



THE WIG-WAG

Official Newsletter of the Brig. Gen. E. Porter Alexander Camp No. 158

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Augusta, Georgia

"Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set." -Proverbs 22:28

NOVEMBER 2016

Commander's Comments

Dr. John Baxley

October was another successful month for our camp. We had a great meeting at Sconyer's with not only fun and fellowship with our compatriots, but also an inspiring talk from Senator Jesse Stone and voted in two more members for our growing camp. Those that missed the meeting missed a good time had by all.

The "old man's crew" continued to do an outstanding job maintaining the Confederate Dead and Survivor Sections at Magnolia Cemetery. I wish to personally thank Joe Winstead, Gary Hattaway, Ben Faulkner, Emma Givens and our Camp Legend Barry Whitney for all the hard work put in at the cemetery in October. It truly is an honor to work with these folks at the cemetery and fun and fellowship abounds during our breaks when we spin yarns and tales of past years. Before leaving the "bivouac of the dead," a deep spirit pierces your soul as you gaze upon the graves of the Confederate Dead. With their grave stones standing at attention under the Southern Cross waving in the breeze, it's as if the "boy's in gray" are still standing guard for the Cause in a beautiful part of Augusta, Georgia. Maintaining their eternal home is the least we can do for the Magnolia Gray's, Confederate soldiers from all over Dixie who gave their all and never got back to their own homes.

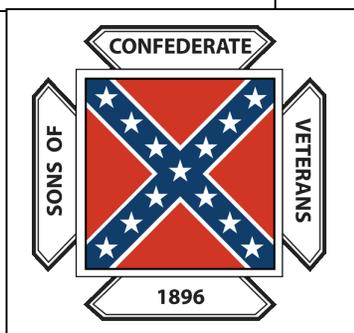
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Barry Whitney on Cleanup Duty, Magnolia Cemetery, October 2016.



A medallion from the 1903 United Confederate Veterans reunion held in Augusta, in my possession; I have worn it to some of our meetings.—Ben Faulkner

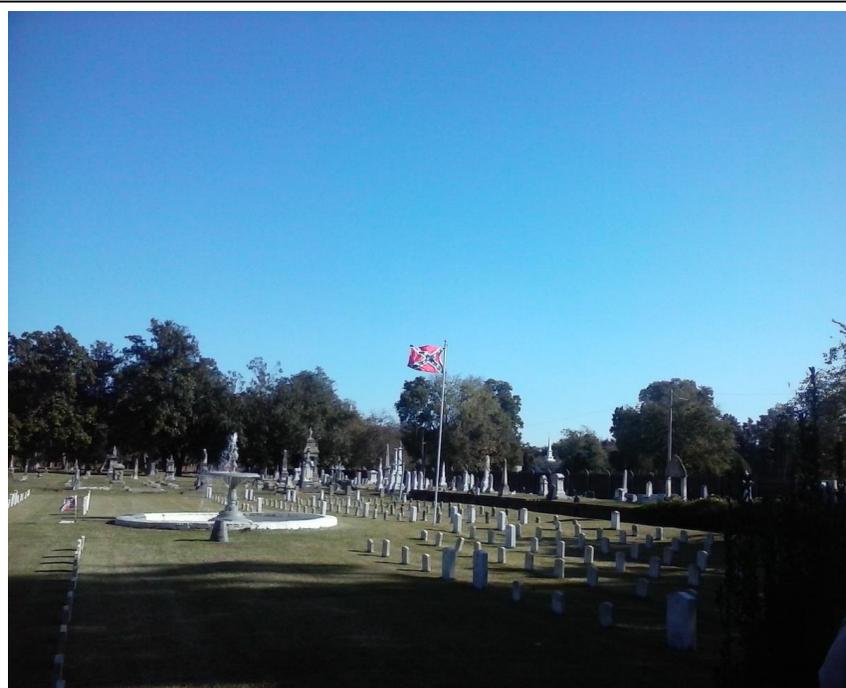


Dues Deadline Extended Statewide

Camp 158 members,

Normally the deadline each year for SCV membership dues is October 31st. Since dues invoices were sent out late this year the dues deadline for both SCV National and the Georgia Division has been extended to November 30th. Please send me your dues invoice with payment before the November 30th deadline, allowing me enough time to process them. Dues received after the deadline will require an \$8.00 reinstatement fee - \$3.00 for Georgia Division and \$5.00 for SCV National.

-Nick Posey



The bivouac of the dead, at Magnolia Cemetery, as it appeared on a windy day at the end of October.

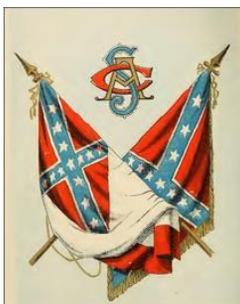
Upcoming Events

The next regular meeting will be held upstairs at Sconyer's Barbecue on November 10th at 7:00pm, with Robert Haynes speaking as Jefferson Davis on the Confederate Constitution.

"We have three big events coming up in December. We will again participate in the Jackson, S.C. Christmas parade on December 4th. One week later on December 11th we will shoot black powder in the North Augusta Christmas parade. Sunday December 18th between the hours of 2:00 and 4:30 p.m. will be our annual Christmas party at the Aiken County Historical Museum. Put these events on your calendars and let me know if you and your family will be attending the Christmas party. We need to get a "body count" so Emma Givens and her helpers will know how many to prepare for in gathering refreshments for our party."

-Doctor Baxley

Heritage Update

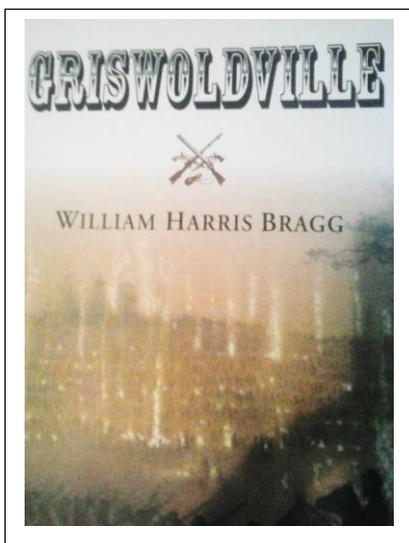


Rock Hill, South Carolina: an absurd situation has developed with York Technical College concerning the South Carolina Division's Convention location; the local NAACP demanded the college to ban the SCV. Well, the college refused to do that. However, they have banned the Confederate flag from being displayed on their grounds. So the meeting can take place, but the SCV logo and no other representation of any Confederate flag can be present. Under the circumstances, that is effectively a ban on the SCV.

Fredericksburg, Virginia: VICTORY—An effort pushed by a carpetbagger teacher, with the impressed help of captive students, to get the city to erase the name of Jefferson Davis Highway, failed. Fredericksburg, for now, remains true to the Old Dominion.

Tupelo, Mississippi: VICTORY—Near the end of October, after the local chapter of the NAACP made a nuisance of itself concerning the continued display of the Mississippi State flag, the city of Tupelo acted on their request to furl the banner by adopting an ordinance to the exact opposite effect, requiring and mandating the display of the Mississippi flag.

Book Recommendation for November 2016



In November of 1864, when Sherman's invasion force was marauding through Georgia, panic had gripped much of the State; believing that Augusta was to be targeted, the State dispatched forces from Macon, under orders to proceed to Augusta. Not aware that a portion of Sherman's men were directly in their path, this body of defenders, consisting of local defense units from Augusta and Athens, old men and boys from Jones, Twiggs and Bibb Counties, Invalided veterans, and a regular veteran battery of Confederate Artillery, found themselves engaged just outside of the village of Griswoldville, on Duncan's Farm, on the Jones-Twiggs line. The Georgia troops charged uphill, and suffered immensely, on November 22, 1864.

The author, William Harris Bragg, is a retired history professor, but is by no means a left-winger. Bill Bragg is veteran of the Marine Corps, a native of Jones County, an exceptionally learned man concerning American and Georgia History, and happens to be my second cousin. It's an engaging read, and worth the drive to see the battlefield.

The Story of the Ladies Memorial Association of Augusta, Part I.

[Excerpted from *History of the Confederate Memorial Associations of the South*, edited by Mrs. William J. Brhan, 1904; in the public domain]

LADIES' MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION,
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA.

During the war the ladies of Augusta organized themselves into a Ladies' Relief and Hospital Association, whose purpose was to care for the wounded and sick soldiers and provide them with kind nursing and comfortable clothing. At the close of the war, and after the disappearance of military hospitals, this Association then undertook to care for the graves of the Confederate dead in the city cemetery, and to decorate them with flowers upon the annual observance of Memorial Day.

In 1868 the Ladies' Memorial Association was organized, having for its purpose the care of these graves, as well as the erection of a monument to the Confederate dead. Mrs. John Carter was elected President, Mrs. H. H. Steiner, Vice-President, and Mrs. John T. Miller, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Association thus begun, was organized amid the distress and desolation of broken fortunes and depressed business conditions.

Soon after its organization it suffered the loss by death of both its President and Vice-President, but the noble women who composed it, with undaunted courage continued to labor earnestly for the cause to which they had devoted themselves. For the first five years they raised from all sources only \$458.12, and this was expended in the care of the graves in the soldiers' section of the city cemetery.

In March, 1873, the Association was re-organized, and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. M. E. Walton (now Mrs. F. A. Timberlake); Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. John T. Miller. Vice-Presidents were elected to represent each denomination of the city.

These ladies set to work promptly and energetically to carry out the purpose of their organization. They received the hearty co-operation of every one, and soon had funds sufficient to justify them in undertaking the first part of their great work, which was to put in order the graves of the Confederate soldiers who were buried in Augusta. These martyrs to the Southern Cause were gathered together wherever buried, and were interred in orderly arrangement in one of the choicest lots of the cemetery. The lot was enclosed with a stone coping, planted with turf, and a fountain erected in the center. There were three hundred and thirty-seven graves, and at the head of each was placed a marble slab, bearing the name, regiment and State of the soldier who slept beneath. The Soldiers' Section became one of the most beautiful in the cemetery, and there, while the flowers are in bloom, the sod is green with the growth of early spring, and the fountain plays its everlasting melody, the citizens gather on Memorial Day, and in the presence of the dead, lay their tributes of flowers and praise upon the graves of their departed heroes.

March, 1873, the Ladies' Memorial Association re-organized, with the following officers: President, Mrs. M. E. Walton; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. John T. Miller; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J. W. Adams, Mrs. E. M. Whitehead, Mrs. Ann Anthony, Mrs. J. J. Cohen, Mrs. J. S. Lamar, Mrs. DeSaussure Ford, Mrs. H. W. Hilliard, Mrs. J. T. Deny, Mrs. John M. Clark.

[To be continued in the December 2016 Edition]



Ben Creech and Tommy Miller at the latter's 80th birthday gathering.

Mule Day in Wilkes County

Callaway Plantation



David Armour, Emma Givens, and Roger Lee Combs.

Notable November Events in Confederate History

November 6, 1861: Jefferson Davis and Alexander Stephens, already President and Vice President of the provisional Confederate States government, were unanimously elected president and vice-president of the permanent federal government of the Confederate States.

Nov. 6, 1865: The C.S.S. Shenandoah struck its colors and was handed over to British authorities, the last Confederate Command to disband.

November 22, 1864: The Battle of Griswoldville, Georgia.

November 30, 1864: The catastrophic Battle of Franklin.

Proceedings from the October Business Meeting

Andrew Florida was sworn in by the Commander and Lt. Commander, on the record of his ancestor 2nd Lt. Thomas Byrd Florida of the 18th Tennessee Infantry.

Nick Posey gave his Treasurer's Report; as of 9/30/2016, the camp had on hand \$6,466.00; one deposit of \$277.00 had made for the preceding month, with five checks amounting to \$178.00 having been paid, with one of \$40.00 then outstanding; \$874 was at the time of the meeting in the Lee-Jackson Banquet Fund, \$125.00 in the Project Fund, and \$1,400.00 in the fund for the pavement stones. On the night of the meeting, we raised \$135.00 for the Southern Legal Resource Center.

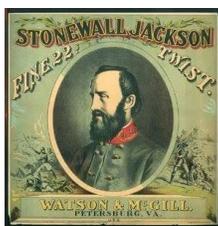
It was announced that the Dues deadline had been extended throughout the Georgia Division until the end of November; donations received up to that point included \$141.00 for the Flags Across Georgia program, \$145.00 for heritage defense, \$40.00 for disaster relief, and \$60.00 otherwise, for a total of \$386.00.

We received applications and motioned to accept the same for Dr. Charles Davis of Columbia, South Carolina, and Robert A. Wylde (on the record of Francis A. Wylde of Co. I, 19th Georgia Infantry).

The Quartermaster Report was given, during which we heard a very, very positive letter-written and mailed on official letterhead--from the consolidated government of Augusta-Richmond County, in which permission was granted to proceed with the restoration of the Ladies Memorial Association Fountain in Magnolia Cemetery.

We discussed the upcoming Christmas banquet/party to be held in Aiken, as well as several local parades and the prospects of participating in them, and giving publicity to our Camp, the SCV logo and the flags of the Confederacy. We made several decisions to provide flags to Mr. Larry Sconyers and for the cemetery in Hephzibah.

We concluded with the singing of Dixie.



Commander's Comments (continued from page 1)

The camp meeting at Sconyer's on November the 10th should be a grand affair. President Jefferson Davis (a.k.a. Robert Haynes from Abbeville, S.C.) will be our guest speaker. We will vote on our camp officers for the next two years and don't forget that our yearly dues need to be paid by the end of November. You can mail your dues into Nick Posey or pay him in person at the November meeting.

We have three big events coming up in December. We will again participate in the Jackson, S.C. Christmas parade on December 4th. One week later on December 11th we will shoot black powder in the North Augusta Christmas parade. Sunday December 18th between the hours of 2:00 and 4:30 p.m. will be our annual Christmas party at the Aiken County Historical Museum. Put these events on your calendars and let me know if you and your family will be attending the Christmas party. We need to get a "body count" so Emma Givens and her helpers will know how many to prepare for in gathering refreshments for our party.

We will see you at Sconyer's November 10th. Have a Great Dixie Day!

Your humble servant,

Commander Doc John.

Heritage Update (continued from Page 3)

Memphis, Tennessee: *VICTORY*—Tennessee has rejected the variance that would have permitted the City of Memphis to move Gen. & Mrs. Forrest.

Houston, Texas: The City has proceeded with the renaming of several schools that bore the names of Confederate Leaders. Never-mind actual education issues.

Alexandria, Louisiana: Gen. Mouton's statue remains threatened by pig-ignorant opponents.

Alexandria, Virginia: It is very likely that the Confederate Monument here will be removed and relocated, thanks to the near total repopulating of northern Virginia with non-Southerners.

New Orleans, Louisiana—The Liberty Place monument has been vandalized, again.

Editor's Observations

We have been made aware of a recent decision on the part of some in the United Daughters of the Confederacy to bestow a Jefferson Davis Award on former Augusta Mayor Bob Young; we have no quarrel with our Sisters, and it isn't our intention to in any way speak ill of them and their work. That being said, however, given the role that Mayor Young played in the removal of the Stainless Banner from the Riverwalk display (which was funded to begin with by depleting the city's funds for the care of Magnolia Cemetery; that is, funding for the care of our Confederate Dead was in part raided to put the park on the levee to begin with), and the role he played in scrapping the old Confederate-based flag of the City of Augusta, we must candidly admit that some of us are left scratching our heads over this particular choice of honoree. If Bob Young is the standard for preserving Southern Heritage, we can perhaps justifiably be concerned that one day we might well learn that a Jefferson Davis Award has been bestowed on the likes of Nikki Randhawa Haley, Roy Barnes, Don Sigelman, Robert Bentley, Zell Miller, Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton, Jim Hodges, David Beasley, Mark Warner, Carroll Campbell, Phil Gumm, Rand Paul, "The Southern Avenger" Jack Hunter, Ronnie Musgrove, Nathan Deal, Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe, the Bushes or Mitch Landrieu; or on such august bodies as the NAACP, the City Councils of New Orleans, Baltimore, Louisville, St. Louis and Memphis, the 2015 South Carolina Legislature, the 2001 Georgia Legislature, or the Southern Poverty Law Center; or possibly upon the faculties of Vanderbilt, Ole Miss, William and Mary, Washington and Lee, or the Museum formerly known as the Museum of the Confederacy, the National Cathedral or "President" Obama. As far as many of us are concerned, Mr. Young's actions have earned him a permanent place on this list of infamous offenders against, or traitors to, the honor of our dead and the integrity of our Southern cultural and political patrimony—rather than any accolades in the name of Jefferson Davis.

Senator Stone discussed with us a number of important issues, including the disappearance of markers; I suggested to him the possibility of trying to get protection for our monuments and markers written directly into a Constitutional Amendment. I have drafted potential legislation I intend to share with Senator Stone before the General Assembly convenes, and I hope to be able to discuss it with Lee Anderson as well after the election. I will share a copy of it with the camp as soon as possible. It should be noted that in places where our monuments can't be removed, the enemy is pursuing an obnoxious strategy of placing counter monuments as a form of political harassment, aimed at us. This is currently underway in an effort to place a "lynching monument" in Abbeville, filled with historical inaccuracies in the wording; this is the same sort of thing that resulted in that marker for the traitor Montgomery Meigs being placed so near our Monument on Broad Street. The purpose of markers used to be to celebrate our past; now, very often, the newer ones do the exact opposite, or celebrate scoundrels, subversives or outright traitors to this State, like Gen. Meigs.

Lately, when considering all that we are up against in our efforts to conserve and preserve the story of our forbearers and the integrity of what they've bestowed upon us, it has more and more seemed to me that engaging our opponents with an eye towards converting them to our cause is an act of placing pearls before swine. There is, to me, no point in any further attempt to reason with the fundamentally unreasonable people who compose our opposition. I for one have no desire for any further "dialogue", meaningful or otherwise, with these cretins. When we are confronted with the charge "that's racist and you're racist", rather than attempting to answer and make a defense on those terms, maybe we've reached a point where the best response is "so what? You're opinions concerning racism are utterly irrelevant to what I am or am not, and have no bearing whatsoever on what did or didn't happen in history. Your feelings concerning my heritage don't matter in the slightest, and you will be resisted, ignored, and set aside from this point forward if you persist in your insolence." Even if everything were true of our ancestors which our opponents claim, assert and insinuate (which isn't so), we'd still have a filial obligation to make a hard and fast stand for their sake. Enough is enough. We either get as tough as it requires to stop the onslaught now, or we will face political and cultural extinction within this century.

