

Sons of Confederate Veterans June 2016

Commander's Comments by Dr. John Baxley

May was another busy month for our camp. Every weekend camp members were involved in Confederate Memorial Day events throughout several states.

On May 7th, Ron Udell, Tommy Chappell, and "Road Runner" Ben Creech marched in the Confederate Memorial Day parade in Columbia, S.C. Joe Winstead and Carroll Nettles manned our Quartermaster store at the Redneck Games on the same day. Close to \$400 worth of Confederate merchandise was sold by these two at the annual event held at the Lock and Dam along the river. Way to go Joe and Carroll in helping to replenish the camp treasury!

May 14th was another long Confederate day with Ron Udell, Tommy Chappell, Ben Creech, Arnold Huskins, and Marie Powell participating as honor guard in three separate events in South Carolina. Starting in St. Matthews, the group traveled from there to Orangeburg and then onto the courthouse square in Barnwell for a Memorial Day service put on by the Hagood Camp in Barnwell and the 17th SC Regiment Camp of Hilda, S.C. All event attendees greatly appreciated our Honor Guard with their black powder salutes. Marie added a touch of solemnity to the event with her black mourning hoop dress and widows weeds. Afterwards, we stopped at Duke's Barbecue near Aiken on the way home for a fine evening meal. Folks in the restaurant asked about us allowing our camp to educate some Yankees eating there about our Cause.

On May 28th, Tommy Chappell, Ben Creech, and Ron Udell marched in the Aiken Memorial Day Parade along with the Gen. Bee Camp. With a grand Confederate float flying the Southern Cross, they were



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An Active Month for our Camp's Honor Guard: The Alexander Camp's Honor Guard participated in several Memorial Day events in May to include the US Memorial Day service in Augusta on the 31st (left) and Confederate Memorial Day services in St. Matthews, Orangeburg and Barnwell consecutively on May 14th (left). Compatriots "Major" Ron Udell, Tommy Chappell, Ben Creech, Emma Givens, Gary Hattaway, Arnold Huskins, Cmdr. John Baxley and Marie Powell participated.

Augusta's First Fatality of the War Between the States

On May 31, 1861 Augusta's first fatality of the War for Southern Independence occurred—not from bayonet or bullets—but from snake bite envenomation. Pvt. Hugh H. Parkyn, a bugler in Co. A, 5th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, known as the "Clinch Rifles," was mustered into service on May 11, 1861 and died twenty days later in camp near Pensacola, Florida. Parkyn picked up a small snake—an eastern coral snake-- and boasted that he was going to tame it and keep it as a pet. His comrades warned him that it was probably dangerous, but Parkyn laughed it off. While coiling it around his arm, the musician was bit twice between the knuckles on each hand. Later that day, soldiers found him inside his tent gasping with a swollen tongue. He died a few hours later and his body was returned to Georgia and buried in Linwood Cemetery in Columbus.

Parkyn probably believed the snake to be nonvenomous i.e. a scarlet snake or a scarlet king snake/eastern milk snake which bear similar markings or he may have subscribed to the false belief in the 19th century that regarded coral snakes as benign and relatively harmless and reluctant to bite even with provocation.

Parkyn's death was widely announced throughout the South in newspapers. *The Daily Chronicle & Sentinel* of Augusta reported on June 1st, "We regret to learn that a private dispatch was received here last night, announcing the death of H. H. Parkyn... yesterday, resulting from the bite of a snake."

Born in 1825 in Cornwall, England, Parkyn immigrated to America and married Isabella Mann of Wayland, Massachusetts on June 28, 1859 in Columbus, Georgia. The 1860 census reported them as living in Augusta, Georgia with an eight month old son named Charles. An accomplished violinist, Parkyn worked as a merchant's clerk before joining the Clinch Rifles.

Last Camp Meeting:

Paulette Snoby, RN Speaks on "Doctoring the African Slave"

During the May 2016 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Mrs. Paulette Snoby, RN spoke on the topic, "Doctoring the African Slave". A native of Connellsville, Pennsylvania and graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School Of Nursing, Mrs. Snoby is the author of the book, *April's Revolution: A Modern Perspective of American Medical Care of Civil War Soldiers and African Slaves*. Presently residing in Roswell, Georgia, she is a member of the Society of Civil War Surgeons, the Museum of the Confederacy, the National Civil War Medical Museum and, despite being a Daughter of Union Veterans of the Civil War; she stated she is a Southern apologist.

She began her discussion by speaking of the "Middle Passage" which transported over 12 million Africans from the 15th to the 19th century to the Americas including 14 slave ports in what is now the US. Twelve out of the fourteen were in the North with Newport, Rhode Island being the largest. Snoby described how over one-half of those transported died in route of the "bloody flux" and fever having no immunity from European diseases. She described how the newly arrived Africans were "seasoned" so as to acclimate them gradually to their new diet, climate and labor demands.

Snoby stated slave infirmaries were privately owned and located in urban areas, in ports and along rivers and managed by well renowned physicians who wanted to earn a living, to advance the South's medical knowledge and to conduct research. The staff usually consisted of doctors and male nurses who provided food, lodging and medical care. Specialization included ophthalmology, trauma surgery, gynecology and "Negro medicine" which contrasted the physiological differences of the races so as to support the institution of slavery. Augusta's infirmary, the Jackson Street Hospital, was located on the corner Fenwick and 8th Streets and treated both free and enslaved blacks. It featured 70 beds and hot and cold running water.

Many medical colleges had dispensaries where slaves could receive medical care and where the bodies of those who had died could be autopsied for research. On the plantation, the mistresses directed the healthcare of the slaves with overseers determining complaints. Often the treatment included stays in nearby "sick houses" where African nurses utilized time-honored herbs to heal the sick.

Following her insightful presentation, Mrs. Snoby was presented with the book, *The Aftermath of Battle: The Burial of Civil War Dead* written by Meg Groeling by Cmdr. Baxley.

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:

8 June: Tennessee Secession Day

Coming Events:

9 June: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting

Topic: Medical Care of Soldiers in

Augusta

7:00 PM at Sconyers Barbecue

**10-11 June: Georgia Division Reunion
Conyers, Ga.**

<http://www.confederatememorial.org/>

**12-18 June: Georgia Confederates Youth Camp
Refuge Baptist Camp
Carnesville, Ga.**

<http://gascv.org/georgia-confederates-youth-camp>

18 June: Gen. Leonidas Polk Memorial Ceremony
10:30 AM at Pine Mountain, Ga.

20-22 June: Reenactment of the battle of Resaca

**13-17 July: SCV International Reunion
Richardson, Texas**

<http://scv2016.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

During the meeting there were two applications for camp membership: 2nd Lt Cmdr. David Armor's nephew, **Daniel C. Inglett** who joins on the record of his 3rd great grandfather, Pvt. Adoniram J. Steed of Co. G. 15th Georgia Infantry and **William Hawn** who joins on the record of his 4th great grandfather, Pvt. Thomas J. West of Co. I., 59th Georgia Infantry. Both applications were approved by those in attendance. Adjutant Posey also stated the Camp had received another member, **Christopher I. Knox**,

who had transferred from the McCain Camp #584 in Columbia, Tenn. received by the large crowd. The long month of events finally ended on May 30th in Augusta at the Veterans Monument on 4th and Broad where Ron Udell, Ben Creech, Tommy Chappell, and Emma Givens participated in the annual event honoring our past deceased veterans.

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US Congress Votes to Prohibit Large Scale Confederate Flags in VA Cemeteries

On May 19th, in a 265 to 159 vote, the US Congress passed H.R. 4974 entitled "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017" prohibiting the display of large scale Confederate flags in Veterans Administration cemeteries, i.e. all national cemeteries, including those with mass Confederate graves. It will end the practice of flying the Confederate flag below the US flag on Memorial Day and prohibit Confederate re-enactor honor guards from carrying poles with flags into the cemetery. Families will still be allowed to place small Confederate flags on graves, but only for a very limited amount of time--perhaps two days a year.

California Democrat Jared Huffman authored the divisive and discriminatory prohibition, ignorantly raving that the flag represents "racism, slavery and division." What is surprising is that 84 Republicans joined 181 Democrats to pass the measure with only one Democrat, Rep. Sanford Bishop of Georgia, voting against the measure. Sadly, no one spoke in opposition to the measure.

Both the SCV National and Georgia Division leadership have issued statements condemning HR 4974 and have requested that **all** compatriots contact their US Senators to amend the wording to remove the restrictions or vote against the bill. Remind them that the Senate approved Public Law 85-425, signed into law by President Eisenhower in 1958, that bestowed full veterans' rights to Confederate soldiers and their widows and made them equal with all other American veterans of our nation's wars.

All Senators may be contacted via the following:
<http://www.senate.gov/general/contacting.htm>

Georgia:

Senator David Perdue

Phone: (202) 224-3521

Fax: (202) 228-1031

Senator Johnny Isakson

Phone: 202-224-3643

Fax: 202-228-0724

South Carolina:

Senator Lindsay Graham

Phone: (202) 224-5972

Fax: (202) 224-3808

Senator Tim Scott

Phone: (202) 224-6121,

Toll Free: (855) 425-6324

Fax: (202) 228-5143

It is suggested that all compatriots also contact their member of Congress and thank them if they voted against this bill or scold them politely if they voted for it.

Commander's Comments (continued from page 1)

Of course, during the month our camp was busy cleaning Confederate graves at Magnolia Cemetery in Augusta several times. We wish to thank Ron Udell (a.k.a. "Weedeater"), Ben Creech, Tommy Chappell, Joe Winstead, Mike Milford, Emma Givens, Nick Posey, Daniel West, Gary Hattaway, Tobin Burnett and Greg Murphy in their tireless efforts in making this area the most beautiful part of the cemetery.

We are blessed with a wonderful camp of dedicated Christian folks having a lot of fun advancing the Cause. Come on out and join us at Sconyer's Barbecue on June 9th and join in on the fun. I will be giving a short talk on Augusta's role in caring for wounded soldiers during the War. I wish to thank everyone involved in helping with our active camp.

Have a Great Dixie Day and remember, Deo Vindice!

Your humble servant, Commander Baxley



Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

During the meeting, Cmdr. Baxley stated he would be speaking at the next meeting on the topic, "The Medical Care of Soldiers". He reported he had received from the SC Division heritage defense cards which compatriots can mail to Wal-Mart, Amazon, eBay and other companies that have maligned our heritage within the past year. Baxley discussed the upcoming Georgia Division reunion to be held in Conyers in June and the major candidates for leadership positions.

Lt Cmdr Posey announced a Magnolia cemetery cleanup to be held on Saturday, May 14th at 8:30 AM and reported that the total expenses for the Confederate Memorial Day ceremony was \$539. He stated the Camp now has 106 members.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead auctioned several items during the meeting with the proceeds going directly into the project fund. He stated he took the Camp Store to the Redneck Games and sold \$388 in heritage merchandise.

Honor Guard Cmdr. Ron Udell reported the closing of Maurice's Barbecue in North Augusta which was well received by the Camp given the owner's present animosity toward our heritage.

Berry Benson Camp Cmdr. Bobby Snider invited the Camp to attend their annual camp picnic to be held on Saturday, May 14th at 3:00 PM at Misty Lake Picnic Area.

Past Cmdr. Lee Herron reported that he still had Confederate Powder Works Rededication videos for purchase for \$10 each with the proceeds going to the Camp.

The meeting was adjourned by Cmdr. Baxley. After the benediction by Chaplain Creech, *Dixie* was sung by the Camp.



The Wig Wag

Official Publication of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eportalexander.homestead.com>

June 2016 Issue
1316 High Woods Pass
Grovetown, Ga. 30813

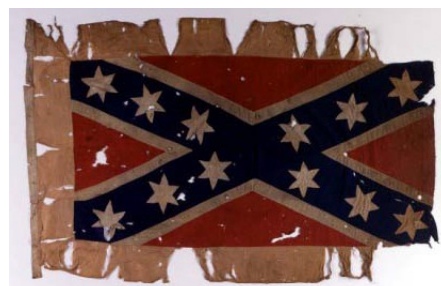
Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.
Editor



20 Prominent Northern Born Confederates

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. General Samuel Cooper | Hackensack, NJ |
| 2. LGen John C. Pemberton | Philadelphia, PA |
| 3. MGen Lunsford Loxmax | Newport, RI |
| 4. MGen. Bushrod Johnson | Belmont City, OH |
| 5. MGen Franklin Gardner | New York, NY |
| 6. MGen Otto F. Strahl | Elliotts Cross Roads, OH |
| 7. MGen Samuel French | Gloucester City, NJ |
| 8. BGen William Allen | New York, NY |
| 9. BGen Johnson K. Duncan | York, PA |
| 10. BGen William Miller | Ithaca, NY |
| 11. BGen Edward Perry | Richmond, MA |
| 12. BGen William McComb | Mercer City, PA |
| 13. BGen Daniel Ruggles | Barre, MA |
| 14. BGen Roswell, Ripley | Worthington, OH |
| 15. BGen. Claudius Sears | Peru, MA |
| 16. BGen Albert Blanchard | Charleston, MA |
| 17. BGen William Steele | Albany, NY |
| 18. BGen Archibald Gracie | New York, NY |
| 19. Josiah Gorgas, Chief of Ordinance Bureau | Running Pumps PA |
| 20. John Slidell, Ambassador to France | New York, NY |

Next Camp Meeting



Right: The Bragg's Corps battle flag of the 57th Georgia Infantry: The 57th Georgia Infantry was organized in 1862 with men from Thomas, Laurens, Wilkinson, Houston, Washington, Crawford and Baldwin Counties. Initially designated the 54th Georgia Infantry, they served in east Tennessee and fought at