



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

Welcome back! I trust that each of you had a pleasant summer holiday enduring the heat and humidity typical of a Southern summer. I hope that you were able to visit a museum, a battlefield or a cemetery where our honored dead are buried, to write a letter to an official or newspaper defending our heritage or attend a memorial dedication ceremony or flag rally.

On July 16th, our Camp's Honor Guard participated in a Confederate memorial marker dedication ceremony in Hartwell, Georgia firing a black powder salute in honor of Pvt. George Washington McMullen of Co. G, 37th Georgia Infantry. Thanks to all those who participated: David Armour, Tommy Chappell, Roger Combs, Ben Creech, Gary Hattaway, Tommy Miller, Sr., and "Major" Ron Udell.

I would also like to commend the "old Rebels" who especially endured the heat and mosquitos to mow, clean and maintain the Confederate Dead and Survivors' sections in Magnolia over the summer. Your efforts fulfill the highest requirements of The Charge!

Thanks to the six Alexander Camp compatriots who forfeited a Saturday and journeyed to Conyers to attend the Georgia Division Reunion on June 11th. A new Division Commander was elected, Scott Gilbert of the Zachry Camp, and our two regional Lt. Commanders and our Fifth Brigade Commander Miller were reelected.

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Georgia Division and National SCV Reunions Bring Changes in Leadership

During the past several months, changes in leadership occurred in both the Georgia Division in June and the International SCV Reunion in July. Past Division Commander Scott K. Gilbert of the Zachry Camp #108 was elected as the new Georgia Division Commander while Philip Autry and Al Perry were re-elected as Lt. Commander Division North and South, respectively. At the National level, Lt. Cmdr. Tom Strain of Alabama was elected as the new Commander-in-Chief and Paul Gramling of Louisiana was elected as the new Lt. Commander without opposition.



Taking a Break from the Heat: Alexander Camp Compatriots attending the Georgia Division Reunion in June included (left to right) Cmdr. John Baxley, Arnold Huskins, Tommy Chappell, Lt. Cmdr. Nick Posey, Ron Udell, Ben Creech and Gary Hattaway

During the Georgia Division two amendments were passed: the W.F. Jenkins Camp #690 was moved to the 3rd Brigade from the 4th, and Brigade commanders will be elected every odd year while Division and Lt. Commanders will be elected every even year. The amendment to increase Division dues to employ a lobbying firm was tabled as it did not meet the required 35 day notice. Reunion attendees, frustrated by this development and realizing the importance of the need for such, decided to make on-the-spot donations to accomplish the same purpose.

Attendees approved funding of two tag fund projects: to replace the deteriorating wooden wheels on the memorial cannon in Marietta Confederate Cemetery with iron ones, and to permit the Division to utilize \$7,000 of the funds to purchase 100 Confederate Crosses of Honor which will be available for sale to the membership at a cost of \$65-\$70 each.

During the National Reunion in Texas, resolutions were passed honoring all law enforcement officers especially the Dallas Police, asking Southern Baptist Churches and their congregations to ignore the recent resolution passed by the SBC and to remember their roots, encouraging heritage promotion, recognizing Cmdr. Kelly Barrow and the General Executive Committee for their efforts in dealing with multiple heritage violations during the past year, and recognizing the local Dallas area host camps and the Texas Division for their efforts which culminated in a successful reunion.

Plans for the new Confederate Museum and executive offices at Elm Springs (See **SCV Reunion** on page 2)

Last Camp Meeting:

Cmdr. Baxley Speaks on “The Medical Care of Soldiers in Augusta during the War”

During the June 2016 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Camp Commander, Dr. John Baxley spoke on the topic, “The Medical Care of Soldiers in Augusta during the War Between the States.”

He began by stating that both the North and the South were unprepared for the medical responsibility that the War would bring. Only five percent of physicians had previously treated a gunshot wound or performed an amputation. By the end of the conflict, two-thirds of the soldiers would die of diseases such as dysentery, typhoid, tuberculosis and measles and 40,000 amputations would be performed with a 25% fatality rate. As a result, the rapid development of prosthetics occurred facilitated by a Confederate soldier from Virginia who lost his leg above the knee to a cannonball. Fitted with a peg leg that proved cumbersome, James Hanger developed a new prosthetic leg made from barrel staves that had hinges at the knee and foot.

Baxley went on to state that the wounded soldiers left on the battlefield after the Battle of First Manassas shocked Augustans and prompted the creation of new medical facilities in the city. Dr. Ebenezer Starnes, Dr. Wilson and Dr. Henry Campbell, and Dr. Ford at the Medical College of Georgia established three Georgia Hospitals and raised money, obtained supplies and sent them to the front in Richmond. Eventually eight military hospitals and a wayside care home for soldiers in transit were created to meet the needs of the injured troops in Augusta. These included the Asylum Hospital near the race track in south Augusta, the Blackie Hospital, and several warehouses near the Armory which were converted to quarantine wards. The City Hotel and Richmond Academy as well as several churches were utilized as medical care facilities, and many citizens, i.e. Gen. James Longstreet’s uncle, offered their homes to care for wounded soldiers.

Lack of medical supplies such as quinine prompted the development of substitutions and poppies were grown in gardens to produce opium. Horse tail hair was used as sutures and maggots were utilized to clean gangrenous wounds. Old bandages were boiled and reused and thus proved to be more effective for their then unknown antiseptic qualities.

During the business meeting, Cmdr. Baxley commended Compatriot Joe Winstead for repairing the flag pole at Confederate Cemetery to make it tamper proof and replacing the battle flag which had been stolen. He made a motion to proceed with the refurbishment of the Confederate Cemetery fountain project and to begin the paperwork to request Division license plate funds for that purpose, which was seconded and

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

Coming Events:

11 August: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting

Topic: The Dahlgren Raid on Richmond

7:00 PM at Sconyers Barbecue

20 August: Brooklet Peanut Festival Parade
9:00 AM

27 August: The Olde South Ball
5:30-11:30 PM at Marriott Hotel
Spartanburg, SC
www.oldsouthball.blogspot.com/

11-13 September: Reenactment of the Battle of Tunnel Hill
2154 Clisby Austin Road
Tunnel Hill, Ga.
<http://www.battleoftunnelhill.com/>

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

10 August: Lt Gen John C. Pemberton

12 August: MGen John H. Forney

14 August: BGen Clement “Rock” Stevens*

19 August: MGen John P. McCown

21 August: BGen. William Barksdale*

3 September: BGen States Rights Gist*

6 September: Col Francis S. Bartow*

5 September: Ben. Tyree H. Bell

MGen William “Extra Billy”

*Died in Confederate Service

approved by the Camp.

2nd Lt Cmdr David Armor announced an upcoming cemetery cleanup for Saturday morning, June 11th.

Lt Cmdr. Posey discussed the proposed amendments to the Division bylaws to be voted upon at the upcoming Georgia Division Reunion and the candidates for various offices. Seven compatriots stated that they would attend the Reunion.

The meeting was adjourned by Cmdr. Baxley. After the benediction by Chaplain Creech, *Dixie* was sung by the Camp.

SCV Reunion (continue from page 1)

were unveiled with the opportunity for compatriot design input at a later date.

The Chief of Heritage Defense reported that \$10,000 was given to the Memphis and New Orleans Camps to assist in their legal battles to preserve the Confederate memorial monuments and the names of parks in their respective cities.

During the Awards Luncheon, our Division newsletter, *The Georgia Confederate*, was awarded the most outstanding Division newsletter in the Confederation.

Compatriots were encouraged to monetarily support the SCV's Museum Fund, the Heritage Defense Fund, the Heritage Promotion Fund, and for Camps to sponsor scholarships for their respective members' children and grandchildren to the Sam Davis Youth Camps.



Southern Baptist Convention Passes Resolution Repudiating Battle Flag

On June 14th, during the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in St. Louis, Resolution #7 was passed that called on "our brothers and sisters in Christ to discontinue the display of the Confederate battle flag as a sign of solidarity with the whole Body of Christ, including our African American brothers and sisters." The resolution was initially presented by a black SBC Pastor, Dwight McKissic of Texas.

Initially the proposed resolution stated "that the Confederate battle flag serves for some not as a symbol of hatred, bigotry, and racism, but as a memorial to their loved ones who died in the Civil War, and an emblem to honor their loved ones' valor." The resolution then urged "brothers and sisters in Christ who display the flag as a memorial to loved ones and families to understand the undeniably painful impact of the flag's symbolism on others, including fellow believers in Christ, and, for the sake of conscience, love, and unity, to consider prayerfully whether to limit, or even more so, discontinue its display." The proposed resolution, however, was changed during debate on the floor of the Convention when a messenger from Georgia, Rev. James Merritt, made a motion to amend the resolution to its present form.

Fortunately, the resolution is not binding on any local SBC congregation or individual's conscience, and it is apparent most churches and SCV members will choose to ignore the resolution.

During the SCV's National Reunion in Dallas, a resolution was passed that condemned the resolution and stated the following:

Whereas the Scriptures compel us to "honor father and mother" (Exodus 20:12) and to "speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15), we who enjoy Confederate ancestry are bound to tell the Truth of our ancestors fight and flag;

The Sons of Confederate Veterans call upon Southern Baptist Congregations to ignore the distraction of SBC Resolution # 7 and to continue in helping their communities to retain historic truth and to honor the men who rebuilt these communities after a tragic War and devastating reconstruction and to move forward with the priorities of Gospel proclamation, building up the fellowship of Faith and the pursuit of a witness of goodwill.

Noted pro-Southern heritage columnist, Al Benson Jr., in an article in *The Copperhead Chronicle* responded to the resolution by stating that the denomination had caved into "cultural Marxism" and remarked that "whatever

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As Compatriot Huskins will no longer be able to continue as editor of *The Wig Wag* in the near future, I hope a dedicated compatriot will consider taking on this task. If you are computer literate, please consider this opportunity to serve your Camp and The Cause via the vitally important position.

Our national, division, and camp membership renewal statements will be mailed this month, and every compatriot should receive one. If you do not receive one, please contact Adjutant Nick Posey. Please insure to complete the insert and be as generous as you are able in funding the various Division projects. The enemies of our heritage have not ceased in their efforts to remove our flags, memorial monuments, and the public names of our Confederate heroes, and we should not falter in our efforts to prevent their cultural cleansing. One of the most significant actions one can take to honor their Confederate ancestor is to renew their membership in the SCV.

Our next Camp meeting will be on August 11th at Sconyers where our speaker will be discussing the Dahlgren Raid on Richmond to kidnap President Davis. I hope to see you there and bring a friend! Have a great Dixie Day and Deo Vindice!

Confederate flags I have...will not be taken down to satisfy the whims of the cultural Marxist crowd that has as its agenda the total destruction of all Southern, Confederate, and Christian culture." He further stated those Christians that give in to them in the name of "inclusiveness" are helping to seal the destruction of their culture and that of their children and grandchildren. And they will live to regret it someday, but by the time they wake up and realize what they have done it may well be way too late and they will discover that they have sold their heritage for a mess of socialist pottage which quite frankly, turns the stomach and sickens the soul."

SCV compatriots, especially those who are Southern Baptist, are urged to contact the SBC to express their disapproval of the discriminatory resolution passed in St. Louis which condemns those Southern Christians who have made it the most prominent Protestant denomination in America today. Please contact the SBC via the following:

The Executive Committee, SBC
Office of Business and Finance
901 Commerce Street
Nashville, TN 37203-3699
615-244-2355

SBC Past President
Pastor Ronnie Floyd
Cross Church-Springdale
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Springdale, AR 72762
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Editor



Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

Confederate Statistics of Defeat*

1. 25% of all white men of military age in the South were killed
2. 4% of the total population of the South was killed during the War
3. 1 of every 19 white Southerners perished during the War
4. 25% of all participants (including blacks) were left incapacitated by the War
5. 25% of the South's general officers were killed during the War
6. The population of the Confederate States dropped by 500,000 during the War
7. More than 10,000 former slave holders abandoned their homes and left the South after the war
8. \$2 billion worth of property (meaning slaves) was lost as a result of the War
9. \$34 million worth of war property was claimed by treasury agents
10. 66% of all assessed wealth, including the market value of slaves, was lost
11. Land was valued a \$3-\$5 an acre after the war, 17% of its value in 1860
12. The real value of all property in the South dropped 30%
13. 500,000 farms and plantations in the South were bankrupt, insolvent or destroyed
14. The price of cotton fell from \$1.25 per pound to less than \$0.20 per pound
15. More than 60% of Southern-based railroad companies were bankrupt and most rail lines were inoperable

*Taken from the *Civil War Book of Lists*

Right: The 12 star wool battle flag of the 18th Georgia Infantry: The 18th Georgia Infantry was organized in 1861 with men from Cobb, Newton, Jackson, Dougherty, Gordon, Dooly and Bartow Counties. Initially they guarded prisoners captured at First Manassas and did garrison duty in Goldsboro, NC but were transferred to the Texas Brigade in November 1861. In late 1862, the unit was attached to the Georgia Brigade. Their flag was captured momentarily during the Battle of Second Manassas on August 30, 1862 by a sergeant in the 5th NY Infantry but was retaken and eventually sent home to Georgia in October 1863.

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, August 11th
at 7:00 PM



Sconyers Barbecue
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

--1 Corinthians 15:58b (NIV)

