



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

Gentlemen, I want to thank you for your support at the meeting the other night. Even with a long program, we very efficiently got out of the meeting at 8:30 PM. I know that there were probably a couple of things that might not have gotten covered, but I don't think that any of them were show stoppers. I think that it is very important that we discipline ourselves to an effective, but time efficient, meeting. Those of us who still have to work appreciate the need to have a good program, but then get our business done and get on home. Thanks for your future support in this effort.

As you all know the month of April is *Confederate History Month* in Georgia. There will be many opportunities throughout Georgia to help folks celebrate their (our) Confederate heritage. I encourage everyone to attend as many events as you can, particularly in the local area. We have set Saturday, April 20th for our memorial service. Please make plans now to attend and bring people with you. It is a proven fact that the bigger the crowd, the better the event. Lt. Commander Posey has arranged a very good speaker for our event and we need to honor his preparation, travel time and program presentation with a very large crowd. I really seek everyone's extra support for this year's event. Another big event in Georgia's Confederate Heritage celebration is the annual memorial

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Ready to Lead and to Serve: Cmdr Ron Udell (far left) swears in the new Alexander Camp officers at the Lee/Jackson Banquet which was held on January 26th at Burn UMC Fellowship Hall. Standing (left to right) are new Commander David Moncus, Adjutant/Treasurer (also Lt Cmdr.) Nick Posey, Chaplain Ben Creech, newsletter editor Arnold Huskins, Camp Surgeon John Baxley, and Quartermaster Joe Winstead.

**Augusta Fire Company Number 5:
"The Irish Volunteers"**

As St. Patrick's Day is on March 17th, it is well to remember that Company C of the 5th Georgia Infantry was originally known as the "Irish Volunteers", a unit consisting primarily of Irish men from Richmond County. These men, prior to the War, were members of Augusta Fire Company Number Five. Surveying the news reports of the Augusta newspaper, "The Daily Constitutionalist" the following articles were written describing their patriotic spirit in early 1861 prior to their departure for military service.

January 22: *Augusta, No. 5.—The engine house of this gallant company was in a blaze of light, while above it was an impromptu Southern Rights flag... The one now suspended over the engine house is about sixteen feet in length, by eight and a half in width, and is of white ground with red stripes; in the union is the coat of arms of Georgia, with five stars within the arch—one for each seceding State. Across the flag are the words: "Southern Confederacy."*

March 19: *... Augusta Fire Company, No. 5, received a handsome flag—the presentation of which being made by Col. Locklane, and the response by President Geo. T. Barnes, of No. 5. . The flag is the design, we understand, of our young townsman, Mr. Sharpe; and on one side has the coat of arms of Georgia, with seven stars, and on the other a "sun burst," a harp of Erin, and seven stars. It is very neat, and in worthy hands. "Long may it wave" over the engine house of patriotic No. 5!*

Last Camp Meeting

Mr. Robert Jones Discusses Confederate Spies and Guerillas

During the February meeting of the Alexander Camp, Mr. Robert Jones, president of the Kennesaw Historical Society and Programs and Education Chairman of the Kennesaw Museum Foundation spoke on the topic, "The Top Ten Confederate Spies and Irregulars". He began by stating the Confederate Secret Service was not fully utilized until late in the war and began a countdown which began with the Camp's namesake, BGen E. Porter Alexander, as number eleven for his reconnaissance with aerial balloons to spy on the enemy during the Peninsular Campaign. This was followed by Col. Thomas Jordan of Virginia who recruited Confederate spies in Washington early in the War, namely Rose O'Neal Greenhow. Henry B. Shaw of Tennessee was #9, a spy who portrayed himself as a physician, went by the name CE or EC Coleman, and operated behind Union lines in middle Tennessee. The Confederate "Nathan Hale", Sam Davis, was one of his spies. Number 8 was Major William Norris of Maryland who served as the head of the Confederate Secret Service Bureau within the Signal Corps. Jones switched to notorious guerilla Champ Ferguson of Kentucky for number 7, who launched his own private war against those who supported the Union and admitted killing 100 men. He was tried by Union authorities after the War and hung. Native Tarheel Jacob Thompson who served in the Confederate Secret Service in Canada was number 6 despite his lack of success: a failed plot to free Confederate prisoners at Johnson Island, Ohio and an attempt to burn New York City in 1864. Number Five was Ohio native Confederate guerilla William Quantrill who led the raid on Lawrence, Kansas and number four was Thomas Conrad, who served as a Chaplain for Gen. JEB Stuart and was involved in counterespionage and a plot to kidnap Lincoln. The widow, Rose O'Neal Greenhow, number three, was a powerbroker involved in espionage in Washington who helped turned the tide of battle at First Manassas. She later served as an emissary in Europe for the CSA. Guerilla leader William T. "Bloody Bill" Anderson who led the raid on Centralia, Missouri was number two and Col. John S. Mosby whose successful guerilla tactics in northern Virginia enabled the territory to become known as "Mosby's Confederacy," was number one.

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

Coming Events:

**14 March: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting
Topic: TBA
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**16 March: Confederate Heritage Rally 2013
Biloxi, Mississippi**

16-17 March: Battle of Manassas re-enactment
Claxton, Ga.

**13 April: National Confederate Memorial
Day Service
1:00 PM
Stone Mountain, Ga.**

**20 April: Camp's Confederate Memorial Day
Service
11:00 AM: Heritage March
11:45 AM: Magnolia Cemetery Service**

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

11 March: BGen. Allison Nelson*
BGen. Edmund Kirby, Jr.*
14 March: MGen. John S. Marmaduke
17 March: **MGen. Patrick R. Cleburne***
19 March: BGen. Lewis H. Little*
22 March: Gen. Braxton Bragg
MGen. William H.C. Whiting*
25 March: MGen. William T. Martin
28 March: LGen. Wade Hampton
29 March: John Letcher, Gov. Va.
MGen. Robert E. Rodes*
31 March: BGen. John H. Kelley*
1 April: LGen. Simon B. Buckner
2 April: BGen. Henry L. "Old Rock" Benning
5 April: MGen. David R. "Neighbor" Jones*
6 April: MGen. William Field
7 April: Francis W. Pickens, Gov. SC
*Died in CSA Service

Following his excellent presentation, Mr. Jones was presented a Confederate Powder Works fly ash bottle by Cmdr. Moncus.

During the meeting, new member certificates were presented to Compatriots Charles A. Fletcher, and Dale and Robert Sanders.

Cmdr. Moncus gave a brief autobiography of himself stating he was born in Vidalia, and had been in the SCV for 23 years, and was presently a life member. He stated that future camp meetings will be streamlined and will end promptly at 8:30 PM. Cmdr. Moncus discussed the idea of ending the Camp's roadside cleanup program due to limited participation and the need to concentrate our efforts on the Confederate cemetery. He thanked all those who attended

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Legislation Introduced in Georgia General Assembly to Prohibit Monument Removal

Legislation is pending in the Georgia general assembly would make it illegal to “mutilate, deface, defile, or abuse contemptuously any publicly owned monument,” including those honoring the Confederate States of America.

The proposal, House Bill 91, filed by state Rep Tommy Benton, R-Jefferson, mandates that publicly owned monuments located on public property be kept on display in a prominent place. Concealing monuments would be a misdemeanor, and anyone who “damages, destroys, or loses a monument or that takes or removes a monument without replacing it” would be responsible for any repair costs.

The measure defines a monument as including plaques, markers and statues “constructed and located with the intent of being permanently displayed and perpetually maintained” and “dedicated to a historical entity, event or series of events.”

“We’re not saying they can’t move them,” Benton stated. “We’re just saying they can’t just put them in a field somewhere.”

Georgia has hundreds of monuments dedicated to Confederate soldiers. Benton’s proposal specifically prohibits the obstruction of the Stone Mountain memorial carving.

The proposed legislation does allow monuments to be removed for “preservation, protection, and interpretation.” However, a “monument shall not be relocated to a museum, cemetery, or mausoleum unless it was originally placed at such a location.”

The bill also allows monuments to be relocated for building and road expansion; however, the monument must be moved “to a site of similar prominence, honor, visibility, availability, and access within the same jurisdiction.”

Georgia compatriots are urged to contact the Chairman of Rules and ask him to allow the bill to proceed out of Rules and to contact their State House representative and ask them to support House Bill 91 should it come to the floor.

Last Month’s Meeting (Continued from page 2)

the Lee-Jackson Banquet. Moncus stated the cemetery clean up will be scheduled for a later date.

Adjutant Posey reported there is no change in membership and that the cost of the Lee/Jackson Banquet after tickets were sold was around \$450. He reported that \$224 was collected from sales of the Powder Works Chimney re-dedication DVD’s by Compatriot Lee Herron.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead reported they had laid the

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service that is held at Stone Mountain, the largest Confederate Monument in the world, on April 13th.

Remember the request that I made last month about helping to secure speakers for our monthly meetings or planning to make a presentation yourself. Just contact Lt. Commander Posey, and he will gladly make the arrangements. We are looking forward to your support in this important area of our camp activities.

I want to go ahead and remind you to mark your calendars for the right meeting date in April. Due to the Masters Tournament, our April meeting date will be moved to April 18th which will be one week later than normal. This will be the Thursday before our memorial service and give us one last chance to close out details for the support needed on that Saturday, April 20th.

Thank you very much for your support!

Remember in Your Prayers

-Compatriot John Givens is in Trinity Hospital in Room 211.
-Compatriot and Past 5th Brigade Cmdr. Mike Mull received a liver transplant at Emory University Hospital on Saturday March 2nd and is in stable condition.

Nonprofit Organization Created to Save Memphis’ Confederate Parks

A nonprofit organization has been created to help with the legal expenses needed in the efforts to save Memphis’ Confederate Parks from being renamed. Citizens to Save Our Parks (<http://citizenstosaveourparks.org>) is seeking tax deductible donations from compatriots wishing to combat the forces of political correctness and historical revisionism. Mail your donation to the following address:

Citizens to Save Our Parks
PO Box 241875
Memphis, TN 38124

granite adjacent to the Confederate Monument and plan to pour a cement base for more pavers. He stated “in memory of” pavers will be accepted for SCV and UDC members. Winstead nominated Adjutant/Treasurer Nick Posey as First Lt. Cmdr. The motion was made, seconded and approved by the Camp “Major” Ron Udell reported the Camp’s Honor Guard participated in the Sgt Berry Benson Birthday remembrance on February 10th.

It was reported that the battle flag at the Confederate soldiers’ section of Magnolia Cemetery needs replacement. The 10 x 15 foot battle flag on Wheeler Road has been taken down to repair. Three flags are needed per year at a cost of \$150 per flag.

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

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Editor



Happy Easter!

Remembering our Celtic Confederate Heritage

150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Kelly's Ford, Virginia

- 13 March 1863: Confederate Ordnance Laboratory explodes in Richmond killing and injuring 69 workers including 62 women
- 14 March 1863: Two of Union Admiral Farragut's seven ships pass north of the strong Confederate shore batteries at Port Hudson, La.
- 17 March 1863: During a cavalry battle at Kelly's Ford, Va., the boy artilleryist, Major John Pelham, is struck by a shell and killed
- 21 March 1863: Confederate guerillas attack a Union railway train between Bolivar and Grand Junction, Tenn.
- 22 March 1863: Morgan's Cavalry under Basil Duke capture the Federal garrison at Mt. Sterling, Ky.
- 24 March 1863: Gen. Forrest raid on Brentwood, Tenn. Confederates captures 785 Yankees and all the stores and provisions in the town
- 2 April 1863: Richmond Bread Riot: a mob demands bread from a supply wagon, loots stores before being addressed by Pres. Davis
- 5 April 1863: CSS *Alabama* captures US ship *Louisa Hatch* off the coast of Brazil with a large cargo of coal.
- 7 April 1863: Union ironclad gunboats are heavily damaged and forced to withdraw after attacking Ft. Sumter and Ft Moultrie in Charleston

Right: The regimental flag of the Co. A, 5th Virginia Cavalry: Company A was formed from the Gloucester Light Dragoons and spent their first year of service near Gloucester Point. After reorganization in June 1862, the 5th Va. Cavalry was attached to the Army of Northern Virginia and participated in the campaigns of the Army of Northern Virginia including the battle of Kelly's Ford. The unit also participated in Early's Shenandoah Valley Campaign and was consolidated with the 15th Va. Cavalry in October 1864 becoming the 5th Consolidated Va. Cavalry.

Next Camp Meeting

**Thursday
March 14th
at 7:00 PM**



Sconyers Barbecue
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my
beard; I did not hide my face from
mocking and spitting.

--Isaiah 50: 6(NIV)

