



★ **Commander's
Comments** ★
by Ron Udell

Our Lee/Jackson Banquet has come and gone for another year. It was a great time for us to honor General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson. I believe everyone enjoyed our speaker, *Army of Tennessee Commander Thomas Strain*. (And the food wasn’t bad--good food, good friends and just plain good Southern fellowship!) He gave a very informative speech on Lee’s later years.

Commander Herron presented several awards, and the one that is special was the Tony L. Carr Heritage Defense Award to Tommy Miller Sr.

Thanks to all who came and supported our Lee/Jackson banquet. (83 tickets plus 4 children’s tickets were ordered and 80 plus 4 child’s tickets paid). **Unfortunately, only 28 members bought tickets!** We have over 100 members and should have had over 50% there! Where else can you dine and have a great program for \$12? All those who missed our Lee/Jackson banquet and did not buy a ticket or attend, please make a note to do so next year. You missed a good time and fellowship with your fellow compatriots. This is one of our events that everyone should attend. (The other is Confederate Memorial Day. Remember, it is your duty!)

Several compatriots were ill this year and, unfortunately, could not come. Things like that are going to happen and, sadly, there is nothing we can do

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Honoring Gen. Lee: Alexander Camp compatriots gather after attending the Division’s Gen. Robert E. Lee Birthday and Secession Commemoration at the Old State Capitol in Milledgeville on January 22th. Those pictured (left to right, back to front) are Kenny Kitchens, Cmdr. Ron Udell, Tommy Miller, Arnold Huskins, Roy Stampley, Ken Kitchens, Jack Bailey, Tom Smith, Ben Creech, Gary Hattaway, Lee Herron, and David Powell. Also pictured are Savannah Jones and Summer Herron.

Alexander Camp Honors Gen. Lee and “Stonewall” Jackson during Banquet

Ron Udell Sworn in as New Camp Commander

Advising his fellow compatriots “to remember the charge and your duty, remember your ancestor,” and “to tell others about the SCV”, Ron Udell was sworn in as Alexander Camp Commander during the annual Lee/Jackson Banquet held on January 15th. Udell was also the recipient of the Commander’s Award given by Cmdr. Lee Herron during the event for his tireless and continual participation in camp activities and the Honor Guard.

Udell has been a member of the Alexander camp for ten years and recently retired from his position at the Medical College of Georgia with over 20 years of service. A South Carolina native and US Army veteran, he has lived in Augusta since 1959. He has four daughters and 8 ½ grandchildren.

During the Banquet, Cmdr. Herron awarded Tommy Miller Sr. the first Tony L. Carr Heritage Defense Award for his efforts in notifying the camp of heritage violations via email. Herron also presented Certificates of Appreciation to Compatriot Philip Weaver,

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Last Camp Meeting

David Rutledge Speaks on his Famous Confederate Ancestors

During the January meeting of the Alexander Camp, Mr. David Rutledge, an attorney from Greenville, SC, spoke of his two famous ancestors: David F. Jamison, who was president of the South Carolina Secession Convention, and BGen. Micah Jenkins who was killed by “friendly fire” at the Battle of the Wilderness.

Rutledge related that Jamison was quite prosperous prior to the War as a planter, lawyer, member of the state legislature, general in the state militia and devoted husband. He home schooled his children in the classics in the morning and ran his plantation, “Burwood” in the afternoon. Elected to attend the Secession Convention from Barnwell District, Jamison became Secretary of War of the new Palmetto Republic. He had three sons who fought in the war, one of which was severely wounded at the Battle of Frayer’s Farm. In 1862, he published a dictionary of Old French which passed through the blockade twice. Jamison died prior to the War’s end, and Sherman threatened to desecrate his body, but his family prevented this by exhuming his body and burying it in a swamp. His wife was forced to leave the plantation in the wake of Sherman’s march and she returned to find the home burned and the plantation plundered. After the war, his land was confiscated to pay delinquent taxes. According to Rutledge, Jamison staked his all on the new Southern republic and lost everything.

Rutledge related that Micah Jenkins was Jamison’s son of law and was one of the “boy generals”, having received his rank at the age of 26. A graduate of the Citadel, he organized the Kings Mountain Military Academy prior to the War. Rutledge read from one of his numerous letters to his wife.

Following his presentation, Cmdr Herron presented Rutledge with a framed print of the Confederate Powder Works Chimney and a bottle of the chimney’s fly ash.

During their meeting there were four applications for membership: **Richard L. Lamarke** who joins on the record of his great great grandfather 2nd Lt. Johnson

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

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

Coming Events:

**10 February: BGen E. Porter Alexander
Camp #158 Meeting
Topic: The Battle of Utoy Creek
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**19 February: Confederate Heritage Rally
Re-enactment of Jefferson Davis’
Inauguration
Noon
Montgomery, Ala.**

Firing on Columbia, SC re-enactment

26-27 February: Re-enactment, Battle of Aiken, SC

5-6 March: Broxton Bridge Reenactment, Ehrhardt, SC

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*
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

A. Bland who served in Co. H, 15th SC Infantry; **Garrett C. Marchman** who joins on the record of his great great great grandfather Pvt. Richard Warnock who served in the 57th Georgia Infantry; **Eddie Usry** who joins on the record of his great grandfather Pvt. John F.M. Kitchens who served in the 22nd Georgia Infantry; and **Gary Williamson** who joins on the record of his great grandfather, Soloman Williamson who served in Co. B, Georgia Militia Cpt. Morley’s House Guard.

Prior to meeting, Cmdr. Herron requested prayers for Fred Bussey’s son, David, Lt. Cmdr Richard Smith, Timothy Bowers, Jules, Godene, Jerry Grisby, Dr. John Baxley, and Nick Posey.

Ken Kitchens discussed finding the parole of his Confed-

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Arkansas Town Prohibits Flying of Confederate Flag

Last month, the city council of the town of Marshall, Arkansas voted to prohibit the flying of the Confederate battle flag on public property. The vote was taken after the mayor, Jim Smithson, decided to fly the flag beneath the US flag at City Hall in honor of Gen. Robert E. Lee's Birthday from January 14-18th.

According to the mayor, he flew the flag "out of what I consider disrespect for Lee's Birthday and the hero he was to a lot of people..." Only one city council member voted against the ordinance. Both Smithson and the city councilman state that the flag represents "southern heritage, the military and states' rights."

Virginia Governor Bows Once Again to Political Correctness

The governor of Virginia, Bob McDonnell, has once again proven to be another disappointing politician by only issuing a last minute proclamation remembering the birthdays of Gen. Robert E. Lee and Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson. While the Lee-Jackson holiday has been a holiday in the Old Dominion since 1904 and proclamations recognizing the service of these two honorable men have been issued by previous governors prior to the holiday, Gov. McDonnell's proclamation was not apparent until after the holiday and only on the internet.

Last fall, McDonnell stated he would issue no more Confederate History Month proclamations after succumbing to criticism from Confederate heritage haters when he issued one in April.

The Virginia Division has created a petition to present to the Governor. Please consider writing him as well and tell him that you are angry by his pandering to political correctness:

Email him at:

<http://www.governor.virginia.gov/AboutTheGovernor/contactGovernor.cfm>

Or write him at: Office of the Governor
Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Print out the Virginia Division's petition below:

http://mail.scvva.org/pipermail/vacourier_scvva.org/attachments/20110120/c46dd654/attachment-0001.pdf

Mail completed petition to:

John Sawyer
1206 Confederate Drive
Locust Grove, VA 22508-5328

Lee/Jackson Banquet (Continued from page 1)

for managing the sound system during the meetings, and to Compatriot David and Marie Powell in organizing the reenactors during the Confederate Powder works Chimney rededication.

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to prevent such. I hope they will soon be well and able to attend our next meeting.

Also thanks go out to *Commander Herron* and his daughter, *Summer*, and her friend, for getting there early (before 3:00 PM) to set up the tables and chairs, etc. (Much goes on behind the scenes to get ready for the banquet!) And special thanks to *Diane Grigsby* for also coming in early to decorate the tables and *Mae* and *Henry Gilmer* for bring their bust of Lee for the head table and the table decoration. Thanks also to Philip Weaver for manning the sound system, to Kenny Kitchens for helping with the tickets and to Ben Creech for bringing his Georgia Secession flag. And thanks to all those who stayed afterwards to help put the tables and chairs away and clean up. Thanks again to all! Together, y'all made it a special night!

On January 22nd, we had 14 camp members plus seven family members go to Milledgeville for the Georgia Division Gen. Robert E. Lee Birthday Celebration & Secession (reenactment) Commemoration. It was done very well. Thanks go to all those who attended, for our Camp was well represented.

As your new Camp Commander, I hope to do the best job possible for Camp 158--to promote the good name of the Confederate soldier and to keep our camp strong. I say **thanks** in advance for your help now and later on when I call upon you to help. One of our biggest responsibilities is maintaining the soldiers' graves at Magnolia Cemetery. It is our duty to them. Who else but us will do it? I also ask that you help the other camp officers when they ask for your help. We have to work together to succeed and do the best job we can for our camp and the good name of the Confederate soldier.

Our next meeting will be February 10th. Our speaker will be Major Perry Bennett and he will speak about one of the battles of the Atlanta Campaign--the Battle of Utoy Creek. Please be there, be there for your great-great or great Grandfather. It is your duty! May God Bless Dixie!

Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

erate ancestor and David Powell reported he was selling chimney fly ash bottles for \$16.50 with the proceeds being used to refurbish the Confederate Monument on Broad Street in Augusta.

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

The Wig Wag

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Editor



Happy George Washington's Birthday!

**Remembering our African-American
Confederate Heritage**

150 YEARS AGO: Jefferson Davis Inaugurated as President

- 7 February 1861: Choctaw Indian Nation declares allegiance to the new Southern nation.
- 8 February 1861: The convention of seceded states adopt a provisional constitution forming the Confederate States of America.
- 9 February 1861: After privately considering William Yancey, Howell Cobb, Robert Toombs, Alexander Stephens, and Robert Barnwell Rhett for President, the convention selects Jefferson Davis. Alexander Stephens is chosen as Vice-President.
- 11 February 1861: In Austin, Texas, a state convention votes to join the CSA.
- 18 February 1861: Jefferson Davis is inaugurated as President of the CSA. Surrender of US military posts in Texas by Gen. David Twiggs
- 19 February 1861: Louisiana state troops seize US Paymaster's office in New Orleans.
- 23 February 1861: Texas voters approve secession by 3 to 1 margin.
- 1 March 1861: The CSA takes control of all military affairs at Charleston except Fort Sumter.
- 3 March 1861: Gen. Beauregard assumes command of troops around Charleston.
- 4 March 1861: The first "Stars and Bars" flies over the Capitol in Montgomery.

RIGHT: This design was submitted to the provisional Confederate Congress' flag committee by Mrs. Aurelia W. Longmire of Osyka, Pike County, Mississippi, on 20 February 1861 to be considered for the new national flag. She wrote that the white field was to represent innocence and the sky blue outer circle "Lasting love". The crescent represents the Confederacy; the cross, the Christian faith; and the stars, the member States.

Next Camp Meeting

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



Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;
with my mouth I will make your
faithfulness, known through all generations.

--Psalm 89:1 NIV

