

★ **Commander's
Comments** ★
by David Moncus

The June 13th meeting will be our last meeting until August 8th. Please come and participate. We will have information from our Division Reunion which will be in Statesboro on June 8th. We currently have 10 members who have let me know that they are going to this important event. Any camp member is eligible to go and can register upon arrival. Although there are no elections this year there will be important Division business to handle. Thanks to those who have volunteered to represent our camp.

We had a very good memorial service on Sunday, May 26 for our deceased camp member; James Emmett Drane. Mr. Drane was a U.S. Navy Veteran so it was very fitting to have this memorial service on Memorial Day weekend. Thanks to everyone who participated and a special thanks to Ron Udell for coordinating everything. The family was well pleased with the camp's support and remembrance of our fellow compatriot.

We will be discussing the upcoming National SCV Reunion at our June meeting. We will specifically discuss the proposed amendments to the SCV constitution. Please read these proposed amendments in your last edition of the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and come prepared with any questions or discussion points that you may have. I will be attending the event in Vicksburg in July and will be able to cast all of the

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Remembering the Fallen

The Alexander Camp Honor Guard participated in the US Memorial Day service at the All Wars Monument on Broad Street held on May 27th.



Editor's Note: Below is the continuation of a series of articles on the 12th Battalion Georgia Light Artillery of which Companies D and F consisted of men from Richmond County.

12th Georgia Fights Its Final Battles

After the Battle of Hatcher's Run near Petersburg, Virginia in February 1865, in which the 12th Battalion Georgia Light Artillery lost its commander, Captain George Anderson, Captain Samuel H. Crump assumed command of the unit until the end of the War.

The Petersburg front was relatively quiet afterwards, but General Lee knew his army was in a precarious position. Grant was tightening the noose around the city and Sheridan's Army of 50,000, after defeating Early in the Shenandoah Valley, would soon arrive to supplement Grant's Army. Sherman was marching north from the Carolinas as well. Considering the possibility of being outnumbered by nearly 4 to 1 by these arriving forces, Lee consulted with Gen. John B. Gordon and decided to undertake an offensive operation which he hoped would force Grant to contract his lines and delay a general Union assault on the Confederate works.

Gordon planned an ambitious predawn assault on the Union Army's Fort Stedman which was close to the Confederate lines, had few obstructions, and located less than a mile from the a supply depot on the US military railroad. From there, the Confederate Army could advance toward the Yankees' main supply point at City Point.

On March 25th, the Georgia Brigade, of which the 12th was a part, led
(See 12th Georgia on page 3)

Last Camp Meeting

SCV First Lt. Cmdr. Barrow Discusses Georgia's Confederate Counties

During the May meeting of the Alexander Camp, SCV First Lt. Cmdr. Kelly Barrow, a native Georgian, high school teacher and author of the book, "Black Southerners in the Confederate Armies", spoke on the topic, "Georgia's Confederate Counties". Barrow stated that 20 of Georgia's 159 counties were named after Confederates. The first was White County which was named in 1857 after David T. White, a representative from Newton County, who served in the Georgia legislature during the secession convention. Bartow County was named during the War after Col Francis Bartow of Savannah who was killed at First Manassas. It was originally named Cass County after a Michigan statesman; however, the county seat of Cassville, which was renamed Manassas during the War, retained its name because the Federals refused to rename its post office. Ben Hill, Jenkins, and Johnson County were named after Georgia statesmen who served the Confederacy during the War. Jeff Davis, Stephens, and Toombs Counties were named after officials in the Confederate Cabinet. Bacon, Bleckley, Candler, Cook, Crisp, Evans, Lamar, Lanier, Long, Tift, Turner, and Wheeler Counties were named after men who had served in the Confederate armed forces. Incidentally, Lee County was not named after Gen. Robert E. Lee, but after the Revolutionary War hero, Richard Henry Lee.

Following his presentation, Lt. Cmdr Barrow was presented a Confederate Powder Works fly ash bottle by Cmdr. Moncus.

Cmdr. Moncus thanked all those who worked diligently to make the Camp's Memorial service on April 20th a success and those who helped with the cemetery cleanup prior to the event. He stated there will be another cemetery cleanup on Saturday, May 25th. Moncus encouraged all compatriots to attend the Georgia Division Reunion in Statesboro in June and requested that all those planning to attend to contact him. He stated he plans to attend the SCV National Reunion in Vicksburg in July.

There was a motion made to sponsor Compatriot Trey Miller for the Sam Davis Youth Camp, which was seconded and approved by the Camp.

Lt Cmdr Posey stated that 67 memorial pavers have been sold and the camp presently has 105 members. He

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:

Coming Events:

**13 June: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting
Topic: Proposed SCV Amendments
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**17-20 July: National SCV Reunion
Vicksburg, Mississippi
<http://2013scvreunion.homestead.com/>**

**27 July: Alexander Camp's Roadside Clean-up
Augusta West Parkway**

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

11 June: MGen James L. Kemper
12 June: Gen. Samuel Cooper
23 June: MGen Daniel S. Donelson*
24 June: John A. Cambell, Asst. Sec. War
25 June: Capt James D. Bulloch, CSN
26 June: BGen Victor Jean B. Girardey*
27 June: BGen Junius Daniel*
2 July: Robert A. Toombs, Sec. State
BGen John B. Villepigue*
3 July: MGen John A. Wharton*
4 July: BGen James J. Pettigrew*
12 July: Lt Gen Daniel H. Hill
13 July: James A. Seddon, Sec. War
Lt Gen Nathan Bedford Forrest
26 July: BGen John M. Jones*
28 July: BGen William D. Smith*
1 August: BGen Maxcy Gregg*
5 August: BGen Carnot Posey*
6 August: Judah B. Benjamin, Sec. State
*Died in CSA Service

requested prayers for Compatriot John Givens who has been hospitalized.

Quartermaster Winstead stated he attended the Redneck Olym-hicks on May 4th at the Savannah Lock and Dam and sold \$150 in merchandise. He stated the camp has been given permission to put up a retractable screen in the meeting room. Compatriot Huskins stated he possibly had one that he could donate to the camp.

"Major" Ron Udell stated that Compatriot James E. "Pete" Drane who was in the VA Nursing Facility passed away on May 7th and stated his memorial service will be on Sunday, May 26th at 2:00 PM in Magnolia Cemetery where his ashes will be scattered. He stated he had received Confederate History Month posters from the Georgia Division and requested that compatriots distribute them to schools and educators.

The meeting was adjourned by Cmdr Moncus. Following the benediction, *Dixie* was sung by the Camp.





City of Jacksonville, Texas Prevents Marine Corps League from Placing Flags on Veterans' Graves

The city of Jacksonville, Texas prevented the local Marine Corps League Detachment #1381 from placing Confederate battle flags on the graves of 150 Confederate veterans in the city's cemetery on Memorial Day.

The Jacksonville Public Works Director advised the League, that "with the negative perception of the Confederate flag," the League should honor the soldiers another way by 'placing wreaths, flowers or something else' on the graves.

Rather than placing flags on any veterans' grave in the city cemetery, the League opted to place the flags in a nearby cemetery outside of town.

Please contact the following Jacksonville City officials and politely ask them to allow Confederate flags of any type on the graves of Confederate veterans in the city cemetery:

Mayor: Kenneth B. Melvin
(903) 586-9671 (home)
kenmelvin@suddenlink.net

Councilman, District 1: Hubert Robinson
P.O. Box 1461
Jacksonville, Texas 75766
903-586-4506 (office)

Councilman, District 2 : Jeff Smith
903-586-6234 (office)
Jeff.smith@jacksonvilletx.org

Councilman, District 3: Billy McDonald
(903) 586-1557
billy.mcdonald@jacksonvilletx.org

Councilman, District 4: Ann Chandler
903-586-3053
cchc1@suddenlink.net

Virginia Attorney Seeks to Remove Confederate Memorial from Court House Grounds

A Northern born bankruptcy attorney in Leesville, John Flannery, is attempting to have a 100 year old Confederate memorial featuring a statue of a Confederate soldier removed from the Loudoun County Courthouse grounds. He states the statue intimidates his clients and causes them to question whether they will receive judicial fairness. Flannery states the statue should be moved to a cemetery or a museum.

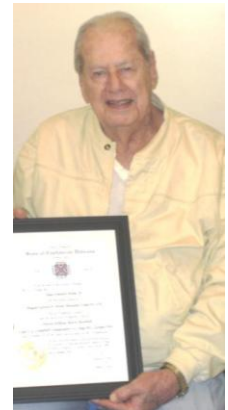
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camp's eligible votes.

We continue to live in a drastically changing United States of America as evidenced by the most recent scandalous revelations of the IRS abusing its power through intimidation of conservative individuals and organizations like us. It becomes more and more evident that our ancestors knew what they were talking about when they drafted the Constitution and had many, many discussions and arguments over limiting the power of the federal government and then again when secession occurred. It is funny how you never hear any of the conservative columnist or talk show host talk about how this power grab started in earnest with Abraham Lincoln and his invasion of the South.

Compatriot James E. "Pete" Drane, Jr.: 1927-2013

On May 7th, Compatriot James E. Drane passed away at the Georgia War Veterans Home in Augusta. A member of the Alexander Camp since August 2011, the Navy veteran served in World War II and was proud of his maternal great grandfather, Private William M. Marshall who served in Company F, 12th Battalion Georgia Light Artillery and was severely wounded at the battle of Cedar Creek.



On May 26th, a memorial service was held at Magnolia Cemetery conducted by the Alexander Camp Honor Guard. Mr. Drane's ashes were scattered in the Confederate section per his request. He is survived by three daughters, Laura Harris, Melanie Greenway, Renee Camp and one son, James E. Drane, III.

12th Georgia (Continued from page 1)

the advance on the fort and captured it. The 12th was able to utilize their skill as artillerists and turn the captured guns on their enemy. Unfortunately, the overwhelming power of the Union Army turned the tide of battle and forced the Confederates back. The 12th was involved heavily in the fighting, suffered many casualties and reportedly lost their colors to the enemy.

Following the fight at Fort Stedman, activity increased along the Peterburg front with Grant launching a general assault on the lines on April 2nd. Lee had no choice but to abandon his lines and retreated west. The 12th Georgia continued to fight along the way and even participated in one of the final charges of the War prior to surrendering at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865.

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Official Publication of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

June 2013 Issue
1316 High Woods Pass
Grovetown, Ga. 30813

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Editor



Happy 4th of July!

150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Gettysburg

- 11 June 1863: Federals invest Port Hudson, Louisiana
- 14 June 1863: Major Federal assault on Port Hudson, Louisiana fails
Battle of Second Winchester, Virginia
- 17 June 1863: The CSS *Atlanta* engages the USS *Weehawken* and the USS *Nahant*
before surrendering in Wassau Sound, Georgia
- 20 June 1863: Confederate positions at Vicksburg are heavily bombarded for six
hours by Union Army mortars and gunboats
- 24 June 1863: The Tullahoma Campaign begins, Gen. Rosecrans outflanks
Gen. Bragg who retreats toward Chattanooga
- 27 June 1863: Gen. Martin Green of Missouri killed at Vicksburg by sharpshooter
- 28 June 1863: A portion of Gen. Lee's Army reaches the farthest north ever
attained by the Army of Northern Virginia near Carlisle Springs, PA
- 29 June 1863: Gen. Lee orders his forces to concentrate near Gettysburg
- 1-3 July 1863: The Battle of Gettysburg; Lee is unable to break the Union Army
- 4 July 1863: Confederate forces under Pemberton surrender to Grant at Vicksburg
Confederate assault on Helena, Arkansas fails
- 7 July 1863: Union troops sack Brierfield, the home of Pres. Jefferson Davis
- 8 July 1863: After a six week siege, the Confederate garrison at Port Hudson
surrenders. The Union has complete control of the Mississippi River.
- 11 July 1863: Union Army assault on Battery Wagner near Charleston, SC fails
- 12 July 1863: New York City draft riots begin and leave over 1,000 dead.

Right: The Army of Northern Virginia battle flag of the 3rd Georgia Infantry was one of the flags of Gen. Ambrose Wright's Brigade, along with those of the 22nd, 48th Georgia and 2nd Georgia Battalion, that bravely advanced on the Codori Farm and Cemetery Ridge on the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg losing 146 killed, 394 wounded, and 333 missing for a total of 873 casualties.

Next Camp Meeting

Thursday, June 13th



at 7:00 PM

Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

In His Name, the nations will put their hope.

--Matthew 12: 21(NIV)

