



★ **Commander's** ★
Comments
 by Dr. John Baxley

April was another busy month for our camp. The big event of the month was our annual Confederate Memorial Day ceremony at Magnolia Cemetery on April 30th. If you missed this event, you missed one of the best we have had. Close to 100 people were in attendance with over 40 compatriots marching in the parade from the Broad Street monument. Over half the crowd was in period dress to include the large honor guard with compatriots from several camps. Our brigade commander, Tom Miller, from Statesboro was there along with his lovely family. We even had folks from Beijing, China in attendance who videotaped the ceremony and wanted to know the history of the War from our perspective. With hundreds of flags waving in the cool breeze, "President Jefferson Davis" gave a rousing speech enjoyed by all. Our cannon, mortars and Enfield rifles blasted downtown Augusta with their black powder salutes. Marie Powell, Diane Grigsby, and Gail Smith were outstanding in presenting our wreaths for the Generals and the Confederate Dead while dressed as Confederate widows in period widow's weeds. Ms. Betty Jean Miller from Kline, S.C. gave the most moving tribute to our unknown Confederate dead when over 40 attendees honored their Confederate ancestors. After the ceremony, over 40 of us gathered at Sconyer's BBQ for a wonderful meal thanks to Larry's hospitality.

I wish to thank all compatriots and friends that worked so hard to allow us to have such a moving experience amongst our Confederate dead.

Our camp was also active at the annual Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial Day service on April 2nd and the annual Heph-

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Alexander Camp's Confederate Memorial Day Service 2016



Remembering, Honoring, Keeping The Charge: The BGen. E. Porter Alexander Camp conducted a Confederate Memorial Day service on April 30th at Magnolia Cemetery to remember our fallen Confederate soldiers and our veterans. Volleys of rifle, cannon and mortar fire echoed through the cemetery after "Pres. Jefferson Davis," portrayed by Mr. Robert Hayes, stated that Confederate soldiers knew, not just thought, they were right in their fight for Southern independence. Prior to the ceremony, the Camp's Honor Guard and several compatriots marched from the Confederate Monument on Broad Street through downtown Augusta to the cemetery firing volleys along the way.

119th Georgia Division Reunion to be held in Conyers

The 119th annual Georgia Division Reunion is scheduled to be held in Conyers, Georgia at the Georgia International Horse Park on June 10-11th hosted by the Confederate Memorial Camp #1432 and the Joe Wheeler Camp #863. Registration fee for Georgia Division member is \$25 before May 15th and \$35 after that date. Easy online registration and payment can be accomplished at the following web site: <http://gascv.org/division-reunion/>. Friday's event begins with a "meet and greet" barbecue at 6:00 PM and Saturday's business sessions will begin at 9:30 AM. All compatriots planning on attending the Reunion should contact Cmdr. Baxley or Lt. Cmdr. Posey if interested in being a delegate.

Last Camp Meeting:

Compatriot Ken Temples Speaks on the Battle of Franklin

During the April 2016 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Compatriot and Past Chaplain of the SC Division, Ken Temples, spoke about the 1864 battle of Franklin, Tennessee. He began by stating that he had traveled to many battlefields upon which his ancestor fought—Cold Harbor, Chickamauga and Franklin—but none moved him more than his visit to the latter.

Temples explained that the Army of Tennessee felt strongly about its different commanders—they hated Bragg, loved Johnston, and disparaged Hood who had assumed command during the Atlanta Campaign. Following the loss of that city, Hood moved the Army north into Tennessee via Alabama hoping to cut Sherman's supply lines and to lure him into battle. Sherman refused to comply and ordered Gen. Schofield's Army of the Ohio in Nashville to deal with Hood's Army. Hood hoped to defeat Schofield before he linked with General Thomas' Army of the Cumberland in Nashville. This nearly occurred at the Battle of Spring Hill, Tennessee; but, unfortunately, the Union Army was allowed to move northward unmolested toward Franklin due to Confederate command failures and Hood's overconfidence.

Temples explained that Schofield was not able to cross the Harpeth River at Franklin because of the lack of pontoons and utilized engineers to repair the bridges. In the meantime, his forces re-enforced the town's defenses from northwest to southeast.

Gen. Hood, determined to crush Schofield before his army reached Nashville, decided to launch a frontal assault late in the day on November 30th. While bands played *Dixie* and the *Bonnie Blue Flag* and with only two batteries of artillery, the Southern soldiers marched for two miles in parade formation with 100 battle flags waving before assaulting the Union works. They quickly enveloped two advanced Union brigades and chased retreating Yankees into the Union breastworks where they gained momentary success though some far right brigades were hampered by osage-orange bushes. A breakthrough occurred in the center, but the arrival of Union reinforcements sealed the breach and fighting raged around the Carter House. Eventually the Southerners were driven back to the works and pinned down unable to advance or retreat. As night fell, Hood halted offensive operations and Schofield moved his army toward Nashville leaving the shattered Army of Tennessee to endure its significant losses of over 6,000 casualties including the loss of six generals and 55 regimental commanders.

Following Compatriot Temples' poignant presentation, Cmdr. Baxley presented him with the book, *Robert E. Lee's*

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

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

Coming Events:

12 May: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp #158 Meeting

**Topic: Medical Care of Slaves
7:00 PM at Sconyers Barbecue**

30 May: US Memorial Day Service

**11:00 AM at All Wars' Monument
Augusta**

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:

- 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

Lighter Side.

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Louisville, Kentucky's Confederate Memorial Monument Slated for Removal

On April 29th, without public input, the Mayor of Louisville, Kentucky, Greg Fischer and his accomplice, the University of Louisville President, James Ramsey, announced that the Confederate Memorial Monument, which had stood in its place for over 120 years, will be removed. The monument was a gift to the city by the Kentucky Woman's Monument Association to commemorate those Kentuckians who died for the South during the War Between the States. Costing almost \$20,000, the nearly 70 foot tall memorial was placed on land that has since been surrounded by the University of Louisville campus. Not surprisingly, it was a campus "diversity committee" that recommended removal of the statue.

The Mayor stated "The stain of slavery and racism that this monument represents for many... has no place in a compassionate, forward leaning city," and promised the memorial will be removed immediately, placed in storage where it will be refurbished, and placed in another location.

Ramsey's administration has been at the forefront of cultural cleansing at the University of Louisville. In 2002, Confederate Hall which sat across from the monument was renamed "Unity Hall" and later that year, the University's board of trustees unanimously approved a \$2 million plan to rename the area surrounding the monument as Freedom Park to honor Louisville's liberal activists.

However plans to remove the statue were not without protest as those opposed to the monument's removal placed flowers and an upside down US flag on the fencing placed around the monument. Republican Congressional candidate for Kentucky's Third District and a graduate of the University, Everett Corley, stated the monument should remain because it merely serves to remember soldiers who died in war and its removal is a violation of local, state and federal historic preservation laws. If elected, he promised to introduce legislation that would make it illegal to remove any memorials to the nation's war dead.

On Monday, May 2nd, Corley, along with the Kentucky Division, SCV filed an injunction to prevent removal of the memorial and Judge Judith McDonald-Burkman issued a temporary restraining order to block its removal.

Compatriots interested in contacting the Mayor and the UL President to express their feelings on this matter can do so via the following:

Mayor Fischer: 527 W. Jefferson Street 4th Floor
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 574-2003

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/mayor-greg-fischer/contact-mayors-office>

President Ramsey – james.ramsey@louisville.edu

Commander's Comments (continued from page 1)

zibah Cemetery Confederate Memorial Day event hosted by Emma Givens. We wish to thank all those who assisted in making the Confederate dead section pristine and our Honor Guard namely Ron Udell, Jack Bailie, Billy and William Belger, Tobin Burnett, David Bussey, Tommy Chappell, Roger Combs, Ben Creech, Gary Hattaway, Tommy Miller Senior and Junior, Bernard Martin, Carrol Nettles, Tom Smith, Bobby Snider as well as Arnold Huskins for their efforts. We would also like to thank the cannon crews to include David and Chris Armour, Roy Stampley, Joe Winstead, Emma Givens and others for their help supplying and firing the guns that make each event a real success.

May is expected to be another busy month with several of our compatriots going to three different locations on May 14th to fire volleys and help our South Carolina compatriots celebrate Confederate Memorial Day. Our next camp meeting will be on May 12th at Sconyer's Barbeque. Our speaker is a Southern belle coming all the way from Roswell, Georgia to talk to us about "Doctoring the African Slave." I hope to see you at the meeting. Have a great Dixie Day and Deo Vindice!

Your humble servant, Commander Baxley

Last Month's Meeting (Continued from page 2)

Prior to Temples' presentation, Cmdr. Baxley presented Larry Sconyers a plaque to honor his support of the camp and for flying the real Georgia flag at his restaurant.

During the meeting, Cmdr. Baxley reported there will be a cemetery clean up on April 19th and reminded the Camp of Confederate Memorial Day services which will be held in Hephzibah on April 17th and Magnolia Cemetery on April 30th. He commended Ben Creech, Gary Hattaway, Bobby Snider and Joe Winstead for cleaning the Confederate Monument on Broad. Baxley informed the Camp that the Berry Benson Camp in Aiken is selling Vidalia onions as a fund raiser and to contact Compatriot Reed Wakely at 803.279.0921 if interested.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead stated now is the time to purchase a memorial paver as the names will be submitted to the engraver within the week. He stated his continued support for future Camp projects: a marker to be placed at the Confederate monument on Broad Street detailing the Ladies Memorial Association's involvement in its placement and the reconstruction of the fountain's pool in the Confederate section at Magnolia Cemetery. To increase the Camp's Projects Fund, several items were auctioned during the meeting with the proceeds going directly into the fund.

Lt. Commander/Adjutant Posey stated the Camp will be purchasing pavers for three Richmond County soldiers and Gen. Victor Girardey who died in the War.

2nd Lt Cmdr. David Armour congratulated Gary Hattaway for having been inducted into the Mechanized Cavalry SCV organization.

Compatriot Jack Bailie requested \$100 to purchase paint to repaint the fountain pool in the Confederate Cemetery and a motion was made, seconded and approved by the camp to do so.

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

The Wig Wag

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Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.
Editor



Remembering Jefferson Davis' Birthday June 3rd

20 Notable Confederate Women

1. Sally Tompkins: nurse, first woman commissioned as a Captain
2. Phoebe Pember: Jewish administrator of Richmond's Chimborazo Hospital
3. Emma Samson: Assisted Gen. N.B. Forrest to find river crossing
4. Rose O'Neal Greenhow: spy and Confederate diplomat
5. Maria Isabella "Belle" Boyd: Confederate spy
6. Mary Boyd Chestnut: famous diarist
7. Kate Cumming: professional nurse in Confederate Medical Department
8. Euphemia Mary Goldsborough Willson: nurse and smuggler
9. Ella Newsom: nurse, the "Florence Nightingale of the Confederate Army"
10. Fanny Beers: nurse, the "Florence Nightingale of the South"
11. Lucinda Horn: nurse, SC heroine of Mc Gowan's brigade
12. Laura Ratcliffe: aided Gen. John Mosby and saved his life
13. Dr. Oriana Moon: first female Confederate physician
14. Mary Ann Harris Gay: author, poet, smuggled goods to Confederate forces
15. Mary Kate Patterson Davis Hill Kyle: aided Coleman's scouts and Sam Davis
16. Carrie McGavock: insured 1500 soldiers interred properly on her property
17. Susan Landon Adams Vaughn: founder of Decoration Day
18. Mary Martha Reed: nurse, called "Mother of the Florida Boys"
19. Rosanna Dyer Osterman: Jewish nurse, courier of information
20. Mary Bradford: encouraged troops to rally during the battle of Nashville

Right: The Army of Northern Virginia battle flag of the 48th Georgia Infantry:

The 48th Georgia Infantry was organized in Macon at Camp Davis during the winter of 1861-62 and ordered to Virginia where it served in Generals Ripley, Ambrose Wright, and Sorrel's brigades in Gen. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Company C, the Georgia Light Guards, and Company I, the Wilson Tigers, were from Richmond County, Company K, the Hamilton Rangers, was from Columbia County, and Company E, the Jefferson Volunteers, was from Jefferson County.

Next Camp Meeting Thursday, May 12th At 7:00 PM



Seonyers Barbecue
Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

Wait on the Lord, and keep His way, and He shall exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, you shall see it.

--Psalm 37:34 (NIV)

