



WIGWAG

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



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FEBRUARY 2021

COMMANDER'S NOTES



Brother Compatriots,

First of all, I'd like to express to all that it is an honor and privilege to serve as your new commander. I acknowledge that I have some huge shoes to fill by trying to replace **Dr. John Baxley**, he did a magnificent job leading our camp. I hope and pray that I might be able to perform my duties as well as Dr. John did.

I really appreciate everyone's help during this transition, there would be no way for me to command the camp without the outstanding help that I have received from **Dr. John Baxley, Carl Mixon, Bob Green, Nick Posey, Paul Stampley, Bill Storrs, Emma Givens** and many others. Thanks Ya'll.

At our January meeting **Dr. John Baxley** gave a great speech on one of my heroes **Robert E. Lee**. Our next camp meeting will be on February 11th at Sconyers BBQ starting at 7:00 PM. Our speaker will be Adjutant/Treasurer **Carl Mixon**. He will talk about Georgia author and native **Flannery O'Conner**, the great southern writer from Milledgeville.

The Lee-Jackson banquet was held on January 9th at Bobby's BBQ. Confederate author **Thomas Moore** gave a moving speech on today's current events and some of his books. Also **Dr. John Baxley** was awarded the National Defense Medal by the UDC. **Bob Green** was awarded the Cross of Military Service for his participation in the Viet Nam war, again by the UDC.

Have a Great Dixie Day!

J.J. Brittingham, Commander

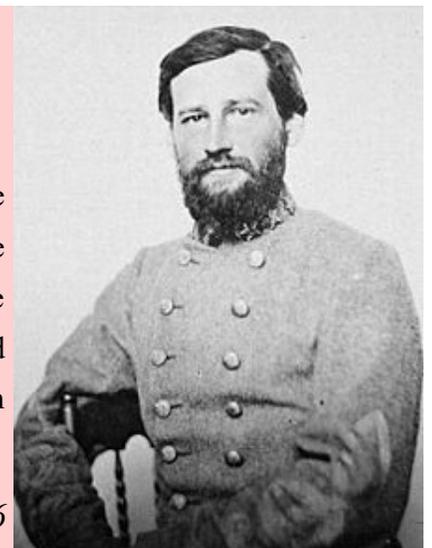


HERITAGE—NOT HATE!

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen D. Lee, April 25, 1906



EDITOR'S NOTES**Brother Compatriots,**

We had a great **Lee-Jackson** dinner -Celebration this year. Attendance was limited due to COVID restrictions, but the enthusiasm and speakers were terrific; see more in the following pages of the WigWag.

On another note, back to ways to help your Camp:

34. Offer to drive potential members to visit the Camp.
35. Put an emblem or coffee mug of the SCV in your office and talk to anyone who asks about it.
36. Organize a picnic, golf outing, etc., for the Camp.

On a final note: Our **Lee-Jackson** Dinner and awards evening was on January 9 at Bobby's BBQ. In spite of the smaller crowd (thank you Covid) we had a great time. We have a special guest speaker and all agree it was a fun and informative evening.

We had the swearing in of our officers for 2021, including our new Camp Commander **JJ Brittingham** at the dinner, so be sure to thank and congratulate them. If you are not a regular attendee at our meetings, drop them a note of thanks, and let them know you appreciate their hard work.

By the Way, I've made a few changes to the appearance of the WigWag this month. Let me know what you think.

Vivat Dixie, **Bob G.**, Editor

The **WigWag** is published 1st day of the month. Publication deadline is the 28th day of the month prior to issue. Submissions are encouraged and may be sent by written hard copy, or by e-mail [*preferred method*] to dixiebas@yahoo.com.

The **WigWag** is edited and published by Bob Green at: 213 Thread Needle Rd., Augusta, Ga., 30907-3750.

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 space. Articles without a byline were written by the Editor.

Permission is hereby granted, on verbal approval, to copy or reprint any material in the **WigWag**, with the stipulation that the individual author, and The **WigWag** are acknowledged.

The views and opinions expressed in the **WigWag** 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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Honor Guard Commander	Ron Udell (706) 825-2410
Cemetery Crew Capt.	Tom McCauley (706) 855-8374

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 Feb — John Denham

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

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

14 Feb — Phillip & Cecelia Morgan

If your Anniversary is **not** listed here, please inform your Editor at dixiebas@yahoo.com , or 706-831-1579.

SICK-CALL & PRAYER LIST

- Christy Armour
- Bill Berry
- Fred Bussey
- Tommy Chappell
- Walter Cook
- Jacob Cook
- John Denham’s wife Betty
- Kenneth Gordon
- Bob Green
- Carleton T. Hardin
- Mike McCann
- Mike Milford’s G-Daughter Reagan
- Cosby “ Butch” Smith
- Roy Stampley, III
- Vivian Stampley
- Ron Udell

IMPORTANT WEBSITES:

- E Porter Alexander.homestead.com,
(*Augusta Camp 158*)
- GaSCV.org, (*GA State Division*)
- SCV.org, (*National Headquarters*)

OUR LIFE MEMBERS

- David Armour
- John Bailie, III
- Dr. John Baxley
- Kenneth Besecker
- Fred Bryant
- Gregory Bussey
- Fred Bussey, Sr.
- Walter Cook
- Bobby Crawley
- Pat Estep
- Ben Faulkner
- Henry Gilmer
- Robert Green
- James Hair
- Carlton Hardin
- Richard L . Herron
- Dr. Arnold Huskins
- Thomas McCauley, III
- Matthew Posey
- Nicholas Posey
- William Quattlebaum
- Paul Stampley
- Roy Stampley, Jr.
- Philip Weaver



Thomas Moore speaks to our Camp at our Lee-Jackson dinner on January 9th.

Thomas Moore is an author, originally from the Carolina Low Country but now living in Aiken, SC. He has written three historical novels with Southern themes, “*The Hunt for Confederate Gold*,” “*No Villains, No Heroes*,” and “*A Fatal Mercy: the Man who Lost the Civil War*.” “*A Fatal Mercy*” is available from Amazon.com or from Shotwell Publishers.

Thomas holds a BA Degree from The Citadel, an MA in National Security Affairs from Georgetown University, and an MA Degree from University College Cork in Ireland. He served in the Pentagon during the Reagan Administration and on the Senate Armed Services Committee for then-Chairman Strom Thurmond. He was also Director of Defense and Foreign Policy at The Heritage Foundation.

His lecture was articulate, impassioned, thought-provoking, and memorable. He mused on the merits of the terms “separation” vs. “secession,” and proposed that we (the USA) are no longer a Republic, and mused on the merits of the terms “separation” vs. “secession.”

At the close of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, a lady asked Benjamin Franklin, “What have we got a republic or a monarchy.” “A republic if you can keep it,” replied Franklin

YANKEE PRISONS

Elmira Prison, Elmira, NY

The prison camp, in use from July 6, 1864, until July 11, 1865 (date of last arrival), was dubbed “**Hellmira**”



by its inmates. During those 12 months, 2,970 of the 12,100 prisoners died from a combination of malnutrition, exposure to harsh winter weather, and disease from the poor sanitary conditions on Foster's Pond, combined with a lack of medical care. The camp's dead were prepared for

burial and laid to rest at what is now Woodlawn National Cemetery. The cemetery, which is about 1.5 miles (2.4 km) north of the prison camp site, was designated a National Cemetery in 1877.

The camp's first Commandant was Major Henry V. Colt (brother of the famous pistol maker Samuel Colt) of the 104th New York Volunteers. He was given charge over the prisoners because of an inability to serve in the field (due to injury). Several Commanders were to follow Colt.

At the end of the war, each prisoner was required to take a loyalty oath and given a train ticket home. The last prisoner left the camp on September 27, 1865. The camp was then closed, demolished, and converted to farmland. A source suggests that the camp was so embarrassing, the site was deliberately destroyed. The area where the prison once stood is residential today, but work is underway to reconstruct the camp.

By the end of the war, it could not be disputed that Elmira had taken a considerable toll on the prisoners who came through its doors, with its mortality rate (24.5%) being nearly that of Andersonville (28.7%).

Marked graves are only due to John W. Jones, sexton of the Cemetery at that time. Born a slave in Virginia, Jones worked his way North via the Underground Railroad and became a businessman in Elmira. He kept meticulous records of each death, and supervised each burial personally. He insisted on respect for the Confederate dead, in direct opposition to the wishes of the Union Commanders. Jones even had the task of burying two grandsons of his former owner. The [United Daughters of the Confederacy](#) had a monument erected in the section.



Parts of the above are condensed from Wikipedia and from “Prisons-Pens of the North,” by Micheal Dan Hayes, reprinted here by permission of the Georgia Division, SCV.



CHANGE OF COMMAND

It is with deeply felt pride and gratitude that we allow **Dr. John Baxley** to step down as our Camp Commander. He has given us six years of devotion and hard work and his efforts can be seen everywhere we look.

Dr. John served as Camp Surgeon for several years before becoming Camp Commander. He also participates as one of our Camp Reenactors.

John says he tries to make sure that everyone has fun in the Camp, is able to learn more about our heritage, and ensure harmony prevails throughout. Sometimes he feels a bit like a referee as opposed to a Commander, but he serves up an excellent balance between the two. A soft-spoken leader, who knows his men and how to get the job done. We will miss his leadership, but I'm sure he will remain involved in Camp activities.

John also serves as a Docent (guide and speaker) one day a week for the Aiken County Historical Museum. He teaches visitors about the true history of the South.

I'm sure Dr. John won't be a stranger in the coming months, and he will find new and other ways to work for the preservation of the Camp and our Southern Heritage.

LETTER TO THE CAMP

28 Dec 20

Dear Nick [*Posey*],

Please accept the enclosed check for \$5,000.00 to SCV Camp 158, in loving memory of my husband, William Edwin Loftis (Ed).

Ed always looked forward to attending Camp meetings and enjoyed the speakers and camaraderie. He appreciated the sacrifices of his Confederate ancestors. And I hope this contribution will be of assistance in the preservation of the memory of those who did their duty.

Warm Regards,
Jan B. Loftis

Random Thoughts

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible.

- George Burns

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.

- Mark Twain

A CONFEDERATE QUIZ

The "*Confederate Quiz*" is to test our brothers knowledge of our Heritage. This quiz is four questions about the Confederacy, or maybe another random subject regarding the South. The October *Confederate Quiz* questions are:

1. When Union men looted Southern homes, what did some women use to hide small articles?
2. What ethnic group made up the renowned Texas unit called the Davis Guards?
3. What German unit of South Carolina cavalry was named for a famous German military unit?
4. What were there more of—Southern-born Union generals, or Northern-born Confederate generals?

Answers to the "Quiz" can be found on page 6 of this issue.

Quiz questions are taken from "The Complete Book of Confederate Trivia" by J. Stephen Lang and donated to the WigWag by Compatriot Gary Hattaway.

SAVE the MONUMENT

Update: Save the Monuments in Augusta, Inc. has a new Post Office Box. Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 16542, Augusta, GA, 30909. We have a PayPal account up and running on our group page and website:

<https://saveaugustamonument.wixsite.com/save> .

We have had a busy month preparing for the inevitable battle to save the monument. We have met with Randy Sheppard, Attorney at Law, who will be our local attorney and we are consulting with Martin K. O’Toole [GA Division, SCV] with regard to [our] next steps. We currently have the names of four attorneys who are familiar with the litigations going on in GA regarding the illegal monument removals, and will be enlisting one of them to help us and to work with Randy Sheppard as the trial attorney.

At this time, we continue to gather all legal filings in the cases involving Covington, Macon, Gwinnett Co., Dekalb, McDonough, as well as watching the threats in Brunswick and Savannah. Attorneys for the cities of Brunswick and Savannah have advised the Commissioners that they are opening themselves up to individual [personal] lawsuits if they move forward with monument removals.

www.facebook.com/groups/2346160209025576 as we know there is strength in numbers.

- *Debbie Coleman, for Save the Monument in Augusta*



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

Stewart Gilbert, portrait 1821

- *Thomas Jefferson*

“To forget ones ancestors Is to be as a brook without a source, A tree without a root.”

- Chinese Proverb

UDC PRESENTS AWARDS



Julie Hardaway (right above) and **Theresa Boettjer** (left above) presented the **United Daughters of the Confederacy Military Service Awards** to two E.P. Alexander Camp Compatriots. The UDC is the only organization to receive permission from the U.S. Government to present our Crosses of Military Service and Armed Forces awards to United States Military Veterans and Active Duty Servicemen and Women. Strict Department of Defense guidelines are adhered to when bestowing these medals. These medals are bestowed upon servicemen and women who served honorably in the US Armed Forces and who are lineal descendants of Confederate soldiers or sailors who served honorably.

Julie Hardaway is the Recorder General for the Military Service Awards General Organization of the UDC, and **Theresa Boettjer** is President of the Jefferson Davis Chapter 2465, UDC, Aiken, SC. Both ladies are residents of Aiken, SC, and we are proud to have them participants in our Lee-Jackson celebration.

Camp Commander **John Baxley** was presented with the National Defense Medal for his service in the Army Medical Service Corps during Viet Nam. Camp newsletter Editor **Bob Green** was presented with the Cross of Military Service for his combat duty in Viet Nam.

CONFEDERATE QUIZ ANSWERS

The August *Confederate Quiz* answers are:

1. Their hoop skirts.
 2. Irishmen.
 3. The Hussars.
 4. Northern-born Confederate generals.
- So — How did you do?



FEBRUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Wheeler Camp Meeting , 1900, Aiken Co. Museum	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5 Chocolate Fondue Day	6 MG J. E. B. Stewart born.
7	8 BG John Jackson born	9 Read in the Bathtub Day	10	11 CAMP 158 MEETING: 1830 hrs., At Sconyers BBQ VP A. H. Stevens born.	12	13
14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17 Random Acts of Kindness Day	18 President Jefferson Davis Inaugurated. Benson Camp Meeting.: Bobby's BBQ	19 Battle of Aiken	20 Battle of Aiken BG P. G. T. Beauregard died.
21 Batle of Aiken	22 Waynesboro Camp Meeting	23 Evans Camp Meeting	24 World Bartender Day	25 Open that Bottle Night	26	27 BG John Jackson died
28 National Public Sleeping Day	29 Leap Day					



MARCH '21



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Aiken Camp Meetin	2 LtGen Jubal A. Early died	3	4	5 Broxton Bridge Reenactment	6 Broxton Bridge Reenactment
7 Broxton Bridge Reenactment	8	9	10	11 CAMP 158 MEETING: 1830 hrs., At Sconyers BBQ	12	13
14	15 The “ Ides of March. ” If you are a Roman Emperor, watch your back!	16 Sylvania Camp Meeting	17	18	19	20
21	22 Waynesboro Camp Meeting	23 Evans Camp Meeting	24 VP Alexander Stevens died.	25	26	27
28 Gen Wade Hampton born.	29	30	31			