

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

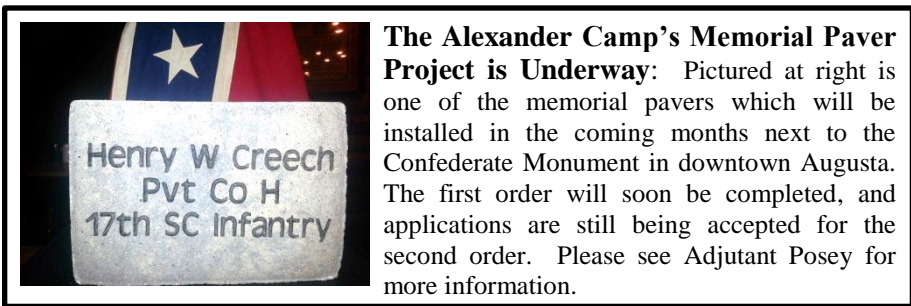
Confederate History Month has passed, it's June, and the good ol' Georgia summer is officially here along with humidity, thunderstorms, and growing grass—which means cemetery maintenance. I have mowed the grass at the Confederate Dead section in Magnolia Cemetery twice in the last four weeks. It is real green and looking great. Remember, if you have any spare time, there is always some grass cutting needed on the many Confederate areas of the cemetery. We will have scheduled cemetery cleanup days on Saturday, June 21st and Saturday, July 12th.

The Georgia Division Reunion will be taking place in Columbus on Saturday, June 14th, and it's an important one as this is an election year. There are a few of us planning to go, but we still need more people to attend as delegates. Our camp is eligible for ten votes, but we must have a delegate present in order to cast the vote. At this time, we need at least five more people to fill delegate positions.

I would like to thank all those who were able to participate in the Memorial Day activities in downtown Augusta on May 26th. You did a great job representing the camp and fulfilling "The Charge". That is a great service in this day of increased attacks on our Confederate heritage.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our next camp meeting on June 12th. We have been having some great pro-

(Continued on page 3)



The Alexander Camp's Memorial Paver Project is Underway: Pictured at right is one of the memorial pavers which will be installed in the coming months next to the Confederate Monument in downtown Augusta. The first order will soon be completed, and applications are still being accepted for the second order. Please see Adjutant Posey for more information.

Graves of Forty Confederate Soldiers Recently Uncovered in Virginia Cemetery



The remains of forty Confederate soldiers buried in unmarked, shallow graves in the Old City Cemetery in Lynchburg, Virginia have recently been discovered and are to soon receive a proper memorial.

"It's been very meaningful to us to find these spots, identify these soldiers and bring closure to families," said Ted Delaney, the cemetery's assistant director, who assisted by a team of archaeologists, found the final resting place of these Confederate soldiers who died of diseases like small pox. They were buried in an area where Union soldiers were also interred and whose remains were later exhumed in 1866.

Beginning in April, the team excavated a 45 by ten foot trench within an area called "Yankee Square" at the cemetery where they found a mix of orange and red squares which were determined to be the Confederate soldiers' graves. Thirty-five to forty graves were recently found and fifty were uncovered in the same area last year.

Delaney said the task ahead is to identify each soldier's grave and give it the tribute it deserves. He hopes 80 of the Confederate soldiers will be properly identified.

"Our goal is to put a marker at each grave space to identify the soldier and note when he died and his military unit," said Delaney, who is optimistic about the project because, "the undertaker's notes are so detailed and complete."

"This has been an incredible process of discovery," he said. "It's always been very frustrating for those descendants who come to us because they can't find their ancestor's grave. Now we can bring some of them closure." The task to identify and maintain the graves of Confederate soldiers at the cemetery began in April 2013. Delaney and his team are receiving an annual \$2,500 grant from the Virginia Department of Historic Records Work to document unknown graves.

Last Camp Meeting

Dr. Marshall Waters Discusses the Escape and Capture of John Wilkes Booth

During the May 2014 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Dr. Marshall P. Waters, III spoke on the topic, "The Escape and Capture of John Wilkes Booth." Dr. Waters, a native of Miami, Florida whose roots are in Wilkes County, Ga., received his bachelors, masters and doctorate degrees from the University of Georgia. A Navy veteran, he is a member the Sons of the American Revolution, the Washington-Wilkes Historical Foundation and a co-founder of the Washington Civil War Roundtable. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Civil War Heritage Trails.

Mr. Waters began by stating John Wilkes Booth's initial plan was to capture Abraham Lincoln and hold him for ransom for the release of Confederate POW's; however, once Lincoln proposed enfranchising former slaves, he planned to assassinate him. The impetus for this change in plans was also the three assassination attempts on President Jefferson Davis during the War most notably during the Dahlgren Raid. Gathering at Mary Surratt's boarding house in Washington, Booth met with John Surratt, Jr, David Herold, Lewis T. Powell and George Atzerodt to formulate their plans which included the assassination of Vice President Andrew Johnson and Secretary of State William Seward. On April 14, 1865, the conspirators met at 7:00 PM with Powell assigned to kill Seward, Atzerodt to kill Johnson, and Booth would kill Lincoln with a single shot Derringer. Herold was to lead Powell to Seward's home and then they would rendezvous with Booth in Maryland. Later that evening, Booth accomplished his mission, Powell wounded Seward and four others, but did not kill him, and Atzerodt lost his nerve, became intoxicated and failed to kill Johnson.

After the assassination, Booth left Washington and met up with Herold in Surrattsville, Maryland where Mary Surratt had left a cache of arms and supplies. They moved to the home of Dr. Samuel Mudd where Booth's broken leg was splinted. After spending a day there, the pair was taken to Jacob Cox's home who took them to the home of Thomas Jones who hid them in Zekiah swamp for five days until they could cross the Potomac River. While crossing, the tidal river sent the pair northward rather than southward where they landed at the Maryland home of Col. Hughes. Crossing

(Continued on page 3)

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

Coming Events:

**12 June: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting
Topic: JEB Stuart and his wife, Flora
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**13-14 June: Georgia Division SCV Reunion
Columbus, Georgia
<http://gascv.org/division-reunion/>**

21 June: Magnolia Cemetery cleanup

12 July: Magnolia Cemetery cleanup

12-13 July: Reenactment of arrest and relocation
of the Roswell, Ga. mill workers
www.visitroswellga.com

**16-19 July: SCV International Reunion
North Charleston, SC
<http://www.scv2014.org/>**

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 Confederate Service

the river once again, Booth and Herold spent their first night in Virginia in a cabin at the Lucas Farm. On April 24th, the pair arrived at the Garrett Farm and spent two nights in their barn until surrounded by troopers of the 16th NY Cavalry. Herold surrendered, but Booth refused to be taken. When attempting to flee the barn which was set afire by the Yankees, Booth was mortally wounded by a shot in the spine. The eight suspects indicted in Lincoln's assassination were tried by a military tribunal and Herold, Powell, Atzerodt, and Mary Surratt were executed by hanging in July at the Old Capitol Prison. The latter being the first woman to be executed by the Federal government

(Continued on page 3)



Charleston City Councilman Wants Battle Flag Removed From The Citadel Chapel

A Charleston, SC City Councilman, Joe Darby, has requested that the city defer giving almost one million dollars in county accommodations tax funds to The Citadel unless it removes a Confederate battle flag from the College's chapel. Since 2008, the county has provided the college an annual allocation from accommodations tax revenue to pay debt on the Johnson Hagood Stadium renovation. The stadium generates millions in county revenue.

The flag is among many flags located in the chapel and was given to the Citadel in 1939 as a "tribute to the courage and valor shown by American manhood in fighting for a cause."

Removal of the flag might be a violation of the Heritage Act which was passed in 2000 to protect established monuments and memorials located on public property that represent American wars or events of Native American and African-American significance.

State Sen. Larry Grooms, R-Charleston, and state Sen. Danny Verdin, R-Laurens, have requested that Attorney General Alan Wilson determine if the flag falls within the provisions of the Act.

Iowa Division Seeks Donations to Replace Confederate POW Grave Flags

The Iowa Division, SCV, is requesting financial contributions to assist them in replacing worn and tattered battle flags that are placed on the graves of 1,950 Confederate soldiers who died of disease at the Union Prison camp on Arsenal Island in Rock Island, Illinois.

Each year, on Memorial Day, members of the Iowa Division and compatriots from other Divisions gather at the Confederate Cemetery to conduct memorial services and place the battle flags on the graves.

Last year the Iowa Division replaced 1,000 flags; however, they would like to replace the remainder this year and are seeking \$1,500 for this project. Being small in number, the Iowa Division hopes compatriots in other Divisions would be interested in assisting them with this project.

If anyone is interested in donating to this worthy cause, please mail your contribution in the form of a check to:

Charles Lott
SCV Iowa Division Flag Replacement Project
120 Byrnes Drive
Waterloo, Iowa 50701

Virginia Flaggers Raise Second Battle Flag

The Virginia Flaggers have raised their second Confederate flag adjacent to Interstate 95 in Virginia. The 20' x 30' Army of Tennessee battle flag was raised on May 31st on an 82 foot pole in Stafford County in a private ceremony that included a Confederate Color Guard, rifle salute, invocations, and historical presentations. According to the organization, the flag is flown in memory of the 246,000 Confederate soldiers who fought at the nearby Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness and Spotsylvania battlefields.

Commander's Comments (Continued from page 1)

grams thanks to Nick's efforts in getting speakers. Come get a history lesson, enjoy the fellowship of likeminded compatriots and bring a friend!

Last Month's Meeting (continued from page 2)

more than likely unjustly.

Following his compelling presentation, Mr. Waters was presented a flask of fly ash from the Confederate Powder Works chimney by Cmdr. Moncus.

Commander Moncus thanked all those who participated in the various Confederate Memorial services in the area, i.e. Hephzibah, Evans, Columbia, and was regretful that the Camp's memorial service was cancelled because of rain. He reported the Aiken Camp will be having a memorial service on May 10th. He announced a cemetery cleanup on Wednesday, May 14th and Friday, June 6th. Moncus discussed the upcoming Georgia Division reunion to be held in Columbus in June and the National reunion to be held in North Charleston on July 16-19th. He discussed the various amendments to be considered at the Division convention.

Compatriot Mike Mull, who is a candidate for Lt Cmdr South, and Cmdr Michael A. Sorrell of the Ogeechee Rifles Camp, who is a candidate for Fifth Brigade Commander, spoke and asked for the Camp's support during the reunion.

The meeting was highlighted by a visit from Stanley K. Lott, whose books on the Constitution and slavery has earned great respect among the Camp's compatriots. He humbly stated his regard for the Camp, naming several compatriots by name, his appreciation for their past assistance, and how he will always be a "Confederate" and defend the honor of the Confederate soldier.

Compatriot Joe Winstead announced he had rescinded his resignation as Camp Quartermaster. He reported he had picked up the memorial pavers and that they would be installed within the next several months. Winstead reported he attended the Redneck Olympics on May 3rd and served as part of an honor guard for the Gen. HT Walker UDC CMD ceremony at Westside Cemetery on April 27th.

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

The Wig Wag

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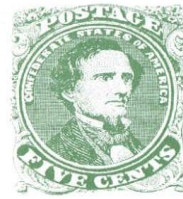
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

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Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.
Editor



Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!

150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain

- 10 June 1864: Battle of Brice's Crossroads, Miss.: Gen. Forrest's masterful defeat over Gen. Sturgis
- 11 June 1864: The CSS *Alabama*, badly in need of repairs, arrives at Cherbourg, France
Two day cavalry battle at Trevelian Station, Virginia begins
- 12 June 1864: Final day of fighting at Cold Harbor, Virginia
- 14 June 1864: Gen. Leonidas Polk is killed by a shell at Pine Mountain, Ga.
- 15-18 June 1864: Assault on and commencement of siege of Petersburg, Va.
- 19 June 1864: CSS *Alabama* is sunk by the USS *Kearsarge* off Cherbourg, France
- 22 June 1864: A.P. Hill thwarts Grant's attempt to seize the Weldon Railroad
- 24 June 1864: Confederate cavalry rout Sheridan's cavalry and wagon trains at St. Mary's Church, Va.
- 25 June 1864: Federals begin digging tunnels under Confederate lines at Petersburg
- 27 June 1864: Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia
- 6 July 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Five days of fighting on Chattahoochee River
- 9 July 1864: Battle of Monocacy, Md.: Gen. Early routs Wallace's forces
- 12 July 1864: Gen. Early causes panic in Washington, DC when he attacks Ft. Stevens; Union President Lincoln is present during the battle
- 14 July 1864: Battle of Tupelo, Miss.
- 17 July 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Gen. Hood replaces Johnston as commander of the Army of Tennessee

Right: The battle flag of Co. F, 17th Virginia Cavalry, aka "Nighthawk Rangers" which was captured during the Battle of Monacacy, Maryland on July 9, 1864 by Union Lt Col. David Clendinin. Originally from counties which are now in West Virginia, many in the regiment refused to take a loyalty oath to the Union at the end of the war. The flag was given to the Union commander at the battle, Gen. Lew Wallace, who hung it in his study. The flag is now on loan to the Monocacy National Battlefield Visitor Center.

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, June 12th
at 7:00 PM



Sconyers Barbecue
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

How good and pleasant it is when
brothers live together in unity!
--Psalm 133:1 (NIV)

