

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

The 2012 Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans Reunion will be held in Bainbridge, Georgia and will be over by the time this is read. This year new Division officers will be elected and probably most will be reelected. There is also one article to the Division Bylaws to be considered--**adding a late fee of three dollars if you are late paying your Georgia Division dues.** This will not affect most members who pay their dues by the requested due date. There is also one project to consider (unless something has been added since our last meeting): the restoration of the Bulloch County Confederate Monument in Statesboro Georgia. They are requesting \$17,000 from the tag funds to make repairs and clean the monument. (Included in this cost will be installation of a fence and lighting.) We have seven compatriots going this year, and I'm thankful that we have that many attending. (Most of you probably know that Bainbridge is way down in the lower left portion of the state--very close to Florida.) And I'm sure that as usual the meeting will be action packed. Those of you that have not been before, make plans to attend next year. Next year's reunion will be in Statesboro Georgia.

The annual Sons of Confederate Veterans International Reunion will be held in Murfreesboro, Tennessee on July 11-14th this year. I'm not sure if any Alexander Camp compatriots plan to go,
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Remembering Palmetto State Confederates:

Alexander Camp compatriots Ron Udell, Tommy Chappell, Gary Hattaway, Ben Creech, Joe Winstead crossed the river to join with fellow re-enactors to serve as Honor Guard at Confederate Memorial services in Bamberg and Orangeburg, SC last month.

Editor's Note: Below is the continuation of a series of articles on Georgia military units in which Richmond County men served during the War Between the States. Companies D and F of the 12th Georgia Battalion consisted of men from Richmond County.

12th Georgia Fights the Battle of Cedar Creek

Following Early's defeat at the Third Battle of Winchester on September 19th, 1862, the 12th Georgia Battalion, joined by C Company, moved to Fisher's Hill, Virginia. On September 22nd, Sheridan caught Early off guard with a flanking movement, and routed the Confederate Army from its stronghold. The 12th suffered many casualties in this battle.

As Early's army retreated to the southern reaches of the Valley and regrouped, Gen. C.A Evans, who was wounded at Monocacy, rejoined the brigade on September 24th. By early October, Early's Army began moving down the Valley. Sheridan, who falsely believed that Early's forces were incapable of mounting an offensive, left the Valley for a strategy meeting in Washington. Gen. John B. Gordon climbed Massanutten Mountain and formulated a surprise attack on the Federals encamped near Cedar Creek.

On the morning of October 19th, the Confederates surprised the Federals and drove them from their positions. During the battle, the men of the 12th Georgia under Lt. George Peacock were able to turn captured
(See **Cedar Creek** on page 3)

Last Camp Meeting

Johnnie Pearson Speaks on His Book, *Lee and Jackson's Bloody Twelfth: The Letters of Irby Goodwin Scott, First Lieutenant. Company G, Putnam Light Infantry, 12th Georgia Volunteer Infantry*

During the May meeting of the Alexander Camp, Mr. Johnnie Pearson, a native Virginian, Hickory, NC resident, Vietnam veteran and veterans advocate spoke on his book, *Lee and Jackson's Bloody Twelfth: The Letters of Irby Goodwin Scott, First Lieutenant. Company G, Putnam Light Infantry, 12th Georgia Volunteer Infantry*.

Discussing the wartime letters of an ordinary Georgian from Putnam County who joined the Confederate Army in the spring 1861, Pearson revealed the horrors of combat and the hardships of camp life faced by this literate, well-rounded, intelligent young man. He discussed Scott's philosophy of avoiding heeding rumors and ardent patriotism in his quest for liberty and the independence for his country. Serving in the Shenandoah Valley through most of the Eastern Theatre's most important campaigns (except Gettysburg for he was wounded at Second Manassas), Scott's letters describe the food, weather, his health and that of the men in his company, the 1863 religious revival, crops, and market prices in his letters to his family. He advised his younger brother, Bud, to stay at home while he can. Nonetheless, Bud joined the Army and was mortally wounded at Spotsylvania. Most interesting were Pearson's comments regarding the two body servants which accompanied Scott to the field whom Irby considered to be his "family."

Following his informative presentation, Mr. Pearson was presented a framed photograph of the Confederate Powder Works chimney by Cmdr. Udell.

During the meeting, Cmdr. Udell expressed his disappointment in the low attendance at Confederate Memorial Day services held in Georgia and South Carolina. He asked the camp, "If you don't do it, who will?" and urged compatriots to be more observant of this special time in the future. Udell thanked all those who assisted in preparing the Confederate section in Magnolia Cemetery for the Camp's memorial service and reported he had received four more headstones to be installed, though one was incorrectly inscribed.

He stated he had received cards of thanks from Com-

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Important Dates to Remember:

Coming Events:

**14 June: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting
Topic: Ramsey's First Georgia Regmt.
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**11-14 July: SCV International Reunion
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
<http://tennessee-scv.org/2012reunion/>**

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

patriot Al Perry for the donation the camp made to the "Immortal 600" Camp for their upcoming monument dedication service in October and from the Miller family for the flowers and many expressions of sympathy received from the Camp during their time of grief.

Cmdr. Udell stated he and Lt Cmdr Herron recently met with the Canal Authority to discuss the proposed landscaping plans for the Confederate Powder works chimney. Three flag poles were proposed with the "Stars and Bars," the Second National, and, because of the proximity to the site where the Battle of the White House occurred in 1780, a Revolutionary War era flag to be flown.

Adjutant/Treasurer Nick Posey discussed the Georgia Division flagpole which will be erected on Compatriot Stan Scritchfield's property on Wheeler Road. Compatriot Scritchfield stated he needed \$500 as soon as possible to complete final preparations with the hope that he will be eventually reimbursed by the Division for the amount. Under recommendation by Adjutant Posey, the Camp voted to allocate \$500 from the projects fund to assist Compatriot Scritchfield's efforts. Hopefully, the Division will reimburse the camp for the amount.

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SC Representative Wants to End Confederate Memorial Day Holiday

South Carolina State Representative Boyd Brown of Winnsboro has suggested that the state of South Carolina end

its practice of commemorating Confederate Memorial Day as a state holiday. A descendant of Confederate veterans, Brown called the holiday “archaic” and states it should be observed in “our hearts and minds” rather than taking a day off from work. He blames the statewide holiday for holding up measures in the House and Senate.

Contact him and politely let him know you disagree:

Email:

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/email.php?T=M&C=211363611>

Rep. Boyd Brown
532A Blatt Bldg.
Columbia 29201
Business Phone (803) 212-6789

Home Address
P. O. Box 26
Winnsboro 29180

City of Paducah, Kentucky Opposes SCV’s Confederate Memorial near Interstate

On Saturday, May 19th, the Kentucky Sons of Confederate Veterans raised a 12 x 18 foot Confederate battle flag on a 60 foot pole on donated private property in Reidland, a suburb of Paducah, near I-24 with the hopes of creating a memorial park by adding benches and a circle of bricks honoring Confederate soldiers.

Subsequently, the city council of Paducah, led by Commissioner Gerald Watkins, approved a resolution to condemn the flying of the flag. Watkins, a political science professor who has been brainwashed by the anti-Confederate viewpoint of James McPherson, believes the flag “stands for slavery and hate,” Acting Mayor Gayle Kaler and Commissioner Richard Abraham, supported Watkins' resolution. Mayor Bill Paxton and Carol Gault were not present during the vote.

Contact the Mayor and the commissioners at the following via email and tell them what the battle flag means to you:

Mayor Bill Paxton: bpaxton@paducahky.gov

Richard Abraham: rabraham@paducahky.gov

Carol Gault: cgault@paducahky.gov

Gayle Kaler (Mayor Pro Tem): gakaler@paducahky.gov

Gerald Watkins: gwatkins@paducahky.gov



Commander’s Comments (Continued from page 1)

but if you do, please contact me at the meeting. We plan to discuss the proposed amendments should someone go.

The Camp #158 Honor Guard was again requested to provide a black powder salutes for Confederate Memorial Day services in the towns of Orangeburg and Barnwell, South Carolina this year. Thanks to all who went! As you can see by the photos (on the front page), I think we all had a good time helping these folks by adding to their Confederate Memorial Day programs and helping to remember the Confederate soldier in these towns.

Ken Kitchens has Confederate Powder Works fly ash bottles for sale to help with our projects fund. Also remember that we have memorial pavers for the Confederate monument for sale.

The beginning of summer is here with school out and the reunions upon us. We will not have a meeting in July as usual, but will still have the ongoing work at the cemetery and Confederate monument. Some of us also plan to help with the Canal boat tours as we did in April as our Sesquicentennial project continues. I hope everyone has a good summer and is able to spend time with family and friends. See y’all back in August to honor and remember our ancestors. Live the charge when possible.

Our next upcoming meeting will be June 14th. Our speaker will be George W. Martin. He will speak on his book “I will Give Them One More Shot: Ramsey’s First Regiment Georgia Volunteers”. Please plan to be at Sconyers Barbeque to remember our Southern heritage and to support our Camp and its activities when possible. We have a lot going on and you will miss something if you don’t come. **Remember the Charge! God Bless the South!**

Cedar Creek (Continued from page 1)

artillery against their enemy. Early pursued the Yankees until midday and routed the entire army except the Sixth Corps, but discontinued the attack much to Gordon’s dismay. As Sheridan returned on his famous ride, he was able to inspire his men and rallied them around the Sixth Corps. In the afternoon, Sheridan counterattacked and the morning’s victory turned into a disastrous defeat for Early’s army. The 12th Georgia, under Capt. George W. Johnson, again suffered more casualties.

Last Month’s Meeting (Continued from page 2)

Prior to the meeting, prayers were requested for the Miller Family, David Powell, Philip Weaver, Ernie Franklin, John Gibbons, Jules Godin, Jim Kirshner, Roy Stampley, Fred Bussey's son, David, and Stan Scritchfield’s grandson.

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

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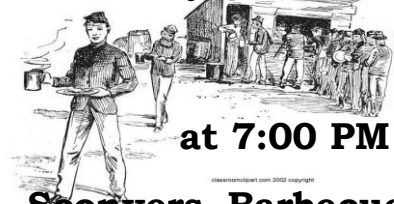
Happy 4th of July!

150 YEARS AGO: Seven Days' Battle around Richmond

- 12 June 1862: "Jeb" Stuart begins his first ride around McClellan's army during the Peninsular Campaign
- 15 June 1862: Stuart completes his ride around McClellan
- 16 June 1862: Battle of Secessionville on James Island, SC
- 18 June 1862: Six members of Andrews' raiders are hanged in Atlanta
Union forces capture Cumberland Gap
- 26 June 1862: Peninsular Campaign: Battle of Mechanicsville, Va.
- 27 June 1862: Texas Brigade distinguishes itself at the Battle of Gaines' Mill
- 28 June 1862: Union Admiral Farragut's fleet passes Vicksburg batteries
- 29 June 1862: Peninsular Campaign: Battle of Savage Station
- 30 June 1862: Battle of Frayer's Farm or White Oak Swamp
- 1 July 1862: Battle of Malvern Hill, Va., Federal Army withdraws
US naval assault on Ft. McAllister, Ga.
- 6 July 1862: US gunboat *Quaker City* captures the British blockade runner, *Adela*, off Abaco, Florida and tows her to Key West
- 9 July 1862: Gen. John Hunt Morgan forces defeat the Yankees and capture Tompkinsville, Kentucky
- 13 July 1862: Gen. Forrest raids Murfreesboro, Tenn. on his birthday
- 15 July 1862: CSS *Arkansas* fights off four Federal gunboats, destroying three
- 23 July 1862: Regiments may officially inscribe names of battles on their flags

Right: The battle flag of the 18th North Carolina Infantry: The 18th NC was organized at Camp Wyatt in southeast NC in July 1861 with 1,100 men. The unit moved to Virginia in the spring 1862 and, as part of Branch's Brigade, lost 57% of the 396 engaged during the Seven Days' Battles around Richmond in June 1862. This flag, adorned with the names of those battles, was captured less than a year later at Chancellorsville where the unit was blamed for wounding Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson.

Next Camp Meeting Thursday, June 14th



at 7:00 PM

Sconyers Barbecue
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard

Scripture Thought

For you were called to freedom, brethren, only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

---Galatians 5:13 (NAS)

