

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

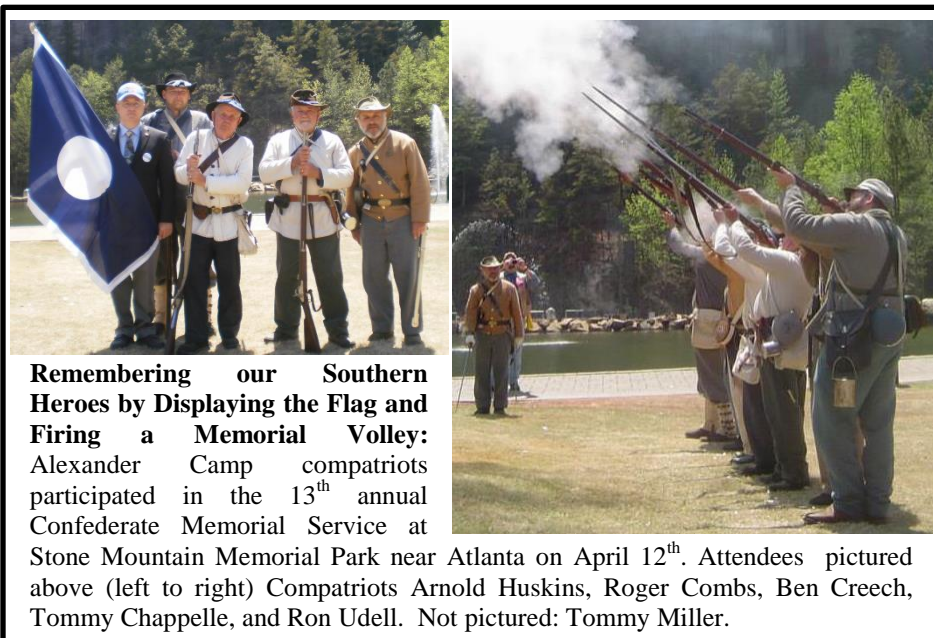
Another Confederate History Month has passed, and we will continue to move forward. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Camp's memorial service due to rainy weather. However, we were able to support the service in Hephzibah on April 27th. Thanks to all who supported that event!

Our camp was well represented at numerous other memorial services throughout the month of April—Stone Mountain, Hephzibah, Evans, etc. A special thanks to all who were able to attend and be a part of each one. Every memorial service is a special event.

I want to give a special thank you to all those who prepared for our service. All the permits, sound equipment, speaker, chairs and flags were prepped and ready. A number of our members worked very hard to ensure that the grass was cut, weeds removed, raking was complete, and the fountain was working.

Our Division Reunion is coming up in June and will be in Columbus. I know that is a long trip, but I hope you can attend and represent our camp. We are eligible for 10 votes, but must have a camp member present to cast each vote. We will be electing a new Division Commander and voting on three or more amendments to our by-laws.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on May 8th as we continue to remember and honor our Confederate ancestors.



Remembering our Southern Heroes by Displaying the Flag and Firing a Memorial Volley: Alexander Camp compatriots participated in the 13th annual Confederate Memorial Service at Stone Mountain Memorial Park near Atlanta on April 12th. Attendees pictured above (left to right) Compatriots Arnold Huskins, Roger Combs, Ben Creech, Tommy Chappelle, and Ron Udell. Not pictured: Tommy Miller.

Editor's Note: Below is the continuation of a series of articles on Confederate units which consisted of men from Richmond County. This is the third installment detailing the history of the 3rd Georgia Infantry Regiment of which Companies G and I were from Richmond County.

The Third Georgia Prepares for its First Challenge

On May 21, 1861, while near Portsmouth, Virginia at Camp Gwynn, the newly organized Third Georgia Infantry had their first experience in hard soldiering, which, despite their best efforts, culminated in no encounter with the enemy.

At midnight, General Gwynn sent a dispatch ordering the regiment to the depot where four of the companies would take the train for Suffolk, and the other six companies would take the train for Bower's Hill, a railroad station about eight miles from Portsmouth. The dispatch stated that a New York Regiment had deployed at Pig Point on the afternoon of the 20th, and was expected to advance on the railroad, at some point between Portsmouth and Suffolk. According to one veteran, the dispatch sent a "thrill of joy" through the camp and no troops, of any kind, responded with more "alacrity and promptness" to duty than the Georgia soldiers.

When a sense of urgency, the men strapped on their blankets and knapsacks, received cartridges and caps, and the regiment formed in order. Four companies--the Brown Rifles, Home Guard, Governor's Guard and Blodget Volunteers--under command of Lt. Col. James S. Reid, marched in

(See **Third Georgia Infantry** on page 3)

Last Camp Meeting

Compatriot Tom Plowden Discusses Reconstruction in South Carolina

During the April 2014 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Compatriot Tom Plowden, Commander of the BGen Martin Gary Camp #1532 in Edgefield, SC spoke to the camp on the topic, Reconstruction in South Carolina: 1865-1877. Compatriot Plowden is a Greenville, SC native, a Furman University graduate, and was instrumental in the formation of the Gary Camp.

Compatriot Plowden began by discussing the dismal state of affairs in the Palmetto State following the war which left one-third of the men dead, one third maimed, and the rest consisting of old men and young boys. Everyone was destitute and the economy was in shambles with no existing financial institutions. Preservation of life was "key" with Federal troops in every town, the black militia empowered, and most white men—almost 9,000--totally disenfranchised. Interestingly, Plowden stated the death rate for whites remained the same during Reconstruction compared to the years prior to the War; however, the death rate for blacks increased 69%. Nonetheless, under Radical Republic rule, many unqualified blacks, carpetbaggers and scalawags were elected to state offices and graft and corruption was rampant. The state debt rose from less than one million before the War to over \$29 million by 1871. He discussed the rise of the Ku Klux Klan and its expeditions against the black militia which in turn caused the Federal government to intercede and declare martial law. Finally in the heated gubernatorial race in 1876, Wade Hampton and the Red Shirts were able to end the reign of the Radical Republicans and restore the state to home rule. Having given its electoral votes to Rutherford B. Hayes during the Compromise of 1877, reconstruction ended in the Palmetto State as Federal troops departed, and the state rejoined the Union.

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

During the meeting, there was one application for membership, **Gregory A. Murphy** who joins the Camp on the record of his Confederate ancestor, Pvt Henry Morris, who served in 2nd SC Lt. Artillery. Cmdr. Moncus presented an SCV certificate to new member, **Michael J. McCann**.

Commander Moncus thanked all those who participated in the National Confederate Memorial Day service at Stone Mountain, Georgia on April 12th. They were Tommy Chappelle, Roger

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

- 10 May: Confederate Memorial Day (NC, SC)
- 20 May: North Carolina Secession Day
- 26 May: US Memorial Day
- 3 June: Confederate Memorial Day (La., Kty., Tenn.)
- 8 June: Tennessee Secession Day

Coming Events:

**8 May: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting
Topic: Escape & Capture of J. W. Booth
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

16-18 May: 150th anniversary of the Battle of Resaca re-enactment

http://www.georgiadiivision.org/bor_reenactment.html

**26 May: US Memorial Day Service
11:00 AM at All Wars' Monument
Augusta**

**13-14 June: Georgia Division SCV Reunion
Columbus, Georgia**

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

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

- 9 May: BGen William E. "Grumble" Jones*
- 13 May: Zebulon B. Vance, Gov. NC
- 14 May: BGen. George B. Doles*
- 15 May: MGen. Isaac R. Trimble
- 16 May: Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith
- 19 May: BGen. Felix K. Zollicoffer*
- 21 May: MGen. Dabney H. Maury
BGen Mosby M. Parsons*
- 24 May: Charles Clark, Gov. Miss.
- 26 May: BGen. Edward Porter Alexander
- 28 May: Gen. Pierre G.T. Beauregard
- 29 May: MGen. Cadmus M. Wilcox
- 31 May: MGen. William Fitzhugh Lee
MGen. Stephen D. Ramseur*
- 1 June: BGen. John B. Floyd*
BGen John Hunt Morgan
Gen. John B. Hood
- 3 June: **President Jefferson F. Davis**
- 2 June: BGen. Benjamin Hardin Helm
- 3 June: BGen. Martin E. Green*
BGen. Otho French Strahl*
- 4 June: BGen. Paul J. Semmes*
*Died in Confederate Service

Coombs, Ben Creech, Ron Udell, Tommy Miller and Arnold Huskins. He also commended those who participated in a

(Continued on page 3)



Seven Washington and Lee University Students Malign Gen. Lee; Demand Removal of Flags from Lee Chapel

A group of seven multiracial law students at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia who are calling themselves "The Committee" have issued a list of demands to university officials, which include the removal of authentic Confederate battle flags from the Lee Chapel, where the final remains of the Lee Family are buried, prohibiting the Sons of Confederate Veterans from holding a Memorial Service in the Lee Chapel on the Lee/Jackson holiday, and denouncing the character of Gen. Robert E. Lee. If their demands are not met by September 1st, they plan to engage in civil disobedience.

University President Kenneth Ruscio responded to the students by issuing a letter to the W&L community that said "we take these students' concerns seriously. The issues they have raised are important, and we intend to address them."

Compatriots are asked to write a letter and/or send an email to the officials listed below. Please counter each "demand", and thoughtfully and courteously ask them to stand in defense of General Lee and against those who would dishonor him and the University by association.

President

Kenneth Ruscio Washington and Lee University
204 West Washington Street
Lexington, Virginia 24450
(540) 458-8700 president@wlu.edu

Provost

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Third Georgia Infantry (Continued from page 1)

double quick time to the depot, assuming that their train to Suffolk would be ready first. The other six companies--Burke Guard, Dawson Greys, Confederate Light Guard, Young Guard, Wilkinson Rifles, and Athens Guard--under the immediate command of Colonel Ambrose Wright would follow soon thereafter.

When Wright's command arrived at the depot, they found Colonel Reid's command waiting on the train which was not ready to depart. Supposedly, the powers that be were unaware of the promptness with which Georgia volunteers respond. At the depot, it was discovered that the men of the Governor's Guard, in their haste, were not issued ammunition, reducing the effectiveness of the battalion to only three companies. Colonel Wright rectified this by transferring the Wilkinson Rifles to Reid's smaller command and moving the Guard to his own. He thought the Guard could use their bayonets if necessary. The soldiers of Wright's command, dismayed by their reduced firepower, were consoled by the fact that a Louisiana regiment would also be deployed adjacent to their area of operation, and if compelled to retire the companies could fall back on the Pelican State soldiers.

Once the trains were moving and Wright's command entered the potentially hostile environment, the Adjutant was ordered to halt the train so as to deploy select men at every bridge and culvert. Their orders were to move out from the railroad, advance on the avenues of enemy approach, and keep vigil. If enemy contact was encountered, they were to inflict casualties while utilizing any terrain features for protection and to fall back to the companies or the Louisiana Regiment if overwhelmed.

Last Month's Meeting (continued from page 2)

living history at Pelion Elementary School and all those who participated in cemetery maintenance at Magnolia Cemetery on April 12th. Cmdr. Moncus discussed the upcoming Confederate Memorial Day service at Magnolia Cemetery on April 19th and in Hephzibah on April 27th at 2:00 PM. He announced he had Georgia Division Confederate History Month posters and the pamphlet, "Prison Pens of the North" available. Having attended the Division's Executive Council meeting on April 5th, he reported the sales of the new Georgia SCV license plates were exceeding expectations. He announced that the Camp's permanent projector screen has been installed. The Division Reunion in Columbus to be held on June 14th and the National Reunion in North Charleston to be held on July 16-19th was discussed.

Compatriot Joe Winstead announced his resignation as Camp Quartermaster. However, the Camp voted to approve the continuation of the Memorial Paver project presently under his direction.

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

The Wig Wag

Official Publication of the

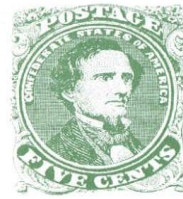
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158

<http://eporteralexander.homestead.com>

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Grovetown, Ga. 30813

Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.
Editor



Remembering Jefferson Davis' Birthday June 3rd

150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Resaca, Georgia

- 5 May 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Battle of Rocky Face Ridge, Ga.
- 6-7 May 1864: Battle of the Wilderness: Lee defeats Grant; Gen. Longstreet is wounded and Gen. Micah Jenkins of SC is killed by friendly fire
- 8 May 1864: Gen. Jubal Early assigned to command of Third Corps, ANVa.
Atlanta Campaign: Heavy fighting at Dalton, Ga.
- 9 May 1864: Battle of Cloyd's Mountain, Va.
- 10-12 May: Battle of Spotsylvania, Virginia; Lee thwarts Grant's attacks
- 11 May 1864: Gen. JEB Stuart mortally wounded at Yellow Tavern, Va.
- 12 May 1864: Union Gen. Butler attacks Richmond defenses at Drewry's Bluff
- 13 May 1864: Lincoln and Gen. Meigs decide to use Gen. Robert E. Lee's estate at Arlington as a Union cemetery
- 15 May 1864: Battle of New Market, Va.; Gen. Breckinridge defeats Siegel
Atlanta Campaign: Battle of Resaca, Ga.
- 16 May 1864: Battle of Fort Darling, Va. Gen. Butler's advance is halted
- 17 May 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Battle of Adairsville, Ga.
- 23-26 May 1864: Battle of North Anna, Va.
- 25 May 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Battle of New Hope Church, Ga.
- 27 May 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Battle of Pickett's Mill
- 28 May 1864: Atlanta Campaign: Battle of Dallas
- 1-3 June 1864: Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.; Gen. George P. Doles killed
- 5 June 1864: Battle of Piedmont, WV; Gen. William "Grumble" Jones killed

Right: The battle flag of the 38th Alabama Infantry Regiment which was captured during the Battle of Resaca, Georgia on May 15, 1864 by Captain Thomas J. Box of Company D, 27th Indiana Infantry. Organized in Mobile, the regiment suffered 12 killed, 88 wounded, and 24 missing during the Atlanta Campaign. The flag was eventually forwarded to the US War Department where it was assigned Capture Number 232. It was returned to the State of Alabama on March 25, 1905.

Next Camp Meeting Thursday, May 8th at 7:00 PM



Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

--Joel 2:31

