



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

JANUARY 2012

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

The year is gone! Where did it go? Christmas has come and gone, and gone quickly. I hope y'all had a good and merry Christmas (and you got what you wanted...remembered what Christmas is all about and were thankful for family and friends), and each of you will have a happy new year. Soon it will be time for reenactments to occur and most importantly our upcoming Lee/Jackson Banquet to be held on January 21st. Our speaker for our banquet will be Kirk Carter (3rd Brigade Commander of the South Carolina Division) and he will speak on "The Charge." Also on the 21st is the Division's annual Lee/Jackson Birthday celebration in Milledgeville.

After this past year, we all probably need to be energized and remembering the Charge is a good place to start. So all who can should be at our Lee/Jackson Banquet to remember and celebrate Generals Robert E. Lee's and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's birthday. This service, as well as Confederate Memorial Day in April, are the two events that all should reserve to honor these two fine Southern gentlemen and our ancestors. Remember it is our duty as members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, unless you have health issues or job that will not let you, to be at these events. Our treasurer Nick Posey has tickets for the banquet (and is waiting on your call). You can get them at the next meeting on the 12th or you can call to reserve your tickets, but remember if you reserve tickets you are expected to

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Fulfilling the SCV Charge: Alexander Camp compatriots Cmdr Ron Udell, Lee Herron, Ken Kitchens, Ben Creech, and Gary Hattaway participated in a Confederate grave marker and cross of honor dedication at Bethel United Methodist Church in Orangeburg, SC on November 6th.

Upcoming Georgia Conferences Promote Historically Accurate Understanding of the WBTS

Two conferences featuring various scholars will be held in Georgia in February: the SCV's Stephen D. Lee Institute to be held in Savannah on February 3rd-5th and the Abbeville Institute Scholars Conference to be held at Stone Mountain on February 23rd-26th. Their intent is to enable attendees to have a truer understanding of the War Between the States.

The Stephen D. Lee Institute will be held at the DeSoto Hilton Hotel and include topics such as: "Calculating the Value of the Union: Physical Costs of the War to Prevent Southern Independence" by Jonathan White, "Lincoln's Blood Money and the Financial Impact of the War" by David Aiken, and "How Lincoln's War Derailed Constitutional Liberty" by Donald Livingston, among others. Individual cost is \$125 for SCV members and their families and \$150 for others.

The Abbeville Institute Scholars Conference entitled "The War Between the States: Other Views, Other Voices" will be held at Stone Mountain Park. Scholars will discuss the "immorality" of prosecuting the War and the Northern opposition to the War which has been minimized by history. Individual cost is \$225 for members and \$275 for all others.

For more information, go to their respective websites listed on page 2.

Last Camp Meeting

Dr. John Baxley Discusses Medical Issues Afflicting Confederate Commanders at Gettysburg

During the December camp meeting, Compatriot Dr. John Baxley, a retired military physician and University of Kentucky graduate, discussed various medical issues which afflicted the Confederate commanders during the battle of Gettysburg. He began his talk by quizzing the camp as to the names of the horses rode by Lee, Jackson, AP Hill and Stuart. Baxley began by stating that following Jackson's death, Gen. Lee organized the Army of Northern Virginia into three corps under the command of James Longstreet, Richard Ewell, and AP Hill. Ewell had lost a leg ten months earlier at the battle of Second Manassas. Though he had recovered physically, Baxley postulated that Ewell was still suffering post traumatic stress disorder at Gettysburg. As a result, Ewell became ineffectual and "froze up" during critical moments especially in whether to take Cemetery Hill on the first day's battle. Gen. Hill was suffering from prostatitis caused by gonorrhea which he had contracted during his time at West Point after he had visited a house of ill repute in New York City. At Gettysburg, Hill was slow and weak, and did not deploy his divisions properly. He sent his weakest division, Heath's, into Gettysburg on the first day which confronted the Union Army's 1st Corps which was its strongest. Pender's Division did not move until Lee had given him permission to do so. Baxley explained that Gen. Lee could not micromanage his army during the battle because he was ill. Lee, who had aged 20 years during the war, had contracted rheumatic fever which caused arthritis, heart arrhythmias, and pleurisy. As a result, he was overdosing on quinine at Gettysburg to relieve his symptoms which caused diarrhea and vertigo. In the latter two instances, Baxley stated the drug, Penicillin, would have made a difference. Following his excellent presentation, Dr. Baxley was presented a photograph of the Powder Works Chimney by Cmdr. Udell.

Cmdr Udell presented Mrs. Diann Grigsby with a resolution honoring the memory of her late husband, Compatriot Jerry Grigsby. He awarded prizes to Bill Storrs and Ken Kitchens, respectively, for October and November, whose names were drawn from those who

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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: Rebeleye@aol.com.

Important Dates to Remember:

- 9 January: Mississippi Secession Day
- 10 January: Florida Secession Day
- 11 January: Alabama Secession Day
- 19 January: Georgia Secession Day
- 26 January: Louisiana Secession Day
- 1 February: Texas Secession Day

Coming Events:

**8 January: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting**

**Topic: Bleeding Kansas: The Real
Start of the WBTS**

7:00 PM

Sconyers Barbecue

**21 January: Ga. Division Lee/ Jackson Parade
Old Governor's Mansion at 10:30 AM
Milledgeville, Ga.**

**Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet
Burns U.M.C. Fellowship Hall**

6:30 PM

Augusta, Georgia

3-5 February: Stephen D. Lee Institute
Savannah, Ga.

www.stephendleeinstitute.com/events.html

23-26 February: Abbeville Institute Scholars' Conf.
Stone Mountain, Ga.

<http://abbevilleinstitute.org/>

Notable Confederate Birthdays: *Died in CSA Service

11 January: BGen Richard Griffith*

12 January: MGen Jones M. Withers

14 January: Cmdr Matthew F. Maury

15 January: MGen John C. Breckinridge
MGen Lafayette McLaws

18 January: BGen James Chestnut, Jr.

19 January: **Gen Robert E. Lee**

21 January: **LGen T.J. "Stonewall" Jackson***

23 January: BGen John R. Chambliss, Jr.*

24 January: BGen John Pegram*

26 January: BGen Lloyd Tilghman*

27 January: **LGen Richard Taylor**

28 January: MGen George E. Pickett

MGen Thomas C. Hindman

29 January: MGen Franklin Gardner

31 January: Capt John R. Tucker, CSN
Clement C. Clay, MC

2 February: **Gen Albert Sidney Johnston***

BGen Abner M. Perrin*

3 February: **Gen. Joseph E. Johnston**

6 February: **MGen John B. Gordon**

MGen James E. B. "Jeb" Stuart*

MGen William D. Pender*



Missouri State University Chief Apologizes for the Playing of *Dixie* by Band

Missouri State University Interim President, Clif Smart, apologized to the NAACP for the university's Pride Band's

playing of *Dixie* in Springfield, Missouri on November 18th at a concert held during the dedication of Park Central Square on campus. Smart (whose name should be *Coward*) stated the band will no longer publicly play the song. The NAACP complained that the selection was inappropriate given the location was where three black men were lynched in 1906, yet they did not explain why *Dixie*, which was not played during the lynching and whose lyrics celebrate the South, should be banned.

Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

participated in the Confederate cemetery clean up on those months.

Lt Cmdr Herron reported that on November 19th he, along with Compatriot Philip Weaver and several others, completed the task of reinterring the remains of a Confederate veteran, Benjamin H. Mobley which was exposed after his grave collapsed in Bethany United Methodist Church Cemetery. After procuring state permits and notifying the coroner, Herron reported that the remains were placed in a pine casket built by Compatriot Weaver and reburied. According to Herron, Mobley served in the Confederate Commissary Department and Reserves and was captured at Tallahassee.

Cmdr Udell discussed the upcoming Christmas parades and admonished compatriots to hand out—not throw—candy during the parades. He reported he participated in a funeral service for a former Alexander Camp compatriot, George L. Carpenter III, who was a friend of Compatriot Tony Carr. Udell stated the Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet is scheduled for January 21st at 6:30 PM at Burns United Methodist Church fellowship hall. The deadline to purchase tickets for the event will be January 14th.

Quartermaster Winstead discussed the proposed renovations to the Confederate Cemetery fountain and the Augusta Confederate Monument which is to be accomplished in four phases. He stated he had received permission to significantly trim the Bradford pear trees in the cemetery and was to meet with the city's tree commission regarding the effort. Winstead reported that skateboarders were damaging the monument on Broad Street and recommended that a fence be constructed around the monument with four poles connected by heavy

duty chain (Phase One). In Phase Two, in order to raise funds, he suggested selling granite memorial pavers which are to be placed in the areas once occupied by trees adjacent to the monument. Phase Three would include placing a granite marker in front of the monument which would explain the history of the monument and Phase Four would include a flagpole to be approved by the City Council. During the discussion, Compatriot David Powell stated that the camp would need to approve such expenditures and a vote was taken to delay consideration until the next meeting. Quartermaster Winstead stated he would refrain from pursuing the project further until the Camp had decided to approve the phases or project. Furthermore, Winstead stated the camp's decision to not join the Georgia Division in its lawsuit against the Canal Authority for removing the battle flag from the Powder Works Chimney was not unanimous as reported in the November newsletter.

Prior to the meeting, prayers for given for Tommy Miller's wife, Doris, Jules Godin, Fred Bussey's son, and Jim Kirschner.

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

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pay for them. Tickets **ordered** can be picked up the night of the banquet, but remember no tickets will be sold at the banquet. (There will be a date in which to cancel if needed—most likely the Friday or Saturday before the Banquet.) This will enable us to know how many meals to order and to prevent the camp from paying for no shows. I hope you will find time to be there, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Nine folks participated in the Confederate cemetery cleanup on December 17th, the weekend before Christmas. David Powell went on December 15th to clean the Generals' resting places and Survivors' Section. Thanks to all who worked hard to get the cemetery ready for the Christmas weekend. The Confederate Dead Section, Survivors Section and Generals' plots were in good shape for Christmas visitors. It was also touched up a little on the 23rd.

Ken Kitchens is the contact person if you wish to buy a Powder Works fly ash bottle, and he has a few left. He probably will have a couple of them at the next meeting. Remember these monies go to fund our projects. I also recently received a few days before Christmas, a check from the Canal Authority for \$51.00 for three bottles sold (a nice Christmas present for the Camp).

Our next upcoming meeting will be January 12th and our speaker will be Mr. Robert Jones from Kennesaw, Ga. He will speak on "Bloody Kansas: The Real Start of the War Between the States." Please plan to be at Sconyers Barbeque to remember our ancestors, to preserve our Southern heritage and to support our Camp and its activities. **Remember the Charge! God bless the South and happy New Year!**

The Wig Wag

Official Publication of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

January 2012 Issue
1316 High Woods Pass
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Editor



Remembering Our Heroes on their Birthdays:

Gen. Robert E. Lee: January 19th

Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson: January 21st

150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky

- 10 January 1862: Romney Campaign: Gen. Stonewall Jackson enters Romney, in western Virginia
Battle of Middle Creek, Kentucky
- 18 January 1862: Confederate territory of Arizona is formed
Former US President and Confederate Congressman, John Tyler, dies in Richmond, Va.
- 19 January 1862: Battle of Mill Springs (Fishing Creek, Logan's Cross Roads)
Kentucky halts Confederate offensive in eastern Kentucky. Gen. Felix Zollicoffer killed after riding into Union troops.
- 23 January 1862: Federals seize property of pro-secessionists who refuse to pay taxes to aid pro-Northern fugitives
- 26 January 1862: Gen. PGT Beauregard ordered west to take second in command to Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston
- 28 January 1862: Two US gunboats are thwarted in their attempt to ascend the Savannah River by five Confederate gunboats.
- 30 January 1862: Commissioners Mason and Slidell finally arrive in England.
- 4 February 1862: Ft. Henry Campaign: Union troops land north of Ft. Henry
- 6 February 1862: Ft. Henry Tenn. falls to Union forces

Right: The "Stars and Bars" battle flag of the 15th Mississippi Infantry Regiment which was captured by soldiers of Company A, 10th Indiana Infantry during a Confederate charge at the battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky on January 19, 1862. One report states that "the color bearer had been killed, leaving his flag, partly torn from the staff, hanging in some bushes" and a Union soldier rushed forward and cut the blood stained, bullet riddled flag from the staff. All around the spot on which this capture was made were strewn dead and wounded men.

Next Camp Meeting



**Thursday
January 12th
at
7:00 PM**

Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

Sing praises to God...sing praises to our King...For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

--Psalms 47:6-7 (NIV)

