



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

I am looking forward to seeing you at our October meeting. Please try to be there and bring someone with you. Remember, we should be trying to recruit new members every month. One of the best ways to get someone interested in our organization and our mission is to bring them to one of our meetings to hear our very interesting speakers. Lt. Commander Posey has really obtained some very interesting programs for us this year, and I am very thankful for his efforts.

I want to thank all those who have renewed their membership in the Alexander Camp and the SCV! **Please remember that if you have not paid your dues, they must be paid before October 30th to allow time to send them to National headquarters before November 1st otherwise your membership will be cancelled.**

We had six compatriots to help with the Confederate cemetery cleanup on our scheduled work day of September 13th. Thanks to those who were able to help and to those who performed maintenance activities at the cemetery on other days during the month! Every little bit helps. Thanks to Tommy Miller for bringing his riding mower on the 13th, for it allowed the six of us to have enough time to clean all the areas of the cemetery. It really looked good when we left. Our next scheduled cleanup day will be Saturday, October 11th. Please plan to help if you can.

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**It's All in the Family:** Compatriot Tommy Miller (right) joins with his son, Tommy Miller, Jr., his son-in-law, Greg Murphy, his grandsons, Trey Miller and Ryan Murphy and granddaughter, Abby Miller, as they celebrate Greg's induction into the Alexander camp in August.

*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 fourth installment detailing the history of the 3rd Georgia Infantry Regiment of which Companies G and I were from Richmond County.

### The Third Georgia Fights the Weather—Not Yankees

Having received news on May 20, 1861 that a Union regiment had landed at Pig's Point between Norfolk and Suffolk, Virginia, the Third Georgia Infantry was deployed the next day with six companies arriving at Bower's Hill. While several companies remained at the depot, the rest moved forward to deploy as skirmishers and occupy key positions. Wanting to survey the situation, Col. Wright, Major Lee and the Adjutant mounted horses to make inquiries, determine routes the enemy might advance and evaluate the terrain. Occasionally the Adjutant would return and order troop dispositions to make full use of potential defensive positions.

Seeing no signs of the enemy and having learned from a member of the Suffolk Light Dragoons that there was no sign of the enemy and that he had not landed, Major Lee was given permission by Col. Wright to ride to Pig's Point to evaluate the situation. In the meantime, as the morning rain continued unabated, Col. Wright had large fires built to warm and dry the men which were rotated to and from their advanced positions. Coffee, meat, and bread, offered by local residents, were gladly accepted.

Just when the men had thought Major Lee had been captured, he rode back to camp stating "There is not a Yankee in all of this country." The disappointment on the faces of the soldiers of the Third Georgia was ubiquitous, and the six companies were ordered to march to the depot, board the train which was waiting for them and return to camp on the train. That night the continual rain, combined with a cold east wind, left many of the soldiers cold and wet and claiming it was their worst night in a tent. A rumor that the other four companies of the Third Georgia under Lt. Col. Reid were sheltered comfortably in Suffolk for the night proved to be the proverbial "fly in the ointment."

## Last Camp Meeting

### Bill Kirby Speaks on Augusta Natives, Gens. David Twiggs and Joe Wheeler

During the September 2014 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Bill Kirby, a columnist with the *Augusta Chronicle* spoke to the camp about the life of Gen. Joseph Wheeler. Mr. Kirby received his BA in Journalism from Ohio State University and presently lives in Martinez. During his 40 year career, he has won over 100 local, state and national awards for his work. Mr. Kirby produces a weekly YouTube video on Augusta history entitled "Kirby's Augusta."

Mr. Kirby began by discussing another native Augustan—Gen. David Twiggs—who was a Mexican War hero and US commander of the Department of Texas prior to the WBTS. After Texas' secession, Twiggs surrendered all Federal property and installations in the Lone Star State to Texas state troops. Mr. Kirby stated the War Between the States could have begun at the Alamo had Gen. Twiggs not been so peaceable. He described Twiggs, the son of a Revolutionary War soldier, as being the "best soldier Augusta ever produced" having been presented a sword by Congress for his service in the Mexican War.

Mr. Kirby stated that Joseph Wheeler always considered himself to be a Georgian having been born in Augusta near the present day intersection of Wheeler and Aumond Roads. The diminutive cadet graduated 19<sup>th</sup> out of a class of 22 from West Point in 1859, and he was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> US Dragoons. He attended cavalry school at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania and was sent to the New Mexico territory where he earned the nickname, "Fighting Joe."

At the beginning of the WBTS, Wheeler resigned his US Army commission and served in a Georgia militia artillery unit which was assigned to Fort Barrancas in Pensacola. He was then ordered to Huntsville to command the 19<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry and fought at the Battle of Shiloh.

Wheeler transferred to the cavalry and was assigned to the 2nd Cavalry Brigade of the Army of Mississippi. During Bragg's Kentucky campaign, he performed well although his relationship with Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest suffered. After his promotion to General in October 1862, he was assigned to command the 2nd Cavalry Corps of the Army of Tennessee and was slightly wounded. By December 1862, he was given command of the Army of Tennessee's Cavalry and proved successful in covering and managing Bragg's retreats. He led several raids against Union forces in Tennessee during the Chickamauga/Chattanooga campaign and covered Johnston's

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## Important Dates to Remember:

### Coming Events:

**9 October: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp  
#158 Meeting  
Topic: The History of Ft. Sumter  
7:00 PM  
Sconyers Barbecue**

**11 October: Magnolia Cemetery Cleanup**

19 October: Unveiling of Bronze Confederate Soldier  
Monument @ 1:30 PM  
Marietta Confederate Cemetery

6-8 November: Augusta & the CW Symposium  
"War Comes to Georgia"

<http://www.augustamuseum.org/Symposiums>

15 November: Heritage Day at Camp Lawton  
Magnolia Springs State Park

### Notable Confederate Birthdays:

11 Oct. 1835: Hunter Holmes McGuire, Med. Director  
12 Oct. 1815: Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee  
15 Oct. 1836: Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Rosser  
18 Oct. 1829: Brig. Gen. Lucius M. Walker\*  
Brig. Gen. Charles S. Winder\*  
20 Oct. 1820: Maj. Gen. B. Franklin Cheatham  
1822: Maj. Gen. Mansfield Lovell  
23 Oct. 1828: Brig. Gen. Turner Ashby\*  
28 Oct. 1810: Brig. Gen. Adley H. Gladden\*  
30 Oct. 1830: Maj. Gen. John S. Bowen\*  
2 Nov. 1828: Maj. Gen. Bryan Grimes  
Brig. Gen. James B. Gordon\*  
3 Nov. 1816: Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early  
Brig. Gen. Edward D. Tracy\*  
4 Nov. 1835: Maj. Gen. Lunsford L. Lomax  
9 Nov. 1825: Lt. Gen. Ambrose Powell Hill\*  
1823: Maj. Gen. William H. Forney  
1810: Thomas Bragg, Atty. Gen.

\* Died in Confederate Service

flanks during the 1864 Atlanta Campaign. During the siege of Atlanta, Wheeler defended vital supply lines against Union cavalry raids, but was unsuccessful at cutting Sherman's supplies from Chattanooga and his absence deprived Hood of vital information. Rather than accompany the Army of Tennessee on its middle Tennessee Campaign, Wheeler attempted to delay Sherman's march through Georgia. During the 1865 Carolinas Campaign, he defeated a Union cavalry force in Aiken, SC and participated in the Battle of Bentonville. He was captured just east of Atlanta and imprisoned at Fortress Monroe and Fort Delaware where he was paroled.

After the war, Wheeler became a planter and a lawyer and settled near Courtland, Alabama. He was elected to Congress as a Democrat in 1880 and served for almost 20 years where he advocated sectional reconciliation and economic policies to rebuild the South. When the Spanish-American War broke out,

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## Hero Dogs, Inc. Rejects SCV Donation

In a blatantly “politically correct” act, Hero Dogs, Inc., an organization that obtains working dogs for disabled American veterans, has rejected a donation of more than \$480 made by SCV

members in Maryland in February.

In a letter to the SCV, the organization's board president, Desma J. Wade and its executive director, Jennifer Lund returned the check and stated, "In keeping with Hero Dog's gift acceptance policy, our Board of Directors and members of our Development Committee made the decision to respectfully decline being one of the beneficiaries of the Sons of Confederate Veterans."

SCV Chief of Heritage Operations, Ben Jones, and other compatriots have contacted the group concerning their decision and have yet to receive a reply. Jones called their decision “an unconscionable insult” to the SCV and our veterans, which was “gratuitous and terribly uninformed.” He further states their “insulting refusal to accept our caring generosity also dishonors our ancestors. But perhaps worse, you have withheld badly needed assistance from American veterans because of someone's apparent fixation with “political correctness.”

Those interested in contacting the organization to express their displeasure in their actions may do so using the following information:

Hero Dogs, Inc.  
P O Box 64  
Brookeville MD 20833-0064  
(888) 570-8653  
[hero@hero-dogs.org](mailto:hero@hero-dogs.org)

## Mississippi Division Acts to Prevent Renaming of Confederate Drive at Ole Miss

The Mississippi Division SCV is asking Lafayette County Chancery Court for an injunction and temporary restraining order to keep the University of Mississippi from making changes to the Confederate memorials on its Oxford campus.

The Division's petition was filed on September 18<sup>th</sup> by attorney Holmes Sturgeon of Natchez.

Division Cmdr. Allen Terrell stated, “Our main push is that they would just not rename Confederate Drive,” he said. “We are not going to let them break state law.”

The law to which he referred prohibits removal or alteration of war memorials on state property.

Terrell said that the SCV also asks that the existing Confederate memorials on campus be left intact.

A hearing on the dispute is set for October 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Commander's Comments (continued from page 1)

I also want to thank all those who have been supporting numerous Confederate related events around the area. Thanks for representing the camp at these events!

Don't forget--please plan to be at our meeting this month and bring a guest.

## Last Month's Meeting (continued from page 2)

at the age of 61, Wheeler volunteered and received an appointment as Major General of Volunteers. He fought in the American-Philippine insurrection and, in 1900, was commissioned a Brigadier General in the regular US Army. He died at the age of 69 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Cmdr. David Moncus thanked the six compatriots who participated in the Magnolia cemetery cleanup in August and stated the next one will be on September 13<sup>th</sup>. He reported the following upcoming events: the Wheeler Camp in Aiken is having a dedication service at Bethany Cemetery on Hampton Avenue in Aiken at 2:30 PM on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the Major Henry Wirz annual memorial service will be held on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. The H. L. Hunley exhibit is scheduled to be in Edgefield County at Piedmont Tech on September 26<sup>th</sup>, the Nancy Carson Library on September 27<sup>th</sup>, and at the Aiken County Historical Museum on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary showing of the movie, *Gone with the Wind*, will be held at the Regal Augusta Exchange 10 on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM and on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 PM. Re-enactors are welcome, but not their weapons. Mule Day Southern Heritage Festival will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Callaway Plantation in Washington, Ga. Moncus reported two new books have been published on the 12<sup>th</sup> Georgia Infantry—*Captains at Rest* and *Seeking Glory* by L. Harris Churchwell. He reminded all compatriots that dues are due.

Adjutant Nick Posey reported 70 compatriots have renewed their SCV memberships with 26 who have yet to pay their dues. Donations to the Georgia Division so far have totaled \$509 and to the Camp \$183.00. He thanked the Camp for being so generous. The Camp has three new Georgia Division Life Members: David Armour, Dr. John Baxley, and David Powell.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead stated he attended the CSRA Amateur Truck Pull on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Columbia County fairgrounds. He is planning to set up at the Oliver Hardy Festival on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and requested re-enactors to ride on the Camp's float in the parade.

Compatriot Arnold Huskins made a motion to utilize \$5 from the collected donations each month to create a fund to purchase memorial pavers for Richmond County soldiers who died during the War to be placed adjacent to the Confederate Monument on Broad. The motion was seconded and approved by the Camp.

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



# The Wig Wag

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Arnold M. Huskins, O.D.  
*Editor*



### Remembering our Native American Confederate Heritage!

#### 150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia

- 6 October 1864: Gen. Thomas Rosser's cavalry engages Gen. Custer's Yankee cavalry near Fishers Hill, Virginia
- 7 October 1864: In violation of international law, the USS *Wachusett* slips into Bahia Harbor, Brazil and captures the CSS *Florida* while her crew are ashore; Brazil protests and fires on Union ship  
Gen. John Gregg killed in action near Richmond during the battle of Darbytown and New Market Roads
- 13 October 1864: Mosby's raiders destroy a section of the B&O railroad, wreck and burn a passenger train after seizing \$173,000
- 18 October 1864: Affair for the benefit of Confederate soldiers at St. George's Hall in Liverpool, England by several ladies of British nobility
- 19 October 1864: Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.; Sheridan routs Early's Army; Gen. Stephen D Ramseur is mortally wounded  
Raid on St. Albans, Vermont by 25 Confederate soldiers
- 23 October 1864: Battle of Westport, Missouri, the "Gettysburg of the West"
- 27 October 1864: Engagement at Burgess Mill & Hatcher's Run, Virginia
- 31 October 1864: Using captured Union vessels; Forrest organizes his own make-shift navy on the Tennessee River
- 4 November 1864: Forrest destroys 6-7 million dollars of Union supplies at Johnsonville, Tenn. by shelling gunboats, barges, warehouses
- 5 November 1864: CSS *Shenandoah* burns the schooner *Charter Oak* off the Cape Verde Islands after removing passengers and supplies
- 7 November 1864: President Davis states that the CS desires a negotiated peace but only with independence

**Right: Battle flag of the 15<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Infantry** which was captured by Pvt. Ira Hough of the 8th Indiana Infantry Regiment during the battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia on October 19, 1864. The flag is presently in the "Museum of the Confederacy" collection.

## Next Camp Meeting

Thursday, October  
9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM



**Sconyers  
Barbecue**  
Windsor Springs &  
Peach Orchard Road

### Scripture Thought

...The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation...

--2 Samuel 2-3 (NIV)

