

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

January has been an extremely sad month for our camp, as the Lord has called three members of our family home. We lost camp member Tom Stafford on the 10th and Wilbert "Nick" Posey on the 14th. Camp member Joe Winstead's son passed on the 19th. We also lost a very good friend in John H. Harris, who was a member of the Sgt. Berry Benson Camp in North Augusta. He had purchased tickets, but died at 5:30pm on the afternoon of the banquet. Please continue to pray for and remember these families in the coming months.

The L/J Banquet was a great success, and Dr. Terry Rude gave a very powerful talk on "Our Duty to Lee and Jackson". I wish the whole camp could have heard this, but the whole camp was not there! Why? Overall, the attendance at the banquet was very good, but camp member attendance was lacking. A total of 101 tickets were sold (95 adults and 6 children), but only 37 of these adult tickets were solely for camp members, not counting their family and friends. To the camp members who supported the banquet, thank you from the bottom of my heart. We have 111 members in this camp and 66% of you chose not to support our banquet by purchasing a ticket and attending the banquet. Again, I ask the question, "Why"? Everyone has known for months that the banquet would be on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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Camp #158 Compatriots Richard Smith, Tommy Miller, Jerry Hathaway, Fred Bussey and Arnold Huskins gather at the Milledgeville Confederate Monument after participating in the Georgia Division's Gen. Robert E. Lee Birthday celebration at the Old State Capitol on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Compatriots Joe Winstead and David & Marie Powell  
Receive Commander's Award at Banquet**

During the BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp's annual Lee-Jackson Banquet, Compatriots Joe Winstead and David Powell and his wife, Marie, were presented the Commander's Award, respectively, for their outstanding contributions to the camp and Confederate heritage. Compatriot Winstead was commended for his purchase of the camp trailer which has proven to be an excellent recruiting tool. The Powells' were honored for their generous donation to the Powder works Chimney fund. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Compatriot Nick Posey for his tireless efforts to raise monies for the Powder works fund, to Summer Herron for her assistance to Commander Herron prior to each camp meeting, and to Compatriot Arnold Huskins for his efforts as editor of the camp's newsletter.

Program speaker, Dr. Terry L. Rude from Greenville, SC, in an rousing speech exhorted the camp to strongly "vindicate the Cause for which Confederate soldiers fought" and "to defend the good name of the Confederate soldier" as mandated in the SCV Charge. He stated that, above all else, that was our "primary duty to Lee and Jackson." He explained when he visited Richmond how the Museum of the Confederacy, the Virginia Historical Society, and the Valentine Museum

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*Last Camp Meeting*

**Huskins Speaks on the Origin and Variations of the Confederate Flag**

During the January meeting of the Alexander Camp, Compatriot Arnold Huskins spoke on “The Origin and Variations of the Confederate Flag”. Huskins related how the new Confederate government asked its citizens to submit designs for a new flag and received many variations. The flag committee chose a design that was reminiscent of the Stars and Stripes, the “Stars and Bars”. As the war prolonged, the people’s attachment to the Stars and Stripes waned and a new flag was adopted patterned after the Army of Northern Virginia battle flag. However, the flag was too white and its fly too long, so a third design was adopted which added a red bar to the white field and made the union rectangular rather than square. He continued by discussing how the battle flag of the Army of Northern Virginia developed and the flags used by the other army departments. The Army of Tennessee primarily used flags developed by their corps commanders while the Army of the Trans-Mississippi used the reverse colors of the Army of Northern Virginia’s as their battle flag. Huskins encouraged all compatriots to fly the Confederate flag of their choice at their home. Following a question and answer session, Cmdr. Herron presented Huskins with a photograph of the Confederate Powder works Chimney.

During the officers’ reports, Lt. Cmdr. Richard Smith reported the placement of Confederate headstones for several soldiers. Quartermaster Joe Winstead said he plans attend the Broxton Bridge re-enactment in February. Honor Guard Commander Ron Udell reported that the honor guard participated in the Longstreet Birthday celebration event sponsored by the Children of the Confederacy on January 3<sup>rd</sup> in Edgefield County and in a memorial church service at Upper Black Creek Baptist on January 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bulloch County. Udell informed the camp that 92 tickets had been purchased for the Lee-Jackson Banquet which was six more than last year.

During the commander’s report, Cmdr. Herron  
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**Important Dates to Remember:**

**Coming Events:**

11 February: **BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting**  
**Topic: Common Soldier of the Confederacy**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Sconyers Barbecue**

20-21 February: Battle of Aiken re-enactment

27-28 February: Broxton Bridge re-enactment

22 February: **Confederacy Day**  
George Washington’s Birthday  
4 March: **Confederate Flag Day**—Fly the flag!

**Notable Confederate Birthdays:**

- 8 February: LGen Richard S. Ewell  
BGen Barnard E. Bee\*
- 11 February: Alexander H. Stephens, Vice-Pres.
- 12 February: MGen Robert Ransom Jr.
- 16 February: MGen James P. Anderson  
MGen Camille A.J.M. Polignac
- 18 February: BGen Lewis A. Armistead\*  
BGen Jean J.A. Mouton\*  
BGen James Deshler\*
- 20 February: BGen James B. Terrill\*
- 21 February: BGen John H. Winder\*
- 22 February: President George Washington
- 25 February: George A. Trenholm, Secy. Tres
- 1 March: George Davis, Atty. Gen.  
MGen. James F. Fagan.  
BGen. Hiram B. Granbury\*
- 4 March: BGen. Elisha F. “Bull” Paxton\*
- 5 March: Bgen John Dunovant\*

\*Died in Confederate Service

reported that two camp members had passed away: Tom Stafford and Wilbert Posey, the father of Camp Treasurer Nick Posey. He asked for prayers for their families and for Terry Bowers whose son was medically evacuated from Iraq. He thanked the 13 individuals who cleaned the Confederate cemetery on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. He stated that the first check for the restoration of the Confederate Powder Works chimney was written, and that the masonry restoration was 40% complete. Compatriot Powell reported that more brick was needed to complete the job. Herron announced the Georgia Division’s Robert E. Lee Birthday celebration in Milledgeville on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. He stated he would not be in attendance as he will be preparing the fellowship hall for that evening’s Lee-Jackson banquet beginning at 2:00 PM. He continued by stating that the reward

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In a column entitled "Out of the Horror of Abortion, Redemption Can Come" in the *Arkansas Catholic* on January 23, 2010, Catholic

Bishop Anthony B. Taylor initially maligns Gen. Robert E. Lee. He writes that he is astonished that the birthday of Gen. Lee is celebrated, in addition to that of Martin Luther King, on the same weekend in Arkansas and asks "Why in the world would we ever do that?" He continues by asking "how many lives were lost because he (Lee) took up arms against the United States in a Civil War on the side of those who sought to keep millions of people in bondage?" Taylor continues by stating that King's "greatness" was because he used non-violent means to "confront the very evils that General Lee had fought so hard to preserve." Moreover, the Bishop states that Lee "served to promote the culture of death."

It is quite apparent that the Bishop has little or no knowledge of the General Lee that we know. Lee was neither an avid secessionist nor an advocate of slavery, and he only spoke kindly of his Yankee adversary.

Please consider writing to the Bishop, via his secretary, Maria Pena, and tell him politely the true reasons why Lee's Birthday should be remembered and the General honored.

<http://www.dolr.org/email.php?fname=Maria&lname=Pe%F1a>

or write to the editor of the *Arkansas Catholic* to refute Bishop Taylor's comments regarding Lee:

Malea Hargett, Editor  
*Arkansas Catholic*  
P.O. Box 7417

Little Rock, AR 72217

Write to her online at: <http://www.arkansas-catholic.org/contactstaff.php?to=1&recip=Malea%20Hargett>

Read the complete column at:

<http://www.arkansas-catholic.org/columns/index.php>

### **Banquet** (continued from page1)

had minimal information on Lee and Jackson and the few books available at those facilities were critical of the Generals. He stated that many authors condemn these men for owning slaves, but Rude explained that the slaves they owned had requested to be so for their own benefit. He sadly related how Virginia does not honor these men as in times past, but as Sons of Confederate Veterans we must.

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

Congratulations to Joe Winstead, along with David and Marie Powell, who received this year's Commander's Award at the Banquet. Certificates of Appreciation were given to Past Commander Nick Posey, Newsletter Editor Arnold Huskins, and my daughter, Summer Herron. Ladies and gentlemen, you did your duty as we are called upon to do, and it was my distinct pleasure to be able to present these awards to y'all.

Last year, you elected me as the Commander of Camp #158, and I told you then that my tenure would be about duty. One of my duties as Commander, to put it very briefly, is to plan the meetings, our Confederate Memorial Day Service, and our L/J Banquet. Part of your duty as members of this camp is to help with the implementation of these events and most importantly, attend! My intention is not to make members angry, but it is apparent that a large portion of this camp is NOT upholding their pledge to the camp! 99% of Camp #158 members were initiated with this Pledge: "Compatriots, I pledge MYSELF to loyally support the activities of B/G E.Porter Alexander Camp #158 and the Sons of Confederate Veterans...In so doing, I not only honor MY Confederate ancestor, but also affirm my loyalty and devotion to God and country..." If you agree to this pledge, raise your right hand and say, I do". I know you took the pledge because I was there when you did it. I hear a lot of "I do's", but I want to hear and see more of "I did!" in the coming year.

Our Confederate Memorial Day Service will be on either the 17th or the 24th of April, so mark your calendars and no excuses. The date will be determined by the date of the "Jungle Fest", which has not been announced.

The next meeting will be on February 11th and the guest speaker will be Reverend Jim Cabaniss and he will talk about "The Common Soldier of the Confederacy". Mr. Cabaniss has been a member of the SCV since 1977 and a member of the MOS&B since 1978. He will have a good display of soldier related items for his talk and will have some books for sale. Mr. Cabaniss will be driving from Lawrenceville, Georgia, and spending the night in town. Please plan on attending this meeting. Remember, It is you duty!!!

### **Last Camp Meeting** (continued from page 2)

amount for information regarding the vandalism of the Confederate monument had been increased by \$200 given by Compatriot Tom Smith in memory of Compatriot Tom Stafford.

During the new business session, Herron requested a motion to approve the fees for the speaker and security for the banquet which was made, seconded, and granted by the camp following a voice vote.

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



# The Wig Wag

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

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*Editor*



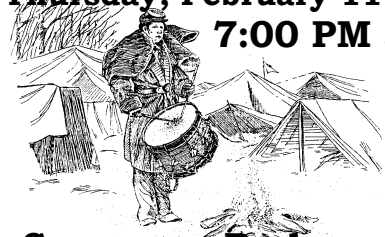
**Happy George Washington's Birthday!**

## 145 Years Ago: Columbia, SC Burned by Union Army

- 5-7 February 1865: Battle of Hatcher's Run, Va. The starving Confederate Army still holds firmly its 37 miles of the Richmond-Petersburg defense lines.
- 10 February 1865: Captain Rafael Semmes appointed Real Admiral in the provisional Navy of the Confederate States
- 17 February 1865: Columbia, SC is occupied by Federal troops and burned
- 18 February 1865: After 567 days of continuous land-sea attack, the heroic defense of Charleston ends and the city is evacuated
- 20 February 1865: Confederates attack Union-held Ft. Myers, Fla.
- 25 February 1865: Gen. Joseph E. Johnston assumes command of the Army of Tennessee
- 27 February 1865: About 350 Confederate sailors, evacuated from Charleston, arrive in Fayetteville, NC
- 2 March 1865: Gen. Lee writes Gen. Grant to propose a military convention to open peace negotiations. Lincoln, who wants a surrender, rejects Lee's proposal.
- 4 March 1865: Confederate Congress approves revision for national flag

**RIGHT:** The battle flag of the 59th Alabama Infantry which was captured near Hatcher's Run, Virginia, on March 25, 1865, by Private George W. Tompkins, Co. F, 124th New York Infantry. The flag was being carried by Lt. Col. Daniel S. Troy, 60th Alabama Infantry, who was urging the men under this command forward when he was shot down by Private Tompkins. The flag was forwarded to the U.S. War Department where it was assigned Capture Number 272. It was returned to the State of Alabama effective April 26, 1905.

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



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

### *Scripture Thought*

But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

--Psalm 86:15 (NIV)

