



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

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer so far and that everyone enjoyed the break that y'all had in July. It is time to get back down to business.

Camp Chaplain Ben Creech had open heart surgery on Monday, July 19th with four by-passes being performed. I stopped by the hospital to see him on the following Wednesday morning, and you could not even tell he had the surgery. He was up, walking around, talking and doing much better than I expected. I would like to thank everyone who prayed for Ben, and I know Ben appreciates the prayers also! Ben came home on Friday, July 23rd. God does answer prayers!!!

I received an e-mail on July 22nd from Dayton Sherrouse, Executive Director of the Augusta Canal Authority. He stated that the Confederate Powder Works Chimney had been vandalized. One of Augusta's finest was demonstrating his entrepreneurial spirit to some of his thug buddies, and they stole the lower portion of the copper down lead from the lightning protection system. I have not spoken with Dayton as of the 23rd, but will keep y'all updated on the development.

Philip Weaver and I are still working behind the scenes to get the exposed remains of a Confederate soldier exhumed and re-buried in the original grave. He is only buried about 18

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2010 International Reunion: South Carolinian and Georgian Elected to Top Posts

SCV Announces New Fundraising Effort for Museum

The SCV held its International Reunion in Anderson, SC last month, and announced a new initiative to raise funds for the construction of a Confederate Museum and office complex at the SCV National Headquarters at Elm Springs in Columbia, Tennessee.

Three levels of giving were established: The Stonewall Jackson Level requires a donation of at least \$1,000. Members of the original Sesquicentennial Society will be able to reach this level by donating \$850. One may obtain the original Sesquicentennial Society membership and also the new Stonewall Jackson level for \$1050 with \$50 dollars designated for the Bicentennial Fund. The Robert E Lee Level requires a contribution of at least \$5,000, and the Confederate Cabinet Level requires a contribution of at least \$10,000. Membership in the Sesquicentennial Society will be automatic for both these levels.

Donations to this project can be made in either lump sum or by periodic payments. To make payment by credit card, please contact GHQ at 1-800-380-1896 or mail the form with a check. The form can be found at <http://www.theconfederatemuseum.com/founder.pdf>

All donors will receive a Founder of the Confederate Museum pin and their name or organization will be prominently displayed in the Museum. One does not have to be an SCV member to participate.

The first twenty camps or divisions that donate at the Stonewall Jackson Level will be given a special gavel made of historic wood taken from a dam at Fredericksburg, Virginia that dates to the time of the War. These gavels will be inscribed with the Sesquicentennial logo and will be accompanied by a statement of authenticity.

During the Reunion, Michael Givens of South Carolina was elected Commander-in-Chief by acclamation and Kelly Barrow of Georgia was elected as Lt. CIC. Locally, Tom Strain of Tennessee was elected as Army of Tennessee Commander and Larry McCluney of Mississippi was elected AOT Councilman.

Resolutions were passed condemning those who misuse Confederate symbols, condemning Gov. Bobby Jindal of Louisiana for failing to issue a Confederate History Month Proclamation, supporting the Sam Davis Youth Camp and thanking past CIC Chuck McMichael for his service.

The 2011 Reunion will be held in Montgomery, Alabama and the date was changed to July 14th due to a conflict with the host hotel and the flag. The Convention Planning Committee recommended Vicksburg, Mississippi as the site of the 2013 Reunion.

Last Camp Meeting

Elizabeth Young Speaks on the Role of Religion and the War

During the June meeting of the Alexander Camp, Ms. Elizabeth Young, a church secretary with a Masters in History, spoke to the camp on the role of religion during the War Between the States. She stated that religion played a major role in the division between the North and South prior to the War. The 1840's brought a large number of immigrants to America and, subsequently, differing religious thoughts such as transcendentalism, deism, and Unitarianism flourished in the North. Southerners, however, who were influenced by the teachings of Calvin and Luther, considered the Scriptures to be the inerrant word of God and not adverse to the institution of slavery. As a result, these differences caused denominational splits which occurred in all major Christian denominations from 1837 to 1845.

Young related that during the War, the Confederate soldiers' attitude toward matters of faith was much more positive than their Northern counterparts, and Confederate chaplains were considered some of the most essential men in the ranks. Revivalism spread in the Confederate Army predominately in two periods: from late 1862 until the battle of Chancellorsville with 15,000 conversions to Christianity and daily baptisms, and from 1863 until 1864 where thousands made professions of faith. Most notable of these was the Dalton Revival which occurred in the Army of Tennessee in the winter of 1864. After the war, 60 former Confederate soldiers entered into theological training enabling the South to eventually be known by its moniker as the "Bible Belt."

Young sadly stated Union soldiers were more apt to desecrate or burn Southern church buildings or utilize them as stables, storehouses, or barracks.

In closing, Young mentioned the National Civil War Chaplain's Museum in Lynchburg, Virginia.

During the meeting, a certificate of membership was presented to **Thomas T. Cook** who joined the camp on the record of the great great grandfather, 2nd Lt. Theo-

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The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

Coming Events:

**12 August: BGen E. Porter Alexander
Camp #158 Meeting
Topic: "Water Wars of the Carolinas"
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**14 August: Camp Roadside Clean-up on Augusta
West Parkway
8:00 AM**

**9 October: Confederate Powder Works
Rededication Ceremony
2:00 PM**

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" Smith
- 7 September: MGen Howell Cobb II

*Died in Confederate Service

dore F. Daniel of Burke County who served in Cobb's Legion.

During the commander's report, Cmdr. Herron discussed the upcoming Georgia Division Reunion in Milledgeville. He suggested that all proposed amendments be voted down except for #3. He stated there were five projects under consideration for SCV tag fund monies and recommended three of them: replacement of headstones at Stone Mountain Confederate cemetery, the restoration of the Appling County Confederate Monument, and the restoration of the Screven County Confederate Monument. Herron announced that the Sam Davis Youth Camp will be held in Batesburg-Leesville, SC at Camp Kinard from July 4th-9th with the cost being \$495 per attendee. Compatriot Tom Smith and his wife, Gail, volunteered to sponsor Kenny Kitchens, and Compatriot Joe Winstead donated \$100 to enable Allison Herron to attend. Prior to the meeting, Herron requested prayers for Jules Godene, Timothy Bowers, and Henry Gilmer.

During officer reports, Compatriot Ron Udell reported that the Honor Guard participated in two memorial services: one at Beech Island, SC and another on May 31st during Memorial Day services on Broad Street in Augusta. Quartermaster Joe Winstead reported that he plans to be at the Redneck Festival on June 26th.

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



Glenn Beck Gets it Wrong Regarding Confederate Constitution

Recently, conservative libertarian Glenn Beck on his program on the Fox News Channel stated that he had read an actual original copy of the Confederate Constitution. However, his subsequent commentary on the subject makes one wonder if he did. He stated, incorrectly, that the informal title of the document is the “Slaveholders’ Constitution,” and that “it wasn’t about states’ rights, it was all about slavery.”

If one were to actually read the Confederate Constitution, they would notice that there was very little difference in the Confederate Constitution from the US Constitution with a few exceptions: the President had a line item veto and served for six rather than four years, protectionist tariffs and government subsidies for corporations were prohibited, and the General Welfare Clause was omitted. Interestingly, Beck didn’t say it prohibited the international slave trade.

As for protecting slavery, Beck did not mention the US Constitution did exactly the same thing. A Fugitive Slave Clause was written into the original US Constitution and the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law Act that was passed by Congress was never constitutionally challenged.

Beck’s hero, Lincoln even orchestrated passage of the Corwin Amendment, through the Senate and the House, into the US Constitution which would have forever prohibited the government from ever abolishing slavery. This amendment was passed by Congress just prior to Lincoln’s inauguration, and, interestingly enough, Beck did not mention this.

The Confederate Constitution was a “state’s rights” document just as the US one was. The US Constitution and the Confederate Constitution adopted a federal—not a national system of government—a state’s right system of government. The states delegated certain rights to the Federal Government for their own mutual benefit, but all other powers they retained. Subsequently, as sovereign states they had the right to secede for whatever reason they chose, and if they had to seek the permission of other states to do so, then they would no longer be sovereign.

Though Beck is right regarding the loss of the Founding Father’s original principles for American government and the need to retain them, his admiration of Lincoln and his legacy, indicates he doesn’t know as much about our Founders’ intentions as he should.

Sources: “Glenn Beck’s Lincoln Contradictions” by Thomas J. Di Lorenzo, 17 July 2010, LewRockwell.com

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inches in the ground. We are working with the Burke County Coroner, Burke County Sheriff’s Department, a family member of the soldier, the Burke County Probate Court, the church cemetery committee representative, the new church preacher and so on. Our intention is to either have a pine coffin made or to make one ourselves in the 1860 style, exhume the remains, and dig the original grave deeper. We will place everything that is original to the grave in the new pine coffin and rebury this southern patriot, possibly, with a small service.

I would like to thank the “old men’s crew” and our regular members who have been helping with the Magnolia Cemetery clean-up. This is a job that the camp has undertaken because it is OUR job to see that the graves of these men are cared for. Please, when the call goes out for help cleaning the cemetery, do your duty and help!!!!

Camp #158 had seven members, including yours truly, who attended the National Reunion in Anderson, SC. I would like to thank David Moncus, Tommy Miller Sr., Tommy Miller Jr., Ron Udell, Tom Smith, and David Armour for taking the time out of their schedules to attend to the business of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The speaker for this month’s meeting will be Mr. Don Gordon, past Cmdr. of the Wade Hampton Camp #273 and the immediate past SC Division Lt. Cmdr. His talk will be about “The Water Wars of the Carolinas”. Hope to see everyone there and remember, “It is your duty”!!!

Mystery Find at Site of Former Confederate Prison Camp near Millen

Archaeological excavation at Magnolia Springs State Park near Millen has uncovered a find of “national significance” which will be announced later this month on August 18th.

In the meantime, a chain linked fence, barb wire and added security have enclosed the park and aquarium to prohibit entry, and speculation abounds as to what was found.

Magnolia Springs is located on the site of the 42 acre Confederate prison camp known as “Camp Lawton.” Over 10,000 Yankees were imprisoned from September to November 1864 and, according to camp records, 685 died and were buried there. Their remains were later removed to permanent graves in the national cemetery in Beaufort, SC.

However, the diary of a Union soldier, Robert K. Sneden, claims 1,300 prisoners died at Camp Lawton. He states there were three burial trenches: two near the hospital and one near the railroad.

Fifth Brigade Commander Mike Mull has stated the recent discovery was not human remains.

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Editor



Have a Happy Labor Day!

145 YEARS AGO: CSS *Shenandoah* Discovers the War is Over

- 2 August 1865: The CSS *Shenandoah*, while enroute from the Arctic to San Francisco, learns from a passing British ship that the war is over.
- 20 August 1865: US President Johnson proclaims an end to the "insurrection" in Texas.

Greatest Regimental Losses of the War

1) 1st Texas, CSA	Sharpsburg -226	82.3%
2) 1st Minnesota, US	Gettysburg -262	82%
3) 21st Georgia, CSA	Manassas -242	76%
4) 141st Pennsylvania, US	Gettysburg -198	75.7%
5) 101st New York, US	Manassas -168	73.8%
6) 6th Mississippi, CSA	Shiloh -425	70.5%
7) 25th Massachusetts, US	Cold Harbor -310	70%
8) 26th North Carolina, CSA	Gettysburg -588	69.8%
9) 36th Wisconsin, US	Bethesda Church -240	69%
10) 20th Massachusetts, US	Fredericksburg -238	68.4%
11) 8th Tennessee, CSA	Murfreesboro -444	68.7%
12) 10th Tennessee, CSA	Chickamauga-328	68%
13) 8th Vermont, US	Cedar Creek -156	67.9%
14) Palmetto Sharpshooters, CSA	Frayser's Farm -215	67.7%

Right: Hardee style battle flag of the 54th Georgia Infantry

Next Camp Meeting

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



Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

-- I Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)

