

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

Good Gosh! It's Fall already! It has been quite an end to summer. With the extra heat we have had, which added to higher power bills, and not much rain, I'm ready for Fall. Hope everyone else is ready because it's here and looks like we will have an early winter. (The leaves of the Bradford pear trees at the Magnolia Cemetery are already starting to fall a little early.) By the time you read this, Halloween will be past, and Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner. There are even a few upcoming reenactments: Secessionville and a new one in Columbia, which adds to the fall atmosphere and temperatures. And let's not forget the Christmas parades in early December. And also November 11th is Veterans Day. Thanks to our veteran compatriots for your many years of service! Let us not forget them. I personally am glad I was able to serve when I did.

On a more serious note, a good member of our camp, Jerry Grigsby, has lost his battle with cancer. He passed away early on the evening of October 15th. I last saw Jerry the Wednesday before his passing, and I'm thankful I was able to visit him for a while. He looked tired and Diann said he'd had a rough time. He had wanted to go home that Monday, but the doctor wanted him to stay in the hospital. I think I knew at that time that Jerry did not have long. I am proud of this Camp for the turn out and for those who took off from their jobs to show their friendship, brother-

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A Veteran joins the "Sons": Adjutant Perry Herron presents an SCV Membership certificate to one of our newest Alexander Camp compatriots, James Drane, a Korean War veteran presently residing at the Georgia War Veterans Home, while Compatriot Ben Creech shows his support.

SCV Promoting Lee/Jackson Vigil in Lexington, Virginia in January

The SCV's Heritage Defense Committee is sponsoring a confederation-wide vigil and protest in Lexington, Virginia on the weekend of January 13-14, 2012 in response to the city's passage of an ordinance that bans Confederate flags from flag holders on city owned light poles. Previously, the Stars and Bars and Second National flags were placed in the holders in honor of Lee-Jackson Day.

Legal research has shown that the ordinance is unconstitutional, and a lawsuit is presently being drafted. However, until the filing date, the SCV believes maximum pressure must be placed on the city to peacefully redress this ongoing insult to Generals Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson, whose hallowed remains rest in Lexington.

The SCV is urging all available compatriots to attend the Lee/Jackson celebration in the city and to participate in a weekend flag vigil/protest in downtown Lexington. Camps are being asked to supply at least two men to hold a Confederate flag at each of the 66 light poles on each day for two hours from 10:00 AM until dark. Camps are asked to sponsor and, if they desire, to name the poles to honor a Confederate hero for a registration fee of \$100 which will be used to fund litigation efforts. For more information, go to the website: <http://leejacksonday.webs.com>

Last Camp Meeting

Commander Udell and Lt. Cmdr. Herron Discuss the Removal of the Battle Flag from the Powder Works Chimney

During the October Camp meeting, Cmdr Ron Udell and Lt. Cmdr. Lee Herron discussed the events leading to the removal of the battle flag sign from the Powder Works Chimney by the Augusta Canal Authority. After a lengthy discussion involving many compatriots including the Georgia Division Commander Jack Bridwell and Division Judge Adjutant, Dan Coleman, the Camp voted to refrain from making any decision until the Canal Authority's plans for the Chimney are finalized.

During the meeting, there was one application for membership: **Ervin Long, Jr.** who joins the camp on the record of his grandfather, Pvt. John M. Hudson who served in Company C, 1st South Carolina Rifles. During the Commander's report, Commander Udell discussed the Confederate Monument greenery project. Adjutant Perry Herron reported there are 35 members who have yet to pay their dues and that there will be an effort to personally contact them individually to encourage them to renew their membership. Quartermaster Joe Winstead stated that the camp sold \$360 worth of merchandise at the Oliver Hardy Festival on October 1st.

Prior to the meeting, prayers for given for Tommy Miller's wife, Doris, Jules Godene, Jerry Grigsby, and Fred Bussey.

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

The Old Confederate Soldier

"To me, the old Confederate soldier is the most unique character the world has yet produced. It took sixty centuries to make him and when the supreme hour came he made good and taught the whole wide world a lesson it will never forget. No higher record of martial glory will ever appear. There will never be another Lee, Jackson or Pickett. We will do well to cherish the spirit that our soldiers exhibited and to preserve the traditions and chivalry of our Southland."

--J.W. Pearson, *Confederate Veteran*, July 1914

The Wig Wag

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Important Dates to Remember:

Coming Events:

**10 November: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp
#158 Meeting
Topic: Powder Works Rededication
7:00 PM
Sconyers Barbecue**

**11 November: Veterans' Day Ceremony
4th and Broad Street @ 11:00 AM
Augusta**

11-12 November: Augusta C.W. Symposium:
"Augusta and the C.W. in 1861"
Call 706-828-3867 for details

12-13 November: Secessionville Re-enactment
Mount Pleasant, SC
www.battleofsecessionville.org/

19 November: Magnolia Cemetery Clean up

18-19 November: Olde South Thanksgiving
Abbeville, SC
<http://www.oldsouththanksgiving.webs.com/>

**3 December: Grovetown Christmas Parade
Noon**

**11 December: Jackson, SC Christmas Parade
3:00 PM**

**13-14 January: Lee/Jackson Vigil
Lexington, Va.**

Notable Confederate Birthdays:

9 Nov. 1825: Lt. Gen. Ambrose Powell Hill*
1823: Maj. Gen. William H. Forney
1810: Thomas Bragg, Atty. Gen.
10 Nov. 1830: Brig. Gen. Albert G. Jenkins*
11 Nov. 1811: Brig. Gen. Ben McCulloch*
13 Nov. 1804: Lt. Gen. Theophilus H. Holmes
15 Nov. 1836: Maj. Gen. Pierce Manning B. Young
19 Nov. 1835: Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee
21 Nov. 1817: Brig. Gen. Richard B. Garnett*
22 Nov. 1805: Maj. Gen. Benjamin Huger
1818: Maj. Gen. Samuel G. French
23 Nov. 1820: John W. Ellis, Governor, NC
24 Nov. 1815: Brig. Gen. James H. Trapier*
26 Nov. 1816: Maj. Gen. William H. T. Walker*
28 Nov. 1820: Brig. Gen. Lawrence O'Bryan Branch*
30 Nov. 1830: Maj. Gen. Gustavus W. Smith
1 Dec. 1826: Maj. Gen. William Mahone
1832: Brig. Gen. Archibald Gracie, Jr.*
1835: Brig. Gen. Micah Jenkins*
4 Dec. 1818: Maj. Gen. William W. Loring
*Died in Confederate Service



GOP Presidential Candidate Rick Perry Opposes Texas issued SCV License Plate

On October 26th, GOP Presidential candidate and Texas Governor Rick Perry stated he opposes the state of Texas issuing license plates featuring the organizational logo of the Sons of Confederate Veterans stating “we don’t need to be scraping old wounds”.

Perry comment surprised many in the Southern heritage community in that eleven years ago he wrote, concerning the removal of Confederate memorial plaques from the Texas Supreme Court Building, “I believe Texans should remember the past and learn from it... “Although this is an emotional issue, I want you to know that I oppose efforts to remove Confederate monuments, plaques, and memorials from public property.”

Sons of Confederate Veterans Commander-in-Chief Michael Givens, when hearing of Perry’s recent statement, stated, "It's sad enough what Rick is doing. He's just playing politician."

"It's a shame he's now siding with [the NAACP]. Perry has decided the Sons of Confederate Veterans is the only nonprofit that doesn't deserve free speech."

On November 10th, the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles' nine-member board will likely decide whether to allow the SCV vanity plates. Earlier this year, the board deadlocked on the issue 4-4 when one member was absent. After one of the board members who voted in favor of the license plates died in June, a second vote was postponed. Perry recently appointed an El Paso auto dealer, Raymond Palacios, to the board. Even if the board votes against the plate, the SCV is certain to bring legal action against the state to insure its issuance via a court ruling.

Compatriot Jerry Grigsby (1952-2011)



Compatriot Jerry Grigsby passed away on October 15th after a lengthy illness. A native South Carolinian and Baptist, Compatriot Grigsby was a retired Quality Engineer with E-Z Go-Textron and had lived in Augusta for the past 26 years. He was a 1974 graduate of the University of South Carolina and a member of the Alumni Association and the Gamecock Club. Compatriot Grigsby was a re-enactor with the 32nd Georgia Artillery and a Charter Member of the Friends of the Hunley. He is survived by his wife of 13 years, Diann T. Grigsby; a son, Kenneth F. Turner; and his mother, Ruby Frances Posey Grigsby.

Commander’s Comments (Continued from page 1)

hood and caring for Jerry one last time at his home going. Thanks to the members of the Camp Honor Guard who provided the black powder salute and to Philip Weaver and his static display of the cannon with Bill Storrs’ help. It has been said Jerry was a quiet person, soft spoken, but if he had something to say, he would let you know in a good way. He was a good re-enactor and would help you if he could. He was the commander of the artillery at the rededication of the Confederate Powder Works Chimney last October 2010 and had helped coordinate that with David Powell. He would be the “go to” person to get artillery at our Confederate Memorial Day service. I shall remember, as all who were serving the guns, when Jerry would be in charge of the firing of many or a battery or just one cannon, and he would be standing there with his arm raised ready to give the command to fire. He always looked the part. It just won’t be the same without him. Thanks Jerry! May you rest in peace!

On Friday October 14th, the top half of the magnolia tree right behind the platform in the Confederate Dead section at



Magnolia Cemetery fell over into the middle of tree on the far right corner. A lot of small limbs exploded all over that area when they hit the ground. Thank goodness no headstones were broken this time. Some of the limbs were at least five inches in

diameter or more. We were very lucky this time. The tree half could have easily have fallen out with any more high winds, but stayed until it was removed October 27th or 28th. Thanks to Ken Kitchens for giving up his Saturday morning on the 29th to help clean up the mess that was left from the tree removal. Weather permitting we will have a clean up the weekend (Nov. 19th) before Thanksgiving and so we’ll need your help. Thanks in advance.

Contact Ken Kitchens if you want to buy a Confederate Powder Works fly ash bottle. When bottles are sold all monies should be given to Ken (or to Nick) to keep his records straight.

If you have not paid your dues, and want to continue to be a current member, you will now have to pay a \$5.00 reinstatement fee to be able to get your *Confederate Veteran* magazine and *The Georgia Confederate* and to be able to vote.

Hopefully, we will have an update on the Powder works Chimney that was put on hold or tabled from our last meeting.

Our next upcoming meeting will be November 10th. Our *planned* speaker will be Lt. Commander Herron. He will be showing the video of the Confederate Powder Works rededication service from October 9th, 2010. Please plan to be at Sconyers Barbeque and to remember our Southern heritage and to support our Camp and its activities when possible. **Remember the Charge. God Bless the South!**

The Wig Wag

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Editor



**Honoring Our Veterans...
Nothing More...Never Less!**

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

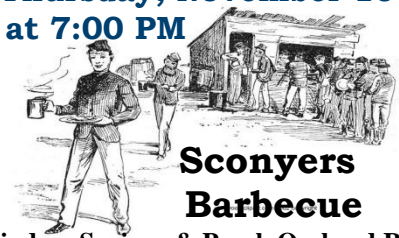
150 YEARS AGO: Commissioners Mason and Slidell Captured

- 7 November 1861: Confederate forts at Port Royal, SC are captured by Union naval forces which utilize them as Federal bases.
Battle of Belmont, Missouri; Confederates repulse Union forces under Grant
- 8 November 1861: CSA Commissioners Mason and Slidell are illegally removed from the British mail steamer *Trent* by US warship *San Jacinto*
Battle of Ivy Mountain, Kentucky
- 13 November 1861: The British steamer, *Fingal* with munitions, ordnance, and other supplies is the last government authorized vessel to run the blockade into the port of Savannah.
- 18 November 1861: At Russellville, Kentucky Confederates adopt an Ordinance of Secession from the Union
- 20 November 1861: Near Los Angeles, California, Union forces chase down and capture a pro-Confederate band of 18 men
- 21 November 1861: Judah P. Benjamin named by Pres. Davis as Secretary of War
- 22 November 1861: The Confederate Department of Indian Territory is established under Gen. Albert Pike
- 26 November 1861: At Wheeling in western Virginia, a convention adopts a constitution for a new state to be called West Virginia
- 28 November 1861: Confederate Congress officially admits Missouri to the CSA
- 3 December 1861: CSS *Sumter* captures and burns the US ship *Vigilant*

Right: This Stars and Bars Pattern Flag with only eight stars was captured in the unsuccessful Confederate attack on Ft. Pickens on Santa Rosa Island, Florida on October 9, 1861 by Wilson's Zouaves (6th NY Infantry) who took it to New York City where it hung in City Hall. After being acquired by several owners, the flag was donated to the West Florida Historic Preservation Inc. and restored in 2011.

Next Camp Meeting

**Thursday, November 10th
at 7:00 PM**



**Sconyers
Barbecue**

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

Scripture Thought

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

--Colossians 3:15 (NAS)

