

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

The January was another busy month for Camp #158. The Honor Guard under the leadership of Ron Udell participated in the Gen. Robert E. Lee birthday celebration in Milledgeville, Ga. on January 16th. Ten camp members to include the Tommy Miller clan, Gary Hattaway, Tobin Burnette and wife Joyce, Tommy Chappell and Ben Creech marched with Ron in the parade and well represented our Camp. Be sure to thank these folks for their participation.

The Camp's annual Lee/Jackson Banquet on January 23rd was well attended with over 70 compatriots and their families present. Many awards and door prizes were presented with the 5th Brigade Commanders of both Georgia and South Carolina Divisions and their families in attendance. A good time was had by all with another wonderful meal provided by our caterer, Sammie, from Matthews, Ga. Diane Grigsby did a wonderful job with table decorations with all Camp Compatriots having a great time with old fashion Southern fellowship and hospitality.

January has also produced another attack upon our Southern heritage by the P.C. crowd in the Georgia legislature. The Georgia House and Senate have both introduced bills to bring down our Confederate monuments to include Stone Mountain. This must be fought by us per the Charge given to the SCV by Gen Stephen D. Dill. All of us need to write our local representatives to express our objection to the legislation proposed to attack our history and culture. Also, let your family and friends know about this and have them write hand written notes concerning this insult to their representatives in the Georgia legislature. Time is of the essence

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**Alexander Camp's  
Lee/Jackson  
Banquet 2016**



*Anti-Confederate Bills filed in Atlanta, Columbia and Tallahassee*

**State Legislators Take Aim at Our Heritage**

Taliban-like state legislators hoping to capitalize on last year's Charleston tragedy are fervently introducing bills in Atlanta, Columbia and Tallahassee this month to utilize the momentum to prohibit Confederate flags on public property, to remove monuments, and to end commemorations of official holidays such as Confederate Memorial Day and Gen. Robert E. Lee's Birthday.

In Georgia, State Representative LeDawn Jones of DeKalb County has entered House Bill 760 to eliminate Stone Mountain as a memorial to the Confederacy and to give unlimited ability to state bureaucrats and politically correct officials to change or alter veterans' monuments or memorials in whatever manner they deem as "historically accurate and appropriate." State Senator Vincent Fort of Atlanta has filed State Senate Bill 294 which would eliminate all state holidays related to the Confederacy including Confederate Memorial Day and Gen. Robert. E. Lee's birthday, and would repeal the annual observance of Confederate History and Heritage Month.

In South Carolina, Representative Lonnie Hosey, representing Allendale, Barnwell, and Orangeburg counties, is proposing to change the name of the Confederate Relic Room in Columbia to the "Palmetto State War Museum". Representative Mary Tinkler of Charleston, filed a bill that would only allow private donations-- and not tax dollars--to be used for any upgrades to display the

(See **Legislators** on page 3)

### *Last Camp Meeting:*

## **Thomas Robertson Speaks on the Exploits of His Confederate Surgeon Ancestor**

During the January 2016 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Thomas Robertson, an Augusta native, a Georgia Tech educated engineer and city planner gave a Power Point presentation discussing his Confederate ancestor, Francis Marion Robertson, MD and his newly published book on the surgeon's exploits, *Resisting Sherman: A Confederate Surgeon's Journal and the Civil War in the Carolinas, 1865*.

Dr. Robertson was born in Abbeville in 1806 and was appointed to West Point which he did not complete because of his difficulty with the French language. He then studied medicine at the Medical College of South Carolina, married, and established a successful medical practice in Augusta. He accepted a position in the Charleston at the Medical College where he was a lecturer. At the beginning of the War Between the States, he joined the Army and was a member of the Board of Medical Examiners reviewing the qualifications of physicians entering the military. Dr. Robertson had five sons in Confederate service whose duties kept them in the Charleston area.

It was during his evacuation from Charleston on February 17, 1865 that Robertson began writing his day to day activities in a leather bound diary for his wife. He traveled over 900 miles in four states as a staff officer, staying in private homes and recording the everyday lives of the people. From Charleston, Robertson traveled to Florence and then to Cheraw where he stated with one of the signers of the SC's secession document, Judge John Inglis. From there he moved on to Rockingham, NC, Carthage and Fayetteville. He traveled to Raleigh where he was able to treat one of his sons who had been wounded at the Battle of Averasboro on March 16th. Robertson then moved onto Richmond, Va. and fled south with the Confederate government's evacuation to Greensboro, NC. His further travels included stops in Chester and Newberry before finally arriving back in Augusta.

Upon completion of his interesting presentation, Mr. Robertson was presented a book on Augusta history by Cmdr. Baxley.

Commander Baxley reported that the scheduled speaker for the Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet, Ed Mann, had to cancel due to family problems, and that he was planning to speak on the Confederate Medal of Honor. He discussed the Robert E. Lee Birthday celebration to be held in Milledgeville on January

### *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:**

- 22 February: Confederacy Day  
George Washington's Birthday
- 4 March: Confederate Flag Day—Fly the Flag!

### **Coming Events:**

**11 February: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp  
#158 Meeting  
Topic: "Lincoln & Secession"  
7:00 PM at Sconyers Barbecue**

12-13 February: Reenactment of the Battle of  
Olustee, Fla. (Boycott Lake City!)

19-21 February: Reenactment of the Battle of Aiken  
<http://www.battleofaiken.org/>

5-6 March: Reenactment of the Battle of Broxton  
Bridge  
<http://broxtonbridge.com/reenactment.htm>

**30 April: Alexander Camp's Confederate  
Memorial Day Service**

### **Notable Confederate Birthdays:**

- 7 February: Leroy P. Walker, Secy. War
- 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\*
- 7 March: MGen. Henry D. Clayton
- 8 March: MGen. Matthew C. Butler

\*Died in Confederate Service

16th and the Stone Mountain Memorial service which will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Lt. Cmdr. Posey reported that the Camp has 102 members and that only four compatriots failed to renew their camp membership this year which was the lowest number to do so in many years. He reported 43 tickets had been sold at present for the Camp's Lee/ Jackson Banquet and requested volunteers to assist in the set up at the church prior to the banquet.

Past Cmdr. Ron Udell reported that the Bee Camp in Aiken needs volunteers to assist in the reenactment of the Battle of

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## Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo Bans the Confederate Battle Flag from its Events

On January 12th, the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo announced that it had changed its policy to ban the Confederate battle flag from its

events and activities.

Matt Brockman, publicity manager for the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, stated that the battle flag has "been embraced by individuals and organizations that are advancing hate and intolerance" and the Stock Show had been receiving complaints about its presence in the events. Brockman stated that the use of the Confederate flag in the Rodeo will be limited to only the first national flag of the Confederacy, the "Stars and Bars."

As a result, event participants, including those marching in the parade, would not be allowed to display the battle flag, including groups like the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Compatriot Calvin Allen, who first started taking part in the parade in the 1980s, disagreed with the decision stating the battle flag is a symbol of his ancestry and heritage, and does not represent racism or hate.

Allen stated "It's kind of like telling any of those cowboys that go to that rodeo that they can't wear their cowboy hat. Well, that's what they are telling us about our battle flag, and it doesn't represent hate. There were blacks who fought for the Confederacy."

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, Stock Show parade attendees protested the decision and brought their own Confederate flags, waving them from sidewalks and attaching them to chairs. SCV members distributed small battle flags and literature that stated the battle flag and Southern heritage is "under attack."

The mounted SCV unit participating in the parade further protested the decision by carrying empty flag poles that once flew all the flags of the Confederacy.

Fort Worth native and SCV member, Paul Martin, decided not to march in the parade because of the decision and strolled down the length of the parade route carrying a large Confederate battle flag.

"This is an insult to our heritage and to the founders of Fort Worth, many of whom were Confederate soldiers," Martin said.

Compatriots are urged to contact officials of the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo and let them know how you feel about their discriminatory policy:

Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo  
3400 Burnett-Tandy Dr.  
Fort Worth, TX 76107  
Phone: 817-877-2400

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

firsthand and we must act now!

The next camp meeting on February 11th will be of importance as we will discuss our plans for the remainder of this year and will need camp input. The speaker for the February meeting is a noted author and will be giving us an informative talk on the tyrant Lincoln and why he was wrong about secession. Hope to see you at Sconyer's Barbecue for that important meeting.

Bring a friend and keep your powder dry. Have a great Dixie Day!

Your humble servant, Commander Baxley

## Legislators (continued from page 1)

Confederate battle flag that was removed from the State House grounds in July last year. Senator Darrell Jackson of Columbia has filed a bill to amend the Heritage Act, which removed the battle flag from the State House dome, to allow cities, counties and colleges to change or remove monuments, memorials and streets without obtaining the necessary two-thirds legislative approval.

In Florida, Senate Bill 154 and House Bill 243, proposed respectively by Sen. Geraldine Thompson of Orlando and Rep. Darryl Rouson of St. Petersburg, would ban the display of the Confederate flag and other emblems from 1860 through 1865 on publicly owned or leased property and allow civil action to ban individuals from displaying the flag on such. Senate Bill 310 and House Bill 141, proposed by Sen. Jose Felix Diaz of Miami, would remove the statute of Confederate Lt. Gen. Edmund Kirby-Smith from Statutory Hall in the Capitol in Washington.

Compatriots are requested to take immediate action and contact their respective state legislators and ask them politely to oppose these divisive bills which would be stepping stones to the eradication of our heritage and the removal of Confederate monuments and memorials. Your state legislators can be found via the following link:

[http://openstates.org/find\\_your\\_legislator/](http://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/)

## The Alexander Camp is now on Facebook

Alexander Camp #158 is now on Facebook thanks to Camp Webmaster Terry Bowers. Please go to the following link or use your Facebook search engine to find the page and be sure to "Like" it. All compatriots are welcome to post photographs of camp events on the site.

<https://www.facebook.com/alexandercamp158>

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

Aiken to be held on February 19-21st.

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>

February 2016 Issue  
1316 High Woods Pass  
Grovetown, Ga. 30813

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*Editor*



**Happy George Washington's Birthday**

**Remembering Our African-American  
Confederate Heritage!**

## Seventeen Notable Black Confederates

1. Holt Collier, Co. I, 9<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry
2. Nim Wilkes who fought with Gen. NB. Forrest's cavalry
3. Louis Napoleon Nelson, Chaplain, 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cavalry
4. Levi Miller, servant, voted a full-fledged soldier by his Virginia regiment
5. Tom and Overton, servants, 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, took part in unit's charge
6. Silas Chandler, Company F, 44<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Infantry
7. Levin Graham, fifer turned soldier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tennessee Infantry
8. Jack, servant turned soldier, 13<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Infantry, mortally wounded
9. Harden Blackwell, died as POW at Camp Douglas
10. Alfred Brown, wounded twice at Chickamauga
11. Levy Carnine, servant turned soldier, Louisiana Pelican Rifles
12. Burrell Hemphill, killed by Union soldiers in February 1865
13. Clark Lee, Co. D, First Confederate Rifles, fought throughout war
14. Henry Brown, drummer, Darlington Guards, 8<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> SC Infantry
15. Richard "Dick" Poplar, Sussex Light Dragoons, POW for 19 months
16. Amos Rucker, servant, entrusted soldier, wounded at Appomattox
17. William "Ten Cent Bill" Yopp, Confederate drummer, Co. H, 14<sup>th</sup> Ga Infantry

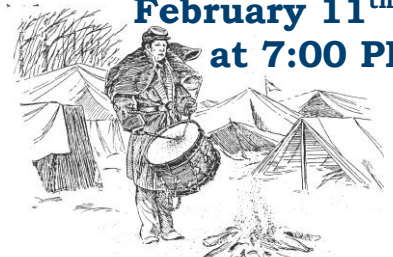
**Right: The "Stars and Bars" battle flag of Company A, "Bartow Artillery, 22<sup>nd</sup> Artillery Battalion.** Organized in Griffin, Georgia, the men of Bartow Artillery joined artillery companies from Oglethorpe, Montgomery, and Cobb counties to form the 22nd Artillery Battalion which was organized at Savannah, Georgia, during the summer of 1861 with six companies which was increased to nine in the spring of 1864. The unit was attached to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and served along the Georgia coast at Fort Pulaski and Fort McAllister. In 1865, operating as infantry in Elliot's Brigade, it saw action in the North Carolina campaign and surrendered with the Army of Tennessee.

## Next Camp Meeting

Thursday,

February 11<sup>th</sup>

at 7:00 PM



### Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

*Scripture Thought*

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

-- Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV)

