the February 12<sup>th</sup> ice storm and set aside April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup> as cemetery clean up days although he stressed anyone can go at any time to improve its condition. The upcoming Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies in the cemetery and in Hephzibah were discussed. Moncus announced that the Camp's permanent projector screen will be installed at Sconyers on March 27<sup>th</sup> and anyone is invited to assist.

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



Compatriot Jack Bailie examines antique surveying equipment and the Hale Rocket Launcher at the last camp meeting.

# The Wig Wag

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**Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158**

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Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.  
*Editor*



**April is Confederate History and Heritage Month**

**Happy Easter!**

**Confederate Memorial Day: April 26th**

## **150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Mansfield, Louisiana**

- 8 April 1864: Battle of Mansfield, La. Confederates under Gen. Richard Taylor routs the Yankees who retreat toward the Mississippi River. Gen Jean Mouton is killed leading a charge.
- 9 April 1864: Battle of Pleasant Hill, La.
- 11 April 1864: Red River Campaign: The Union Army retreats to Grand Ecore, La. After being badly whipped at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill
- 12 April 1864: Gen. Forrest's Cavalry assault and capture Ft. Pillow, Tenn.
- 13 April 1864: Skirmish near Decatur, Alabama
- 17 April 1864: Gen. Grant orders no further exchange of prisoners. Bread riot in Savannah, Ga. involving 50 to 100 women
- 18 April 1864: Battle of Poison Springs, Ark.: Gen. Marmaduke's cavalry routs a large Union Army supply train and capture 198 wagons
- 20 April 1864: Battle of Plymouth, NC: Gen. Robert Hoke captures the town. The US War Department authorizes a reduction in the amount of rations distributed to Confederate prisoners.
- 23 April 1864: Red River Campaign: Heavy engagement at Monett's Ferry, La.
- 25 April 1864: Gen. Kirby-Smith's command captures over 1,000 Federals at Marks' Mill, Arkansas.
- 30 April 1864: Battle of Jenkins' Ferry, Ark: Gen. W. R. Scurry is killed in action. Pres. Davis' son, Joe, dies from a fall at the Confederate White House
- 5 May 1864: Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia begins: Lee meets Grant for the first time

**Right: The battle flag of the 18<sup>th</sup> Louisiana Infantry Regiment** based on a small torn piece of flag that is on display at the Confederate Museum in New Orleans. The unit fought in the battle of Mansfield--where its commander, Colonel Leopold Armant, was killed instantly and the regiment suffered 100 casualties--and in the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana in April 1864.

## **Next Camp Meeting**

**Thursday,  
April 17th  
at 7:00 PM**



**Sconyers Barbecue**  
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

### *Scripture Thought*

...He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...

--1 Peter 1: 3

