

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

I am looking forward to seeing you at our September meeting. We will be discussing the emergency Division Executive Council meeting that was held on August 16th in Macon. At that meeting, Mike Mull was elected as the new Georgia Division Commander, by an EC majority vote, to fill the position of suspended Division Commander Ray McBerry. Commander Mull appointed John Carroll to fill his vacated position of Lt. Commander South. You should have gotten your latest *Georgia Confederate* newsletter by now and the meeting minutes are printed in that edition.

We had six camp members to show up and help with the cemetery cleanup on our scheduled work day of August 23rd. Thanks to those who were able to help! Also, thanks to some members who performed cleanup activities at the cemetery on Friday, August 22nd. Every little bit helps. The cemetery looked great when we had completed our work, and new flags were installed. Our next scheduled cleanup day will be Saturday, September 13th.

I commend all those who have paid their national and camp dues. For those who have not done so, please send them to Adjutant Nick Posey at your earliest convenience. We need your continued support in the ongoing struggle to advance and defend our Confederate heritage.

Please plan to be at our meeting this month and bring a guest.



**Honoring our ancestors in downtown Augusta:** The Alexander Camp's memorial pavers were installed adjacent to the Confederate monument on Broad Street in June. Engraved with black lettering, the grey pavers feature the names of many Richmond County men who died while serving in the armed forces of the CSA. Additional pavers are

available, and those interested in honoring an ancestor or a Confederate soldier with a memorial paver may do so by contacting Adjutant Nick Posey.

**Activists Contact Georgia Officials Seeking to End Confederate Observances, Rename Streets, and Remove Monuments**

In June, two Valdosta radicals, in an open letter to Gov. Nathan Deal and the entire General Assembly, have requested the state of Georgia cease their official support of all Confederate observances. Believing the celebrations are a taxpayer supported "endorsement of white supremacy", the activists have called for an end to "the state of Georgia's endorsement, promotion, and support of all Confederate holidays, events, and its management of historic sites and monuments related to the Confederacy" and the renaming of all state roads and highways named for Confederate leaders. Moreover, the two advocate removing all Confederate monuments from public property and transferring them to private owners.

Ex Valdosta State University sociologist, Mark Patrick George and Rev. Floyd Rose of the Lowndes/Valdosta chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, emboldened by the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the state flag and the statue of Thomas Watson from the State Capitol grounds, are contacting legislators and so called "civil rights" groups in an effort to end Confederate History Month proclamations and the Confederate Memorial Day holiday in the state.

State Sen. Vincent Fort, D-Atlanta, affirmed the letter stating the pair's petition is "spot-on", and Dr. James Cobb, an historian of the South at the University of Georgia, stated, "I agree wholeheartedly that neither state-sponsored commemorations of the Confederacy or monuments thereto on state property are appropriate, largely for the reasons they state."

(See **Activists** on page 3)

## *Last Camp Meeting*

### **Evan Castle Speaks on the Confederacy's "Infernal Machines"**

During the August 2014 meeting of the Alexander Camp, Evan Castle, from Monroe, Georgia and a re-enactor with Company B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Confederate Engineers spoke to the camp. Raised in Nuremburg, Germany and Jacksonville, Florida, he attended the US Army Topographic Surveying School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia in 1967. He has been involved in surveying for 43 years being a Registered Surveyor for the last 22 years and the owner of Confederate Surveying Associates, Inc.

Mr. Castle began by stating "Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!" referencing a supposed quote by Union Admiral Farragut during the Battle of Mobile Bay. The torpedoes that Farragut referenced were keg torpedoes which sunk between forty and sixty Yankee ships during the War, most notably the USS *Cairo* on the Yazoo River. Castle stated the Confederacy's "got their money's worth" utilizing these wooden floating mines which he described as being "perfect weapons." Being battery operated and detonated from shoreline, the mines required shielded wires which proved difficult for the South to obtain. An agent was sent to New York to obtain the needed rubber. Unfortunately, he was apprehended, and patriotic Southerners were called upon to donate their rubber boots and coats. The threat of these devices to Union warships was so great that engineers were compelled to redesign vessels and install large wooden rakes on gunboats to lessen the menace.

Castle discussed "the Bomb Brothers"—George Washington Rains of Confederate Powder Works fame and Gabriel T. Rains, who developed the first modern mechanically fused, highly explosive anti-personnel land mines. Often consisting of an artillery shell and requiring seven pounds of pressure to detonate, the mines were deployed initially in 1862 during the battle of Yorktown. During the War, mines were effectively utilized at Charleston, Fort Wagner, and Fort McAllister, Ga. Union commanders were quick to condemn their use and considered the devices to be outside the bounds of civilized warfare. They promptly ordered Confederate prisoners to clear potential mine fields. Gen. Joseph Johnston did not sanction their use, but Gen. Lee considered them vital to defensive strategy.

Lastly, Mr. Castle discussed the "largest explosion of the War" which occurred at City Point, Va. during the Petersburg Campaign when a "horological torpedo" or time bomb detonated in an ammunition ship at the Union supply depot on

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## **Important Dates to Remember:**

11 September: Patriots' Day

### **Coming Events:**

**11 September: BGen E. Porter Alexander Camp  
#158 Meeting  
Topic: Gen. Joseph Wheeler  
7:00 PM  
Sconyers Barbecue**

**13 September: Magnolia Cemetery Clean up**

**2014 SCV Rally, Franklin, Tenn.**

19-21 September: Battles of Atlanta re-enactment  
Hampton, Ga.

27 September: Lt Gen. Stephen D. Lee Banquet  
6:00 PM, 333 Spring Grove Ave.  
North Augusta, SC

4 October: Oliver Hardy Festival  
Harlem, Georgia

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

### **Notable Confederate Birthdays:**

10 September: MGen Joseph Wheeler II

13 September: BGen Joseph L. Hogg\*

14 September: Maj. John Pelham\*

16 September: MGen G.W.C. Lee

17 September: Admiral Franklin Buchanan  
MGen Earl Van Dorn

20 September: MGen Sterling "Old Pap" Price

21 September: MGen Carter L. Stevenson

22 September: **LGen Stephen D. Lee**

27 September: RAdm Raphael Semmes

28 September: BGen John Gregg\*  
LTC Alexander "Sandie" Pendleton\*

2 October: Lt. Gen. Alexander P. Stewart

7 October: Maj. Gen. Bushrod Rust Johnson

7 October: Lt. Gen. Richard H. Anderson

7 October: Maj. Gen. William B. Bate

8 October: John H. Reagan, Postmaster Gen.

\* Died in Confederate Service

the James River. Utilizing 14 lbs. of powder, Confederate secret agent, John Maxwell permeated the Union security details and instructed a black deckhand to place the device on the ship. The resulting explosion killed 43 people, destroyed the wharf and caused over two million dollars in damage.

Mr. Castle brought along two examples of keg torpedoes, a model of Maxwell's horological torpedo and a "coal torpedo" which was a chunk of coal that was hollowed out, filled with gunpowder and sealed.

(Continued on page 3)



## University of Mississippi Officials Continue to Enforce "Political Correctness"

University of Mississippi Chancellor Dan Jones announced in a report on August 1<sup>st</sup> plans to distance the University from its Confederate past. Plans are being made to rename Confederate Drive, a short street near Fraternity Row, to Chapel Lane and to install plaques to explain the history of symbols such as the Confederate soldier memorial statue near the main administrative building.

The report recommended creating a new job of vice chancellor for "diversity and inclusion" (which obviously doesn't include those who take pride in the Confederate ancestry) and plans to intensify efforts to educate students on the history of slavery, secession, segregation and their aftermath in Mississippi, which means from a more liberal viewpoint.

The report also called for the University to limit the use of the nickname, "Ole Miss" to athletic or school spirit functions despite the fact the University has been known by such since the 1880's. The name, according to Jones, offends some as it harkens back to the antebellum period when the plantation mistress was called such by slaves and, therefore, considered "racist".

In reaction to the report, a contingent of Southern heritage enthusiasts led by H.K. Edgerton held a protest march in Oxford on August 9th proclaiming "political correctness" is cultural Marxism.

The University has continually succumbed to political correctness. Several years ago, "Ole Miss" retired its mascot, "Colonel Reb", the cane carrying bearded old man in a gray suit despite the fact that it was based on an elderly black man who had worked at the University for years. The perpetually offended stated the mascot reminded them of a plantation owner. They replaced the revered mascot with a nondescript black bear. In 2009, Jones asked the university band to stop playing the song, "From Dixie with Love" which blends the Confederate anthem, "Dixie," with the "Battle Hymn of the Republic". In the 1990's, the University banned fans from carrying sticks in the stadium to prevent the flying of Confederate flags at sporting events which had been a ritual for decades.

Changing Confederate Drive may prove to be difficult as it may violate a Mississippi state statute that prevents the renaming of historic streets, parks, etc. and removing monuments.

Sadly, it appears "Ole Miss", under its present administration, will eventually become another generic "party school" not unlike its Northern counterparts.

## Activists (continued from page 1)

Fortunately, the Governor and most state legislators have ignored the letter. However, its intent reiterates the need for the Georgia General Assembly to pass a law to preserve the names of historical parks, streets etc. and to prevent the removal of military monuments similar to that which was passed in Tennessee following the renaming of the Memphis city parks.

In a turn of events, it was discovered that Mark P. George, when he was employed at Valdosta State University, had utilized university computers to further his political agenda. John Hall Jr., a VSU alumnus and an SCV member, reported the incident to University President Dr. William McKinney who ordered George's email account deleted without notice.

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

During the meeting, Cmdr. Moncus presented Compatriot Greg A. Murphy his SCV membership certificate following administration of the oath by Lt Cmdr. Posey.

Cmdr. Moncus thanked all those who participated in the Magnolia cemetery cleanup during the summer months. He stated the Georgia Division has created an online grave registry for all Confederate veterans which can be accessed through the Division's website. Moncus stated that cards are available for those interested in purchasing the new Georgia SCV license plates. He reported that the Moses Wood Camp in Gaffney, SC is selling Confederate Cross of Honor grave markers made of composite resin for \$30 each with \$5 for shipping and handling. Moncus announced his intention to attend the Division's Executive Council meeting on August 23rd and that he does not intend to be a candidate for Camp Commander later this year.

Adjutant Nick Posey commended the 44 members who have already paid their national and camp dues and stated 52 more members have yet to do so. He reported that Compatriots Roy Williams and Charles Lunsford have transferred their membership to other camps. Posey mentioned that the camp had received a \$50 donation from Mr. George Day.

Quartermaster Joe Winstead stated he plans to take the camp trailer to the CSRA Amateur Truck Pull to be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Columbia County fairgrounds.

Compatriot Arnold Huskins reported to the camp that the Augusta Rescue Mission failed to properly notate in their newsletter that his May monetary donation was in memory of Richmond County soldiers who died during the War Between the States. The donation was only listed as being in memory of "Our Fallen Soldiers". When he complained, he was offered a refund, but the organization did not offer to correct the notation.

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

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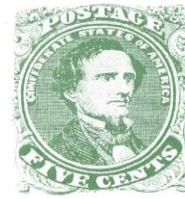
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**Brigadier General E. Porter Alexander Camp #158**

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## Remembering our Hispanic Confederate Heritage!

### 150 YEARS AGO: The Battle of Third Winchester, Virginia

- 16 September 1864: Gen. Forrest begins cavalry operations against Sherman's communications in northern Alabama and middle Tennessee
- 19 September 1864: Third Battle of Winchester, Va. Gens. Robert Rodes and Archibald C. Godwin are killed
- 22 September 1864: Battle of Fisher's Hill, Va.: Sheridan defeats Early
- 24 September 1864: Sheridan's Union troops begin burning crops, barns and property in the Shenandoah Valley.  
Gen. Sterling Price's troops attack Fayette, Mo.
- 27 September 1864: Thirty Confederate guerillas raid and burn Centralia, Mo.
- 29 September 1864: Battle of Chaffin's Farm Va.; Grant captures Fort Harrison but is repulsed at nearby Ft. Gilmer.  
Petersburg Campaign: Battle of Peebles Farm
- 30 September 1864: Lee counterattacks the Federals at Fort Harrison but fails to recapture the fort.
- 1 October 1864: Forrest skirmishes with US garrisons at Athens and Huntsville  
Rose O'Neal Greenhow drowns near Fort Fisher, NC
- 3 October 1864: Gen. Hood, in Sherman's rear, seizes Big Shanty and Kennesaw
- 5 October 1864: Battle of Allatoona Pass, Georgia: Hood fails to capture the Union position.

**Right: Second National Confederate pattern flag** belonging to Echol's Virginia Brigade which was captured by CPL Chester Bowen of the 1st New York Dragoons during the battle of Third Winchester on September 19, 1864. The flag is presently in the "Museum of the Confederacy" collection. The Brigade's commander, Col. George S. Patton (the WWII General's grandfather), was mortally wounded during the battle and died of infection on September 25th just before his promotion to General was authorized.

## Next Camp Meeting

**Thursday, September  
11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**



### **Sconyers Barbecue**

Windsor Springs & Peach Orchard Road

### *Scripture Thought*

To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I also overcame and sat down with my Father on His throne.

--Revelation 3:21 (NIV)

