



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

Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas is almost here. November was another busy month for the camp and the holidays will be the same.

Ron Udell organized the Honor Guard to participate in the annual Veteran's Day ceremonies in Augusta. Jack Bailie, Tommy Chappell, Gary Hattaway, Tommy Miller, and Bobby Snider were in uniform with our battle flag to give a black powder salute. The crowd loved it with many wanting pictures with the Honor Guard and asking questions about the WBTS. Tommy Miller gave a great interview for Channel 54 News which was televised the same night.

The old man's crew cleaned up Magnolia Cemetery twice during the month with the St. Andrew's Cross flag still flying among the Confederate Dead. Even Barry Whitney, our honorable "camp treasure", in his eighties pitched in. Our newest member Rev. Tobin Burnett added to the fellowship along with Tommy Chappell, Gary Hattaway, Paul Stampley, Bill Stohrs, and Emma Givens.

December will be another busy month for the camp. Norm Heberer will be our guest speaker for our monthly camp meeting at Sconyer's on December 10th. He will give us an interesting talk on the Confederados of Americana, Brazil who immigrated to that country after the War for Southern Independence. I have heard his talk which is especially informative since

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The Little Confederate's Night before Christmas

by Rickey B. Pittman

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the South, folks waited for Santa to come to their house.

The war was going on, and folks were afraid, that Christmas would be canceled because of the Yankee blockade!

The soldiers were weary from marching in groups, but all looked for Santa from the old to the youth!

They sang Christmas carols, like "Silent Night" and set up Christmas trees, with candles for lights.

Strings of popcorn, on branches they wind, other ornaments were made out of what they could find.

Some were of glass, or of wood carved by hand, decked with ribbons and ivy, the tree looked so grand!

As Mama sets the table for Santa's midnight snack, she hopes the night is peaceful and the Yankees don't attack.

Then up in the sky she hears the clatter and rattle of rifles and cannon, she knows there's a battle!

It must be Santa chargin' through Yankee lines! On his way to Dixie, as he did in better times.

The Yankees fired their muskets, and twelve-pounder cannons, mortars and Swamp Angels, but Santa kept comin'! He rode on a caisson, made of rough timber, and sitting beside him was the orphan Jim Limber!

A team of eight mules, pulled them at great speed, antlers tied to their heads, with Traveler in the lead!

Great Rebel Generals, gathered and gave him a salute, light glistened from their swords, and their black polished boots!

Generals Lee and Stonewall, Pickett and Kirby, Forrest and Taylor, Stand Watie and Early!

Santa stopped in Richmond to greet Jefferson Davis, and said, "Feliz Navidad!" to Colonel Santos Benavides!

Santa urged his team on through all the Southern states, he carried presents and cheer, and he must not be late!

Down the stick and mud chimney he came rolling and laughing like he was playing a game.

Soot and gunpowder had made his face black, and he looked like a sutler with that big sack on his back!

He was dressed in gray wool, brogans on his feet, a kepi on his head, coated with icy sleet!

He sat down at the table, and drank some ice tea, then a hot cup of coffee with just a drop of whiskey.

He spotted the platter of gravy and steak, corn pones and biscuits, fried okra and cake.

He ate all the food, like a starving young soldier, he rose to his feet, and nearly fell over!

He stuffed all the stockings with all kinds of toys, whirli-gigs and tops, for the good little boys.

The girls got dolls, with calico dresses, and candy and hairpins, for their pretty long tresses.

I heard Santa exclaim as he sped out of sight, "Merry Christmas to Y'all, and to all a good night!"

Editor's Note: Information contained with the following article is compliments of Compatriot Terry Bowers to whom I am grateful.

Last Camp Meeting

Compatriot Ken Temples Admonishes the Camp to Embrace their Christian and Southern Heritage

During the November 2015 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Compatriot Ken Temples of the Joseph Wheeler Camp #1245 in Aiken, SC and past Chaplain for the SC Division spoke on the topic, "The Penitent South: A Return to the God of our Forefathers". Prior to his presentation, Temples asked the Camp if he could write a pledge to the Cowpens Flag which is presently in the Alexander Camp's flag display. His offer to do so was gratefully accepted by acclamation by the Camp.

Temples began by stating that it would be a tragedy if we, as SCV members, were unable to pass on the history and the values of our Southern heritage to our children, grandchildren and future generations. We must not forget from whence we came, and we must pass on this legacy to our progeny which has a Biblical basis. Unfortunately, thousands of Southern youths have become indifferent or hostile to our Southern and Christian heritage because of indoctrination in historical untruths via public education, and the failure of parents to instruct their children properly. Moreover, many young people feel the knowledge of their heritage and genealogy has little or no benefit to them in today's society.

Temples reminded the Camp that the largest revival in America occurred when the Confederate Army experienced an outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the War. Their banner featured the St. Andrew's cross which reflected their humble acknowledgment of God and their trust in Him. In its defeat, the South turned to God for nurturing and healing, but the opposite occurred in the North.

Temples stated our country today has forgotten the Lord and needs prayer and repentance. He said that we must return to God if we are to save our heritage, for a people who have lost the symbols of their heritage are easily conquered.

Compatriot **Tobin R. Burnett, Sr.**, whose ancestor was Sgt Harman Edgar of Co. G, 30th Georgia Infantry Regiment, was officially inducted into the Alexander camp.

Commander Baxley reminded everyone of the December 13th Christmas party at the Aiken County Historical Museum and urged those interested in attending to call him at 803-295-

The Wig Wag

is the official publication of the BGen. E. Porter Alexander Camp #158, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Augusta, Georgia. It is published monthly (except July) for the benefit of camp members. Opinions expressed within are not necessarily the official views of the SCV or the E. Porter Alexander Camp. Send all articles and comments to the editor at the address on the last page or email: Rebeleyle@aol.com.

Important Dates to Remember:

20 December: South Carolina Secession Day

Coming Events:

10 December: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting

**Topic: The Confederados of Brazil
7:00 PM at Sconyers Barbecue**

**13 December: North Augusta Christmas Parade
Meet at 1:00 PM**

**Alexander Camp Holiday Social
Aiken Museum of History
2:30-5:00 PM**

2 January: Western Carolina Prayer Breakfast
9:00 AM
Aiken County Historical Museum

**16 January: Robert E. Lee Birthday Celebration
Old State Capitol
Milledgeville, Ga.**

**23 January: Alexander Camp's Lee/Jackson
Banquet
6:30 PM
Burns UMC Fellowship Hall**

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

12 December: Gen. Stand Watie⁰

13 December: Clement C. Clay, MC

16 December: Gen. Robert Garnett*
Gen. Henry Heath

17 December: Gen. Samuel Jones

18 December: Gen. Arnold Elzey (Jones)
Gen. Samuel French

19 December: Gen. James Archer*
Gen. John C. Carter*

21 December: Robert Barnwell Rhett

25 December: Gen. Preston Smith*

3 January: Thomas H. Watts, Atty. Gen

5 January: MGen Joseph Kershaw

6 January: MGen John C. Brown

8 January: BGen Tom Green*

LGen James Longstreet

*Died in Confederate Service

3719. He reported that Compatriot Ed Mann will be the featured speaker at the Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet to be held on January 23rd and he will be doing a first person impression of Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson. Dr. Baxley stated Past Cmdr. Moncus will be moving to his old family home in south Georgia. He also discussed the Georgia Division Cadet Program recently developed for boys up to age eleven who have a Confederate ancestor.

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Richmond's "Cathedral of the Confederacy" to Remove Confederate Imagery

On November 22nd, St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Richmond, known as the "Cathedral of the Confederacy", where both President Jefferson Davis and Gen. Robert E. Lee worshipped, announced it will be removing Confederate flag imagery from its facility.

The decision to do so is part of a nationwide effort to obliterate Confederate symbols from public spaces and in keeping with a resolution passed by the Episcopal Church's General Convention this past summer urging their churches nationwide to remove any Confederate battle flags from their sanctuaries.

Six plaques, bookplates in some of the books in the church's library will either be removed or altered, and the coat of arms featuring a small flag without its stars will be retired. The needlepoint kneelers at the high altar displaying the coat of arms have already been removed.

Church leaders hope to place the removed items in a separate exhibit. These include two plaques on opposite walls of the sanctuary honoring Gen. Lee and the President Davis and one that memorializes Confederate soldiers installed in 1961. Plaques honoring Davis' wife, Varina, and his daughter and one honoring Frederic Robert Scott, an Irish-born Confederate major, will be modified to remove the battle flag.

Windows depicting Lee and Davis as Biblical characters will remain, and the small plaque designating the pew where Davis sat when he received word from Lee to evacuate the city on April 2, 1865 will be retained.

Despite eradicating the heritage of Southerners, the Church errantly hopes to become known as the "Cathedral of Reconciliation" by installing a memorial to its past enslaved parishioners.

All compatriots are advised to contact the Church and tell them politely that you are offended by their actions and that removing the heritage of Southerners with Confederate ancestry will not result in reconciliation but alienation.

Address: St. Paul's Episcopal Church
815 East Grace Street
Richmond, VA 2319

Telephone: (804)643-3589

Email: stpauls@stpauls-episcopal.org



Commander's Comments (continued from page 1)

Norm lived among these people for several years while working as a head engineer building a paper mill near Sao Palo, Brazil.

December 13th, from 2:30 PM. until 5:00 PM, will be our first annual camp Christmas party at the Aiken County Historical Museum. David Moncus and his wife have graciously offered to provide refreshments, and Eddie Rogers from the Wheeler Camp will assist with personal tours of the Confederate room. Our 5th Brigade Cmdr. Tom Miller and his family will be there along with the South Carolina 5th Brigade Cmdr. Blake Moore and his wife Janice. Dress is casual except for those in uniform, and one may come and go as you please. I will also be available for tours of the facility.

This month the Honor Guard will be busy with several Christmas parades to include the North Augusta parade on December 13th which starts at 2:00 PM. Contact Joe Winstead at 803-302-6402 or Ron Udell at 706-825-2410 for further details.

Looking ahead in January we will be honored to have Compatriot Ed Mann from the General Wheeler Camp as our guest speaker for our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet. He will be portraying General "Stonewall" Jackson at the event which will be held at the Burn's Memorial Methodist Church on Lumpkin Road on January 23th.

During this holiday time remember those in our camp with difficulties in your prayers. This is a hard time of the year for Emma Givens and Marie Powell having lost loved ones this past year. Ron Udell and Joe Winstead are having complicated recoveries from surgery and need your support.

Though this has been a difficult year due to the "politically confused" mob, through Jesus Christ our Lord we have endured and should remember "The Reason for the Season". Have a great Dixie Christmas and Deo Vindice!

Your humble servant, Commander Baxley



Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

Cadet members receive a subscription to the Division newsletter, a camouflaged baseball cap with the SCV logo, a cadet member pin and certificate, and the opportunity to participate in cadet only events and their local SCV camp meetings. Membership is \$20 per year or \$100 Legacy fee that covers all years up to age 12.

Contrary to what was published in the last issue of the *Confederate Veteran* in the Last Roll section, Compatriot Ken Kitchens has not passed away and is well.

Adjutant Nick Posey reported the Camp now has 105 paid members.

Compatriot Emma Givens is continuing to take orders for camp T-shirts. Anyone desiring to place an order should call her at 706-592-4198.

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

The Wig Wag

Official Publication of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

December 2015 Issue
1316 High Woods Pass
Grovetown, Ga. 30813

Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.
Editor



**Have a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!**

150 Years Ago

- 6 December 1865: The Georgia legislature ratifies the 13th Amendment
18 December 1865: Slavery is declared officially abolished in the US with the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution

The Ten Best Brigades and Regiments in the Confederate Army*

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Hood's Texas Brigade | 1. 1 st Texas Infantry |
| 2. Stonewall Brigade (Virginia). | 2. 4 th Virginia Infantry |
| 3. Orphan Brigade (Kentucky) | 3. 27 th Tennessee Infantry |
| 4. Stuart's Virginia Cavalry Brigade | 4. 6 th Alabama Infantry |
| 5. Hays' Louisiana Tigers | 5. 9 th Kentucky Infantry |
| 6. Lawton's Georgia Brigade | 6. 1 st Virginia Infantry |
| 7. First Missouri Brigade | 7. 4 th North Carolina Infantry |
| 8. Gregg's South Carolina Brigade | 8. 44 th Georgia Infantry |
| 9. Rodes Alabama Brigade | 9. 18 th Alabama Infantry |
| 10. Liddel's Arkansas Brigade | 10. 17 th South Carolina Infantry |

* According to *The Civil War Book of Lists*

Right: The battle flag of the 47th Georgia Infantry Regiment which was organized in the winter of 1861-62 and consisted of men from Mitchell, Randolph, Bulloch, Chatham, Screven, Tattnall, Appling, Bryan, Liberty, and Dodge counties. While serving on the Georgia coast, the 11th Battalion Georgia Infantry was merged into it on May 12, 1862, and the new unit was sent to Charleston where it fought its first battle on June 10th at James Island. In July 1863, the unit was sent to Mississippi where it saw action at the siege of Jackson. The 47th joined the Army of Tennessee to fight at Chickamauga and throughout the Atlanta Campaign until July 1st when it was sent back to the coast. The unit fought in the Carolinas Campaign and surrendered with the Army of Tennessee in April 1865.

Next Camp Meeting

**Thursday,
December 10th
at 7:00 PM**



Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."

-- Luke 1: 35 (NIV)

