

Confederate Veteran.

July/August 2026



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Rosemont: Where Jefferson Davis' Memories Began

— James Ronald Kennedy

***Brothers Joseph E. Davis and Confederate President
Jefferson Davis***

— Tom Wood

The Corwin Amendment: Part One

— Scott Barker and Joseph Judson Smith, III

Jackson's Enduring Legacy

— Charles A. Jennings



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PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY IN
THE INTEREST OF CONFEDERATE
ASSOCIATIONS AND KINDRED TOPICS

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
WALTER D. KENNEDY
CIC@SCV.ORG

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADAM SOUTHERN
EXEDIR@SCV.ORG

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S. A. Cunningham

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Official Journal of the
Sons of Confederate Veterans

*Though men deserve, they may not win, success;
The brave will honor the brave, vanquished none the less.*

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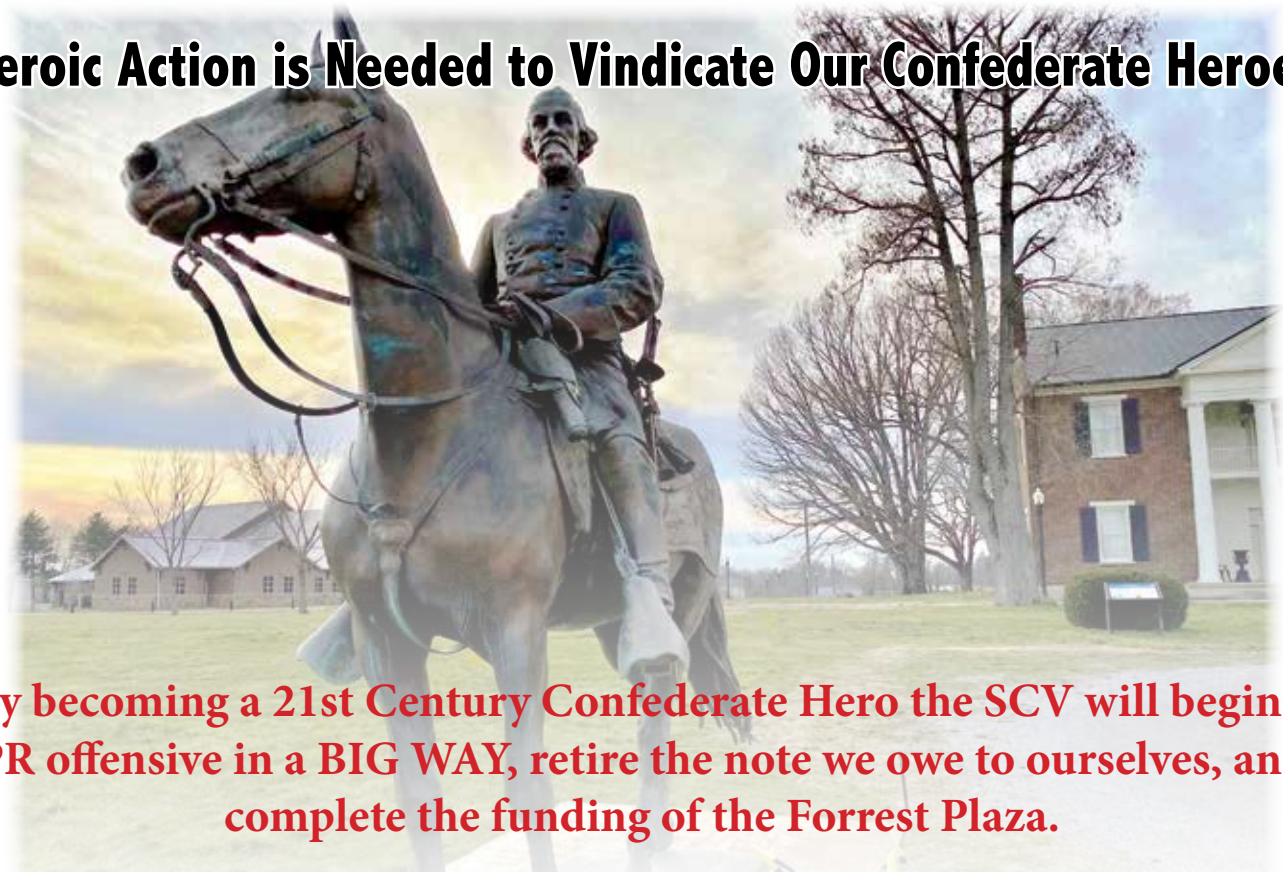
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ON THE COVER – Portrait of President Jefferson Davis in the Memorial Building,
General Headquarters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.
Photo by Frank Powell.

21st CENTURY CONFEDERATE HERO

Heroic Action is Needed to Vindicate Our Confederate Heroes



By becoming a 21st Century Confederate Hero the SCV will begin a PR offensive in a BIG WAY, retire the note we owe to ourselves, and complete the funding of the Forrest Plaza.

In August of this year, the SCV will dedicate much of the funds once going to pay the bank note to begin a massive pro-South PR campaign. By joining now, we can payback the Brooks Fund and add to the pro-South PR campaign. The SCV is offering 1,500 Southerners the opportunity to be designated as a 21st Century Confederate Hero by donating \$1,000. Funds received will be used to retire the mortgage and fund the restoration of the Forrest Plaza.

Those donating will receive:

- 21st Century Confederate Hero neck ribbon,
- Placement in SCV's Book of 21st Century Confederate Heroes and receive a personal copy of this book,
- Paver on the 'Walkway of Confederate Heroes,' with the information provided by the donor,
- Option of having his name or his ancestor's name displayed on large screen TV in our museum and their names noted at the Forrest Plaza.

Payment may be made in full or in installments over 18 months.

Join in this effort and let us get started taking the fight to our enemy. More information is available on the Confederate Legion website: <https://scvconfederatelegion.com/> click on "21st Century Heroes."

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S. A. CUNNINGHAM
FOUNDER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

FRANK B. POWELL, III
EIC@SCV.ORG
9701 FONVILLE ROAD
WAKE FOREST, NC 27587

CONTRIBUTORS

ANTHONY M. GRIFFIN
FR. TOM HITER
PAUL C. GRAHAM
C. E. AVERY
JAMES RONALD KENNEDY
SCOTT BARKER
JOSEPH JUDSON SMITH, III
TOM WOOD
CHARLES A. JENNINGS
AVERY FRANTZ
GEORGE RAY HOUSTON
GARY LEE HALL
BARNEY W. ROBERTS, III

ADVERTISING
REPRESENTATIVE

PLEASE CONTACT THE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
FOR ADVERTISING

LEGAL COUNSEL

SCOTT D. HALL

PROOFREADER

SARA N. POWELL

PUBLISHER

SONS OF CONFEDERATE
VETERANS, INC.
800-380-1896
WWW.SCV.ORG

FROM THE EDITOR

By the time you receive this issue our National Reunion will only be a couple of weeks away. I'm looking forward to returning to Kentucky and I hope to see many of you there. Many events are planned in addition to it being an election year, so we should have a really good time.



Photo by John Gregory

Compatriot Ron Kennedy shares with us his essay on *Rosemont: Where Jefferson Davis' Memories Began* in this issue. We are always reading about Davis' political life and his time as president of the Confederacy, but we don't read much about his beginnings. You will find his time at Rosemont shaped the rest of his life and made him who he was. In addition, Compatriot Tom Wood shares his essay on *Brothers Joseph E. Davis and Confederate President Jefferson Davis* which goes along with the Rosemont essay. Jefferson's older brother Joseph greatly influenced his life and he served as a surrogate father for his younger brother.

We welcome Scott Barker and Joseph Judson Smith with their excellent essay on *The Corwin Amendment*. This has been overlooked for decades and we need to spread the word. Please read and share with your friends and our detractors.

Jackson's Enduring Legacy is shared with us by Compatriot Charles A. Jennings. Stonewall Jackson's legacy still lives with us today and we need to make use of it and learn from it. General Jackson put his full trust in God and His will and we must do so as well.

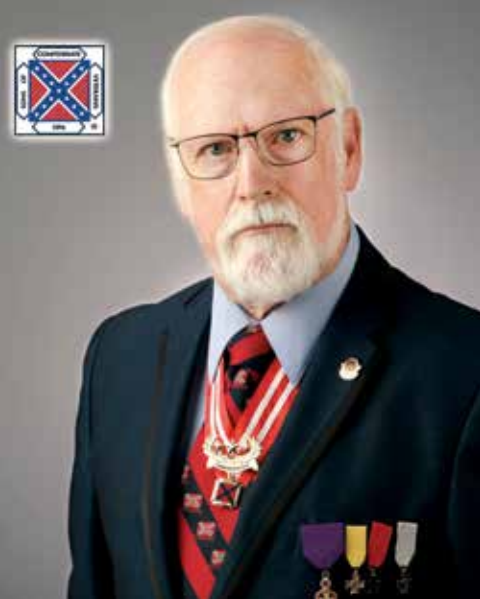
We sometimes forget what our ancestors went through in the years after the War. *Echoes of Memory: The Phonograph and Its Comfort to War Veterans* shared with us by Compatriot Avery Frantz explores some of the comforts our ancestors found in new technology around the turn of the century.

I want to thank our members for continuing to send in photos of their camp activities. Make sure to send in photos at actual and/or original size, don't reduce! I'm still receiving photos which are too small. Of course, letters to the editor are always welcome. This is your magazine, so your opinions are always welcome. Thanks! Once again, I hope to see you in Kentucky! Until then, I remain,

Yours in the Cause.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank B. Powell, III". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "F" and a trailing flourish.

Editor-in-Chief



REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
WALTER D. (DONNIE) KENNEDY
CIC@SCV.ORG

Studying History vs Making History

As I am preparing this, my last *Confederate Veteran* article I will write as your Commander-in-Chief, I cannot help but reflect upon all the kind words and actions given to me by the membership of the SCV. I trust what has been written and done has assisted you as we collectively work to "Vindicate the Cause" for which our Confederate ancestors struggled.

Recently, while touring Confederate Avenue on the Gettysburg battlefield, I was impressed with the monuments dedicated to honoring the men of Dixie who struggled for our Rights as Americans. From the impressively aggressive defiance displayed by the Mississippi monument to the bold statement of the true Cause of the South announced by the South Carolina monument, these memorials/monuments raised by the Confederate States should be viewed by every Southerner. But as has often been stressed, monuments/memorials cannot speak; they are made of stone and bronze; it takes flesh and blood to tell the real story about those monuments and memorials. "Flesh and blood" are where you and I must take up the Cause and proclaim to the world that yes, indeed, the South was right!

Shortly after WWI, Historian-in-Chief E. W. R. Ewing boldly stated too many Southerners incorrectly declared "our fathers did their duty as they saw it." Ewing corrected this error by stating, "We should be calling to the world from the housetop that our Confederate fathers were RIGHT!" As Ew-

ing noted, when only the victor's narrative is taught in schools, media, and society, the truth about our history and culture will be destroyed. This being the case, the SCV, for the past eight years, has been creating "tools" to assist SCV Camps to first, "Take back the narrative" and secondly, "Push OUR narrative" in each camp's home community.

There are at least seven "tools" created for SCV Camps to use to push our narrative into their local communities.

(1) Confederate Legion: Just prior to taking office as the 75th C-I-C in 2018, Commander Paul Gramling introduced the concept of the Confederate Legion. The purpose of the Confederate Legion was to create an assembly of SCV and non-SCV people who would fund and help distribute positive information about Southern history. The Confederate Legion has been very successful in creating various media models for radio and social media to rebut negative comments about our history.

(2) Research Polling vindicating positive view of Southern history. The SCV contracted with a nationally recognized polling service to determine how Americans, in general, and Southerners, in particular, felt about Confederate monuments and memorials. The results of this poll paralleled other national polls and proved that the majority of Americans do not support the removal of monuments honoring Southern heroes, and a super majority of Southerners agree. One poll of only

conservative voters in the South pointed out that a majority between 85 to 97 percent of conservative voters demand that all of Southern history be protected, especially Confederate monuments. Question: If you live in a “Red” county, do your elected officials understand just how well those voters — voters who elected them — agree with the SCV?

(3) Get out the vote: The Confederate Legion created a special 30-second radio ad and social media video ad that promotes voter activity during an election. These ads are non-partisan and non-political. They simply announce that the SCV, “one of America’s oldest continuously operating veterans’ organizations,” is encouraging Americans to fulfill their patriotic duty by voting. For minimal cost, these 30-second ads can run on any local radio station, plus, at no cost at all, the “Get out the Vote” video can be placed on every SCV member’s social media. These ads have two very important effects: first, they inform the local community that the SCV is a patriotic veteran’s organization, and secondly, they put elected officials on notice that the SCV is an active organization which can be their friend or foe.

(4) One Click Politic: The SCV has made available the ability of SCV members and their friends to easily contact their Federal or State political leaders to request action for protecting and promoting Southern heritage. For example, if the Georgia legislature is debating removing all Confederate displays at Stone Mountain, not only can citizens of Georgia e-mail their local state senators and representatives to support the Confederate display, but citizens across the nation can also e-mail the governor of Georgia. Such action by citizens from across America — such as California and New Jersey — can have a major impact on such legislation. Remember, the One Click Politic is an easy way to contact both Federal and State officials. If your camp is not familiar with how this is done, contact the Chief of Heritage Operations and ask for more information.

(5) Confederate Counter Attacks: Six times a year, the Confederate Legion offers one-minute radio ads and social media videos which support topics from celebrating July 4th as a secession holiday, Confederate Veterans are American veterans, The real first Thanksgiving, Confederate Diversity, Christmas in Dixie, and The Constitution, a Southern Document. Each SCV Camp, or at least each SCV Brigade, should post these videos (one every other month) and /or purchase ad time on a local radio station. Special videos are made available on the Confederate Legion site, such as “If Walls could Talk” and “Answering Bill O’Reilly’s attack upon General Forrest.” As with all other activities, these ads and videos are designed to educate the public about the honor of being Southern and introduce the community to the SCV. Ads like these will not generate new members, but they will make recruiting new members easier because potential recruits will have heard positive things about the SCV.

(6) Dixie Defenders: *Dixie Defenders* are broadsides (handouts) designed for Gun Shows or special issue *Dixie Defenders* which are

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VETERANS
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Dispatches From the Front

A collection of letters to the editor from our members

Really enjoyed Chaplain-in-Chief's message

To the Editor:

I would like to thank Chaplain-in-Chief, Rev. Dr. Tom Hiter, for his article in Chaplain's Comments in the March/April 2026 edition of *Confederate Veteran*. His words about the importance of rules, order, and accountability within the Sons of Confederate Veterans were both timely and encouraging to read.

His statement, "You see, there ARE rules, and we MUST obey them. If you don't believe that, then please resign from the SCV today. You are a danger to yourself, the people around you, and the SCV," spoke with a clarity many of us appreciate. It takes honesty and courage to say what needs to be said, and I am grateful for his willingness to do so.

Too often we forget our rules and governing documents are not burdens, but safeguards. They protect the integrity of our mission, the reputation of the organization, and the men who faithfully serve within it. When we respect those structures, we strengthen the SCV and honor the purpose for which it was established.

His message is a reminder that membership in the SCV is not simply a privilege, but a responsibility, one which calls for discipline, humility, and respect for the order that has sustained our organization for generations.

I want to thank him again for his leadership, candor, and commitment to the principles which help hold this organization together. His words were appreciated more than he may know.

"Duty is ours; consequences are God's." — Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson

Respectfully,

Richard Garcia
Gainesboro Invincibles Camp 1685
Gainesboro, Tennessee

Takes issue with remarks on Chase

To the Editor:

One of our compatriots voiced disagreement with my claim that Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase never said "secession is not rebellion." He cited several historians for the quote's authenticity. However, I did not see the actual citation for the quote: a speech, letter, court ruling, etc. When I first read that quote years ago I searched for it but never found the original source. Such a quote should be readily found if true. Given it is at odds with Chase's other writings I can only conclude it was falsified and many historians, particularly those with Southern sympathies, merely took it at face value without verifying it.

It would not be the first time historians were mistaken nor will it be the last. For example, many people believe in Admiral Yamamoto's "sleeping giant quote" even though the supposed source the filmmakers of *Tora! Tora! Tora!* claimed to rely on are nowhere to be found.

However, I do wish to commend our compatriot for his respect in his writing. I have observed others in our organization do not take too kindly to having their beliefs challenged.

Sean Gravel
Col. Samuel St. George Rogers Camp 1865
Ocala, Florida

My First Meeting with H.K. Edgerton

To the Editor:

It was on a cold Friday January 16th, 2004, in the middle of a winter storm in Asheville, North Carolina. The temperature was below freezing, and the wind was blowing so hard you could hardly stand up in it. I was sitting at the warmth of my car with two friends who had

accompanied me to Asheville to attend the funeral of Dr. Ralph Sexton, Sr., who passed away on Tuesday January 13th. We drove up that morning from South Georgia to pay respects to a great man of God, and we arrived a little early. As we sat in the warm car in the parking lot of the funeral home, waiting for the time to go in, we saw a black man up at the edge of the large parking lot at the street, and it appeared he was trying to tie a flag to a pole in that hard wind. It was blowing so hard it was nearly impossible to hold on to it and tie it too. I recognized it as a Confederate Battle Flag. A black man in a Confederate uniform was not something you see every day, and we remarked about him, wondering what he was doing. I told my two friends I was going to go up there and help him tie that flag he was trying to tie in the wind.

When I got up there, sure enough, it was indeed a black man in a gray Confederate uniform. After we exchanged greetings and names, I asked, "What are you trying to do?" "I'm trying to tie this Battle Flag to this pole, but the wind is whipping it around," he said. He had a pole about six feet long and the wind was not cooperating with his efforts to hold everything still and secure the flag at the same time. "If you don't mind me asking, why are you wearing a Confederate uniform; you have to admit it is not something you see every day," I asked. "Because I'm a Confederate, that's why," he remarked. "Well, what do you plan to do with that flag?" I asked. "I'm going to stand out here at the entrance and stand at attention while I display the flag to show respect and honor to Brother Ralph Sexton."

While we tied the flag to the pole, he told me about when he was a boy growing up in Asheville, his mother brought him and his siblings to town on Saturday to do her shopping. She left them there on the square listening to Brother Ralph Sexton while he was preaching

on the square every Saturday. He said he loved listening to Brother Ralph and didn't mind being left there by his mother. He was planning to show his respect to the memory of Brother Ralph Sexton, Sr. by standing at attention while holding the Confederate Battle Flag, in that cold wind. That was his way of paying respects to Brother Ralph while displaying his colors to everyone there. I thanked him and we shook hands. I invited him to come sit in the car with us until the funeral time, but he insisted on standing out there in the cold wind in his chosen attire.

I really felt sorry for him because he wasn't wearing a coat of any kind. I admired him for what he was doing and left him there.

We met again on some occasions later, but I will never forget our first meeting in Asheville, North Carolina on that cold January day.

*Jim Hethcox
Georgia Division HQ Camp
LaGrange, Georgia*

Don't admit Lincoln wasn't against slavery

To The Editor,

I wish to respond to the "Dispatches From The Front" letter submitted by Mike Schooling entitled "Ending Slavery Was Not the Cause of War for Either Side." Below is an excerpt, from "Culture Wars & Revisionist History: The North vs The South," which I published in the July / August 2016 *Confederate Veteran*.

What "caused" the War Between the States is a simplistic question which has no simple answer. We, in the SCV, should avoid responding to those who suggest the war began from the desires of Lincoln, the North, or Republicans to end slavery. Furthermore, we should avoid stating slavery had nothing to do with the outbreak of war. Rather, we should respond with empirical data which proves the war did not originate

as a means to end slavery. From my 2016 article:

How often do we hear or read, "The South fought to preserve slavery;" "The war was fought because of slavery;" "The South fought to keep their slaves;" "The war was about slavery and not states' rights" and so on? Each of these so-called explanations turns on a single word or group of words, e.g., "preserve", "about" "keep" "because of," etc. They are used interchangeably by the media in buttressing the claim that slavery, and slavery alone, took the nation to war in 1861. There can be no doubt that slavery played a significant role in the cause of the war, but the South did not fight to "preserve," "keep," or "maintain" slavery; it already was protected by the US Constitution and the 1857 ruling of the Supreme Court.

What evidence supports the statement the South started the war to "preserve slavery?" Wasn't slavery already preserved following the Dred Scott ruling in 1857? The Supreme Court held that the fifth amendment of the Constitution guaranteed citizens could not be deprived of their property and slaves were considered property. Then there was the Corwin Amendment, the original 13th amendment, which was passed by Congress on March 2, 1861 (without the presence of representatives from the seceded states!). This amendment guaranteed the protection of "domestic institutions," i.e., slavery, from any future Congressional interference to include abolition. President Lincoln signed this amendment on March 16, 1861 and sent it to the governors of all states, including those which had seceded, for ratification. In his inaugural speech Lincoln, when referring to this amendment, stated he "had no objection to its being made express and irrevocable." Ohio, Maryland, and Illinois ratified this amendment. The firing on Ft. Sumter brought the ratification process of the original 13th amendment to an end and the war commenced.

For the South, the issue of slavery was not about its preservation, but expansion. Lincoln was always clear that he would oppose the spread of slavery into new territories. He also recognized he had no authority to abolish slavery where it existed so he faced no personal dilemma in signing the Corwin Amendment which guaranteed the future of slavery where it was constitutionally protected. This piece of history has gotten lost in the present-day narrative. Historians and Hollywood gloss over the fact President Lincoln signed a congressionally passed amendment protecting and preserving slavery in all states in which it was legal in 1861. Once slavery was elevated to be the single cause of the war, Lincoln needed to be known as the "freer of slaves" not the President who "had no objection" to the Corwin Amendment.

*Richard A. Marksbury, PhD
Raphael Semmes Camp 11
Mobile, Alabama*

War on Confederate memorials continues

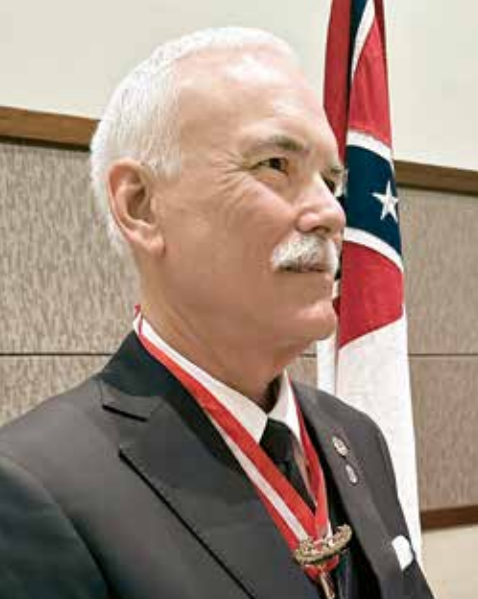
To the Editor:

The article by Compatriot Scott Barker, "Confederate Memorials and Monuments," in the May / June 2026 issue of the *Confederate Veteran* was very good. He is so right when he talks of "War on Confederate Monuments and Symbols." While we do not have nearly as many Confederate monuments here in Oklahoma as states like Alabama or Georgia have, we have still fallen victim to the Cultural Marxists here.

In 2018, Tulsa Public Schools changed the name of Lee Elementary School to Council Oaks in order to disassociate it from any connection to slavery. The irony here is while Robert E. Lee owned no slaves personally, and was opposed to slavery, his name was sub-

Continued on page 52

Letters to the editor are welcome. Please e-mail to eic@scv.org or you can mail to 9701 Fonville Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587. Please include your camp name, number and city. Space is limited; try to keep to 500 words or less, but longer letters may be edited and/or printed, space permitting. Differences of opinion are invited; attacks on fellow compatriots are not and will not be published.



REPORT OF THE LT. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

**LT. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
ANTHONY M. GRIFFIN**

LTCIC@SCV.ORG

Serving with Gratitude, Looking Toward the Future

For the past two years, it has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve as your lieutenant commander-in-chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. This office has given me the opportunity to travel across the Confederation, meet Compatriots from every corner of our organization and witness firsthand the dedication, sacrifice and unwavering commitment that make this organization strong.

I can say without hesitation, these last two years have deepened my love for the SCV and strengthened my belief that our best days are still ahead of us.

When I first accepted this responsibility, I understood the importance of the office but I could not fully appreciate the scope of what it would mean until I was in the field, visiting camps, attending division reunions, standing beside monuments, participating in dedications and sharing fellowship with men who work tirelessly, often without recognition, to preserve Confederate history, honor our ancestors and defend their good names.

What stands out most to me is not simply the meetings or events but the people.

I have had the privilege of meeting some of the finest men and families our South has to offer, compatriots who have devoted decades of service to this Cause, young members stepping forward to carry

the torch and families who understand that heritage is not something to be hidden, but something to be protected and passed on. From local camps to national leadership, I have seen an organization built not just on history, but on brotherhood.

During these two years, we have worked hard to move the SCV forward in practical and meaningful ways.

One of the most visible efforts has been our billboard campaign. In a time when Confederate history is under constant attack and public misunderstanding is widespread, we knew we had to take our message directly to the people. These billboards were not just signs on the roadside, they were statements. They reminded the public our ancestors deserve honor, not slander and the Sons of Confederate Veterans will not be silent while history is distorted.

Public visibility matters. If we do not tell our story, others will tell it for us and they will tell it wrong.

At National Headquarters at Elm Springs, we have also made significant progress. Headquarters must be more than just a historic property; it must be the operational heart of this organization. We have worked to improve efficiency, strengthen communication and ensure that Elm Springs reflects the dignity and professionalism our membership

deserves. There is still work to be done but progress has been made and I am proud of the effort invested there.

Elm Springs is sacred ground for our organization. It should inspire every member who visits and serve as a place where our mission is advanced every single day.

Another area deserving of constant attention is retention and recruitment.

Every camp commander and every division officer knows this truth: organizations do not survive on good intentions alone. We must actively recruit new members and just as importantly, retain the men we already have.

Recruitment begins with visibility and purpose. Men join when they see an organization which is active, proud, and accomplishing something worthwhile. They stay when they feel welcomed, needed, and respected. If a new member walks into a camp meeting and feels like an outsider, we have failed. If he is given purpose, fellowship and responsibility, he becomes part of the future.

We must continue to reach younger men, sons, grandsons and great-grandsons who may not yet realize this heritage belongs to them too. We must use modern tools while staying true to timeless principles. Social media, public outreach, historical programs, grave marker dedications, educational efforts and community involvement all play a role. We are currently revamping our website and getting ready to launch new social media campaigns to achieve these goals.

Recruitment is not a special project. It is everyone's job.

Retention requires leadership. It requires active camps with officers who communicate and a national organization that supports the men on the ground doing the real work. We must build an SCV where every member knows his dues are supporting a mission which matters.

I believe we have made progress, but I also believe we can do more.

The future of the SCV will depend on our willingness to remain strong, united, and focused. We cannot afford distractions. We cannot afford division. Our mission is too important.

As we look ahead to the Reunion in Lexington this July, I do so with both humility and hope. I am grateful for the trust so many of you have placed in me over these last two years and I am proud of what we have accomplished together. I have given this office my full effort because I believe this organization is worth it.

I also believe strongly the work ahead requires steady leadership, clear vision and the courage to make difficult decisions when necessary.

That is why I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving you, hopefully as your next commander-in-chief.

This is not about titles. It is about service.

It is about ensuring the Sons of Confederate Veterans remains strong for the next generation. It is about defending the truth of Confederate history in an age of deliberate falsehood. It is about preserving our monuments, protecting our institutions, strengthening our camps and making sure our descendants will know who they are and where they came from.

We are not simply caretakers of the past. We are guardians of the future.

To every Compatriot who has welcomed me, encouraged me, challenged me, and stood shoulder to shoulder in this work, thank you. Your friendship and support have meant more than words can express.

Serving as your lieutenant commander-in-chief has been an honor I will always cherish.

I believe the best chapters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are still waiting to be written.

And with faith, unity and determination, I believe we will write them together.

Deo Vindice,
Tony

Anthony M. Griffin
Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief





Forward The Colors

**AN EDITORIAL FROM THE
CHIEF OF
HERITAGE OPERATIONS
PAUL C. GRAHAM
PCG.SCV2024@GMAIL.COM**

Leave Behind a Legacy of Which We Can Be Proud

Over the course of the past eleven installments (this being my twelfth and final in this capacity), I have tried to keep my bearings by returning again and again to the same simple truth: our work is not about abstractions, it is about people — real people — whose lives, names, and graves were entrusted to us by Providence and by familial obligation. We are, in fact, the SONS of those who wore the gray — this isn't theory, this isn't ideology, this is blood.

When that human connection is forgotten, everything becomes a slogan, and slogans are easily trampled.

Our understanding of ourselves and our relationship to times past should begin with particulars. A name on a muster roll, a plot in a cemetery, a courthouse document whose ink is fading. We do not have the luxury of dealing in generalities, because generalities are where falsehoods can hide. "The war was about this" or "the war was about that" is too broad a scope for it to be useful. Broad strokes can be used effectively only if coupled with examples of the human drama and the dreams,

desires, and fears of actual people. In short, make it PERSONAL.

Begin with one person — who he was, where he lived, what became of him after the war if he survived, how his family managed to survive the war and the aftermath, what they endured, and where he is buried (if known) — and you are pulled back to reality, which is always more complex than propaganda.

Imagine walking into a public forum to address a city or town council which wants to remove a local monument. When your turn comes, don't begin with a sweeping interpretation of the war or a debate over its causes. Begin with what is local and undeniable: that their State, our State, called the men of that community to volunteer in order to protect the people and property of that State from an invasion. Whatever we may conclude in hindsight, decisions had to be made by real people in the moment.

Bring a list of the community's men who answered that call. Use their names. Make it PERSONAL — name the actual names of the people

being insulted and slandered by the proposed act of removal.

Ask them what they would have done in the same situation: would they volunteer to fight for an abstraction called “the Union,” or fight for their own homes, own people, and own community? Ask them to whom or what did these men owe their first loyalty and why?

Ask them by what authority they speak for entire communities, past, present, and future by being the judge of who and what should or should not be remembered. In this scenario, we control the narrative, we occupy the high ground, and we are not playing their slavery and treason game by making the memorials and markers personal and local.

How would they respond? How would those in attendance respond? How would those on the sidelines act when it is made explicit that the affair is PERSONAL and may include relatives of their own? If possible, point out members of the presiding party who have Confederate ancestors. Imagine if we were organized and ready to defend the Confederate soldier by defending local men who were a part of that military outfit. Mention other wars, other losses, other memorials.

By pursuing a course such as this, the script is flipped. Their go-to arsenal of “racism,” slavery, and treason no longer seem reasonable given the names presented, most of whom are going to be farmers, tradesmen, and plain folk. If the SCV cannot research the people being memorialized, no one can. It would be a lot of work, but it would blindside the usual suspects and vandals. Consider this approach if confronted with such a situation in your neck of the woods.

* * *

I have previously written about monuments, markers, cemeteries, and records; but the most important monument to our fathers is the living ones — the memory carried in a family, a community, and a churchyard. A photograph in an album, a story told by an old relative, a name repeated at the table: these are not sentimental trifles. They are threads which bind us to an inheritance the modern world would prefer we misplace once the public reminders, targeted for destruction, are gone.

And memory is fragile. Families scatter; old houses are sold; trunks are emptied; the last person who “knows where everything is” passes away, and

a whole chapter can vanish in a single estate sale. The world does not announce these losses with headlines. They happen quietly, one box at a time. If we do not take up the duty of keeping, organizing, copying, and teaching, the past is not merely revised — it is erased, and the erasing is done by neglect as much as by malice.

We all know what we are up against: a fashionable creed which reduces the past to cardboard cut-outs — heroes on one side, villains on the other — and calls that “history.” It is not history; it is catechism from which one is not allowed to deviate without social penalty: intimidation, ridicule, and the constant demand we accept what we know to be false.

We cannot cure any such condition by arguing over slogans. Our task is to insist — calmly, stubbornly, and with documentary care — on the complexity and humanity of the people who came before us.

That is why our public posture matters. The aim of our opponents is often not to refute us but to provoke an unreflective response — to bait us into a posture which can be photographed, clipped, and circulated as proof we are exactly what they have said we are (think of Charlottesville, J6, and other traps we now know were manufactured by bad actors and unethical means).

The discipline required is not cowardice; it is strategy. Speak plainly, cite sources, and build relationships in your own county and town where a man is still judged, at least in some measure, by his conduct.

A calm letter to an editor, a respectful appearance at a commission meeting, a well-prepared presentation to a civic group — these things do more to preserve heritage than a hundred angry exchanges online.

If I could leave you with one more guiding principle, it would be this: never confuse zeal with wisdom. We are the stewards of a serious inheritance, and seriousness requires humility. Be willing to learn. Be willing to correct errors when you find them. Be willing to admit what you do not know and then go find out. A cause grounded in truth has nothing to fear from honest inquiry — only from laziness, exaggeration, and the desire to win cheap

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Chaplain's Comments

Rev. Dr. Tom Hiter
Chaplain-in-Chief

TYHITER@GMAIL.COM



“Have you prayed ...”

Well, have you? No, I'm not talking about asking a blessing on the food you ate for breakfast, nor even the invocation the Chaplain gave, when the meeting you're not paying much attention to at the moment got started. YOU! Have you gotten down on your knees and prayed to your Creator in the name of your Savior today?

Now, I don't much care what you prayed for, if you prayed. That's pretty much up to you, and we're all different in our various spiritual wants and needs, prayer as well as physical and emotional and so forth. What's important is not what we say, it's simply that we say it. For that matter, it really doesn't matter very much what you or I think we ought to pray for. As the Apostle Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians (Chapter one, especially, but Chapter three, as well), the primary point of prayer is to increase our knowledge of and love for God! We, in the Episcopal tradition, most often open

our service of Holy Communion with the words of the Collect for Purity: “O almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid. ...” God knows what we need and He knows what we want. But He wants us to talk to Him!

We Christians believe God created us, along with everything else in (and outside of, if there is an outside of it!) the Universe. We believe He created us in his own image. That is, He created us, mortal beings, to hold a spirit which mimics His immortal Spirit. He wanted us, evidently, to think and act very much like Him. Unfortunately, He may have accomplished that goal more effectively than is good for us. One of our first recorded acts was to decide we could make our own decisions and ignore Him (see the story of the Fall, as recorded in Genesis). He has been trying to communicate with us ever since. First, He raised a chosen race to exemplify him, but they fell themselves; He

gave us written language and recorded his message in a book, but we proved rather difficult to get to actually read it, and so finally, He sent his message, His Word to occupy a human body and to live among us and show us how to do it. We nailed him to a cross for his efforts.

But he arose from the grave and ascended into Heaven, and in so doing, sent his (and God the Father's) Spirit, the Holy Spirit (or Ghost) to live in our hearts and advise us. That's where we stand, today.

God created us to be like Him, He knows us intimately and He has sent us a message concerning how to more closely attend Him. It's up to us to do it!

In the old Evangelical hymn, *Sweet Hour of Prayer* (set to music, interestingly, in the same year our ancestors got fed up with Federal tyranny and declared their political independence: 1861), it is made clear what is expected of us is an extended period of prayer—not just a minute or two of rote

memory. Actually the Hymn was written in England (by a blind Church of England Pastor named William Walford) in 1842. William Bradbury, a well-known American evangelical composer wrote the tune in 1861. Bradbury was born in Maine but moved to Boston with his parents in the 1830s. He also wrote *Jesus Loves Me, Just as I Am* and several other well-loved hymns. The point is, neither Walford nor Bradbury suggested a few minutes of prayer. They called for an HOUR of prayer, every day.

George Washington, better known as a soldier and/or a politician, also commented on the time that ought to be devoted to Prayer. He was well-known for praying twice daily (he was, after all, a loyal and dedicated Anglican layman) whether on campaign, in office or on his farm in Virginia. Robert E. Lee is quoted as saying "No day should be lived unless it was begun with a prayer of thankfulness and an intercession for guidance." He also said "Let us pray for ourselves, that we may

not lose the word 'concern' out of our Christian vocabulary. Let us pray for our nation. Let us pray for those who have never known Jesus Christ and redeeming love, for moral forces everywhere, for our national leaders."

Want a quote from Jefferson Davis? I have one. Stonewall Jackson? Several. Leonidas Polk? You're kidding! The man was a Bishop before he ever became a general. The point is this: Our heroes prayed. Often. So should we. Have YOU, today? Hmmmm. ...



Continued from page 11

Forward the Colors

applause.

In the end, all we are is what we became and what we left behind. Let us become the best we can be and leave behind a legacy

of which we can be proud, having fulfilled the charge to the best of our ability and having made it possible for future generations to remember their fathers — our

fathers — who wore the gray.

We cannot do more. We should not allow ourselves to do less.



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The Last Roll

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Decatur, AL
Mark Curley

Captain William Graves Camp 805
Hayden, AL
Kenneth Pannell

Dekalb Rifles Camp 1824
Sylvania, AL
Harold A. Bouldin
Larry Wayne Freeman
Bobby Gene White

The Tallassee Armory Guards Camp
1921
Tallassee, AL
Tom Crain, Jr.

James M. Keller Camp 648
Hot Springs, AR
Herbert J. Koudelka

Maj. Pickens Bird Camp 1327
Monticello, FL
T. Buckingham Bird

Jacob Summerlin Camp 1516
Kissimmee, FL
Richard Austin "Buck" Branham, Jr.

Finley's Brigade Camp 1614
Havana, FL
Marshall Hallie Carroll

Florida Cow Cavalry Camp 1680
Vero Beach, FL
Robert Daniel Jordan

Gen. Edward Dorr Tracy, Jr. Camp 18
Macon, GA
Jack Guerry Thomas, Sr.

Brig. Gen. E. Porter Alexander Camp
158
Augusta, GA
Walter Edward Cook

Habersham Guard Camp 716
Demorest, GA
Clarence G. Mason

Buckhead - Fort Lawton Brigade
Camp 2102
Millen, GA
Tony Jack Gay

The Camp of the Unknown Soldier
Camp 2218
Jones County, GA
Michael E. Banks

Colonel Benjamin Caudill Camp
1629
Whitesburg, KY
Lenny Darrell Holbrook

Forrest's Orphans Camp 1744
Calhoun, KY
John Franklin Jones, Jr.

Claiborne Invincibles Camp 797
Claiborne Parish, LA
Henry Paul Garner

Col. Harry W. Gilmor Camp 1388
Baltimore, MD
Richard Barry Isaac

Brig. Gen. John T. Hughes Camp 614
Independence, MO
James Dean Beckner
Patrick Joseph Cole

Brig. Gen. Mosby Monroe Parsons
Camp 718
Jefferson City, MO
Michael B. Wilson, DDS

Brookhaven Light Artillery Camp
235
Brookhaven, MS
David Gibson Wooten

Tippah Tigers Camp 868
Ripley, MS
Chester R. Bryant

Shieldsboro Rifles Camp 2263
Bay St. Louis, MS
Douglas Camron Findlay



Water Valley Rifle Guards Camp
2360
Water Valley, MS
Lee Martin Jones

Robeson Rifle Guards Camp 216
Lumberton, NC
Kenneth Julius Powell

Maj. Charles Q. Petty Camp 872
Gastonia, NC
Robert Darrell Willard
Kenny Lee Davis, II

Maj. Egbert A. Ross Camp 1423
Charlotte & Mecklenburg County,
NC
Robert Russell Jeter, Jr.

Smithfield Light Infantry Camp 1466
Smithfield, NC
William Ronnie Snead

Sgt. John A. Lisk Camp 1502
Troy, NC
Michael Ray Mabe

Gen. Robert F. Hoke / Wm. J. Hoke
Camp 1616
Lincolnton, NC
James B. Wood
John Harmon Lackey, Sr.
Matthew Lee Wells

Yadkin Gray Eagles Camp 1765
Yadkinville, NC
William Spach Pratt

Gen. William R. Scurry Camp 1385
Albuquerque, NM
Karl Kirby Rosazza

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Confederate Images

by C. E. Avery



Gordon's Missouri Guerrillas

Silas Gordon joined the Missouri State Guard as a private and fought at Carthage, July 5, 1861; Wilson Creek, August 10; and at Dry Wood Creek, September 2. He was commissioned to raise his own cavalry company in Platte County, northwest Missouri shortly thereafter.

On September 16 at Platte City, he and his recruits skirmished with the 16th Illinois and participated in the siege of Lexington as part of the 5th Division, Missouri State Guard. Not long afterwards he was made captain of his new company and resumed his recruiting. In October they skirmished with Union militia in Platte County and on November 2, they ambushed Union soldiers at Bee Creek. On the 27th they captured the town of Weston, complete with a train which had just arrived. A few days later they waylaid another train at Weston and burned the railroad bridge near Iatan. In December he moved his operations to southwest Missouri to become



Guerrilla soldier in floral embroidered battle shirt under civilian sack coat and knee high cavalry boots.

part of the 1st Missouri Cavalry Regiment.

Next, they fought at Sugar Creek and Bentonville, Arkansas, in mid February 1862 and at Pea Ridge in March. They crossed the Mississippi River, fighting at Farington, in early May 1862. Following the reorganization of Confederate forces, they fought at Iuka in mid September and at Corinth in early October.

Sometime in March 1863 Gor-

don was captured and paroled and sent west on recruiting duty for a company of Partisan Rangers.

On October 6, 1863, Gordon's Rangers were with Quantrell at the Battle of Baxter Springs, Kansas massacre, resulting in the deaths of 103 Union soldiers. A week later his men raided the Osage Mission in southern Kansas. Then on October 28, with a party of fifteen guerrillas, they raided near Humboldt, plundering

several homes.

The following spring Gordon, with twenty men, joined Stand Watie's Indian Brigade at Tahlaquah, Indian Territory in April 1864. By August they were back in Platte County stealing horses and picking up recruits. They, along with others, raided Keytesville on September 20 and fought at Centralia on the 27th.

Near the end of March 1865, they were in Clay County with 150 bushwhackers. Shortly afterwards they were disbanded.



Rosemont: Where Jefferson Davis' Memories Began

By James Ronald Kennedy

President Jefferson Davis, the last child of Samuel Emory Davis (Senior) and Jane Cook Davis, was born on June 3, 1808, in Christian County, Kentucky. Jefferson Davis was named after his father's political hero, Thomas Jefferson. He was the tenth child born into the family. Jefferson Davis's paternal great-grandfather, Evan Davis, came to America from Wales early in 1701, settling in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Wales, along with Scotland, Ireland, and the northern border shires of England, provided early America with hardy Celtic settlers. For example, Patrick Henry was of Welsh descent.

Jefferson's great-grandfather, Evan Davis (Senior), had six children. In 1750, one of the youngest, Evan Davis, Jr., upon reaching twenty-one, emigrated to South Carolina. In South Carolina, he met and married a widower, Mary Emory Williams. Around 1756, they moved to Wilkes County, Georgia. There, their only child, Samuel Emory Davis, was born. Samuel Emory Davis was Jefferson Davis' father.

Samuel Emory Davis, full of patriotic vigor, joined as a private in the local militia and fought in the American Revolution. Evidently, he gained some military notoriety because, in 1779, he organized and led a militia company as its captain. The company participated in the sieges of Savannah and Augusta. Samuel's patriotic zeal was impressed upon all his children, especially Jefferson. After the end of hostilities in Georgia, Samuel returned home, where he met Jane Cook. They married in 1783. Samuel sought to improve his financial standing by moving to Kentucky.

The family eventually settled in Christian County, Kentucky, where Jefferson was born. Wanderlust and striving to improve the family's financial standing led Samuel to move back to the lower South. Around 1810, the Davis family moved from Kentucky first to Bayou Teche in south Louisiana and then finally to Poplar Grove in Wilkinson County, Mississippi. Wilkinson County is in the southwest of what was then the Mississippi Territory. Mississippi entered the Union in 1817 as "a free, independent, and sovereign state." Rosemont is the place where Jefferson would later declare it was "where my memories begin."

Samuel Davis was never a wealthy man, although he eventually owned twelve slaves. He and his sons worked in the fields alongside the slaves. This made an important impression on Jefferson. He always viewed slaves as fellow humans, not as property. Samuel was a strict Baptist. His children described him as "a silent, undemonstrative man...rather suggestive than dictatorial ... strictly a religious governor of his family." To Jefferson, slavery in the South was akin to slavery of the Old Testament, where Father Abraham treated his slaves as part of the extended family. Flogging was a part of Jefferson's upbringing, but only as a teacher's efforts to educate children at the local log cabin schoolhouse. Jefferson later noted teachers at his first school thought "the oil of the birch was the proper lubrication for any want of intelligence." Flogging was not uncommon in schools of that period. It was also a common form of punishment in the United States and British navies.



Rosemont was purchased, restored, and preserved by Percival Beacraft. Percival was a life member of the SCV.

Jefferson's love of his country and his patriotism grew naturally from his bloodline and his life at Rosemont. He recalled seeing his brother's horse, which had been wounded at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815. His brother served under General Andrew Jackson. In 1816, at the age of eight, Jefferson traveled to St. Thomas College (a Roman Catholic-run preparatory school) in Kentucky. Jefferson traveled in the company of Major Thomas Hinds, who served with General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans. Major Hinds and his traveling companions took a recess from their journey to visit General Andrew Jackson at The Hermitage in Tennessee. As Jefferson later noted, this visit with an American hero made a profound impression on the youth. Jefferson spent two years studying at St. Thomas College. In 1818, Jefferson was ten years old. His mother was eager to have her youngest child back at Rosemont. When the ten-year-old returned to Rosemont, Samuel made it clear he expected Jefferson to continue his education. He sent his youngest son to Jefferson College

in Washington, Mississippi, near Natchez. At one point, Jefferson decided he had received enough education and returned to Rosemont. There, he told his father he was finished with his education. His father, demonstrating what we today would call tough love, informed Jefferson that if Jefferson did not want to improve his education, he would have to work in the fields with his father, brothers, and slaves. After a few hot Mississippi days working in the field, Jefferson informed his father of his sudden desire to continue his formal education. Jefferson's father passed away when Jefferson was sixteen. His older brother, Joseph, became a surrogate father and valued adviser. Jefferson, with Joseph's encouragement, would eventually leave Rosemont for Transylvania University in Kentucky and, thanks to an appointment from Senator John C. Calhoun, Jefferson entered West Point Military Academy.

Rosemont helped create an American patriot, a Constitutional scholar, and the future President of the Confederate States of America. It was the place



Sarah Knox Taylor Davis, President Davis' first wife.

where Davis learned the value of family, where he received his religious training, and where he became familiar with slavery as practiced in the South. His close association with black men and women at Rosemont would move him to support what he described as a slow but steady high road to emancipation.

Rosemont is a few miles north of Locust Grove Plantation (now Locust Grove Louisiana State

Historic Site) near St. Francisville, Louisiana. Jefferson's first wife, Sarah Knox Taylor Davis, the daughter of President Zachary Taylor, is buried at Locust Grove. Jefferson and Sarah married on June 17, 1835. The following month, while visiting Locust Grove Plantation, he and his twenty-one-year-old wife became ill with malaria. Jefferson survived, but Sarah died on September 15, 1835.

One of Jefferson's last visits to Rosemont was shortly after his marriage to Varina Howell. Jefferson and Varina married on February 26, 1845. She was well educated and outspoken for a woman of that day. She once observed that "slaves were human beings with their frailties," and that "everyone was a half-breed of one kind or another." She referred to herself as a half-breed because she had strong Howell family connections in the North and South, and because of her olive complexion, which she said was inherited from her Welsh ancestors. Varina noted the kind reception she received at Rosemont from Jefferson's aged mother and family. Rosemont was not a plantation; it was a Southern home full of love, faith, and the spirit of adventure which produced one of the South's and America's greatest patriots. It is an important part of our Southern heritage.



Editor's Note: We note with sadness that Percival Beacraft, 91, passed away on April 28, 2026, just prior to publication of this issue of the Confederate Veteran..



Rosemont interior hallway opening to the back porch.



Ron Kennedy, Percival Beacraft, and Donnie Kennedy standing in front of Rosemont.

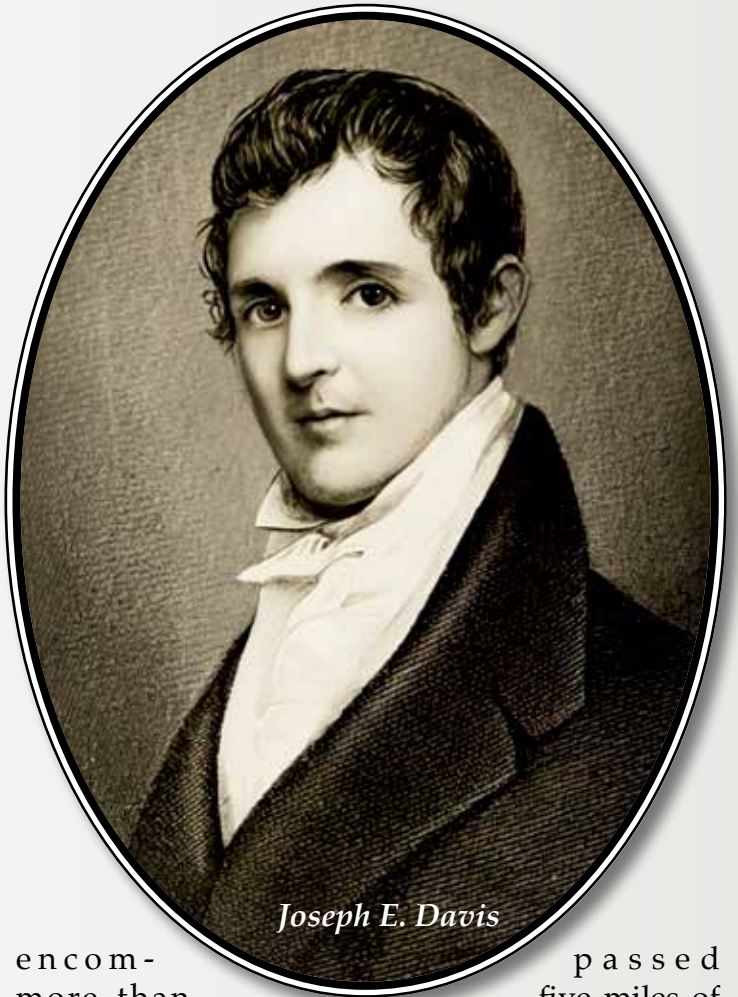
Brothers Joseph E. Davis and Confederate President Jefferson Davis

By Tom Wood, Commander, General Robert H. Hatton Camp 723

Let's journey back for a moment to the days of the elite and elegant Southern Antebellum life on the Mississippi River. Imagine standing on the shoreline of the mighty Mississippi dreaming of someday traveling to the exotic places you have heard and read so much about. Suddenly your eyes are focused and filled with excitement at the sight and sounds of a large paddle-wheeler appearing from around the bend in the river. You hear the melodic sounds of banjo music filling the air from the boat deck, and the sweet scent of the Magnolia blossoms. The boat acknowledges its presence and its intention to dock at the nearby plantation with a series of loud whistles emitted into the air.

Imagine the excitement of the people on the shoreline as they gather at the welcoming boat dock to cheer their arriving guests and to enjoy the excitement of the moment. This is a special occasion for everyone as it breaks the routine of busy everyday plantation life for at least a few precious moments. This is the scene that often enchanted the residents of Joseph Davis defining Hurricane Plantation at Davis Bend, Mississippi.

It was common practice for steamboat captains to dock for a routine stop at Joseph Davis's beautiful and amazing plantation located approximately 20 miles south of Natchez, Mississippi. The passengers were given time to stretch their legs and to shop for many items raised on the plantation offered for sale at the plantation store. Eliza Davis, the mistress of the plantation personally greets her visitors and offers them tours of the beautiful and lush Hurricane gardens she was so proud to share. This magnificent plantation covered more than 5,000 acres and



encom- passed
more than five miles of
river front along the Mississippi
River shoreline showcasing the tremendous suc-
cess and vision of Joseph Davis. Jefferson Davis's
elder brother Joseph gave an adjacent 1,000-acre
plantation at Davis Bend to his younger brother
Jefferson. This plantation was ironically called Bri-
erfield because of its large coverage of brier patches

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The Corwin Amendment: Part One

By Scott Barker and Joseph Judson Smith, III

The Constitution of the United States was drafted at the Old Pennsylvania Court House in Philadelphia from May 25 to September 17, 1787. During this period, fifty-five delegates of the Constitutional Convention spent the summer discussing its form and content. At the time of drafting and ratification, slavery was banned in the New England states, Pennsylvania, and the Northwest Territory. However, it remained prevalent in the Southern states, where it was crucial to the Southern economy and an essential part of agricultural commodity production. It is important to note that twenty-five of the delegates were slaveholders.

Slavery and Constitutional Compromise

During deliberations, delegates reached numerous compromises on substantive and complex issues, including slavery. While the language of the Constitution never explicitly mentions the words “slave” or “slavery,” it implies them through phrases such as “All other persons” and “Persons held to Service or Labour,” among others. The compromises that acknowledged chattel slavery included taxing the owners of enslaved individuals, along with the Three-Fifths Compromise, which counted a slave as three-fifths of a person for Congressional representation, the number of state electors, and the calculation of the direct taxes each state owed to the national government.

Furthermore, the importation of “such other persons,” meaning slaves, into the United States received constitutional protection and was scheduled to end in 1808, while the fugitive slave clause mandated “Persons held to Service or Labour in one State ... shall be delivered up on Claim ...” meaning the return of runaway slaves to their owners. Additionally, the Constitution empowered the federal government to suppress insurrections, including

slave revolts. On September 17, 1787, thirty-nine delegates signed the Constitution, which was subsequently presented to the states for ratification.

The deliberation process led to contentious relations between supporters and opponents, prompting convention delegates to recognize the need for a flexible framework. Consequently, they included provisions for amending the document through Article V, which allows ratification by a super majority of three-fourths of the states through their legislatures or conventions. To address concerns raised by the states, the Constitution was revised to include the first ten amendments — the Bill of Rights. Since 1789, Congress has approved thirty-three amendments to the Constitution, which were sent to the states for ratification. However, the states have not ratified six amendments, including the proposed Thirteenth Amendment of 1861, the Corwin Amendment.

The United States served as the guarantor of chattel slavery; from the outset, slavery was a constitutionally protected institution in the country. This constitutional protection was reaffirmed in 1857 in the US Supreme Court’s landmark decision, *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, 60 U.S. 393. Nevertheless, the history of American slavery traces back to its founding by Spanish and English colonizers, who introduced not only Africans as enslaved people into the colonies but also enslaved Native Americans. Each of the English colonies in America held enslaved people, and chattel slavery was embedded in the governing document of the newly established constitutional republic. While the enslavement of people is abhorrent in today’s society, the reality that it was once a common practice in the United States remains significant.

The Secession Crises

After seven states seceded from the Union,



federal leaders and legislators sought to appease the Southern states by proposing a constitutional amendment to protect the “peculiar institution” from future federal interference. Compromises had initially led the Southern states to ratify the Constitution, so a compromise solution might prevent further secession and help reunite the Union. To that end, at the urging of President James Buchanan, who referred to secession as a constitutional crisis, he asked Congress to develop a way to assure the Southern states the incoming Lincoln administration would not interfere with their slaves. Buchanan specifically requested legislators create “an explanatory amendment” to the Constitution for this purpose — a proposed Thirteenth Amendment.

Congressional Joint Resolution No. 80: The Corwin Amendment

The House of Representatives established a thirty-three-member committee chaired by Ohio Representative John Corwin to draft an amendment aimed at fulfilling the task outlined by the president. The Corwin Amendment included lan-

guage similar to that in the Constitution; it does not explicitly mention the word “slavery” but refers to concepts such as “domestic institutions” and “persons held to labor or service.” Fifty-seven proposed versions of the amendment were considered before settling on the following version:

No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State.

The proposed amendment, officially designated as Joint Resolution No. 80, was swiftly sent to the House, receiving approval by a vote of 133 to 65 on February 28, 1861. On March 4, 1861, the Senate passed the joint resolution with a vote of 24 to 12. Having secured the super majority needed to amend the Constitution, the joint resolution was subsequently forwarded to the state legislatures for ratification. Congress preferred to opt for ratification of the joint resolution by state legislatures instead of conventions, believing this approach offered a better chance of success. Unlike many

other proposed amendments, no time limit was set for its ratification. Although the president had no formal constitutional role in the amendment process, President Buchanan took the unprecedented and unnecessary step of signing the resolution to assure the Southern states of his support.

Although President Abraham Lincoln did not endorse the Corwin Amendment, he publicly expressed no objection to its ratification during his First Inaugural Address on March 4, 1861.

I understand a proposed amendment to the Constitution — which amendment, however, I have not seen — has passed Congress to the effect that the federal government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of the States, including that of persons held to service ... holding such a provision to now be implied constitutional law, I have no objection to it being made express and irrevocable.

With war looming just weeks away, on March 16, 1861, Lincoln sent a copy of the joint resolution to the governor of each state, emphasizing that Buchanan had signed it. The ratification process failed to garner the necessary support from the required number of states; however, it did receive backing from five states: Kentucky, Ohio, Rhode Island, Maryland, and Illinois. With the exceptions of Kentucky and Rhode Island, these ratifications were later withdrawn: Ohio in 1864, Maryland in 2014, and Illinois in 2022. The failure of ratification underscores the determination of the Southern states to pursue a different course from their Northern counterparts.

The Institution of Slavery and Abraham Lincoln

While the frequently stated belief that slavery was central to the war may have some validity, there were other causes. Furthermore, Abraham Lincoln notably reassured the Southern states of his intention to maintain it. In addition to his letter to governors on March 16, 1861, he wrote to Horace Greeley, editor of the influential *New York Tribune*, in a letter dated August 22, 1862,

“My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it; and if I could do it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could

save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would do that; I intend no modification of my oft-expressed personal wish that all men everywhere could be free.”

Still, Lincoln wrote to Alexander Stephens, the future Confederate vice president and a former political ally from the Whig Party, on December 22, 1860, expressing his desire to prevent the spread of slavery without threatening its existence in the states where it was already established. In the letter, he stated:

“Do the people of the South really entertain fears that a Republican administration would, directly, or indirectly, interfere with their slaves, or with them, about their slaves? If they do, I wish to assure you, as once a friend, and still, I hope, not an enemy, that there is no cause for such fears.”

Conclusion

Southerners did not support the Corwin Amendment because seven states in the Deep South had already formed the Confederacy. Consequently, they no longer viewed themselves as part of the United States. Ratification could have been achieved with support from the remaining states of the Upper South, potentially reaching the minimum number of required states. Although the proposed Thirteenth Amendment represented a well-considered compromise solution to the secession crisis that had garnered Congressional backing, the opportunity for compromise had passed, and the die was cast. Nevertheless, they did not trust Lincoln or Northern politicians, and by establishing a new government, they were determined to maintain the status quo as they moved forward.

The assurances provided by Lincoln that his administration and the Republican Party would not interfere with slavery were, at best, disingenuous. Lincoln had publicly stated he would not allow slavery anywhere in the country except where it already existed, which directly contradicted the US Supreme Court’s ruling in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*. He spoke from different sides of the issues depending on his audience. On one hand, he advocated for ending slavery; on the other, he claimed that saving the Union was paramount. Ultimately, Lincoln led the nation into a war, which he asserted was aimed at reuniting the Union and, following his invasion of the Confederacy, at the abolition of slavery.

The irony of Senate Resolution No. 80 lies in the outcome of slavery in the United States. What was initially proposed as an amendment to the Constitution to ensure its continuation was ultimately replaced by one that promoted its abolition. The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified on December 8 and proclaimed on December 18, 1865.

Postscript to Slavery

As a postscript to slavery in the United States, although its demise came through a constitutional amendment, it likely would have ended anyway due to the modernization of agricultural production. After all, the invention of the cotton gin in 1793, during the Industrial Revolution, shaped the rise of the Antebellum economy in the South and increased the value of slavery. Similarly, the development of modern farm implements and agricultural methods renders manual labor economically unfeasible, diminishing the value of enslaved people by raising the costs of maintaining them.

The Corwin Amendment: Part Two

The duplicities of Abraham Lincoln, his administration, the Radical Republican Party, and Congress during the 1860s are evident in the annals of American history, documented through their words and legislative actions regarding the paramount issue of slavery. In the antebellum period, the Republican Party and its presumptive leader presented their 1860 political platform supporting the abolition of slavery in the territories. Simultaneously, the platform stated, “the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the states, and especially the right of each state to order and control its own domestic institutions.” It denounced “the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any state or territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes.” The platform also included “providing revenue for the support of the general government by duties on imports (tariffs).”

Still, they condemned the Southern states and slaveholders for enabling or participating in the constitutionally protected institution of slavery while proposing, supporting, or expressing no op-

position to a constitutional amendment that would permanently safeguard slavery. Examining their actions reveals a history of skullduggery and sleight of hand in dealing with constitutional amendments.

Congressional Joint Resolution No. 80

The legislative history of Joint Congressional Resolution No. 80, known as the Corwin Amendment, was discussed in the last issue of *Confederate Veteran*. Although the proposed amendment to the United States Constitution garnered support from the Thirty-Seventh Congress, it failed to gain ratification. Had the amendment been ratified, it would have become the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, ensuring the continuation of slavery. Instead, another Joint Congressional Resolution proposed by the Thirty-Eighth Congress became the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime. The period between these two contradictory versions of the amendment witnessed the outbreak of war between Northern and Southern states, followed by Abraham Lincoln and his administration’s efforts to pass the amendment without the consent of the governed.

According to John Harrison, a law professor at the University of Virginia School of Law, writing in the 2001 article “The Lawfulness of the Reconstruction Amendments” in the *Chicago Law Review*, Vol. 68, Issue 2, Article 2, “the Southern state governments that ratified the Thirteenth Amendment were not legally competent to do so because of the irregular fashion in which they were created.” Nonetheless, he opined that under Article V of the US Constitution, the ratification of the Amendment was legally adequate, even though the ratifications were obtained through “unlawful political pressure from the national government.” Despite opposing claims, the Amendment was certified and became valid on December 18, 1865.

Questionable Ratification

The lawfulness of the Thirteenth Amendment is questionable, raising doubts about whether the changes made to the fundamental law of our nation had the consent of the governed. Additionally, a significant issue arises regarding the timeline for the Amendment’s ratification, as several former

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Jackson's Enduring Legacy

By Charles A. Jennings, Major Fontaine R. Earle Camp 1453

One of the most enduring illustrative characters in Southern history is Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson. All students of American history, especially the history of the South, must eventually encounter the puzzling personality of this Confederate General. To ignore him as a major historical figure of the mid 1800s is to minimize and even deny the once prevailing Christian faith he epitomized and that characterized the people of the South. His contribution of military genius and prowess stands out above many of his peers during the dark days of the War for Southern Independence, but it's his Christ-centered devotion which is most evident of his personality and lifestyle. He once wrote to his aunt and said: "The subject of becoming a herald of the cross has often seriously engaged my attention, and I regard it as the most noble of all professions."

We rightfully laud the deeds and sacrifices of more than 1,450 chaplains and ministers who served the soldiers in gray, but it was "Stonewall" Jackson who first conceived the idea of establishing the Chaplains Association. From the very beginning of the formation of the Confederate Cabinet of President Jefferson Davis, the members encouraged the work of Christian ministers in the Army. Many local pastors were invited by commanding officers to come preach to the troops when the Army was camped in their area. The soldiers were always welcome to attend religious services of the local churches when they were available.

Throughout the War, local pastors would come to the train station to offer encouraging words from Sacred Scripture and invoke a blessing of safety upon the departing soldiers as they said their good-byes to weeping loved ones. Without a doubt, there prevailed a strong Christian consensus, especially of Reformed Protestantism throughout

the antebellum South and even during the military conflict of 1861-1865. In the SCV Chaplains Conference, Compatriot Mike Dunn said it best when he declared, "You can talk about God without mentioning the Confederacy, but you can't talk about the Confederacy without mentioning God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Jackson And His Preacher Friends

Throughout his life, even as a youngster growing up, Jackson was inclined toward spiritual piety. As an adult he made it a point to develop a strong friendship with several ministers of the Gospel. In the fall of 1851 Jackson began his teaching career at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia. He soon had his eye on the daughter of Rev. Dr. George Junkin, President of Washington College of Lexington. Elinor, commonly known as "Ellie" was charming and very devout in her Christian profession being raised in the home of a minister. Thomas and Ellie were married on August 4, 1853. Unfortunately, both Ellie and her unborn child died on October 22, 1854. Thomas declared; "Her spirit, now and forever will continue to bask in the sunshine of God's favor." This expression was an example of Jackson's strong and deep seated belief in God's divine providence and control in all the events of his life. He also delighted himself in singing his favorite Gospel hymns such as *How Firm A Foundation*, *Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken* and *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*. The song he greatly loved summarized his faith in total devotion to his Beloved Savior was written by the English poet William Cowper to the tune of *Pleyel's Hymn*.



'TIS MY HAPPINESS BELOW

'Tis my happiness below
Not to live without the cross;
But the Savior's pow'r to know
Sanctifying every loss.

Trials must and will befall;
But with humble faith to see
Love inscribed upon them all—
This is happiness to me.

Did I meet no trials here,
No chastisement by the way,
Might I not with reason fear
I should prove a castaway?

Trials make the promise sweet;
Trials give new life to prayer;
Bring me to my Savior's feet,
Lay me low and keep me there.

Rev. Dr. William S. White assumed the pastorate
of the historic Presbyterian Church in Lexington

in 1848. In the course of time Thomas J. Jackson became one of five deacons in the church after becoming a member on November 22, 1851. Once during the War, Dr. White visited General Jackson and his Army near Centreville, VA. Dr. White recalled Jackson's prayer he prayed in their devotions together; "Never while life lasts, can I forget that prayer. He thanked God for sending me to visit the army, and prayed that He would own and bless my ministrations, both to the officers and privates, so that many souls might be saved. He gave thanks for what it had pleased God to do for the church in Lexington ... specially for the revivals He had mercifully granted to that church, and for the many preachers of the Gospel sent forth from it. He then prayed for the pastor, and every member of his family, for the ruling elders, the deacons, and the private members of the church. ... He then pleaded with such tenderness and fervor that God would baptize the whole army with His Holy Spirit, that my own heart was weltered with and into penitence, gratitude and praise." This was just one event of a lifelong relationship with Dr. White who would later conduct the funeral service of General Jackson.

In November of 1861, Jackson was commander of the Valley District in Winchester, Virginia. He attended the Presbyterian Church of Rev. James Graham. Before leaving on a campaign on January 1, 1862, he asked if Dr. Graham and his wife would be willing for his wife Mary Anna to stay with them in their home. He also stayed in the Graham residence after his return and established a strong bond of Godly friendship with the minister and his wife. Dr. Graham recalled the words of General Taylor concerning Jackson's prayer life when he wrote; "those who rode or walked beside him on the march have told me that they often saw his lips moving as if in silent prayer. Before he went into battle he might be found upon his knees. ... And when the battle was over, he always recognized it not by his own skill or valor, but by the favor of the Almighty Ruler of whom he had asked the victory, and to whom he bowed again in humble thanksgiving for the victory that had been granted."

In the face of Union advancement, Mary Anna Jackson left Winchester and went to seek refuge at Hampden-Sydney College in Prince Edward County with Dr. Robert Lewis Dabney. She wrote to her husband describing this vivacious preacher

which later influenced Jackson to invite Dr. Dabney to take the position of aide-de-camp on his staff. In his letter to Dr. Dabney he said, "I am thankful to God for sending so many of his children into this army, and my prayer is, that He will continue to send them."

During one of his campaigns in the Shenandoah Valley, Jackson went to hear Dr. Moses Drury Hoge preach at the Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond. At the time, Dr. Hoge was the chaplain of the Confederate Congress at the request of Confederate Vice-President Alexander H. Stephens. After that Sunday sermon, Jackson wrote; "I heard Rev. M.D. Hoge preach in his church, and also in the camp of Stonewall Brigade. It is a great comfort to have the privilege of spending a quiet Sabbath within the walls of a house dedicated to the service of God." It was Dr. Hoge who was encouraged by Jackson to travel to Great Britain to obtain Bibles and Gospel literature for the Confederate Army. Jackson's wife, Mary Anna and daughter Julia were at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Hoge when she received the sad news of her husband's fatal injury. The preacher's wife was with Mary Anna when the general "crossed over the river." Dr. Hoge and Dr. Dabney would later participate in the funeral service of General Jackson.

Another Chaplain who served in the Army of Northern Virginia's Second Corps was Rev. Beverly Tucker Lacy. In late December 1862, while at his headquarters at Moss Neck near Fredericksburg, Jackson expressed his strong desire for more chaplains in the Army. The two met with Rev. Lacy in sincere prayer and deep concern for the spiritual welfare of soldiers and officers under his command. Dr. Lacy accepted the responsibility of forming a Chaplains Association. Abner Hopkins, Chaplain of the Stonewall Brigade, sent out a notice inviting all the chaplains to meet at Round Oak Baptist Church in Caroline County on March 16, 1863. There the chaplains would meet together many times to pray and encourage one another. General Jackson was highly pleased and in a letter to his pastor, Dr. White, he wrote; "Each denomination of the Christian churches throughout the South should send in the army some of its most prominent ministers ... I would like to see no question asked in the Army as to what denomination a chaplain belongs, but let the question be, "Does he preach the Gospel?"

Early members of the Association who met at Round Oak Baptist Church wrote what they called the Association's Appeal which stated; "The Chaplains Association was perceived to be an instrument to encourage the efficiency of the Lord's work in the Confederate Army. Let love of country be joined to love of God. Let the love of our suffering brother be associated with the love of our Crucified Savior. Let the temporal interest be connected with the eternal."

Rev. Lacy urged the chaplains to go to the soldiers in the trenches and declare to them; "I know you are ready to die for your country, but are you ready to meet your God?" Chaplain Lacy was the minister who officiated the baptism of little Julia, the daughter of General and Mrs. Jackson.

Upon meeting a colporteur distributing Gospel literature in his camp, Jackson said "You are more than welcome to my camp, and I shall be delighted to do what I can to promote your work. I am more anxious than I can tell that my good men shall be good soldiers of the cross as well as good soldiers of their country."

James Power Smith was a young Corporal with the Rockbridge Artillery in Virginia. After attending his childhood Presbyterian Church one day, he was summoned to the headquarters of General Jackson. James Smith was the son of a minister and a divinity student when the War began. Jackson addressed him and said "I have merely sent for you to ask whether you would accept the position of aide-de-camp on my staff." Smith readily accepted. James P. Smith stayed with Jackson until the very end when he "crossed over the river" on Sunday May 10, 1863 at Guinea Station, Virginia. As recorded by Chaplain Smith, these are some of Jackson's last words in response to the news that the whole Army was praying for him; "They are very kind. It is the Lord's Day. My wish is fulfilled. I have always desired to die on Sunday."

The reported last words of General Jackson before he died were "Let us cross over the river, and rest under the shade of the trees." Commenting on these words in her book, *Memoirs of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson*, his wife, Mary Anna, wrote; "Was he reaching forward across the river of death, to the golden streets of the Celestial City, and the trees whose leaves are for the healing of the nations? It was to these that God was bringing him, through

his last battle and victory; and under their shade he walks, with the blessed company of the redeemed."

After the War, Smith returned to seminary and in November 1869, was installed as pastor of the Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church where he served for twenty-three years. He later owned and edited the *Central Presbyterian*, a church periodical for eighteen years. He wrote *The Religious Character of Stonewall Jackson* in 1897. He was the last survivor of Stonewall Jackson's staff and passed this life on August 6, 1923.

One of the most outstanding chaplains among the friends of General Jackson was J. William Jones who was only about twenty-five years old when the War began. After graduating from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, he enlisted in Co. D of the Thirteenth Virginia and was appointed as chaplain of his regiment and soon met Jackson in July of 1861. Jed Hotchkiss, Jackson's map maker, recorded that Jones "shared the sufferings, privations and the risks of battle with the soldiers, ministered to them in hospitals, encouraged them in the performance of arduous duty, and was particularly effective in these famous revivals, which resulted in the religious profession of over fifteen thousand of Lee's veterans." Chaplain Jones often visited with General Jackson at his headquarters concerning spiritual matters from the fall of 1862 to the spring of 1863. He also preached to large crowds of soldiers in the Stonewall Brigade. J. William Jones was the most prolific writer of all the early Confederate historians compiling a treasure trove of revival history in his book *Christ In The Camp or Religion in the Confederate Army*. After the War, Rev. Jones became the Pastor of the Baptist Church and the Chaplain of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia.

General Jackson has left a lasting legacy of his Christian faith which still lives today. His name belongs with the heroes of Biblical fame, whereas it could be said of him along with righteous Abel that "by it he being dead yet speaketh." Hebrews 11:4

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Echoes of Memory: *The Phonograph and Its Comfort to War Veterans*

By Avery Frantz

When the last volleys of the War for Southern Independence had long fallen silent and the soldiers of both blue and gray had settled into the quiet twilight of their lives, a new sound filled the air of veterans' homes and private parlors across America — the rich, resonant tones of the phonograph. More than a machine, the phonograph became a lifeline of memory and comfort for the aging men and women who had endured the war's hardships. From the turn of the twentieth century through the 1930s, countless veterans of both the Union and Confederate armies found solace in recorded music. These devices — often donated by patriotic groups or caring citizens — became symbols of compassion, connecting elderly veterans to the songs of their youth, to their comrades, and to the America they had helped to shape.

A Louisville newspaper advertisement from 1900 extended a “most hearty and cordial invitation” to Confederate veterans attending a reunion to visit the Ray Phonograph Company, where they would be entertained “free with sweet old Southern melodies and patriotic Southern songs rendered by the wonderful Concert Phonograph.” The proprietor, himself the son of a Confederate officer, invited the veterans to sit and listen, offering not just music but fellowship — an echo of the camaraderie once shared around the campfire. Across the country, similar gestures of kindness revealed how the phonograph transcended novelty. It became a bridge between generations and a vessel of shared identity. For those who had survived decades beyond Gettysburg, the phonograph brought back

not only familiar tunes, but long-faded voices and memories.

At veterans' hospitals and homes, the phonograph became an essential companion. In Los Angeles, Mrs. J. E. Ware of Hollywood began a fundraising drive in the 1920s to provide phonographs for the bedridden Union veterans of the Sawtelle Soldiers Home. “The cheerless condition of two of the wards impressed her,” one article read. The sick men “begged to try to find phono-



Colonel Henry C. Gilliland



OLD SOLDIERS LISTENING TO AN EDISON

graphs to help the bedridden ones pass the time." Similarly, in Texas, Ross S. Sterling, Chairman of the Texas State Highway Commission, presented phonographs for Christmas to both the men's and women's Confederate homes of Austin, Texas, while Colonel Renfro of the Austin Confederate Home pleaded for one, saying when "the shades of night come down and the old warriors gather to sing old favorites as *Home, Sweet Home* and *Who Will Care for Mother Now?*, it would be a great comfort." In Dayton, Ohio, the Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Auxiliary No. 89, presented a phonograph to the National Military Home, showing that across both sides of the old divide, Americans recognized the same need for comfort and companionship through music. Even in Columbia, Tennessee, the Alice M. Dantzler Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy donated a phonograph to the Confederate Veterans Home, ensuring the aged soldiers of the South could find joy and remembrance in music.

At the Old Soldiers Home near Fort Snelling and Minnehaha Falls in Minnesota, an article proudly

described Union veterans listening to an Edison Phonograph boasting a collection of more than one thousand records, including three hundred Blue Amberols. "They have become so familiar with the selections," it noted, "that they can tell the titles and artists' names as soon as the first few notes are heard." Some, "between the ages of eighty-five and ninety," even danced the tango to the Edison Concert Band. Music, it seemed, could awaken not only memory but vitality. The veterans' favorite selections included patriotic pieces such as *Marching Through Georgia* and *Spirit of Independence March*, songs which had once stirred armies and now stirred aged hearts.

Remarkably, some War veterans were not merely listeners but contributors to the very records which brought joy to their comrades. Colonel Henry C. Gilliland, a Confederate veteran who served with the 2nd Texas Cavalry, was also an accomplished violinist. He traveled to a Victor Talking Machine studio in New York City, where he recorded sev-

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In Brotherly Bonds We Stand

By George Ray Houston, Poet Laureate Georgia SCV

We unite before our monuments great.
All across our Southern land,
We shall stand united and with reason we
relate.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

In brotherly bonds sacrifices made.
We take our oath upon holy ground.
In memory of monuments laid,
They *crossed over the river with worthiness
bound,
In brotherly bonds we stand.

We watch with vigilance o'er our monuments
tall.
Sculptures built for our fallen kin.
Holy shrines we placed for all,
The honored and defeated are gallant men.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

Our allegiance against the foe we sight.
We shall defend our heritage with duty.
Defense through day and moonlit night,
We love our monuments of sacred beauty.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

The gallant gray army was young with
youth.
They followed their independence crave.
Defended the Motherland with honor and
truth,
They died in defeat and their honor we save.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

Our soil is drenched in blood o'er our
defeated nation.
We stand in praise for valiant men.
Our monuments built in dedication,
We must deprive the enemy their win.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

We defend our monuments like a sacred
grave.
It is a spiritual communion for our
Confederate dead.
Enemy destruction to monuments of the
brave,
On Southern fields our kinsmen have bled.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

We shall stand in defiance our monuments
tall.
Those beautiful columns are marble and
stone.
Their dedication to nation for one and all,
A defeated country is freedom blown.
In brotherly bonds we stand.

In brotherly bond we take our stand.
We stand before our monuments great.
All across our Southern land,
We shall stand united without debate.
In brotherly bonds we shall take our final stand.

**"cross over the river" signifying death*

*George Ray Houston is Poet Laureate of the Georgia Division and is a member of the Yancy
Independents Camp 693, Sylvester, Georgia.*



Books in Print

The 54th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment

This volume is one of three recording the 27th Georgia Regiment of Colquitt's Brigade, 47th Georgia Regiment, and now the 54th Georgia Regiment of Mercer's Brigade. William Bowers published the three works because four Confederate companies were from his home county Appling County, Georgia.

Dedicated to, "The brave and heroic men who fought, bled and died for the cause of the Confederate States of America." They "were unequalled in the performance of their duty. For four years they held at bay the most powerful and well-equipped army in the world. This under-fed, under-equipped, sometimes rag-tag army fought on. They would have followed their leaders still despite privation and starvation and being outnumbered two to one on most occasions. There has been altogether too little of their history preserved for posterity." Southerners should honor these men as they look at us today from their quiet, old photographs.

Bowers' began to collect whatever he could find on the 54th Georgia. This task proved a challenge as only "... small bits and pieces emerged. A paragraph here and a page there was the extent of their traces that were available." This work has taken those small uncollected slips of history and placed them together to tell their story; to aid

historians and their descendants.

One chapter is subtitled "A Brief History of a Most Gallant Regiment." The reader will note this section sets the scene for a five-year history. A humorous tale recorded here concerns two days before the Battle of Franklin. The 54th Georgia was late and did not engage in the fighting at Franklin. "One of the soldiers of the brigade said that being detached in order to get the supply of salt across the river turned out that 'the salt had saved their bacon,' for they would have been in the heart of the battle at Franklin, where the heaviest casualty rate occurred."

A good part of this collection details the historical sketch of the events between 1861 and 1865. Placed in chronological order, the officers, newspaper clips, battle report, letters to home (especially letters to mothers) annotate the course of the war for the 54th Georgia. When needed, the Command Structure is included. Death dates of members of this unit are dutifully included in this sketch. Bowers, to his credit, has woven those "bits and pieces" into a complete history.

Extensive biography notes are then included for officers. Many here are not household names but still important to the unit. Other short biographies are of well-known commanders such as General Nathan Bedford Forrest and General Patrick Ronayne Cleburne.

21 pages of veteran photographs are presented followed by a list of members of the companies which formed the 54th Regiment. Names of those wounded are shown in bold font, while those who gave their lives for their Southern homeland are in bold font and underlined.

Each soldier is then identified and information taken from the National Archives is attached. 336 pages of individual soldier stories complete this work.

Anyone who has researched The War cannot help but be impressed by the scope of Bowers' unequalled book.

Those who descend from these soldiers and historians are greatly indebted. This reviewer has no ancestors in this unit, but I found the story of the South on every page.

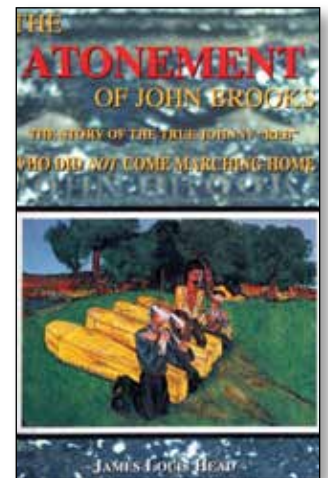
Author: William A. Bowers, Jr.
Global Authors Publications
bbowers065@gmail.com
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Reviewed by Gary Lee Hall

The Atonement of John Brooks: The Story of the True Johnny "Reb" who did not Come Marching Home

The origins of this book go back to 1964 and a portrait hanging on the wall of the author's Grandmother Effie's kitchen; "a large old portrait of a young man in a gentleman's suit. He had piercing blue eyes and wore a large, wide-brimmed hat." With the question "Who is that?" a quest was begun and a book was to be written. Grandmother Effie identified the young man as "... my uncle - John Brooks." The main event goes back 100 years to 1864. Chapter 1 is subtitled appropriately "Pondering Upon an Old Portrait."

The Preface begins "This book is about many people and many things - but it is first of all, and above all a book about the life of my great-great uncle, John Brooks, who was executed near



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Army of Northern Virginia



Adam Washington Ballenger Camp 68, Spartanburg, SC, Commander **Brian Motts** welcomed new member **Ira Kirby** into the camp.



Members of the **Clinton Hatcher Camp 21**, Leesburg, VA, worked to recover the long abandoned grave of Major **Franklin M. Myers**, 35th Virginia Cavalry "Commanches."



Captain Moses Wood Camp 125, Gaffney, SC, Past Commander **Jordan Dill** and his 12 year old grandson **Liam Dill** attended the Sam Davis Christian Camp in Providence, NC. This was the first year **Liam** was eligible to attend the Sam David Christian Camp, but plans to attend again.



Col. Joseph Norton Camp 45, Seneca, SC, welcomed SC Commander **Perry Smith** to their recent meeting, who gave a timely and informative presentation on the independent culture which passionately defines our South Carolina heritage which started with our forefathers and is reflected through the SC SCV and its members today.



Compatriot **Brandon Johnson** of **Litchfield Camp 132**, Conway, SC, stands by the grave of his 5th Great Grandfather, **Pvt. Jesse S. Powell**, 10th SC, Co. I. at Union Baptist Church, Hannah, SC, with the newly placed Southern Iron Cross.



Members and guests of the **R. E. Lee Camp 726**, Alexandria, VA, sing *Dixie* and the *Bonnie Blue Flag* at their recent dinner meeting.

South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania Divisions



Private Wallace Bowling Camp 1400, LaPlata, MD, placed a headstone for Confederate soldier, Pvt. Thomas Gilroy. Pictured is Commander Dennis Spears (center) and some of the Gilroy family.



The Anne Eliza Johns UDC Chapter 164 held their 145th consecutive Memorial Service at Green Hill Cemetery in Danville, VA, where more than 600 Confederate soldiers are buried. The **Pittsylvania Vindicators Camp 828**, Callands, VA, always supports this event, with eight members who placed their camp wreath and provided *Taps*. Other SCV, UDC and OCR groups attended with bagpipes leading the Honor Guard to the event.



Members of the **Goldsboro Rifles Camp 760**, Goldsboro, NC, **Confederate States Armory-Kenansville Camp 2157**, Kenansville, NC, and the **Capt. David Williams/Holly Shelter Volunteers Camp 2267**, Burgaw, NC, participated in the Warsaw, NC, Veterans Day Parade.



Col. E. T. Stackhouse Camp 1576, Latta, SC, Compatriot Timmy Gaddy and his children placed Southern Iron Crosses of Honor and flags in Magnolia Cemetery in Latta, SC.



Hanover Dragoons Camp 827, Hanover, VA, recently welcomed three new members. Holding their certificates are Dana Wright, Thomas "Bernard" Clements, and Howard "Howie" George, with Commander Ray Walton behind them.



The **Sgt. John A. Lisk Camp 1502**, Troy, NC, had a good day at "Troyfest." Members spoke with many people, including US Congressman Mark Harris, who was asked for his support in restoring our monument in Arlington National Cemetery.

South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania Divisions



The **Urquhart-Gillette Camp 1471**, Franklin, VA, float, and members and guests, participated in a recent Carrsville, VA, Christmas Parade. Pictured from left, Ricky Derby, Ed Whitley, Volpe Boykin, Anthony Dimick, Elizabeth Burks and, not pictured but the person responsible for the float being in the parade, Gordon Drewry.



Yadkin Gray Eagles Camp 1765, Yadkinville, NC, Commander Charles Mathews swore in new members Steven Scott Mathews and Michael Keith Parks.



The **Private John Wesley Culp Memorial Camp 1961**, Gettysburg, PA, 2nd Lt. Commander Rusty Mills and Chaplain Ron Short installed their two newest members, John Coble and James Coble.



Rocky Face Rangers Camp 1948, Taylorsville, NC, set up a booth at the 35th annual Taylorsville Apple Festival.



Prospect 10th Reg. Camp 1749, Prospect, SC, Lt. Commander Chris Heron poses at the grave of Pvt. John Jariot Baggett. Chris is the Guardian of Rev. Baggett's final resting place at the Old Landing Cemetery, Florence County, SC.



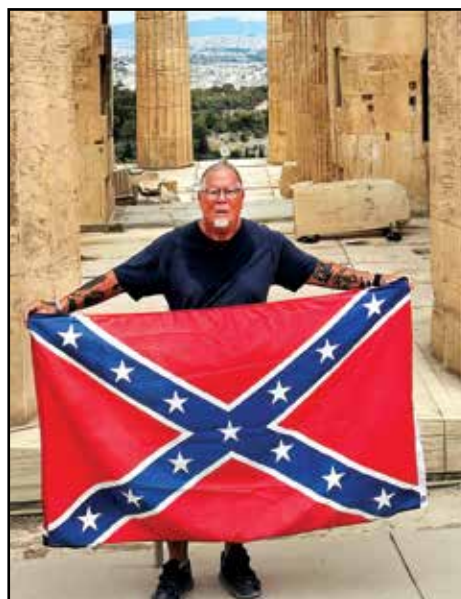
Members of the **Tom Smith Camp 1702**, Suffolk, VA, David Carraway (Co. D, 5th NC) and Jerry Talley (Penick's Battery) were visited by camp compatriots Lee Dobbs, Benjie Nelson, and Jennifer Nelson during the Ft. Branch reenactment in Hamilton, NC.



Army of Northern Virginia



The Lt. Col. Robert H. Archer Camp 2013, Havre De Grace, MD, the Mason Dixon Guards Camp 2183, Ellendale, DE, and the ladies of the UDC attended Corporal John Gilpin, First MD Artillery, CSA, Iron Cross Ceremony at the Gilpin Family Cemetery recently.



Delaware Grays Camp 2068, Seaford, DE, compatriot Joe Gismonde is pictured unfurling the colors while visiting the Acropolis in Athens, Greece.



Rebels in Grey Camp 2027, Westminster, SC, Commander Bill Smith and grandson J. T. Bartlett helped out at the first brigade cemetery cleanup project at Old Concord Presbyterian cemetery in Anderson SC.



The Mason Dixon Guards Camp 2183, Ellendale, DE, did an info and product booth at the Civil War Day event at the Georgetown Historical Society in Georgetown DE.



Pettigrew's Partisans Camp 2110, Kinston, NC, Commander Walter Moore, left, presents new member Timothy Joel Franklin Cade, right, his membership certificate.



Gordonsville Grays Camp 2301, Gordonsville, VA, members repaired broken stones and cleaned the burial plot of Colonel Goodman, 13 VA Infantry, which is behind them.

Army of Tennessee



Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Knoxville, TN, member Arthur Harris presents TN State Senator Frank Niceley the Robert E. Lee Award presented to him by the TN Division at their reunion. Pictured are Arthur Harris, left, with State Senator Frank Niceley.



Sam Davis Camp 596, Biloxi, MS, compatriots attended the Lee/Jackson Banquet at Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis home and museum.



Wesley Frank, Dicky Bomar with photographer James Swor, not shown, of the **Isham G. Harris Camp 109**, Paris, TN, manned a booth at the Henry County Fair. James shared ancestor photos as well as store merchandise including a variety of flags. Dicky kept his computer running with SCV videos.



Harrisburg Camp 645, Tupelo, MS, is very proud to announce the induction of their two newest cadets, Luke, left, and Noah Burgos, and are the sons of our newest member, Christopher Burgos. Also pictured, from right, Camp Commander Mike Sheffield, Lt. Commander David Wilson and Adjutant Bill Stroup.



Pvt. Augustus Braddy Camp 385, Troy, AL, hosted the S. E. Brigade Workshop at Beulah, in Troy.



MS Fourth Brigade Commander Bruce Warren presented a Leadership Award signed by SCV Commander-in-Chief Jason Boschers to Jimmy Atwood, commander of **The Attala Yellow Jackets Camp 663**, Losciusko, MS, for his dedicated service to the SCV.

Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin Divisions



Commander Tom Wood of the **General Robert Hatton Camp 723**, Lebanon, TN, (left) presented the toys collected by the camp for Toys-for-Tots to member Ed Tomlinson representing the charity.



The **Col. John H. Baker Camp 1705**, Zebulon, GA, provided and placed markers for two previously unmarked Confederate graves in East View Cemetery in Zebulon. Thanks go to Camp Commander Roy Butts, Camp Chaplain Eddie Rainey along with members Josh Blackston, Ed Cunningham, Reggie Corley and Keith Edmondson, and others, who placed the stones and remembered Private Christopher C. Presley, Co. I, 2nd GA State Line Troops and 2nd Lt. Thomas J. Blasingame, Co. I, 32nd GA Infantry, who had been unmarked for more than 100 years.



Appling Grays Camp 918, Baxley, GA, Commander Charlie Poarch welcomes new member Dale Sapp to the camp.



Christopher Lee Richey became the newest member of the **DeKalb Rifles Camp 1824**, Sylvania, AL. Adjutant Harold Bouldin presented his membership certificate and pin.



Cadet Madison Walker, right, is awarded the Horace L. Hunley Medal at the Baldwin High School Army JROTC awards banquet. The medal was presented by Commander Odeen L. Tyre, US Navy (Retired), a former JROTC instructor and direct lineal descendant of eight Confederate soldiers, on behalf of the **Kirby-Smith Camp 1209**, Jacksonville, FL.



Buckhead-Fort Lawton Brigade Camp 2102, Millen, GA, Commander Dale Thompson, left, recently received a Military Service Award from Margaret Jones Chapter 27, UDC, during a formal ceremony in Waynesboro, GA. Commander Thompson is shown receiving the award from Chapter Recording Secretary / Co-Military Service Awards Chairman Dot Cauley.

Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin Divisions



Members of the **Lt. Robert D. Powell Camp 1817**, Blountville, TN, honored the memory of their camp's namesake who was killed in action on September 19, 1861, making him the first Confederate killed in the Western Theater. From left, Commander David Tipton, 1st Lt. Commander David Roberts, 2nd Lt. Commander Charleton Rhinehart, and Adjutant Joe Potter.



Lt. Robert J. Tipton Camp 2083, Elizabethton, TN, Commander Jason Baker presented Com-patriot Fred Edens with an appreciation award for faithful service to the camp.



KY Division Commander Kyle Thompson and members of the Patriots of the Orphan Brigade OCR attended the **Fort Heiman Camp 1834**, Murray, KY, Confederate Memorial Service in Murray.



Joe S. Jackson, Jr. of the **Calhoun Rifles Camp 1855**, Edison, GA, was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for outstanding service to his camp



KY Division Commander Kyle Thompson, Lt. Commander Fugate, Jon McCleese, Roger Hansen and **Gen. Roger W. Hanson Camp 1844**, Winchester, KY, Adjutant Norm Rechel visiting during the 2026 Pound Gap Memorial.



Bill English, a charter member of the **Rabun Gap Riflemen Camp 1929**, Clayton, GA, received his 20-year pin from Commander David Brent Smith.



Army of Tennessee



Judah P. Benjamin Camp 2210, Tampa, FL, member William Holloway, is shown with his daughter, Saphyria, holding the camp flag at the Annual Confederate Memorial Day Service at Stone Mountain, GA.



Jim Pearce Camp 2527, Princeton, KY, Adjutant / Chaplain Rev. Justin Hyde presented a First Responder Appreciation certificate recently.



Compatriot Pat Alford of the **Shieldsboro Rifles Camp 2263**, Bay St. Louis, MS, spearheaded the effort to display the flags of the Confederate States of America at Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library.



KY Division Commander Thompson presents Mike Knight, Sr., with the John C. Breckinridge Distinguished Service Award and the Simon Bolivar Buckner Meritorious Service Medal from the KY Division. Mr. Knight was unable to attend the Division Reunion and was totally surprised by the moment!

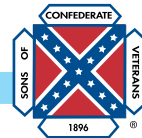


Montgomery Sharpshooters Camp 2164, Mt. Vernon, GA, has recently placed more than twelve Confederate tombstones. This tombstone is placed on a previously unmarked grave of Pvt. Lewis Franklin Brantley, Co. E, 32nd Reg't. GA Infantry in the Walker Cemetery near Alston, GA. Shown are camp members and camp historian/genealogist A. L. Wilkes, Doyle Waller, Mary Wilkes, Junior Adams, and David Moncus.



The 38th MS Infantry had SCV Members in its ranks at Beauvoir for its annual Fall Muster Reenactment. Camps represented were: the **Shieldsboro Rifles Camp 2263**, Bay St. Louis, MS, the **Bibb Rifles Camp 455**, West Blockton, AL, the **Henry Watkins Allen Camp 133**, Baton Rouge, LA, and the **Rankin Rough and Readies Camp 265**, Brandon, MS. The South won both days! *Deo Vindice!*

Army of Trans-Mississippi



Beauregard Camp 130, New Orleans, LA, member Karry Crites, who resides in Nevada, is the 3rd great nephew of General Beauregard. He recently visited the city and Memorial Hall to view the many personal items of his uncle on display. He is pictured with a bust of Beauregard and behind him is the display case which holds the General's uniform, spurs, sword, and other items.



The Honorable Greg Meister, Mayor of the City of Porterville, receives the **CA Division Alonzo Ridley Lifesaving Award** from Division Commander Tod Terry. Mayor Meister recently saved two people trapped in a burning vehicle. He is a strong supporter of SCV and the Southern roots of his city. Porterville was strongly pro-secession, and 16 Confederate Veterans settled here with their families after the War.



TX Division Commander Shelby Little presented **Hood's Texas Brigade Camp 153**, San Antonio, TX, Commander George Foulds with the 2025 100% Retention streamer. Attending are 6th Brigade Commander Charles Thacker, Past 6th Brigade Commander Mackey Fair and Camp 153 Lt. Commander John McCammon.



Members of the **Captain Clem Vann Rogers Camp 481**, Oklahoma City, OK, attended the 162nd anniversary reenactment of the Battle of Honey Springs. The engagement took place Friday, July 17, 1863. Approximately 9,000 Confederate and Union troops were involved. It was the largest of the engagements in Indian Territory, which is now Oklahoma. Pictured from left, Wesley Hedricks, Paul Wilson, Terry McClain, Erik McBroom, Tim Lasyone and Bobby Smith.



Captain James Iredell Waddell Camp 1770, Orange County, CA, members enjoyed great camaraderie following their Lee/Jackson Luncheon.



Garrett Glover, right, from the Trans-Mississippi Relics, brought a collection of rare, time period original rifles to the **Captain Ike Turner Camp 1275**, Livingston, TX, meeting and talks with member John Paul Stewart.

Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, California, Iowa, Kansas, Utah and Pacific Northwest Divisions



Members of the **Col. Elijah Gates Camp 570**, Fulton, MO, gathered to recognize David Sharp, recipient of the MO Division National Graves Award. From left, Doug Sharp and his son Andrew, David Sharp and his son Chris, Neil Block, MO Division's National Graves Committeeman. David is also a 21st Century Confederate Hero.



The SCV was asked to participate in the West Coast's largest Veterans Day parade in the City of Porterville. Members from the **Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 2048**, Tehachapi, CA, and **General Tyree Harris Bell Camp 1804**, Fresno, CA, filled out the color guard. The event drew more than 25,000 spectators and was televised!



Members of the **Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor Camp 1308**, Shreveport, LA, after attending LA Division Reunion, made a stop at Camp Moore Confederate Cemetery and Museum.



Major Thomas J. Key Camp 1920, Johnson County, KS, Commander Walt Schley, along with KS Division Lt. Commander Rick McPherson, traveled to Warsaw, MO, to present the 25-Year Membership Medal and certificate to Compatriot Keith Phillips. In addition, Compatriot Phillips accepted a new member certificate on behalf of his son, Benjamin Carson Phillips, not pictured.



Captain Sherod Hunter's Arizona Rangers Camp 1202, Tucson, AZ, Commander Ed Karnes, presented the Division's Sgt. Richard Howland Kirkland Certificate of Achievement to camp member George McCormack. George has a table promoting the AZ Rangers along with information on the SCV during monthly Fort Lowell Days in Tucson.



Terry's Texas Rangers Camp 1937, Cleburne, TX, Commander Steve Wells, left, welcomed their newest member, Jerry Don Walker, at the Dillon Depot where monthly camp meetings are held.

Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, California, Iowa, Kansas, Utah and Pacific Northwest Divisions



Texas Lonestar Greys Camp 1953, Shertz, TX, Compatriot Roy Poole and his wife, Lynn, did a clean-up of the San Antonio, TX, Confederate Cemetery.



Private Nathan T. Wanslee Camp 2096, Safford, AZ, was invited to participate in the Veterans Day Parade. Their youngest and oldest members walked the parade holding their famous banner, "A Nation that Forgets Its Past Has No Future," while the mounted unit followed behind them.



William T. Bridwell Camp 2020, Cañon City, CO, Cannon Crew participated in the Veterans Day Celebration at Greenwood Cemetery. Shown from left, Tim Grabin, Mark Gaddy, Glenn Ohrns, Brenden Pardue, John Dodd, Ed Williamson, Bill Wilcoxson, Greg Clemmons and Clint Nichols.



A 4th Brigade officer of the TX Division and members of the **Captain Bob Lee Camp 2198**, Bonham, TX, conducted a gravesite memorial to Capt. William Rayburn of the 2nd TN cavalry who is buried in Willow Wild Cemetery in Bonham. Capt. Rayburn was the father of Sam Rayburn, the former US Speaker of the House.



General Albert Sidney Johnston Camp 2048, Tehachapi, CA, Commander Tod Terry presents a CA secession "Gillis" flag and certificate of appreciation to Neil and Hollie Shotwell, proprietors of "The Joint" in the town of Randsburg. They are the organizers of the town's yearly history festival, and they utilize the SCV in a big way every year!



Captain Moses J. Bradford Camp 2344, Rolla, MO, placed a Confederate Cross of Honor on the grave of Sgt. Calvin Wheeler, Co. F, 8th GA Infantry, Ozark Cemetery, Texas County, MO. Pictured are Herbert Turner, Ron Ice, and Dave Cowell. Compatriot Ron Ice is the direct descendant of Sergeant Wheeler.



Army of Trans-Mississippi



Compatriots of the **Private C. W. Lucas-Forrest's Escorts Camp 2316**, Prescott, AZ, participated in the Prescott Veterans Day Parade in honor of all past and current veterans. A highlight to the parade route was Camp Commander Smoley's "General Lee."



Compatriots James Lea (left) and Keith Keltner (right) are sworn into the **1st Lt. Jesse Page Camp 2351**, Boerne, TX, by ATM Commander John McCammon, Lt. Commander Bill Smith and Commander Chuck Hand.



Major Thomas R. Livingston Camp 2327, Carthage, MO, hosted a Trunk or Treat event for the public at the antebellum Kendrick House in Carthage.



The **MO Division SCV** and the **MO Society Military Order of the Stars and Bars** dedicated a large flat memorial stone in Riverview Cemetery in Jefferson City, MO, bearing both the names and military units of 40 known MO Confederate Chaplains, plus 10 MO pastors who were murdered by the Federals during the War Between the States for their Southern sympathies. This was an additional stone to the existing upright memorial stone. The new stone was also funded by the Order of the Southern Cross.



Members of the **Brigadier General Douglas Hancock Cooper Camp 2361**, Clinton, OK, are shown following their chartering. From left, Daniel Chamberlin, Lt. Commander Gabe Dodgen (with cadet Jesse Dodgen standing in front of him), Terry Pierce, Camp Chaplain Wade Simmons, Camp Commander Silas Dodgen, OK Division Commander Jeff Paulk, Scott Long, John Dodgen, Eddie Gill, OK Division Lt. Commander Michael Leddy, and ATM Commander John McCammon.



Commander Charles Hand presented Compatriot Keith Keltner with the **TX Division**, 2nd Brigade, John Bell Hood Purple Heart Medal for his ancestor's service to the Confederate States Army.

Welcome to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

ALABAMA

Raphael Semmes Camp 11
Mobile
Sherard Vaughn Box

Private Calvin C. Gunter
Camp 444
Brooksville
Elijah Elliot

Decatur Sons of Liberty
Camp 580
Decatur
Jerry Wayne Sykes

Capt. Thomas H. Hobbs
Camp 768
Athens
Thomas Joseph Flanders

Colonel William C. Oates
Camp 809
Ashford
David D. Kirkland

Dekalb Rifles Camp 1824
Fyffe
John Luke McLain

Tuskaloosa Ploughboys
Camp 2312
Northport
William Tracy Moss

Ten Islands Camp 2678
Ohatchee
Ricky Lederal Howell

CALIFORNIA

CSS Virginia Camp 2062
Ventura County
Robert Everett Hooper

DELAWARE

Delaware Grays Camp 2068
Seaford
Russell Byard Catts

EUROPE

Europe Camp 1612
Munich, Germany
Brandon Richard Giles

FLORIDA

Wakulla Guards Camp 742
Crawfordville
Noel Abel Sanders

Kirby Smith Camp 1209
Jacksonville
Robert Fred Kaley

Stonewall Jackson Camp
1381
St. Petersburg
Earl Cranston Hamil, III

Capt. Bluford M. Sims Camp
1630
Ocoee
Tanner Lee Hardin
Edward Michael Sexton
Michael Raymond Cross

GEORGIA

Gen. Edward Dorr Tracy, Jr.
Camp 18
Macon
Harvey M. Appling

Gen. Henry Lewis Benning
Camp 517
Columbus
Patrick Dewayne Wright

Col. Edmund N. Atkinson
Camp 680
Valdosta
Benjamin David Pitts
Jacob Daniel Pitts

Kennesaw Battlefield Camp
700
Marietta
Gary Jacob Elkins

Cherokee Legion Camp 914
Canton
Robert Alexander Hamby

Appling Grays Camp 918
Baxley
Justin McKee Taylor

Gen. Robert A. Toombs
Camp 932
Vidalia
Steven Andrew Hill
Jeffrey Lawson

Greene Rifles Camp 942
Greensboro
Joshua P. Campbell

Gen. William J. Hardee Camp
1397
Dallas
Michael Brad Austin

27th Georgia Regiment
Camp 1404
Gainesville
Blake Scheryl Rutland

Stewart-Webster Camp 1607
Richland
Noah Jase Tyson

Col. Hiram Parks Bell Camp
1642
Cumming
Michael Kevin Chapman
Jon Petersen
Darien Jarrod Watkins
Presley Thomas Watkins

Matthew Talbot Nunnally
Camp 1671
Monroe
Eddie D. Barlow

Buckhead - Fort Lawton
Brigade Camp 2102
Millen
Keith A. Murray

Georgia Division HQ Camp
2200

Moultrie
Steven Paul Bowman
Mason Evans
Joseph Helton
James D. Thomas
Jeremy Chad Whitaker

ILLINOIS

Lt. George E. Dixon Camp
1962
Belleville
Jared Riley Sparks

KANSAS

Maj. Thomas J. Key Camp
1920
Johnson County
James Hamel Barkley
James Dick

KENTUCKY

Col. Alfred Johnston Camp
276
Benton
Michael L. Mcneely
Jason Daniel Stanley

Colonel Benjamin Caudill
Camp 1629
Whitesburg
Vernon Douglas Jones

Gen. Ben Hardin Helm Camp
1703
Elizabethtown
Everett F. Emory

Gen. Roger W. Hanson Camp
1844
Winchester
Buddy Glenn Watson

Col. Charles A. Wickliffe
Camp 2337
Wickliffe
Terry Wright

LOUISIANA

**Anacoco Rangers Camp
1995
Leesville**
Robert Kim Brevelle

MISSOURI

**7th Division Missouri State
Guard Camp 190
Houston, MO**
Clinton Shane Ice

**Elijah Gates Camp 570
Fulton**
Derek Scott Jones

**Brig. Gen. John T. Hughes
Camp 614
Independence**
John Thomas Schwent, Jr.

**Colonel Joseph C. Porter
Camp 2055
Shelbina**
Zachary T. Waelder

MISSISSIPPI

**Rankin Rough And Ready's
Camp 265
Brandon**
Douglas Michael Hart
William Peter Herlan, Jr.
Richard Dale Steinwinder

**Col. William P. Rogers Camp
321
Corinth**
Daniel James Comer

**Gen. W. D. McCain MS HQ
Camp 545
Jackson**
William W Byrd
James T. Neal

**Brice's Crossroads Camp
1430
Baldwin**
Daniel Miller

**Lowry Rifles Camp 1740
Rankin County**
Van K. Dyess

**The Rankin Greys Camp
2278
Florence**
Troy Daniel Baugh
Anthony W. Morrow

NORTH CAROLINA

**47th Regiment N.C. Troops
Camp 166
Wake Forest**
John David Wilson

**Franklin Rifles Camp 310
Louisburg**
Herbert Randall Shirley

**Lt. William Corbitt Camp 525
Rutherford**
Charles Mack Logan, Jr.

**Maj. Egbert A. Ross Camp
1423
Charlotte & Mecklenburg
County**
Marion Russell Aldred, Jr.

**Dr. B. T. Person Camp 1517
Fremont-Pikeville**
Timy Clinton Langston

**Yadkin Gray Eagles Camp
1765
Yadkinville**
Keaven Paige Horton

**Jackson Rangers Camp 1917
Sylva**
Jonathan Hunter Byrd

**The Roxboro Grays Camp
1932
Roxboro**
Keith Watson Kimball

**Capt. David Williams/Holly
Shelter Volunteers Camp
2267
Burgaw**
Justin Alexander Barnhill
Jacob Nathaniel Couch
Michael David Earley
Robert Varnedoe Gentry, Jr.
Quentin Nathaniel Ramsey

OKLAHOMA

**Captain James J. McAlester
Camp 775
McAlester**
Dennis M. Cook

**Li'l Dixie Confederates Camp
2259
Coalgate**
Curtis Ogle

**Brigadier General Douglas
Hancock Cooper Camp 2361
Clinton**
Justin Eugene Maddox

PENNSYLVANIA

**Pvt. John Wesley Culp
Memorial Camp 1961
Gettysburg**
Joseph Gerard Bushong

SOUTH CAROLINA

**John M. Kinard Camp 35
Newberry**
Curtis Hollifield

**16th South Carolina
Regiment Camp 36
Greenville**
Michael Paul Allison

**John Thomas Ashley Camp
43
Honea Path**
Kevan Rayne Donnelly
Dustin Kennedy Reid
Michael Keith Scott
Joshua Grier Uhall

**Adam Washington Ballenger
Camp 68
Spartanburg**
Michael Eugene Merck
Boyce Lee Ranson, IV
Matthew Tyson Strain

**Litchfield Camp 132
Conway**
Daniel Stephen Cochran

**Gen. Martin W. Gary Camp
1532
Edgefield**
Jacob Flynn Deason

**Battery White Camp 1568
Georgetown**
Wright Davis Anderson
Jeffrey Dwayne Flegel
Cody Colbert Medina
James Ryan Williams

TENNESSEE

**General John C. Brown
Camp 112
Pulaski**
Matthew Morgan Wallace

**Dr. J. B. Cowan Camp 155
Tullahoma**
Vernon Scott Merriman

**Maj. Gen. William D. McCain
HQ Camp 584
Columbia**
Michael Alexander Anton
Harold Matthew Carver
Dale Norman Goode
Lonnie Bell Griffin, III
Nelson Davis Kyle, II
George Davis McClam, III
Connor Evan McGurk
Charles Daniel Welch

**Gen. Robert H. Hatton Camp
723
Lebanon**
James D. Bone
Toby Michael Crowell
Jason Lee Sorey

Welcome to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

**The General Robert E. Lee
Camp 1640
Memphis**
Joshua Michael Cunningham
Matthew Ross Cunningham

**Gainesboro Invincibles Camp
1685
Gainesboro**
Jeb Jackson Crockett Smith

**Bell's Partisans Camp 1821
Trimble**
Ethan Howard Leon Henson
James Harmon Thedford, II

**Capt. Champ Ferguson/
Standing Stone Camp 2014
Monterey**
Christopher Paul Matheny

**Unknown Confederate MIA
Camp 2328
Five Points**
Hunter Dale Brown
Harley James Daniels

**Forrest Crossing Guards
Camp 2332
Clifton**
Grady Thomas Seltzer

**2nd Lt. William Moore Bain
Camp 2333
Cleveland**
Larry David Smith

TEXAS

**Hood's Texas Brigade Camp
153
San Antonio**
Brent Lee Hoben
John Regna Welch

**Capt. James Gillaspie Camp
226
Huntsville**
Dennis Dave Sowell

**W. W. Heartsill Camp 314
Marshall**
Timothy Joel Burrow, Sr.
William L. Morrow

**William Henry Parsons Camp
415
Ennis**
Wade Kelly Gardner

**Sul Ross Camp 1457
Bryan**
George Allen Sassano

**William H. L. Wells Camp
1588
Plano**
Daniel Thomas Chandler

**Colonel E. W. Taylor Camp
1777
Bedford**
Nicholas Ranchell Silvas

**Col. Gustav Hoffmann Camp
1838
New Braunfels**
Nicholas Tomas Cavazos

**2nd Texas Frontier District
Camp 1904
De Leon**
Douglas Evans Scott

**Captain Walter T. Saxon
Camp 1982
Hico**
Kurtis Brian Kirlin
Lane Brian Kirlin

**Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne's
7th TX Infantry Camp 2182
The Woodlands**
Carlos B. Conner, III

**Major R. L. Dabney Camp
2261
Canton**
Andrew Tyler Wilson

**Walkers Greyhounds Camp
2338
Tyler**
William Austin Hurley

**1st Lt. Jesse Page Camp 2351
Boerne**
Caden Forbes McCallum
Robert Louis McCallum
Edward Lee Smith

**4th Texas Field Battery Camp
2358
Tomball**
Mike Burkett
Michael Jacob Ditto

VIRGINIA

**Isle of Wight Avengers Camp
14
Smithfield**
Junious Parker Scott, Jr.

**Stonewall Jackson Camp 380
Virginia Beach**
David Short

**Princess Anne Camp 484
Virginia Beach**
John Gerard Hall

**The Old Brunswick Camp 512
Lawrenceville**
Milton Andrew Buffkin

**Alexander L. Hensley (VA
Division HQ) Camp 530
Richmond**
William Stephen Fisher, III
Terry Lee Smales

**R. E. Lee Camp 726
Alexandria**
Darren Joseph Foster
Evan Myers
Nicholas Boris Taran

**The Hanover Dragoons Camp
827
Hanover**
Jeffrey Wayne Davis

**The Stonewall Brigade Camp
1296
Lexington**
Patrick Dwayne Boothe
Bradford Scott Cornwell
Jackson Lee Hagwood
Robert Burnham McCaffree
Hagwood

**J. E. B. Stuart Camp 1343
Henrico**
Edward Wayne Hodge

**Cabell-Graves Camp 1402
Danville**
William J. Thomas, Jr.

**Matthew Fontaine Maury
Camp 1722
Fredericksburg**
John Lawrence Bardwell, III
Zack Peyton

**Brandy Rifles Co. E Camp
1918
Culpeper**
Matthew L. Fuller

**Captain Jack Adams Camp
1951
Edinburg**
Samuel Steven Murray

**Saltville Home Guard Camp
2098
Saltville**
Bobby Joe Blaylock, III
Zachary Dylan Rife

**Gordonsville Grays Camp
2301
Gordonsville**
Kevin Scott Debord
Van Addison Jenkins
Tyler James Reza





Welcome to our newest Life Members

Name	Division	Camp	Name	Division	Camp
Douglas Gulley	TX	1937	Herbert Staggs	TN	1637
Wayne B. Hill, III	MA	2200	Gregory Walden	FL	1387
Ethan H. L. Henson	TN	1821	Lawrence Benfield	MS	373
James Peterman	NC	1423	James Spears	OH	1535
Robert Breville	LA	1995	Lewis E. Long	SC	4

Continued from page 14

The Last Roll

General Richard H. Anderson Camp 47
Beaufort, SC
Normandus Marmaduke Polk, III

Adam Washington Ballenger Camp 68
Spartanburg, SC
Robert D. Kinard

3rd SC Cavalry Co. I of Edisto Camp 131
Edisto Island, SC
Robert Belton Shealy

General Ellison Capers Camp 1212
Moncks Corner, SC
William Douglas Webber

Colleton Rangers Camp 1643
Walterboro, SC
Charles Allen Strickland

Murfreesboro Camp 33
Murfreesboro, TN
James Brian Corley

James Keeling Camp 52
Bristol, TN
Phil C. Moore

John R. Massey Camp 152
Fayetteville/Lincoln Co., TN
Phillip Tenenbaum

Otho French Strahl Camp 176
Union City, TN
Jerry Dell Gray

Maj. Gen. William D. McCain HQ
Camp 584
Columbia, TN
Henry Dalton Drennan

Dewitt Smith Jobe Camp 1637
Bartlett, TN
Mark Andrews O'Steen

Gen. Felix H. Robertson Camp 129
Waco, TX
Markham Brown Dossett

Hood's Texas Brigade Camp 153
San Antonio, TX
William Adam Manuel, III

R. E. Lee Camp 239
Fort Worth, TX
Leonard Waymon Patterson, Jr.
Floyd Marvin Cox

Col. Gustav Hoffmann Camp 1838
New Braunfels, TX
Danny C. Gilmer, III

Texas Lonestar Greys Camp 1953
Schertz, TX
Godfrey Lawrence Garner

Medina Greys Camp 2254
Hondo, TX
Leslie Darryel Perry

Major General Thomas L. Rosser
Camp 2311
Mt. Enterprise, TX
Russell Harrison

Magruder-Ewell Camp 99
Newport News, VA
Stanley Brent Romanick

The Old Brunswick Camp 512
Lawrenceville, VA
William Eanes Steed

R. E. Lee Camp 726
Alexandria, VA
Michael Sivy, Jr.

Pittsylvania Vindicators Camp 828
Callands, VA
Robert Ray McDaniel

The Campbell Guards Camp 2117
Evington, VA
Daniel Dwight DeJarnette, Sr.

HERITAGE SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS

Cleburne Guild

William C. Davis, Jr.
Christopher Steepleton

Hanford, CA
Germantown, TN

Platinum Level

William Walker

Lewisburg, TN

Gold Level

SCV Camp 1308
Phillip Thomas
Dr. Arnold Huskins
Hector Black, II

Shreveport, LA
Indian Harbor Beach, FL
Summerville, SC
Puerto Rico

Silver Level

SCV Camp 648
Lee Wallace
James Patterson
John Lee Williams

Hot Springs, AR
Pflugerville, TX
Taft, TN
Waverly, TN

21ST CENTURY CONFEDERATE HEROES

Walter Soes
SCV Camp 1714
Lawrence Roel
James R. Price
Scott Morris
Brandon Manous

SCV Camp 578
Harrison Daws
Leslie Tucker
Eric Shumpert
Michael Wayne Kelley

CONFEDERATE MUSEUM DONATIONS

Ruble Troy Anderson	\$500	Nashville, TN
SCV Camp 1423		Charlotte, NC
Christopher Steepleton		Germantown, TN
Harris Barnes, III	\$260	Flowood, MS
Lawrence Pratt	\$250	Anderson, AL
Paul Sullivan		Alexander City, AL
John T. Taylor	\$200	Jackson, MS
Hugh M. Riley		Mobile, AL
Thomas Russell		Lake City, CO
Sidney Southwell	\$150	Folkston, GA
Paul Vaughn	\$100	Riverside, AL
Matthew Joyner		Charlotte, NC
Gary Wright		Durant, OK
Robert Woods		Modesto, CA
Richard Leaumont		Pasco, WA
Philip & Ranko Oliver		Bryant, AR

Timothy King		Ft. White, FL
Steven Keller		Monterey, TN
Marvin Rose		Chestertown, MD
Benjamin Gregory		Macon, GA
Rouel Bennett, Jr.		Richmond, VA
H. V. Traywick, Jr.		Wichita Falls, TX
Charles Beck		Columbia, TN
James Carr		Georgetown, LA
Mark Olden		Bushnell, FL
Daniel D. White		
Dee A. Smith	\$65	Orange Park, FL
Gregory Haugens		Toluca, IL
Phillip Miller		Henderson, NV
Earl Newman		Alva, FL
Annie Darracott UDC 791	\$60	Kathleen, FL
Jerry Gaines		Randleman, NC
John Harman		Floyd, VA
SCV Camp 648	\$50	Hot Springs, AR
Michael Fowler		Ft. Pierce, FL

David Gilchrist
Jeffrey Greer
Bobbie H. Green
Nancy Harts
William Harris

Fuquay-Varina, NC
Boiling Springs, SC

Concord, NC

Jeffrey Adams
James Griffin, III
Benjamin Davis
James Zeirke
William Armstrong

Piqua, OH
Leland, NC
Arab, AL
Sussex, WI
McDonough, GA

FORREST HOME FUND

Harry Malcom

\$200

Albany, GA

David Lundblom

\$100

Greene, NY



Please send all donations to:
Sons of Confederate Veterans
PO Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

Please state which fund your donation should be applied to.



Make Your Donation Today!
Help replenish our Heritage Defense Fund!

Cleburne Guild	\$1,000 +	Gold Level	\$100
Platinum Level	\$250	Silver Level	\$50



Note: this is not an all-inclusive list — just a list of processed donations at press time. SCV Headquarters has not been able to process all donations as of the date of submission, but all donors who meet the criteria will be recognized in future issues. Thank you for your donations and patience.

"The SCV is considered a non-profit organization under paragraph 501(c)3 of the IRS code. All donations to the SCV are considered tax exempt by the IRS and can be written off by the donor on their annual taxes. All donors receive a receipt for every donation for this purpose."

NOTICES *From Around the Confederation*

2026 Oratory Contest Announced

The Oratory Contest is held every year at the National reunion, therefore this year it will be in Lexington, Ky.. Please take note of rule number 11, one per Division. If you wish to participate, you will need to check with your Division Commander to find out who will be representing your Division and how that will be determined.

The deadline for entry is noon Friday at the Reunion, but it is very helpful if we are given advance notice to the e-mail listed below.

The topic of the 2025 John C Calhoun Oratory contest is:

"The South has won the war. Lincoln and his cohorts are on trial. You are the prosecutor, give your closing argument"

The following rules, as are typical, will apply.

1. Speech must be somewhat on topic.
2. Must last 5-8 minutes.
3. No throwing of objects at speakers (Gilbert rule).
4. Audience may not expose themselves (Brother Frank rule)
5. Language must be family friendly.
6. Can not be noticeably inebriated.
7. No singing.
8. No politicking (Unka Jeff rule)
9. Only one participant per speech (Brother Kirk rule).
10. Contestants who have previously won three or more times, must sit it out for at least two years from their last win.(PCiC Chuck rule)
11. Only one per Division.
12. All judges' decisions are final. (no appeals or whining)

High Oratory Commission-
C. E. McMichael & J. K. Turner

P.S. It would be helpful if we knew each Division's entry in advance. E-mail to oratory@mcmichael-la.com

National Guardian Program

Compatriots, due to the increase in postage and price increases in supplies for mailing, we have had to increase the fee for becoming a Guardian. Beginning immediately the first Soldiers application will be \$25 and the subsequent applications will be \$15 each.

We do appreciate all your efforts in caring for our Heroes final resting place. GOD bless you, and GOD bless DIXIE!!!

Archie Herring
National Guardian Chairman
750ace@bellsouth.net

Supplemental Membership Certificates

Compatriots, since posting about processing of Supplemental Certificates, I have received a influx of responses asking what a Supplemental Certificate was? You join the SCV based on your ancestor who fought for the Confederate States of America. If you are lucky enough to have more than one ancestor fight for the south, you may apply for a Supplemental Certificate to honor those ancestors. You must go through the exact same process as when you joined the SCV. The application must be fully filled out, and all supporting documentation must be presented to your camp committee that approves applications. There is a box on the membership application that says Supplemental Certificate up at the top right of the form. Please make sure you check that box. Thanks for the responses. It shows you do read these telegraphs, and that means a lot to us at HQ.

All, please take note the GEC at its March Meeting voted to raise the cost of supplemental certificates to \$35. This was due to the increased cost of producing and mailing these. All supplemental certificate applications submitted on and after this date 6-May-2026 need to include the correct payment to be processed. Please note two things. These

applications MUST be approved by your camp committee on applications or they will be returned. Also note, no supplemental certificate will be processed after June 30 every year as HQ is preparing for reunion and renewals. Processing will resume November 1st after all renewals are processed. Please e-mail membership@scv.org if you have any questions

Eric Previti
National Membership Coordinator

Online training now available for commanders and adjutants

I'm excited to tell you about online training opportunities for ALL Commanders and Adjutants (Camp, Brigade, and Division levels).

National Membership Coordinator Eric Previti offers online training via Zoom. The training is extremely helpful for officers (especially adjutants) and covers how to use the Salesforce Community Login to download camp rosters and change member's information (addresses and e-mails). The training also covers how to pay National dues online and how to efficiently use the online discussion forum.

To attend one of the classes, send an e-mail to Eric Previti at membership@scv.org. Include your name, Membership ID, camp, and current office held. Classes are held monthly in the afternoon, or evening depending on need. If there is enough interest, a morning class can be held for those who can't do afternoons, or evenings. Links to join the class via Zoom will be e-mailed the day before the class.

I encourage all of you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.
Deo Vindice!

Adam Southern
Executive Director

Headquarters needs more e-mail addresses

All, this is a request from membership at HQ. Of the 30,000 members in our database, we only have 15,000 e-mail addresses. In order to reach as many as possible with this format, I need everyone's correct e-mail address.

I'm asking all camps get e-mail addresses for all members. We understand not everyone has an e-mail address, but most do. Once they have, please e-mail the list to membership@scv.org. Doing this will help HQ serve everyone better. I thank you all for your service.

Eric Previti

National Membership Coordinator

William D. McCain Research Library and Education Center

We are currently accepting donations of new and gently-used WBTS books, bound volumes of family history and genealogy, and works of regimental/unit history, as well as publications highlighting soldiers from across the Confederation, i.e. *Civil War Soldiers from Brunswick County, Virginia* and *Confederate Soldiers & Patriots of Maury County, Tennessee*.

If you have books you would like to donate, mail them to The McCain Library, 2357 Park Plus Drive, Columbia, TN 38401.

Our New Southern Heritage Center

To all SCV friends, there has been NO name change for our museum. It is and will remain, The National Confederate Museum. The same is true for Elm Springs. It is and will remain, Historic Elm Springs and one last thing, there is absolutely no chance of changing our SCV logo.

At the recent GEC meeting, we did name the property, The Southern Heritage Center. The SCV owns approximately 80 acres of prime land in Columbia, TN, upon which sits Historic Elm Springs, The National Confederate Museum, one family cemetery and the final resting place for General and Mrs. Forrest.

The open spaces on our property are used from time to time for various

cultural events such as music concerts, cook-offs, antique car shows, social gatherings, and such. These events bring people to our property who may otherwise never even know we exist and it makes money for the SCV. Since a car show cannot be held in the museum or the antebellum home, naming our property will help promote these events.

The entire property owned by the SCV has never had a name, but it does now. Nothing else has changed.

Museum artifact donations and Confederate images

The SCV is asking for worthy donations of Confederate and SCV historical items for our museum. Please contact us at exedir@scv.org for donations or loans before sending them to GHQ.

In addition, we would like to collect images of all our Confederate veterans. Please send images of your ancestor to membership@scv.org or PO Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402. Please annotate the name, rank, unit, and as much information as you can about the individual(s) you are submitting. These will be available for perpetual research for our visitors and members as well as use in the museum.

SCV HQ to sell H. L. Hunley Medals

Greetings, Compatriots!

Many camps honor a JROTC cadet each year with the SCV's *H. L. Hunley* Medal (Award). In years past, this program was run through a coordinator, outside of HQ. This year, SCV Headquarters will be managing the distribution of the *Hunley* Medal. The medals are \$30 each (this includes shipping). If your Camp or Division buys medals in bulk, discounts will apply.

For more information or to purchase a *Hunley* Medal, please contact Sales Manager Jill MacDermot at (931) 380-1844, ext. 6, or by e-mail at sales@scv.org.
Deo Vindice!

Adam Southern
Executive Director

Estate Planning

Please consider placing the SCV in your will. Each state law is different so it is best to contact your lawyer or estate planner, but if you need assistance, please contact us at exedir@scv.org.

Shipping address for Elm Springs has changed

Compatriots,

I want to remind everyone the physical address for Elm Springs and the National Confederate Museum has changed.

All packages, certified and registered mail needs to be sent to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans
2357 Park Plus Dr.
Columbia, TN 38401

All other mail should be sent to:
Sons of Confederate Veterans
PO Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402-0059

Any mail sent to the old address of 740 Mooresville Pike, Columbia, TN will be returned to sender by the USPS.

Adjutants, please also note we are not accepting Division dues this year. Please send all Division dues to your division as instructed by your camp or Division.

Thank you,
Adam Southern
Executive Director

New system for contacting US Congress members

Below is the link to the "Widget" which will automatically send your US Senators and the US Military Brass responsible for renaming US Military Bases. Click on the link below, fill out your information, personalize the message if you desire, and click submit.

Because this is a mass effort, it is helpful if you personalize the message or change the subject line — Objective: Keeping the Confederate Monument at Arlington Cemetery!!!! <https://oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net/promo/4hW>



Dispatches From the Front

stituted for a tribe (Creeks) who did own slaves. Also, there was a cement obelisk in front of the school bearing his name which was removed. All this was done without a vote of the people. That's your typical local communist school board.

In 2020, in Tahlequah, OK, Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr. had the statue of Brig. General (and Cherokee Chief) Stand Watie removed from the front of the Cherokee Museum to an undisclosed location. Almost all mention of Stand Watie has been erased from the area, but many references to John Ross, who fought for the Union, can be seen. The reason given for the removal of Stand Watie's statue was it was erected by a third party (UDC), and the Cherokees want to tell their own history. I fail to understand how the removal of a statue of a great Cherokee chief and Confederate general contributes to the telling of "their history." There is no "my story," or "your story" or "their story." There are the historical facts, period. He states the Confederacy does not reflect their values. Well, since the values of most Confederates were based solidly on Christian principles, that speaks rather poorly for any principles the current chief possesses.

Compatriot Barker is so right stating we are in a war. But, we have an ally in this war. The Southern Independence Association (SIA). They are working feverishly with legislators to get laws passed protecting our Confederate monuments, and to have CSA-Americans protected under existing civil rights laws. They are calling it the H.K. Edgerton Equal Protection Initiative. The SIA has had some positive meetings with Oklahoma legislators and candidates, as well as favorable results in other states. Now, we know that the SCV cannot involve itself politically as far as endorsing or opposing candidates, but the SIA is operating under a different set of laws and can do things we are prohibited from doing. Their membership is 10,000 strong and growing. Perhaps with the SCV, SIA, and Southern Legal Resource Center each working in their respective

fields of influence, we may stand a good chance of seeing an end to this cultural genocide against all things Southern and Confederate.

Jeff Paulk, OK Division Commander
Major James McHenry Camp 2310
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Lost a Confederate hero with Foote's passing

To the Editor:

When we lost Shelby Foote, we lost a true American, a true Southerner and a true Confederate hero. His work on *Civil War: A Narrative*, a three volume history is unparalleled by anyone. He has many a great book to his credit and he is my personal favorite. He was a true Southern Gentleman and I've never seen the man conduct himself in any other way. To me he fought as hard as Jackson and Lee to protect our Confederacy, our ancestors and above all, to tell the truth. He devoted his life to the South and his writings and words still hold true today. In my opinion the man should be treated as a Confederate hero and I'm sure a lot of people do such as myself. Mississippi should be proud of their native son as I'm sure they are. I don't know if Mr. Foote has a monument or statue or even if he would have wanted one, but I think he deserves one and would love to see it happen.

Rest in peace, Mr. Foote, we all miss you but thank you for your work. We can pick it up anytime and find you again my brother.

Deo Vindice

Ray Teems
General Stand Waite Camp 915
Calhoun, Georgia

Learned new info from a bad book

To the Editor:

A few months back a neighboring Parish, we have Parishes not Counties in Louisiana, held a used book sale sponsored by their library. I bought a book for 50 cents titled *The Lost Indictment of Robert E. Lee*. The author seemed so biased against the Confederate States of America that it became sort of comical. Even when a known and accepted fact

of the War for Southern Independence was included in this book it seemed this author went out of his way to spin it to meet his agenda and his version of the facts. But, I did come away thanking the author for one thing. Maybe he did not plan to do so, but he did prove how creative the United States Federal Government can become with their power in an effort to punish those who they perceived to be their enemy. A wise man once told me that seldom is anything new, but rather just recycled from the past. What transpired in the mid-1860s eerily mirrors what happened to President Trump and many of his supporters in 2020. When they seemed to use lawfare, the Federal Government went about the planned destruction and attempted imprisonment of those who they perceived to be their enemies.

Shortly after the conclusion of the War for Southern Independence the United States government came up with yet another convoluted plan to punish Southern patriots. They decided the best way to punish the leaders of the Confederate States of America was to recognize the Confederate government as a sovereign nation during the war, but also reserve the right to consider all Confederates who participated in the war as traitors after the war. One can not be a traitor to a country they are not a part of. But, it seems this fact did not matter to those in power in the United States of America in the mid-1860s. It was a classic case of the means justify the end and to the hell with the actual facts.

It was not until Christmas Day 1868, before Lee and all of the 39 indictments against others were dropped when President Johnson issued his proclamation. We are all mostly aware of the horrors experienced by the Southern civil population during the years when the Federal Government imposed on them what they called Reconstruction. No state lived under the laws of Reconstruction longer than Louisiana. But, not until reading this book was I made aware of how truly vindictive the Federal Government of the United States actually was against our Confederate leaders and patriots.

Milton J. Allemand Jr.
Gen. William D. McCain Camp 584
Columbia, Tennessee

Has questions about dates in recent article

To the Editor:

"By Other Means" is a great article and an interesting read. But I found one thing I cannot make sense of. Alan Abels' at the end of the 3rd paragraph, mentions December 1865, then says "... radical [Republicans] seized the moment and kept President Hayes, a Southerner, in the dark." The next paragraph mentions the formation of the Freedman's Bureau, also from 1865. How is this possible since Hayes was not elected until 1877? And while parts of Ohio had (and still has) southern tendencies, I would hardly call an Ohio politician who volunteered early on for Union service and was wounded five times in Federal service a "Southerner." Can someone explain?

Ron Crawley

Sgt. Adam Ballenger Camp 68
Gramling, South Carolina

Our camps need a website and Facebook page

To the Editor:

I would like to encourage our compatriots to make sure your camp has an updated website and, at the very least, a public Facebook page, though other social media platforms, such as X (formerly Twitter), are good to have as well.

Many camps only have private Facebook groups. This is fine as well, but a public Facebook page enables the local public to see photos of your camp activities, whereas a private Facebook group does not unless they are already members of the group. This attracts potential recruits to your camp and also shows the local community your camp is present there and involved. If you are worried about internet trolls by having a public Facebook page, all I can say is be bold, Southern man! Plus, trolls actually help boost your page activity, which means more people see your posts, so they are doing you a favor in a way. You can debate them or ban them without comment (my preferred method), but don't let them deter you from having a public social media presence.

If we want to attract new members

we first have to let people know we exist. In the 21st century this means we must have an online presence. That is the very first most basic step to get your camp's name out there. An updated camp website is almost secondary to having a public Facebook page these days, but it does lend some aura of legitimacy, and also provides Camp contact information for anyone interested in joining.

If your camp does not have an appointed webmaster and social media coordinator, I might suggest remedying that. If this is something you think you can do for your camp, please step up. Just be sure to keep the camp website and public Facebook page regularly updated, for good optics for John Q. Public.

You might be surprised at the number of our SCV Camps who do not have a viable social media presence or website. In 2026 this seems rather alarming.

Yours in Our Cause,

Wes Franklin

Major Thomas R. Livingston Camp 2327
Carthage, MO

My trip to the Sam Watkins Book Festival

To the Editor:

My trip to the Sam Watkins Book Festival started early. It was still pretty dark outside when I woke up, and after getting my things together, I hit the road around a quarter past six. It was a crisp 41 degrees in Shelby County, Alabama, when I pulled out, but the three-hour drive up to Historic Elm Springs in Columbia, Tennessee, was well worth the early alarm, especially as the morning gave way to a bright, sunny spring day.

I pulled onto the grounds just in time for the 9:30 a.m. presentation by Shelby Harriel-Hidlebaugh. Her talk, based on her book *Behind the Rifle*, uncovered the fascinating history of women who disguised themselves as men to fight in the War Between the States. She explained these women were driven by patriotism, a thirst for adventure, or simply the chance to earn a soldier's wages, which were significantly better than what a domestic worker could make. They successfully blended into the ranks because Victorian society couldn't imagine a woman attempting

such a thing, and their youthful faces easily hid among the 200,000 teenage boys serving at the time.

During the break, I browsed the festival's massive book sale. It was an absolute gold mine for history buffs, with hardbacks priced at just \$5 and paperbacks at \$2. It was here that I managed to score a great first edition of Frank E. Vandiver's *Mighty Stonewall* for just \$5. The book still has its original dust jacket, which features a very cool artist's sketch of Stonewall Jackson set against a bright red Confederate flag which fills up most of the cover. While looking through the stacks, I ran into Jason Boshers from the SCV Chat YouTube channel, recognized Larry A. McCluney, Jr. from his General Beauregard historical reenactment videos, and spotted author Joyce Nunn Shumate at her signing table.

I spent the next break exploring the beautiful grounds, visiting the gravesites of the Looney and Todd families, and stopping by the gravesite of Simeon Cummings, who served aboard the CSS *Alabama*. I ended up having a great conversation with a fellow attendee who was wearing overalls. We talked about the history of the park and the importance of our rights as Southerners.

I finished out the day by getting my newly purchased books signed by all three authors, including Mrs. Shumate's *Southern Women: Ruffles, Lace and Espionage*, which has a fantastic cover. I also had the pleasure of meeting John Blankenship from SCV Chat and SCV Executive Director Adam Southern. Before the long drive home, I stopped by the National Confederate Museum and spotted a few new artifacts which were on display.

The trip was still an absolute success. McCluney's *Paradox of Freedom: A History of Black Slaveholders in America* is a must-read, and I definitely recommend grabbing a few copies for friends and family for the next Black History Month. To top it all off, a visit to the National Confederate Museum and Historic Elm Springs is an experience I'd urge anyone to make time for.

Daniel K. Campbell

Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372

St. Clair Camp 308

Shelby County, Alabama



Books in Print

Brandenburg, Kentucky on September 4, 1864, under the reign of Brev. Major-General Stephen Gano Burbridge, USA. It is also about my search for the facts concerning John's life and death, and therefore, in a sense, about my own life as it connects with his."

The main tale concerns a tragic 1864 event, and what was learned after author Head asked about the identity of the kitchen portrait in 1964. The quest is an essential part of this volume. Research based on the life of one man offers much to history. Most general histories of The War can only relate highlights and only a few personal details. Stories such as this allow the writer to take the reader down roads otherwise not mentioned in major books, meet people otherwise overlooked, relate tragedies elsewhere untold.

The setting here is of the Western Theatre. The capture of Newburgh, Indiana in 1862 begins the invasion of north of the Ohio River. Newburgh was said to be the first town north of the Mason-Dixon Line to be captured by the Confederates.

Laid over the story of John Brooks is the story of many famous people which most readers are familiar with: General Albert Sidney Johnston, General John Hunt Morgan, General James Longstreet, General Tecumseh Sherman. Battles at Shiloh, Chickamauga, Fort Do-

nelson are prevalent in the overall story.

Not so famous, was Union Brevet-Major General Stephen Gano Burbridge; however, "Bloody" Burbridge is the source of unjust atonement. A History of Kentucky and Kentuckians relates, "The bloody record of the butcher Burbridge can never be given in full. When his spirit moved him to murder, he simply ordered out for execution any one of the unfortunates who happened to be within his control regardless of whether they were or were not Confederate soldiers." For Southern readers it should be enough to say, "... Sherman formed a favorable opinion of Burbridge that was to last through the years."

It was under the reign of Burbridge a policy of "atonement" was carried out. For every Union man killed, two Southern men in prison would be executed. If the "two rule" did not get results then they would increase the number executed to three, and four if necessary. None of those executed were given a trial, it was never asked if those who were to die were guilty. The condemned men were taken to the place where the initial event occurred and there executed as an example.

Atonement is defined as: "reparations for a wrong or injury." The word is most often used in religious matters. Comparisons can be made to religion as many, many of the men executed in Kentucky were innocent of the crime for which they were shot.

"O' Kentucky! Beautiful and enchanting, and yet wild and untamed. A dark and bloody ground..." These words were included in the tale of John Brooks.

Head states, "This book is about not

giving up!" Persistently and thoroughly researched, this volume will add much to the story of the South; information not found elsewhere. As this reviewer often remembers, "We all die twice. Once when the person dies, and later when their name is last spoken." John Brooks along with many others are remembered here. They live on. The last words of author Head, "We Will Meet Again."

Author: James Louis Head

Publisher: Heritage Press

<https://head-book.com>

Paperback \$20.00

Reviewed by Gary Lee Hall

"Here's a Letter From Thy Dear Son" Letters of a Georgia Family During the Civil War Era

It's hard to imagine someone holding on to forty years of family letters. But thank goodness the Alexander family did. If you're a War Between the States purist like I am, you're going to truly appreciate this book. Personal letters and first hand accounts from civilians and soldiers fill this 550-page book. I wish this volume had come out when I was a reenactor, because it gives you a great perspective of daily life in the 19th century, and also a firm handle on the language spoken at that time. In one letter, Manning Alexander wrote to his wife Pelona, "I had a fine supper of turnip greens and hog jowls." That sounds like a great meal to me!

Manning Poole Alexander was twenty-five years old in 1855 and studying to become a doctor in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the Eclectic Medical Institute. Six years later at the age of thirty-one he will become Dr. M. P. Alexander, Assistant Surgeon of the 43rd Georgia Regiment. Manning married Pelona White David in the mid 1850s, and through their correspondence he always refers to Pelona as "Dearest" and will always end with "Yours Devotedly." Pelona will always open with "Dearest" but end letters with "As ever your affectionate wife." Manning and Pelona live in Maysville, Georgia, and, except for school in Ohio and the war, the two

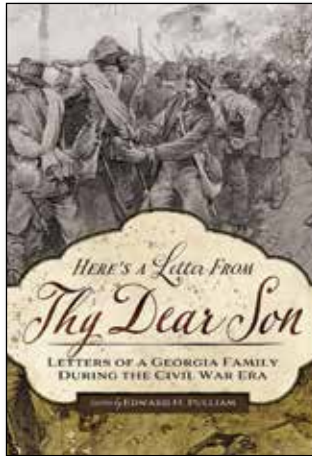
Please send all books to be reviewed

to the editor-in-chief at Frank Powell

9701 Fonville Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587

are never separated, being extremely devoted to one another. They will raise three children together. Pelona has six siblings, Manning has three siblings, and you, the reader, will learn about them and the rest of their family by reading through four decades of letters

Dr. Alexander and his wife Pelona, as well as their brothers and sisters, give great insight into the politicians and political landscape of the 1860's up to 1900. From the war years through reconstruction, the loss of family and friends, to thoughts and opinions on



war. You get to read the real struggle to rebuild your life from the ground up. Doctor Manning Alexander will serve in the 43rd Georgia in the Army of Tennessee with men from the Georgia counties of Cherokee, Pickens, Cobb, Hall, Forsyth, Jefferson and Jackson. In his letters Alexander writes of battles which take him from state to state such as Chickasaw Bayou, La, Champion's Hill in Vicksburg, Mississippi, Nashville, Tenn and when the war ends in 1865, he happens to be in North Carolina.

This engaging book was edited by Edward H. Pulliam, freelance editor and writer who is also a member of the General Barton & Stovall History / Heritage Association. The General Barton & Stovall History / Heritage Association is a lineage-based organization dedicated to preserving the history of Confederate brigades that served in the Army of Tennessee.

Editor: Edward H. Pulliam
 Publisher: Mercer University Press
www.mupress.org
 Hardback \$50.00

Reviewed by Barney W. Roberts, III

Judah Benjamin *His Escape to England Through Florida*

Judah Benjamin was a very interesting character. Much has been written about his life before the War for Southern Independence and his time in the Confederate government. However, not many details of his journey from Richmond south to Florida and then to safety have been documented.

Judah Benjamin His Escape to England Through Florida covers his perilous journey with much detail and shows the hardships Benjamin had to endure to escape capture. He is quoted as saying in Abbeville, SC, in 1865, "I intend to go to the farthest place from the United States ... if it takes me to the middle of China." So he began his journey.

In the introduction, author Richard Sanchez points out one of the problems he had with Benjamin was his obsession with secrecy about his life. His wartime documents were burned when he left Richmond in April of 1865 and his papers about his time in England and Paris were destroyed upon his death in 1884. He didn't keep a journal or diary and rarely spoke in public about his exploits during or after the War. So, some details we will never know completely. But, the author has researched what is known and has written an easy to read interesting book.

We begin with a recap of Benjamin's life before the War. Born in 1811 on the island of St. Croix, he was able to claim British citizenship when he escaped after the end of the War. At a young age his family moved to Wilmington, North Carolina and later to Charleston, South Carolina. Charleston had the largest Jewish population in the United States at that time. Later, after attending several schools, he ended up in New Orleans.

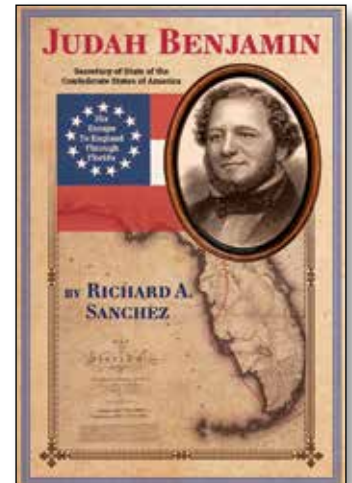
He was a US senator from Louisiana when the state seceded in 1861. Being a friend of Jefferson Davis, he was appointed attorney general for the new country. He then moved to be secretary of war and then secretary of state in which office he served until the end. Benjamin traveled with Jefferson Davis until they parted at Abbeville, SC, in April 1865.

His journey south through Georgia was largely uneventful, but the journey through Florida was full of danger and intrigue. Fortunately for Benjamin, he had a number of friends and Confederate sympathizers who hid him and helped with food and travel to evade Federal forces, which were looking for him and other Confederate government officials.

I found this to be a very good and interesting read and can recommend it to our readers as a new resource.

Author: Richard A. Sanchez
 Publisher: Florida History
www.floridahistory.shop
 Paperback \$19.99

Reviewed by Frank Powell



Confederate Veteran Deadlines

Issue Deadline for submissions

September/October 2026 July 1

November/December 2026 . Sept. 1

January/February 2027 Nov. 1

March/April 2027 January 1

May/June 2027 March 1

July/August 2027 May 1

The Davis Brothers

on the property. Young Jefferson worked diligently to build Brierfield into a successful plantation but never to the magnitude or magnificence of Joseph's Hurricane Plantation.

Joseph Davis was the older brother of the future Confederate President Jefferson Davis by some 24 years. Joseph was born near Augusta, Georgia on December 10, 1784. The Davis brothers' father was a farmer by profession and in 1793 he made the decision to move the family from Georgia to the newly created state of Kentucky where he believed the land to be more promising. The family settled in what became known as Davisburg, Kentucky. The name was later changed to what is now known as Fairview, Kentucky in south central Kentucky. The Davis family would eventually expand to 10 children, of which Joseph was the oldest, and Jefferson Davis was the youngest.

The family left Kentucky and moved further southwest to Mississippi in 1811 where they settled in a small community known as Woodville some 20 miles south of Natchez. Their father later died in 1824 while living in Woodville, Mississippi. Jefferson Davis was only 16 when his father died. Joseph ensured that Jefferson Davis would receive the best of his educational opportunities. Jefferson spent much of his youth in various schools away from his home in Woodville. He was sent to boarding school in Bardstown, Kentucky, and upon graduating he returned to Mississippi where he attended Jefferson College in Natchez. He then returned to Kentucky to attend Transylvania College. The elder Joseph became the guiding force for his younger siblings, especially to the younger Jefferson Davis, to whom he became a surrogate father and mentor. Joseph Davis spent many hours in the large plantation library pavilion with the future Confederate President teaching and discussing important subject matters of the day which would guide the younger Jefferson in his future successes. Because of his prominence in the political world Joseph was able to secure younger brother Jefferson an appointment to West Point in 1824. Jefferson

preferred to graduate from Transylvania College and then to attend law school, but at big brothers' urging Jefferson reluctantly entered West Point and thus began his military career which proved to be the first of many successful adventures in his life.

The Davis brothers were both well educated. Elder brother Joseph studied law in Kentucky and Mississippi and was admitted to the Mississippi bar in 1812. He served as a delegate to the convention who wrote the Mississippi State Constitution in 1817. Joseph moved to Natchez, Mississippi in 1820 where he formed a law partnership. He became extremely successful and became one of the town's most eligible bachelors. In 1827, the 43-year-old Davis decided to marry the young 16-year-old Eliza Van Benthuyzen from Natchez, retire from his law practice and build a plantation with his new bride. He purchased most of the land on the peninsula of the Mississippi River that became known as Davis Bend some 20 miles south of Natchez.

As a cotton planter Davis made a fortune, becoming one of the richest and more prominent men in the state of Mississippi prior to the advent of the war. In 1827, Davis built a modest house on the plantation for the family, and then in 1835 he built a three-story brick antebellum mansion with a stucco finished exterior, twelve rooms with fireplaces and numerous outbuildings including a separate large library pavilion. The mansion had indoor plumbing and even had an early form of air conditioning. The Joseph Davis Hurricane plantation at Davis Bend was considered among the finest anywhere along the Mississippi River.

While cotton was the main cash crop, Joseph Davis also produced many other crops and large herds of beef and dairy cattle, as well as sheep. The plantation was a self-supporting community of almost 400 people. Joseph sought to create a utopian model plantation focused on the well-being of the 365 "servants" as he preferred to call them. He provided improved living conditions, a degree of autonomy and even instituted plantation laws that included "servant" judges and a jury that



Joseph Davis' Hurricane Plantation.

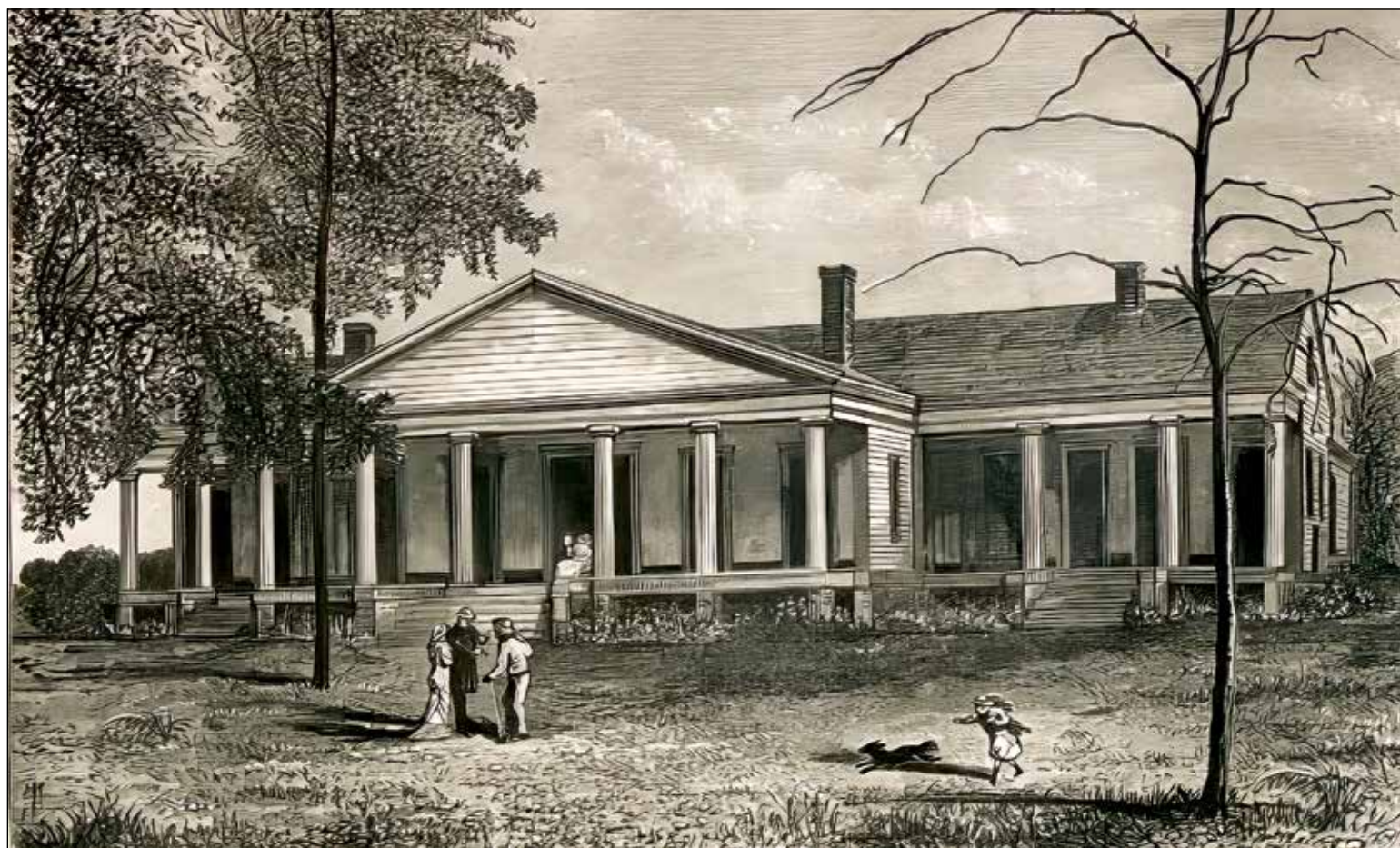
maintained plantation discipline.

Davis provided the “servants” with good working conditions, comfortable quarters, adequate food and clothing, and a level of medical and dental care unknown to many white people of the time. Benjamin Montgomery, a “servant” who had learned how to read and write, was placed in charge of the plantation store and was even allowed to retain profits from the store. He was a man who achieved a level of independence and responsibility few ever achieved in plantation slavery life. He even had his own line of credit with New Orleans wholesalers.

In 1863, after the fall of Vicksburg, Davis moved his family and many of his servants to Tuscaloosa, Alabama for the duration of the war. Joseph’s wife died the next year while they lived in Alabama. Joseph’s faithful servant Ben Montgomery continued to manage the plantation in Davis’s absence as best he could under the Yankee occupation. The mansion and many outbuildings were burned under Yankee occupation. His land was leased to “freed-

men” and refugees were allowed to settle on his land. Although his land had been confiscated by the Yankee government, the plantation was eventually regained from the Freedmen’s Bureau and given back to Joseph. This return of property also included Jefferson Davis’s Brierfield Plantation as it had been retained legally by Joseph Davis.

Joseph sold the property to his faithful servant Ben on a long-term note after the war. Following the war Joseph Davis returned to Vicksburg but never returned to his Hurricane Plantation realizing the Yankees had burned the mansion and many of the buildings during the occupation. Joseph Davis rented a grand house known as Anchuca Mansion in Vicksburg where he and his granddaughter resided from 1868 until his death in 1870. President Jefferson Davis came to visit his brother in Vicksburg circa 1870 during his very popular Southern speaking tour where he spoke to the people of Vicksburg from the second-floor front balcony of the house. Hundreds of cheering



Brierfield, Jefferson Davis' home before the War.

Vicksburg residents listened and responded with respect and admiration for President Davis's untiring dedication, devotion and service to Mississippi and the South during difficult times.

This historic mansion continues to serve as a wonderful bed and breakfast in Vicksburg, Mississippi. A few years ago, my wife and I had the distinct pleasure of staying at the mansion and learning of its wonderful history. I was researching President Davis's life and tracing his footsteps across Mississippi that had been such an important part of his life. I was able to step back in time to take in this historical place and to spend a wonderful moment standing on that same second-floor balcony where President Davis had once stood and spoken to the citizens of Vicksburg.

Joseph's name does not ring out historically to the level of his younger sibling who served his nation in many national positions, ultimately becoming President Jefferson Davis of the Confederacy. Joseph however also stands tall as a leader among men, a prominent member among the Mississippi elite, one of the richest men in Mississippi, an innovator and major player in the business world, he was a visionary, a caring and benevolent leader and the mentor who guided his younger brother Jefferson to his lofty heights of success.

Acknowledgment and excerpts attributed to Michael Hurley's published article 'The Plantation that Defied Convention' in the *Blue and Gray Dispatch*, June 2025

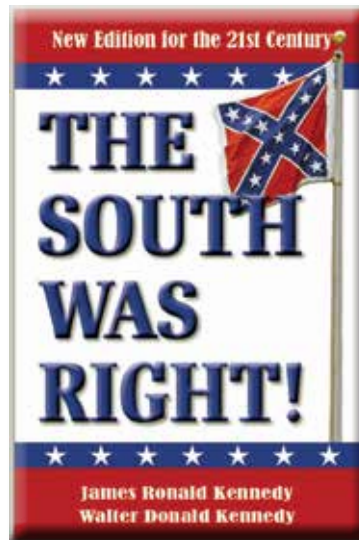


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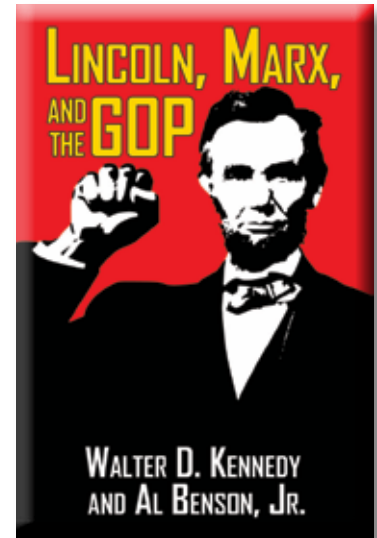
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Other books by the Kennedy Twins: *Punished with Poverty* the War did not end slavery it only morphed it into sharecropping; *Jefferson Davis: High Road to Emancipation and Constitutional Government*, radical abolitionists destroyed the South's high road to emancipation and our original legitimate Republic; *Yankee Empire: Aggressive Abroad and Despotism at Home*, the Yankee Empire turned the South into a colony of the North and then used similar techniques to expand its commercial empire worldwide.



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The Corwin Amendment

Confederate states that ratified it were not members of the Union at that time. Historical records show that the readmission of these former Confederate states to the Union occurred after ratification. For instance, Tennessee was readmitted on July 24, 1866, even though it had ratified the Amendment more than a year earlier, on April 7, 1865. Georgia became the twenty-seventh state to ratify the Amendment on December 6, 1865; however, it was not readmitted until July 15, 1870, making it the last of the former Confederate states to regain membership in the Union. Consequently, while the amendment was ratified, these former Confederate states were not members of the United States. This material fact should invalidate the Thirteenth Amendment, as the legislatures of those states were not legally valid.

A determination that the former Confederate states had not left the Union should have prevented their readmission. Indeed, on April 11, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln referred to the matter as “a pernicious abstraction” and stated that the states were “not in their proper practical relation with the Union.” However, if the states were not in their proper practical relation with the Union, they either reverted to the status of territories or became conquered states of the Confederate nation. Therefore, they would not be considered part of the aggregate of states forming the United States, and their participation in ratifying a constitutional amendment would be unlawful. Nevertheless, to approve amendments to the US Constitution, Article V required the consent of three-fourths of the several states through their legislatures. Since the federal government maintained that the former Confederate states had not left the Union, ratifying the Thirteenth Amendment would require the support of 27 out of the 36 state legislatures.

Drafting the Thirteenth Amendment

The US Senate and the Lincoln administration drafted the Thirteenth Amendment without the participation of the former Confederate states. Con-

sequently, the Amendment’s language intentionally excluded any compensation for slaveholders, violating the Fifth Amendment, which states, in relevant part, “nor shall private property be taken . . . without just compensation.” On April 8, 1864, the Northern-dominated US Senate passed the Amendment. However, it was not until January 31, 1865, that the U.S. House approved the Amendment after extensive back room negotiations and strategic maneuvering by Lincoln, his administration, and radical congressional Republicans. Northern states quickly ratified the Amendment but failed to meet the 27-state threshold needed for its passage and certification.

Even before the Confederacy’s final defeat, the reconstructed governments of Virginia, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Arkansas — now under puppet control— voted for ratification. After the Confederacy’s defeat, the reconstructed states of the former Confederacy, still under puppet governments — including South Carolina, Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia — provided the necessary states to complete the amendment process. Thus, through duplicity, disenfranchisement, and coercion, slavery ended in the United States.

The Principal of Unintended Consequences

With the end of slavery, four million formerly enslaved individuals suddenly found themselves thrust into freedom in the Southern United States. Most lacked education and were unskilled laborers, primarily engaged in agricultural production on Southern plantations. Little forethought was given to the impending plight of the soon-to-be emancipated slaves. When consideration was offered, it consisted of unrealistic notions. For instance, Abraham Lincoln contemplated the fate of the freed slaves as early as 1852. He initially proposed relocating them to places like Liberia; however, he later recognized the impracticality of this idea.

On March 6, 1862, Lincoln communicated with Congress, recommending compensated emancipation. In his message, he stated, “. . . in my judgment,

We the People

of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article 1.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and including Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each State shall have at least one Representative; and until such Enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut four, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina six, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Electors in that State shall fill the Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years, and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Clases. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of their second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Term of any Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States; but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section 4. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday of December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Section 5. Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behavior, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of that House, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House during their Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three Days, nor to any other Place.

gradual and not sudden emancipation is better for all." In April 1862, Lincoln continued to believe that emancipation and deportation were the best courses of action regarding slavery and supported a bill in Congress that allocated funds for the District of Columbia Emancipation Act, which was successfully incorporated into the act as follows:

[T]o be expended under the direction of the

President of the United States to aid in the colonization and settlement of such free persons of African descent now residing in said District, including those liberated by the act, as may desire to emigrate to Haiti or Liberia or such other country beyond the limits of the United States as the President may determine.

In August 1862, Lincoln invited five prominent

African American men to the White House. The discussion centered on the inability of whites and blacks to coexist, and he encouraged the men to rally support for an exodus of African Americans from the United States.

Another plan for the disposition of emancipated slaves involved Major General William T. Sherman, who issued Special Field Orders No. 15 on January 16, 1865. The orders reserved 400,000 acres of Confederate land for members of the formerly enslaved population. The orders stated,

"The islands from Charleston, south, the abandoned rice fields for thirty miles back from the sea, and the country bordering the St. John River, Florida, are reserved and set apart for the settlement of the negroes [sic] now made free by the acts of war and the proclamation by the President of the United States."

Moreover, the Orders explicitly prohibited all white people, except for Union military personnel, from living on the land. The confiscation and redistribution of private property became known as "forty acres and a mule." President Andrew Johnson repealed the order following Lincoln's assassination and returned the land to its rightful owners. Otherwise, little additional consideration was given to the fate of the former slaves.

The emancipation of the slaves created another unintended consequence for the dominant Northern states. Under the original language of the Constitution, enslaved people had been counted as three-fifths of a person. With their newfound freedom, former slaves were counted as whole persons, which increased congressional representation and the political power of the South. Political hegemony had been a significant aspect of sectionalism, culminating in secession and war; thus, the population increase in the former Confederacy presented a troubling issue.

A crucial issue for the Union was nullifying the increasing political power of Southern whites. Although the slaves had been emancipated, they remained disenfranchised, lacked political influence, and continued to uphold the authority of their former masters. If no action were taken regarding this situation, the power of Southern whites would be significantly strengthened in the federal government. To address this urgent issue, Congress

established the Joint Committee on Reconstruction.

The Joint Committee concluded that the former Confederate states were not entitled to representation in the federal government until security measures were implemented to ensure the loyalty of state leaders before their readmission. To this end, a bill, a committee report, and another constitutional amendment were produced to establish the rules for creating new state governments and the states' readmission to the Union. Thus, the Thirteenth Amendment gave rise to the Fourteenth Amendment, particularly Section 2: Apportionment of Representatives. Of course, the entirety of this amendment stemmed from the questionable lawfulness of the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment.

Conclusion

The ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment occurred under highly irregular and unusual circumstances. Congress approved two contradictory versions of the subsequent amendment: one drafted to ensure the continuation of slavery in the United States and the other aimed at abolishing it. The final version was established while most Southern states were out of the Union. Consequently, all Southern state governments participating in its ratification were legally ineligible due to the manner in which these governments were formed. These governments were not only ineligible because they were not members of the Union at the time of ratification but also because the federal government unlawfully interfered in the process. President Andrew Johnson was particularly notorious for establishing puppet governments in the former Confederate states with the express intent of creating instruments to ensure the passage of the Reconstruction Amendments: the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments.

About the Authors

Scott Barker, a member of Major General William D. McCain HQ Camp 584, Columbia, Tennessee, is an author and freelance writer.

Joseph Judson Smith, III, is an American communications executive and past Commander General of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.



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REPORT OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

designed with the assistance of local SCV units to highlight the contribution of local Confederate Veterans in defending the community and rebuilding the local community after the War and Reconstruction. The Special Issue *Defender* is very useful for educating the local community about the importance of the men of the Confederate military service to modern society.

(7) Billboards: The SCV's pro-Confederate billboard campaign has been a success for the past two years. As anyone who has conducted a political campaign (the Kennedy Twins have been doing this since 1966) knows, billboards will not win votes by themselves. The purpose of a billboard is to introduce a name and face to the public. Once introduced, it is the work of the local campaign committee to take a recognized person and explain why a voter should vote for that individual. Billboards in your community help to make the SCV a known entity. Once known, it is easier to recruit new members. A major plus of our billboard campaign is that elected officials see these billboards and begin to understand the SCV is a force to be reckoned with. The judge who hears your heritage case, the district attorney who may be thinking about working against your heritage issue, and the sheriff who should be protecting your monument, will also see your billboard. The next time your camp holds a Lee-Jackson Banquet, be sure to invite one or two elected officials. Even if they can't make it, they have just been put on notice the SCV exists in their community, and we know who they are!

If you live in a "Red" county and your SCV Camp actively uses these tools, the chances of you ever having to "go to court" in defense of your Rights will be dramatically reduced. If you do have to go to court, the judge and jury will have been exposed to accurate information about Southern history and the SCV. In such a case, your chances of a positive outcome are greatly increased. Sadly, most SCV camps will busy themselves cleaning tombstones and waving Confederate flags — both things are good things to do in and of themselves — but these camps fail to tell their community WHY we clean and maintain those graves or why

we are proud to wave the Confederate flag. The result of not aggressively promoting our narrative is the malignant creep of the woke anti-Confederate narrative in a "Red" county.

Gentlemen, let me be blunt; if we continue to have SCV camps who only talk to the same members over and over without making serious efforts to educate the misinformed citizens in the camp's area, we will lose all our heritage within two more generations. More than 100 years ago, SCV's Historian-in-Chief Ewing warned about not correctly announcing, as he said, "from the rooftops" that our ancestors were correct. If your camp does not discuss at least one or two of the items listed above at your camp meeting, you are not giving your fellow citizens any reason to protect Southern heritage, let alone a reason to join the SCV. Does your camp have a Heritage Officer? Has that officer participated in one of the Confederate Legion's training sessions? Does your camp involve itself with promoting one or more of the Confederate Counter Attacks? In other words, are you a member of an activist camp striving to educate, motivate, and activate your local community, or is it a meet, eat, and retreat camp? It is your duty to ensure these seven items and efforts are pursued just as actively as cleaning tombstones or waving flags from your car. By embracing these proactive efforts, you will give purpose and reason for cleaning cemeteries and displaying Confederate flags. In other words, you will be "Vindicating the Cause" for which they fought.

Please take a moment to watch the short video I made explaining why I feel so strongly that, yes indeed, The South Was Right!

URL to video: <https://rumble.com/v795s5y-sons-of-confederate-veterans-c-i-c.html>

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Deo Vindice,

Walter D. (Donnie) Kennedy
78th C-I-C, SCV

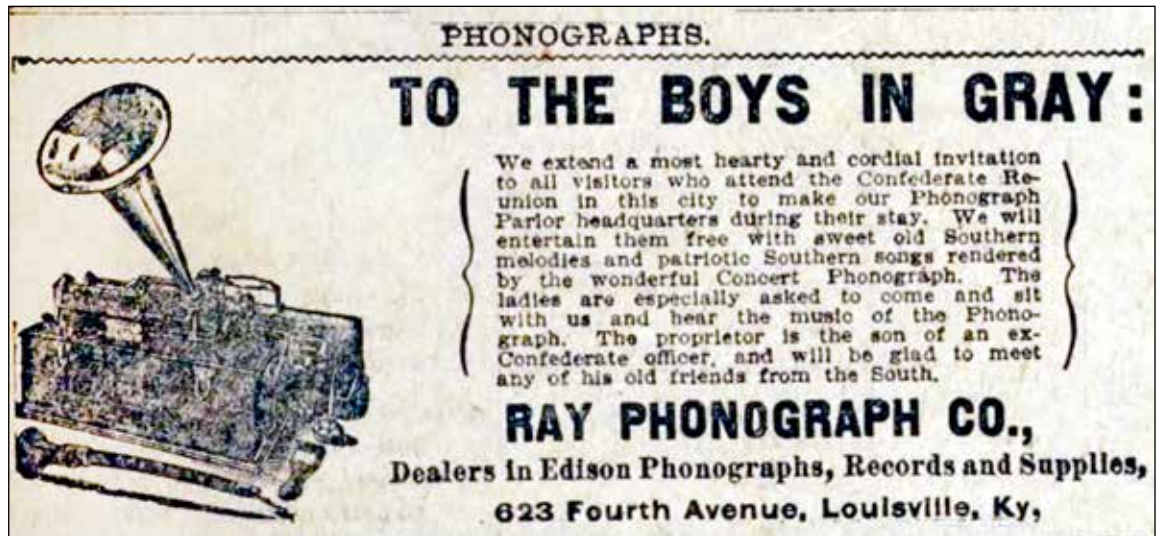


Echoes of Memory

eral fiddle tunes for the Victor — some of the earliest surviving examples of Southern string music. Gilliland's recordings, made alongside famed fiddler Eck Robertson, represent a living bridge between antebellum folk tradition and the dawn of recorded sound. Through his violin, the voice of the South — and of the veteran experience itself — was captured for us still today to hear. His music, like the phonograph itself, ensured the melodies of the past would never fade into silence.

The need for such comfort extended beyond soldiers to their widows as well. In 1930, Mrs. Catherine Scott, 78, of Little Rock, South Carolina — a widow of a Confederate veteran and confined to her home for four years due to an old age illness — made a public appeal for phonograph records. In her isolation, her phonograph's voice could provide what distance and frailty denied: companionship and the comfort of voice.

Modern science has since confirmed what these old soldiers instinctively knew. A 2019 study published in *Frontiers in Psychology* found that listening to familiar music can enhance cognitive functioning, emotional regulation, and social connection in older adults, even reducing symptoms of depression and loneliness. For veterans who had witnessed a lifetime of change — from cannon fire to radio waves — music provided continuity. It kept minds sharp, emotions soothed, and memories alive. The phonograph's rhythmic hum, the soft crackle of the needle, and the rising



strains of a march or hymn all became part of the healing soundscape of aging. For many veterans, the phonograph filled the silence which followed comrades lost to time.

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The Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee of the Virginia Division wishes to acknowledge the **Society of the Order of the Southern Cross** for their generous grant which has allowed us to order headstones for 38 Confederate soldiers from Texas. **A very sincere “thank you”** for helping us to honor our revered Confederate ancestors who rest here.

We also wish to thank the Divisions, Camps, and individual members who have stepped up and provided headstones for “our boys.” Well more than 250 headstones have been installed or are in the ordering process during the last year. Please help us to keep the ball rolling and consider sponsoring more headstones for soldiers from your area. You may also sponsor a row of headstones in the cemetery, which will make our installation process more efficient.

Please contact the committee for more information. We also need your financial support to continue providing the proper care and upkeep of the Confederate section of Oakwood Cemetery. Correspondence can be directed to:

Oakwood Restoration Committee

C/O Richard A. Moomaw

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The Order of the Southern Cross, founded in 1863 by Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne, Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk, and Rev. Charles Quintard, was originally created to foster brotherhood and to provide financial assistance to the families of soldiers who had lost their lives in the service of the Confederacy.

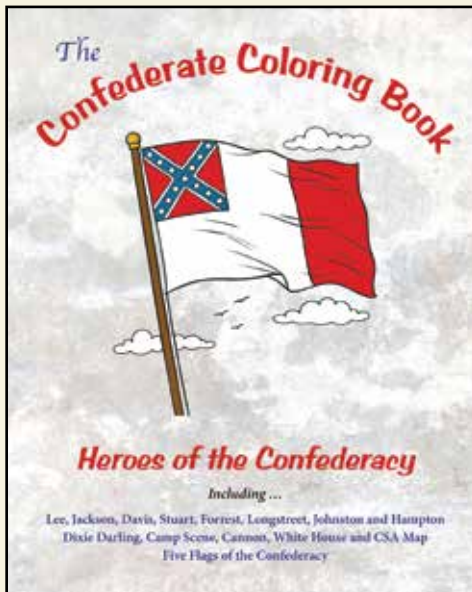
The Order of the Southern Cross was re-established in 1979 as a philanthropic organization, dedicated to preserving our Southern Heritage through its Grants and Scholarship Programs. Since 1979, the Order has allocated more than \$1 million to these endeavors.

If your SCV Camp or 501(c)3 organization is seeking financial assistance to help fund a Confederate preservation project, we encourage you to contact the Chairman of our Grants Committee, Richard Smoot, at respln@flash.net or visit our website for more information.

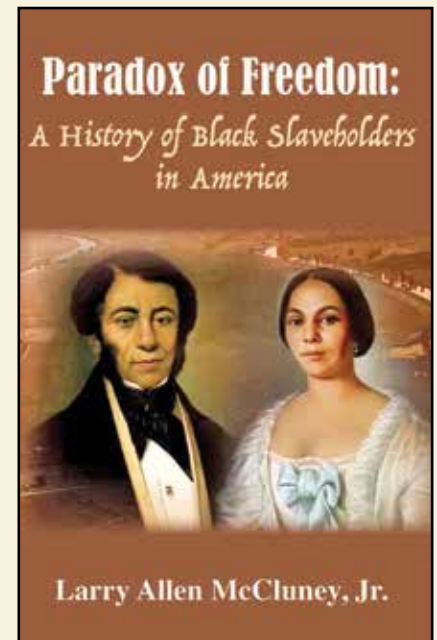
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www.orderofsoutherncross.com

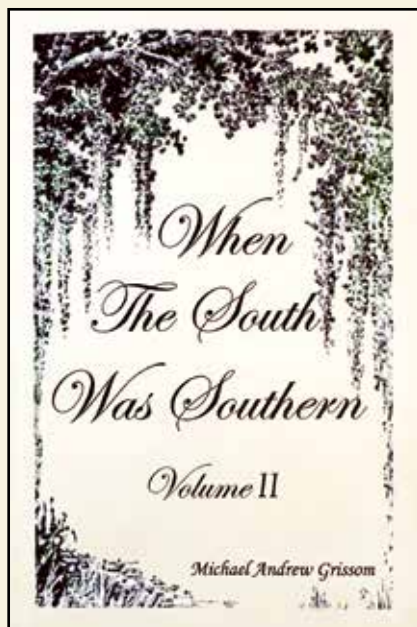
Confederate Gifts from GHQ



NEW ITEM! Confederate Coloring Book. This fun coloring book was recently published by The Scuppernon Press and is perfect for your little rebel or southern belle. Images include Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, N. B. Forrest and many more! 20 pages. Each coloring book will come with a 4-pack of crayons while supplies last. #739 **\$10.00**

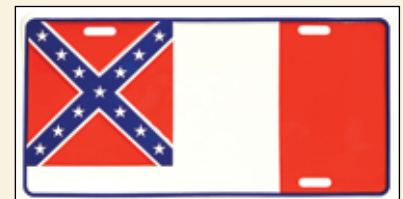


NEW ITEM! *Paradox of Freedom: A History of Black Slaveholders in America* by Larry A. McCluney Jr. 2025 / Paperback. This book explores the little-known history of free black slaveholders in America. Whether free by birth or through emancipation, they owned and controlled enslaved people, defying the stereotypical racial hierarchy of the antebellum South. 312 pages. #1671 **\$25.00**



NEW ITEM! *When The South Was Southern Volume II* by Michael Andrew Grissom. 2025 / Paperback. 328 pages of vintage crisp high-resolution Southern photographs spanning from 1860 - 1960. Many of the photos are from historical societies and university libraries and have never been seen before. Special photos include Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial and Monument Avenue in Richmond. #1137 **\$22.95**

Confederate Vanity Plates. Choose from 1st National (#181), 2nd National (#121), 3rd National (#182), Bonnie Blue (#152), Battle Flag (#151) and I Love Dixie (#155). **\$14.99**





2016 Can-Am Spyder RT Limited. This luxury touring cycle only has 5,253 miles. Beautiful Orbital Blue color with custom painted Confederate graphics. Has an electric adjustable windshield, cruise control, integrated GPS and heated seats. The rear air suspension has multiple settings and can be easily adjusted from the handlebars while driving. The ergonomic seats provide a very comfortable ride. Aftermarket LED safety lighting on the rear for better visibility. Comes with custom cover, raingear and two helmets. **\$12,500** This cycle was generously donated by a member from Florida. All proceeds benefit the SCV & National Confederate Museum. Please call Adam Southern at (931) 380-5862 for more information.

Sons of Confederate Veterans Order Form

PO Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402 • 800-693-4943 • www.scv.org

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Daytime Phone _____
 SCV ID _____ Camp _____
 Quantity Title Price

Personal Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐
 Card Number: _____ Exp: _____
 Signature: _____ Security Code: _____

☐ Yes! Round up my purchase to the nearest dollar and donate the difference to the SCV Heritage Defense Fund.

Shipping Chart: Minimum Charge	\$9.75	
\$20.01 – \$35.00	\$11.50	Add \$2.25 extra for every
\$35.01 – \$50.00	\$12.75	\$25 increment over \$100
\$50.01 – \$65.00	\$14.00	
\$65.01 – \$80.00	\$15.25	
\$80.01 – \$95.00	\$16.50	Tennessee Residents
\$95.01 – \$100.00	\$17.75	add 9.75% Sales Tax



Join the Cavalry!

Join the Sons of Confederate Veterans **Mechanized Cavalry**



★ Heritage Preservation ★ Group Rides
See YOU on the “Front Lines”!

We of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) who ride motorcycles have banded together into a special interest group within the organization. Members of the SCV are most welcome and encouraged to join even if they do not have a motorcycle (dismounted cavalry) at the time of submitting the SCV Mechanized Cavalry Application. We currently have one annual national meet, around the second week of June, which rotates to each host state each year. Members living near each other are encouraged to gather on a more frequent basis to attend camp meetings, dedications, re-enactments, and other SCV and UDC events together. Even rides for fun are good to hone the skills and fellowship of the South's new Mechanized Cavalry!

We have “Back Patches” you may wear, if you wish, at appropriate places and times. Had the motorcycle been in existence during the War Between the States, our ancestors would certainly have utilized that mode of transportation. We are then the present day mechanized cavalry, Confederate States of America, on-going. There is a one-time application fee of \$100 to cover an attractive back patch. This fee also helps us pay for the expenses of the group and membership activities. There are currently no annual dues or fees. We are a Heritage group. We are not a motorcycle club. We follow a set of standing orders necessary to uphold the ethics and values of our organization.



www.csascvmc.org

Colonel Tim Hawkins • thawkins427@gmail.com • 478-951-2628

Ride with the SCV Mech Cav!

132ND NATIONAL REUNION

**JULY 15TH – 17TH 2027
MOBILE, ALABAMA**



HOSTED BY RAPHAEL SEMMES CAMP 11

Reunion Website: [SCV REUNION 2027](https://www.scvreunion2027.com)

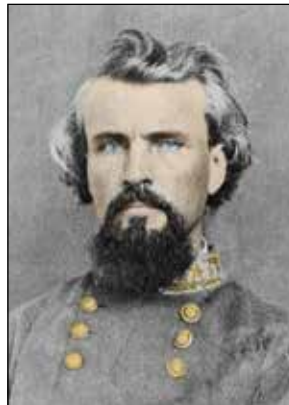
Sons of Confederate Veterans



Southern Heroes are American Heroes
Visit our National Headquarters
Columbia, Tennessee



1837 Antebellum Home
Open for tours
Weddings and showers
Special public events
www.visitelmsprings.com



Final resting place of
General Nathan B. Forrest
and Mrs. Forrest



National Confederate Museum
and SCV Headquarters
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Presenting our true history!

**Join the SCV and help us defend Traditional American Values, including
the truth about Southern heritage and history. Go to: www.scv.org**

Learn the truth about the War for Southern Independence — view our videos



Honoring America's Military Heroes



Monuments Matter

