

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

The 2011 Georgia Division Reunion is right around the corner. There are several amendments pending, maybe one resolution submitted by Woody Highsmith and voting on several projects in the works including our project—the restoration and repair of the Confederate Monument on Broad Street. David Powell has worked **very** hard getting estimates and Nick Posey has as well submitting the paperwork to get us on the ballot by the cutoff date. Hats off to them! On May 14th the Executive Council Georgia Division voted for our project to be on the ballot to be considered by members of the Georgia Division that are at the reunion.

Registration to go to the reunion and to vote should have been submitted by June 1st and, if you decide to go after that date, you will have to pay an extra \$5.00. If you have not sent in your registration by now (as you read this), you are probably too late to get it in before the reunion on June 11th-12th (but you might be able to sign up at the reunion). The site of this year's reunion is Dalton, Georgia. We can have up to 11 delegates, and I think that we have that many going. I would like to see a couple more going in case for some reason someone can't go. If you have registered since the May meeting and you know your name is **not** on the delegate form, be sure to let me know so I can add your name to the delegates' sheet at the June meeting. You must be

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Common Ties: Compatriot Barry Whitney, Jr., great grandson of BGen. E. Porter Alexander, greets Compatriot “Black Jack” Travis at the Alexander Camp’s sponsored book signing for Travis’ new book, “Rebel Gunner: E. Porter Alexander” on May 14th at the E. Porter Alexander Home in Washington, Georgia.

**Georgia Division Reunion Delegates to
Consider Important Amendments to By-Laws**

Delegates to the Georgia Division’s 114th Annual Reunion in Dalton will consider two proposed amendments to the by-laws designed to protect the Division’s financial assets. Given the financial indiscretions of the past Adjutant, the amendments will hopefully secure and provide “checks and balances” of the Division’s resources in the future.

Amendment #2 will require mandatory accounting reviews of the Adjutant’s Treasurer’s Report three weeks prior to the annual reunion by an “accounting professional” appointed by the Division Commander and Amendment #3 will require the Division Adjutant to provide a written Treasurer’s Report at every scheduled Executive Council meeting and an annual Treasurer’s Report to each certified delegate during the Reunion and to Camp Commanders who requests such by mail.

Sponsored by Gen Nathan B Forrest Camp #469 of Rome in partnership with the Gen Joseph E Johnston Camp #671 of Dalton, the Reunion will feature affordable meals on Friday evening and during the SCV Awards Luncheon. Other activities planned include the Division Chaplain’s Prayer Breakfast on Saturday morning where Rome Cmdr. Tony Warren will speak on “The Hunley”; a tour of the Dalton’s oldest antebellum home, the Hamilton Home; and the Grand Ball and Banquet to be held on Saturday evening.

Last Camp Meeting

Dr. Sue Moore and Amanda Morrow Speak on Archaeological Discoveries at Camp Lawton

During the May meeting, Dr. Sue Moore, a professor at Georgia Southern University in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology and Ms. Amanda Morrow, a graduate student at GSU, presented a Powerpoint presentation on the ongoing archaeological work and the artifacts discovered at Magnolia Springs State Park in Millen where Camp Lawton, a Confederate prison camp existed during the latter part of the War. Dr. Moore explained that Camp Lawton was larger than Camp Sumter, the prison camp at Andersonville, encompassing 42 acres and holding 10,200 prisoners at its maximum. Camp Lawton was built to alleviate the overcrowding at Camp Sumter, but was in operation for only six weeks in that it was burned by Sherman's troops on their March to the Sea. She described initial archaeological efforts were focused on finding the location of the pine stockade which was 20 feet tall and buried five feet deep. Dr. Moore explained there were six large brick chimneys constructed at the camp where prisoners could cook their rations, but many opted to sleep in them. Ms. Morrow discussed, respectively, the artifacts found which included uniform buttons, coins, bullets, silverware, and a tourniquet buckle. Following their presentation, Cmdr. Udell presented Dr. Moore and Ms. Morrow with a framed print of the Confederate Powder Works Chimney.

During the meeting, there were two applications for membership: **Carroll O. Nettles** who joins the camp on the record of his Confederate ancestor, Sgt Elias A. Cook of Company K, First South Carolina Infantry Regiment, and **Dr. William E. Loftis** who joins the camp on the record of his great grandfather, Pvt. William F. Loftis of Company C, 7th Georgia Cavalry.

During the Commander's Report, Cmdr. Ron Udell updated the camp as to the placement of Georgia Division Confederate History Month posters in Richmond County schools. He reported that the Camp's Honor Guard participated in a rifle salute at Confederate Memorial services last month in Waynesboro and in Evans. Udell discussed the upcoming Georgia Division Reunion to be

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The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

8 June: Tennessee Secession Day

Coming Events:

9 June: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting
Topic:
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue

10-12 June: Georgia Division Reunion
Dalton, Georgia

<http://www.scvcamp469-nbf.com/reunionhomepage.htm>

18 June: Re-enactment of funeral of Gen. George Doles
2: 00 PM at Old State Capitol
Milledgeville, Ga.

13-16 July: SCV International Reunion
Montgomery, Alabama

<http://www.2011scvreunion.com>

22-24 July: Reenactment, First Battle of Manassas
Manassas, Va.

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

held in Dalton, Georgia on June 11th, ascertained which compatriots were planning on attending, and explained the amendments to be considered for adoption.

Lt. Cmdr. Herron stated that the Honor Guard had been busy in April participating in the "Georgia on My Mind" event on the 15th, the Georgia Southern event on the 16th, the

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NC Town to Consider Restoration of Confederate Soldiers' Monument Destroyed in Accident

On May 23rd, in Reidsville, NC, a driver accidentally struck the 100 year old Confederate monument toppling the statue of the Confederate soldier atop its pedestal and destroying it. Recently, the UDC celebrated the monument's centennial. However, the City Council of Reidsville must now decide what must be done during these "politically correct" times—whether to allow its restoration or prevent it. On June 8th, the Reidsville City Council will determine the monument's fate. Please consider contacting the mayor, the city manager, and the City Council **before June 8th** and tell them to restore the monument:

Mayor James K. Festerman
Email: mayor@ci.reidsville.nc.us
Phone: (336) 349-6146 Fax: (336) 616-0850
City Manager: (336) 336-347-2300 then press 1
City Council: <http://reidsville.nc.us/citycouncil.htm>

NAACP Seeks to Remove Third National Flag at Louisiana Court House

A third national Confederate flag and its associated Confederate Monument at the Caddo Parish Court House in Shreveport, Louisiana are under attack by the NAACP who is seeking to have it removed. The flag has flown as part of the Confederate memorial since 1951. Opponents speciously argue that full justice cannot be fairly administered in the Court House while the flag and monument remain.

Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

Camp's Confederate Memorial Day services on the 23rd, Compatriot Richard Smith's memorial service and Living History at the Haskell House on the 30th. He also stated they participated in a re-enactment in Jacksonville, Alabama and the Pinetree Festival in Swainsboro.

Compatriot Barry Whitney discussed Christian Character and Leadership historical tours conducted by Dr. Harry Reeder, one of which is scheduled for June 22-24 exploring the central Virginia battlefields of the Army of Northern Virginia. Other tours available included "Jackson's Valley Campaign" and "From Gettysburg to Appomattox."

Adjutant Perry Herron stated that the camp now has 111 members and 23 life members. Compatriot Jerry Grisby was surprised by his wife who presented him with

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on this sheet in order to vote.

Camp# 158 was in Washington, Georgia on May 14th where we sponsored the book signing for Compatriot Jack Travis' new book, *Rebel Gunner: General E. Porter Alexander*. Compatriot Travis gave a very informative talk on BGen Alexander. One part of his talk focused on General Alexander's firing of cannons at Gettysburg and the cannons that were there (at the book signing) actually fired when Travis dropped his arm at the right moment during his talk. That was almost like "being there" for a moment. That was pretty good. I'm sure 1st Lt. Commander Lee Herron will have more on this at the next meeting. Compatriot Barry Whitney was also there, and I'm sure he enjoyed the presentation on his great grandfather. Our Lt. Commander took a lot of time and expense arranging this event for our camp and only about twelve members showed up. I know we can do better than this. After all, this was about our namesake, BGen. E. Porter Alexander. For those that didn't attend, y'all missed a good program. Thanks to all who helped with the event especially the ladies of the BGen E. Porter Alexander Chapter 2671 UDC for providing refreshments. And thanks to Lee for coordinating this program. It was well worth the short drive to Washington.

Magnolia Cemetery was cleaned by the old men's crew on May 18th. They did a great job for only four or five people. (It almost looked like a golf course!) The crew that usually works the beginning of the month needs to catch up. Remember it is our duty to care for these soldiers' final resting place. The old men's crew can't do it all. We also had our litter pickup on May 21st on Augusta West Parkway. It sure was in need of trash pick-up. Thanks to those folks who came out and worked at the cemetery and the litter pick up.

If you still have not gotten a Confederate Powder works fly ash bottle, be sure to contact David Powell to get yours before they are gone. We still have a limited number of Powder works prints left too.

Our next meeting will be August 11th. We will not have a meeting in July as Sconyers' is closing for vacation. If you go on vacation during the time we do not meet, please be safe and have a nice vacation. May God bless you and your family and have good time! Plan to be back in August for a great evening of Southern barbeque and to learn more about our Southern heritage and to support our Camp and its activities. **Remember the Charge. God Bless the South!**

an SCV Life Membership certificate in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Treasurer Nick Posey reported that Compatriot Richard Smith's brother had donated \$100 to the Camp.

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

The Wig Wag

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Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

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Editor



Happy 4th of July!

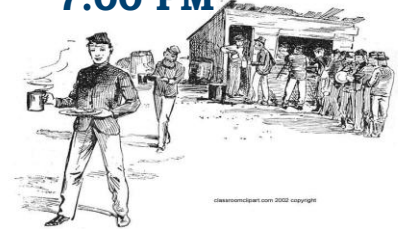
150 YEARS AGO: First Battle of Manassas

- 8 June 1861: Tennessee voters approve secession by a vote of 104,913 to 47,238
- 10 June 1861: Battle of Big Bethel, Virginia; Union forces are repulsed in the first significant battle of the war; Tarheel Henry L. Wyatt killed.
- 5 July 1861: Engagement at Carthage, Missouri
- 11 July 1861: Battle of Rich Mountain, western Virginia
- 13 July 1861: Engagement at Corrick's Ford, western Virginia; Gen. Robert S. Garnett becomes the first general to be killed in the War.
- 18 July 1861: Engagement at Blackburn's Ford, Virginia
- 20 July 1861: Confederate Congress convenes at Richmond.
- 21 July 1861: First Battle of Manassas, Va.; Confederates rout Federals
- 22 July 1861: Gen. Barnard E. Bee dies of his wounds received at Manassas.
- 25 July 1961: US Congress approves Lincoln's request to use volunteers to subdue the Confederacy.
- 27 July 1861: Confederates captures Union garrison at Ft. Fillmore and San Augustine Springs, New Mexico territory without firing a shot.
- 31 July 1861: The Confederate privateer "Dixie" captures the US ship "Glen" and tows her to Beaufort, NC.
- 5 August 1861: To raise money to finance the war, the US Congress passes its first income tax law.

Right: California Confederate Flag. During Independence Day celebrations in Sacramento on July 4, 1861, secessionist Major J. P. Gillis celebrated the independence of the US, as well as the southern states from the Union, by unfurling a First National Confederate flag of his own design (with 17 stars) and marching down the street to both the applause and jeers of onlookers. Two enraged Unionists accosted Gillis and stole his flag.

Next Camp Meeting

**Thursday, June 9th at
7:00 PM**



Sconyers Barbecue

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth!

--Psalms 47: 1-2 (NIV)

