

# WIG-WAG

News for members families and friends of BG E. Porter Alexander, Camp 158, SCV, Augusta, GA

Page 1 December, 2018

## **COMMANDER'S NOTES**

#### **Brother Compatriots**,

November was a great month for the Alexander Camp. Through the hard work of the cemetery crew we were able to not only continue the beautification of the Confederate Sections, but also make significant progress on the fountain project. Much thanks goes to **Tom McCauley**, **Jeff Young**, **Mike Milford**, **Paul Stampley**, **Bill Storrs**, **Gary Hattaway**, **Ron Udell**, **Carroll Nettles**, **Joe Winstead**, **Bob Green** and brick masons **Pat Ford** and **Tommy Browning** who worked ten hours on November 20th to lay over two hundred concrete blocks for the base of the fountain. Compatriot Winstead has done a great job organizing the project and a lot of hard labor by the "old man's crew" has gone into the endeavor. Hopefully we can "continue the march" and complete the project in time for a dedication ceremony for Confederate Memorial Day.

At our monthly camp meeting we heard an interesting talk by Professor Michael K. Shaffer from Kennesaw State University concerning his ancestor Thomas Colley of the 1st Va. Cavalry. We also swore in a very active new member from Louisiana, Brian Weber. Compatriot Craig Williams transferred in from the Carter Camp in Waynesboro, Ga. and nominations were submitted for camp officers to serve the next two years. The nominations include "Doc" Baxley (Camp Commander), Paul Stampley (Lt. Camp Commander), David Armour (2nd Lt. Camp Commander), Carl Mixon (Adjutant/Treasurer), Joe Winstead (Quartermaster), Tom McCauley (Capt. of the Cemetery Crew), Ben Creech (Chaplin), Alan Partridge (Judge Advocate), Bob Green (Wig Wag Editor), Terry Brower (Web Master), Brian Weber (Sgt. of Arms), Major Ron Udell (Honor Guard Commander, and Jack Bailie (Keeper of the Fountain). I wish to thank all those who have volunteered to serve as officers and in other capacities. That is what makes us such a great camp!

Our December meeting on the 13th of the month will feature an interesting talk by Ms. **Marty Foss** from Aiken, S.C. on woman nurses during the WBTS. Marty is a devoted re enactor as a battlefield nurse and has great knowledge concerning the topic. It is also not too early to make reservations for our annual Lee-Jackson banquet on January 26th at the Burns Memorial Methodist Church in Augusta. Tickets remain at twelve dollars per person. Please contact **Nick Posey** at the next meeting or call him at 706-294-7813 to let him know the size of your party so we can plan accordingly.

Have A Great Dixie Christmas and keep the flags flying!

Your obedient servant,

Dr. John Baxley, Commander

### **Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans**

"To you, sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate Soldiers good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

at 206

Lt. General Stephen D. Lee, 1906

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### **EDITOR'S NOTES**



#### Brother Compatriots,

I've noticed at the beginning of our Camp meetings, we recite pledges to a few flags. I've also noticed that several compatriots are having to read the pledges. Let's challenge ourselves for the next meeting (Nov 8) to memorize one more pledge. Last

month was the Cowpens Flag. For December lets all know our pledge to the real Georgia flag: "I Pledge Allegiance to the Georgia State Flag and to the Principles for which it stands; Wisdom, Justice and Moderation."

This month I've included a guest list on page 6. This is a vital part of promoting our Camp. There are so many lies out there about who an what the SCV is and does, bringing guests is the best way to show our friends who and what we truly are.

On another topic, last month I discovered that the Sick Call & Prayer List was a little out of date. Please, if you know someone who needs to be added to this list, let me know, and especially let me know if a Compatriot has passed away. That information should definitely be included in the WigWag

On previous subject, I have included tips about how **YOU** may help **YOUR** Camp to grow and thrive. Here are three more easy ones;

- 22. Write an article for your Wig Wag.
- 23. Volunteer to work with an experienced member to learn a new Camp administration skill.
- 24. Don't wait to be asked, <u>offer</u> to help a Camp Officer.

Deo Vindici,

Bob Green, Editor

The **Wig Wag** is published the first day of the month. Publication deadline is the 24th day of the month prior to issue. Submissions may be sent by written hard copy, or by e-mail [preferred method] to dixiebas@yahoo.com.

The *Wig Wag* is edited and published by Bob Green at: 213 Thread Needle Rd., Augusta, Ga., 30907-3750; telephone (706) 831-1579.

Anonymous submissions will not be accepted or published. The editor reserves the right to judge all submissions for appropriateness and good taste. Submissions may also be edited for reasons of clarity or byline were written by the editor.

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The views and opinions expressed in the *Wig Wag* are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily the views and opinions of the editor, the BG Alexander Camp 158, or the SCV.

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## **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

#### NONE REPORTED

If your Birthday is not listed here, you must inform the Editor at dixiebas@yahoo.com, or 706-831-1579

#### **DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

19 Dec—David & Terisa Donehoo 28 Dec—John & Susan Harris 29 Dec—Gary & Tina Hattaway

If your Anniversary is **not** listed here, you need to inform your Editor at dixiebas@yahoo.com , or 706-831-1579. The Adjutant's Roster does not list Compatriots Anniversaries

# The Ancient Town In West Virginia That's Loaded With History

Posted in "West Virginia" August 07, 2018 by Geoff Foster

Buildings are more than just brick and mortar—they house history, they retain memory, they hold within them a tether to the past. Harpers Ferry has 100 historic buildings in it, each with a story to tell. Together, they tell a story that spans nearly three centuries.

In the early 1700s, this plot of land that sits at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers was nothing but trees and earth. They were no bridges. They were no buildings. It was a plot of land waiting to become a town. And eventually it did.



It began with a ferry. In 1733, Peter Stephens

#### SICK-CALL & PRAYER LIST

**Fred Bryant** 

**Fred Bussey** 

Jacob Cook

Ben Creech's wife Belinda

Mike Milford's G-Daughter Reagan

Ron Udell

Joe Winstead

**Roy Stampley** 

## **OUR LIFE MEMBERS**

**David Armour** Dr. John Baxley Kenneth Besecker Fred Bryant **Gregory Bussey** Fred Bussey, Sr. **Bobby Crawley** Pat Estep Ben Faulkner **Henry Gilmen** James Hair Carlton Hardin **Richard Herron Dr. Arnold Huskins** Thomas McCauley, III **Matthew Posey Nicholas Posey** William Quattlebaum **Paul Stampley** Roy Stampley, Jr.

**Philip Weaver** 

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established a ferry to take folks across the Potomac to Maryland. In 1747, one of these folks was Robert Harper. He immediately saw the potential for industry at the location and the amount of traffic a ferry could bring into the area. In 1751, Harper purchased 126 acres of land and a few years later the Virginia General Assembly granted Harper the right to establish and maintain a ferry there. By 1763, a small town had sprung up in the area and Virginia General Assembly officially instituted the town of "Shenandoah Falls at Mr. Harper's ferry."

At this point, the creation of towns and the exploration of lands unknown were well under way. On October 25, 1783, Thomas Jefferson and his daughter arrived in the town on their way to Philadelphia. Jefferson stood upon a rock and looked over the rivers, which he described in his journal as "...one of the most stupendous scenes in nature." It is now known as Jefferson's Rock, that allows anyone to enjoy the same stupendous view.



In 1794, George Washington, president of the Patowmack Company (the 18th century spelling of Potomac), proposed the idea of establishing a U.S. Armory in Harpers Ferry, which was granted in 1799. Many members of Washington's family moved to the small town as well.

By the next century, widespread slavery in the U.S. had become a hotbed issue and the armory established by Washington six decades earlier became the staging ground for a famous moment in abolition history.

In 1859, abolitionist John Brown led a raid on the armory. 22 men, including Brown, broke into the armory with the intended purpose to steal arms, intending to lead a slave uprising and to arm those men with the armory's weapons.

Eventually, Brown and his men were cornered and forced to take refuge in the engine house near the armory.

A local regiment of U.S. Marines, led by LtCol Robert E. Lee, were brought in to defuse the situation. After negotiations fell apart, the marines raided the engine house. Most of the raiders were captured and a few were killed. Brown was arrested and stood trial. He was found guilty of treason, and hanged on 2 Dec 1859.

A few years later, the War Between the States broke out. During the course of the war, the town changed occupation between the Union and the Confederacy eight times. Harpers Ferry was an important strategic location in the region, and was in a steady tug-of-war between the USA and the CSA.

In 1862, General Robert E. Lee wanted to use the town as a staging point for the invasion of Maryland, but first, he had to drive out the federal forces that currently occupied it. So, In September of that year, he captured the town and the 12,419 troops who defended it. The Battle of Harper's Ferry, as it became known, was the largest surrender of troops to an invading army in the history of the WBTS.

Today, Harpers Ferry has a reputation as the most complete historic town in West Virginia, with about 100 structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In Harpers Ferry, the past lives and breathes through the archaic relics that still stand strong.

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government."

Thomas Jefferson

"The flap over the Confederate [battle] flag is not quite as simple as the nation's race experts make it. They want us to believe the flag is a symbol of racism. Yes, racists have used the Confederate flag, but racists have also used the Bible and the U.S. flag. Should we get rid of the Bible and lower the U.S. flag. Black civil rights



activists and their white Liberal supporters who're attacking the Confederate flag have committed a deep, despicable dishonor to our patriotic black ancestors who marched, fought and died to protect their homeland from what they saw as Northern aggression,"

Walter E. Williams, Professor, George Mason University Page 5 Wig Wag



The "Old Man's" cemetery Crew (L to R): Front row Mike Milford, Doc John Baxley, Joe Winstead, Ron Udell. Back row Carroll Nettles, Paul Stampley, Bill Storrs, Tom McCauley, Pat Ford, Gary Hattaway, and Tom Browning.

# Magnolia Cemetery fountain restoration moves ahead!

On Tuesday, Nov 13, our dedicated Camp members again went to work on the fountain restoration in the Confederate section at Magnolia Cemetery.

Excavation is completed, the plumbing and electrical connections are completed, and the concrete block is laid. Painting, laying the brick and water proofing the pool is about that is needed to finish the job. Completion is in sight.

"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms."

"The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to

protect themselves against tyranny in government.

"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants."

"To compel a man to subsidize with his taxes the propagation of ideas which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical.



Thomas Jefferson

Past Camp Commander **Ron Udell** advises that if you wish to have a Confederate Flag on, or in your casket, you must put it in writing in your Last Will and Testament. Verbal requests are not always honored or respected.

# ALABAMA REFUSES TO PROSECUTE KNOWN CRIMINALS

Charges have been dropped against protesters who police said splashed ketchup and colored powder on statues honoring Confederate figures at the Alabama Capitol.

Jon Broadway, along with 13 other activists, were arrested in April after Broadway smeared ketchup at the base of the statue while his wife Faya Rose Toure tossed colored powder into the ketchup.

Court records show criminal trespassing and tampering charges were dismissed.

From the **DIXIE HERITAGE NEWSLETTER** (www.dixieheritage.net.newsletter)

The next time you sip on a Coca-Cola, consider the fact that its' founder was **Lt. Colonel John Pemberton** of the Confederate army's 12<sup>th</sup> Cavalry.

# Sing and play *DIXIE* with pride, dignity and respect!

In the October *Wig Wag* I included material about the hateful Julia Ward Howe and her song [*The Battle Hymn of the Republic*] celebrating the massacre of five innocent men by John Brown in Pottawatomie, Kansas. The men were hacked to death by sword; hence the "terrible swift sword" of Howe's song.

On the other hand **Dixie** is a beautiful and moving song, especially sung in a hymn-like manner as opposed to the marching style we so often hear now. It is a reflective song about peace, and home and family. Contrast the message of those two songs. For those Compatriots with internet service I suggest the following versions from YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LoPRA5SHIHU, by the Hastings College Choir. For a slightly quicker version by that well-known Liberal Bob Dylan at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prBXNwxjU4I

In today's environment of "Political Correctness," I have to wonder if Dylan would perform that song in his repertory today.

Campaigns against "Dixie" and other Confederate symbols have helped create a sense of political ostracism and marginalization among Southerners.

Journalist Clint Johnson calls modern opposition to "Dixie" "an open, not-at-all-secret conspiracy" and an example of political correctness. Johnson claims that modern versions of the song are not racist and simply reinforce that the South "extols family and tradition." Other supporters, such as State Senator Glenn McConnell of South Carolina, have called the attempts to suppress the song cultural genocide.

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#### "CRAZED JUNKIE! BABY KILLER!"

Or, some other unprintable, derogatory remark or gesture is what greeted me after my tour in Vietnam in 1968. Fast forward to today: people greeting me with warm handshakes and many "thank you for your service, welcome home". What a difference a few—well, several years—makes!

I stopped at the Vietnam Memorial wall. I looked for the names of friends or fellow soldiers who were not as lucky as I was. For those who have not seen it before, I was impressed with its size and the 58,307 names engraved in granite. Many greetings and thanks for our service came from others at the wall. What a difference a few years makes!

I spent the rest of the day visiting the WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial, then a walking tour of Arlington Cemetery, Changing of the guard ceremony at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and Iwo Jima Memorial. At the various stops I was greeted by many tourists who thanked me for my service and apologized for the rude treatment I received many years before. What a difference a few years makes!

Returning from Vietnam, I was hardened by the reality of war. The people who had rude remarks did not understand what I understood. They did not know of my wanting to serve my country, to do what I deemed was the right thing to do. I do not talk much about what I did or saw or experienced. It became a part of me and I knew others would not understand it as I did. What I shared with others were the good or the fun times—and there were many of those. We know that many have to sacrifice to keep the USA the greatest country in the world. What a difference a few years makes.

Will I forgive? Yes. Will I forget? Never. Am I bitter? I'm human, so maybe a little; but I refuse to let it control my life and my peace of mind.

So...what does the above have to do with the SCV or our Camp? Our heritage is, and has been undergoing the reverse of the Viet Nam veteran's experience. As the Viet Nam veterans are beginning to be appreciated and thanked for their service, over the past few decades the Confederate veterans are being vilified, demonized and lied about even more that the Viet Nam vets were. I and my Viet Brothers were and are alive to defend ourselves and our reputations. Not so with our Confederate Brothers. It is up to us—the descendants—to define, defend and refute the lies and deceptions of the revisionists today.

We of the SCV must arm ourselves with the truth, and peacefully, relentlessly and continuously teach the misguided "reconstructors". Can we change the "hearts and minds" of the opposition? Certainly not all of them, but maybe enough of them to make a difference. Only through repeating the truth, over and over again

can we prevail. We must persevere and teach the misguided miscreants the facts, as they historically were, not by the "reconstructed" and revisionist history being taught in our schools and Universities for the past 30 or 40 years. Remember, there was a time when our ancestors were honored and respected for who and what they were—soldiers, fighting the invaders of their homeland, and for their homeland.

In the words of Compatriot Carl Jones, Chief of Heritage Operations, we "...were given the charge by the Veterans themselves to carry on the legacy of our forebears to vindicate the cause, defend the Confederate soldier's good name, to guard his history, emulate his virtues, and to perpetuate those principles which he loved. This mission was handed to us, the Sons, by the Confederate soldiers themselves in 1896. No other group can legitimately make this claim and no other group or individual has any just authority to define, re-define or represent the true Cause and history of the Confederate soldier."

Deo Vindice!

Bob Green, Editor

#### IT'S A FACT!

Even under ideal conditions, people have trouble locating their car keys in a pocket, finding their cell phone, and pinning the Tail on the Donkey—but I'd bet everyone can find and push the "snooze button" from 3 feet away, in the dark, in about 1.7 seconds, with their eyes closed, first time, every time.

#### **CAMP 158 MEETING GUESTS**

#### 11/8/18:

Bill Berry brought friends Richard Foreman, Rusty Noble, and Terry Wick,

Dr. **John Baxley** brought his friend **Eddie Rogers** (*Wade Hampton*) re

John Denham brought his wife Betty
Brian Weber brought his wife Donna
Tom McCauley brought his daughter Angela
LtCol McLeroy brought his friend Steve Autry

## **SCV Statement of Purpose**

We, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, having been commissioned by the Confederate Veterans themselves, retain our responsibility and right to adhere to the founding principles of the United States of America remembering the bravery, defending the honor and protecting the memory of our beloved Confederate Veterans, which includes their memorials, images, symbols, monuments and grave sites for ourselves and future generations.



# DECEMBER 2018



1896							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
2	3	4	5	Pres. Jefferson Davis died Col. John Mosby born	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8	
9	Kentucky admitted to Confederacy	11	Gen Jos. Shelby born Gen Stand Watie born	Camp 158 Meeting, 1900 hrs. @ Sconyers and Election of Officers	14	Secretary Robert Toombs died National Bill of Rights Day	
16 Gen Henry Heath born	17	18	19	20 So. Carolina Secedes from Union	21 BG Ambrose Wright died	22	
23	24	25	26	27 National	28	29 Gen Robert E.	
30	31 New Years Eve	CHRISTMAS DAY		Fruitcake Day		Lee freed all slaves of the Custis estate. He personally owned none.	



# JANUARY 2019



1896						1896
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		New Years Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	Camp 158 Meeting, 1900 hrs. @ Sconyers	11	12
13	14	15	MG George Pickett born	17	18	Gen. Robert E. Lee born  Georgia Secedes from Union
20	LtGen T. Stonewall Jackson born Confederate Heroes Day	22	23	24	Gen "Fighting Joe" Wheeler died	26
27	28	29	30	31		