



The Wheeler Dispatch



*The Official Newsletter of the General Joe Wheeler Camp #1245 in Aiken, South Carolina
A Camp built upon Duty, Honor, God and Country October 2023*



Commander's Column

Greetings Fellow Compatriots,

Hope all are doing well and enjoying this much milder and pleasant weather. It feels like Fall is in the air.

I want to thank Tom Plowden from the General Martin W. Gary Camp #1532 for a very informative and interesting presentation on the life of Pvt. Charles E. Whilden of Co. I, 1st South Carolina Infantry. Pvt. Whilden was the “human flagpole” that led the charge during the battle at “The Bloody Angle” to retake it for the Confederacy.

It was our pleasure to have Aidan Ashworth and his mother Cheryl Smith visit with us. Aidan is in high school and is interested in joining the SCV. It is our hope and desire that Aidan will become a member of our Camp. Every camp needs young members to keep the remembrance of our ancestors going.

The next meeting will be held on October 2nd at 6:30pm at the Aiken County Historical Museum. Looking forward to seeing **YOU** at the next camp meeting. Our speakers will be Chad Hett and Nathan Oxner talking about their Confederate ancestors. I will be providing the meal. So, come out, hear about preserving our heritage, and support your Camp.

Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations. May God bless you and may God bless Dixie. Blake

“Remember, Confederate soldiers never die until they are forgotten.”



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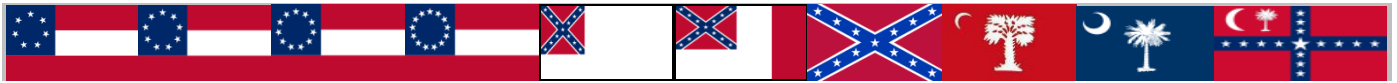
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1st Lieutenant Commander

Register NOW for 2024 Division and National Reunions

Registration for the 2024 SC Division Reunion to be hosted by the Litchfield Camp #132 at the Ocean Drive Beach Resort in North Myrtle Beach. The dates are April 12 & 13, 2024. Information on the reunion is listed on website scscv.com and enter the following: <https://scscv.com/calendar/#!event/2024/4/13/south-carolina-division-state-convention>

Registration for the 2024 SCV National Reunion to be hosted by the Secession Camp #4 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in North Charleston, SC. The dates are July 16 - 21, 2024. To register, please visit the Reunion website, <https://scv4.org/2024/>

The 2025 SCV National Reunion will be in Houston, TX.

2nd Lieutenant Commander

History

TO THE EDITOR:

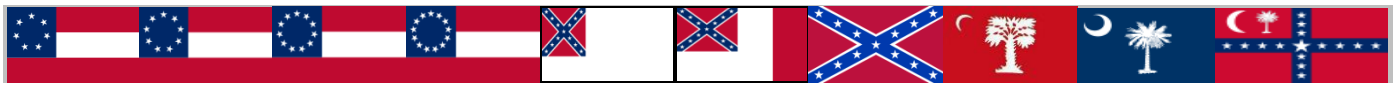
I was wondering if anyone involved in this frenzy to do away with all Confederate memorials has set a date for how far they will go back to get all the reminders of slavery off the earth? The Confederacy was 150 years ago. I hear people fussing about George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. They both owned slaves about 250 years ago so that means nothing they did was worth anything. People have complained about the way Christopher Columbus treated the natives when he arrived, so we have to do away with anything that honors him. Now we have gone back 500 years.

Following this logic we would have to ban all Bibles. The apostle Paul once sent a runaway slave back to his master. If Paul condoned slavery there goes three-fourths of the New Testament. Now we

have gone back 2,000 years. The entire Old Testament is based on the Abrahamic Covenant. Abraham not only owned slaves, he had a child with one of the household slave women. Now we have gone back some 5,000 years.

Now that we have gone back to ancient times, let's not forget about the pyramids of Egypt. That is the ultimate use of slave labor. What about the Roman Coliseum? It is the site where slaves were made to kill each other purely for the entertainment of the elites in the society. Should the Coliseum and Pyramids be destroyed? After getting rid of all these reminders will anyone's life be any better? We cannot put our 21st Century culture on the people of the past. We need to change our attitudes and actions toward each other instead of concentrating on some pieces of stone and street signs.

Deborah Miller
Wake Village, Texas



Wheeler Coin Committee

The Wheeler Coins continue to sell. Since last month, the Camp members have increased the sale of the coins from 122 to 128 coins.
Lee Duvall, Chairman

Adjutant's Report

I enjoyed the talk by Tom Plowden from the Gary Camp on Pvt. Charles E. Whilden of Co. I, 1st South Carolina Infantry. He talked about Pvt. Whilden's bravery during the battle at "The Bloody Angle" at Spotsylvania Courthouse. While his unit was in retreat because of heavy casualties, he grasped the staff of his regiment's colors from a fallen comrade and led the charge against the yankees. Even at one point after he was wounded and continued to lead the charge, the flag staff was shattered. He put the colors around his own body and continued to lead the charge into heavy gunfire becoming a "human flagpole". Because of his bravery, the Confederates were able to regain the "The Bloody Angle".

From the Chaplain's Desk



A Confederate soldier, recalls his contact with Lee in the winter of 1864:

It was in the afternoon of a winter's day and we were lounging in front of our tents, or rather huts, when President Davis and General R. E. Lee came riding along the line. As soon as Lee was recognized the inevitable shout went up – a "Rebel yell." President Davis's hat was off, and he bowed right and left at the boys. Lee sat like a stone man on his horse, never turning his head to right or left. Apparently, he heard not a sound. I was standing by our colonel, and, turning to me, the latter said: "Notice Lee's humility; he knows the cheering is for him, but he passes it all over to President Davis."

What a great example Lee was always setting before his men. We can all learn from this little story even today. Peter tells us in 1 Peter 5: 6-7, Humble yourselves, then, under God's mighty hand, so that He will lift you up in His own good time. Leave all your worries with Him.

Because He cares for you.

Blessed be His Name, Ken



Chaplain's Prayer List: Please remember our fellow compatriots and their family members who need prayers:

Michael Allen, Jacob Cook, Lee Duvall and his wife Lynn & daughter Melanie, Clair Henkes, Tom Huckabee, Ken Temples, Eddie Rodgers, Blake & Janice Moore & grandson Collin Umbarger & Joe and Brenda Willis



Press the Fight Boys!

In God's time, there is a season for everything. We know from our faith that if the righteous stand and make their voices heard, there is nothing that cannot be accomplished.

Lt. General Thomas Jonathan Jackson, ordered the *Stonewall Brigade* to "close up, men close up; push on, push on." General Jackson knew that *everyone needs encouragement, and everyone needs to pull their weight.* Men of The Sons of Confederate Veterans, we now ask you to walk in the footsteps of your ancestors, and "push on!"

Last night, a victory was had in the halls of Congress, and that is **two amendments to the Fiscal Year 24 National Defense Authorization Act (HR4365)** made it through committee. We now stand on the battle line to make another gallant push. While each of us would like to enjoy this victory, and sit on our laurels, we cannot!

Two Amendments to [HR 4365, No. 174](#) which protects the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, and Amendment [No. 238](#) which de-funds all the Naming Commission's recommendations, must both be passed. *This is a time when your ancestors need you the most!* We must act, we must fight, and more importantly, we must call the [Congressional Switchboard at 202-224-3121](#), let them hear your support for these amendments. Know that "once you get them running, you can stay on top of them, and that way a small force can defeat a large one every time." Stonewall and all of our Confederate ancestors would expect each of us to do the same now, do not let them down, press the victory into a larger and lasting victory.

Deo Vindice,

R. S. Jason Boshers, Commander-in-chief

Walter D. "Donnie" Kennedy, Lt. Commander-in-Chief

James R. "Ron" Kennedy, Chief-of-Heritage Operations



Press Release:

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Columbia, Tennessee

Are Southerners Still Welcome in Our Military?

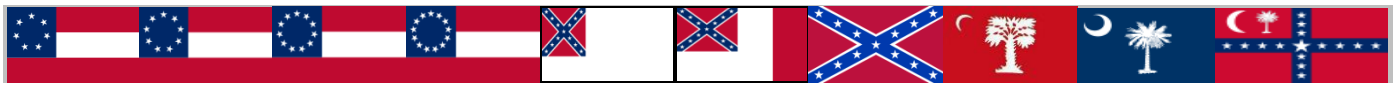
The Sons of Confederate Veterans oppose the recently recommended actions by the Naming Commission in conjunction with the Department of Defense. Their actions to strip the names of Confederate officers and heroes from our military assets will raise serious doubts as to whether young Southerners are welcome in today's military. A vocal and ambivalent minority has embarked on a vicious attack against American history. They have fought long and hard, have lobbied those in power, and have championed the cause to change the names of military bases, naval vessels, and historic flags. In other words, all things connected with Southern valor displayed on the field of battle during the War Between the States are to be purged. This action is a rejection of the same vigor that inspired many Southerners to join the military and heroically defended the United States, many in her time of need, and in communion with the valor displayed by their Confederate ancestors.

This was true when the blitzkrieg raged, and the relentless attacks in the Pacific continued as World War II found the entirety of humanity engulfed in the flames of war. It is meaningful that the highest-ranking general officer to be killed in action was General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., the son of Confederate General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Sr. Moreover, the highest-ranking naval officer in the Pacific Theater during that great conflagration was Admiral Chester Nimitz, the grandson of Confederate Captain Charles Henry Nimitz, while the Commander-in-Chief at the end of WWII, President Harry S. Truman, was the grandson of a Confederate Veteran, who was also the President responsible for desegregating the U.S. Armed Forces in 1948. In every war after the War Between the States, Southerners volunteered in large numbers to patriotically support our nation and to display her might abroad.

Despite the cadre of Confederate descendants, the Naming Commission cannot help but continually berate and even attack Confederate Veterans. As a result, fathers and grandfathers of the South now question if their children are welcome in an environment that displays such animosity toward our shared heritage. Even more capricious is the desire to destroy the Reconciliation Memorial sculpted by Sgt. Jacob Moses Ezekiel (Battalion of Cadets VMI) in Arlington National Cemetery which was meant to reunite a fractured nation after its victory in the Spanish-American War. Evidently, it appears that the official policy is to discriminate against Southern heritage and the esprit décor that transcends from Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Nathan Bedford Forrest to their descendants today. The Sons of Confederate Veterans oppose rewriting America's history. We understand that it is not only Southern history being attacked, but all traditional American values including our Founding Fathers from Washington to Jefferson.

R. S. Jason Boshers
Tennessee
Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Walter D. Kennedy
Louisiana
Lt. Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans



July 8, 1862, Observations of Northern Hypocrisy on Tariffs and Slavery...

“Yankees do not undertake anything that does not pay. They think we belong to them. We have been good milk cows - milked by the tariff, or skimmed. We let them have all of our hard earnings. We bear the ban [curse] of slavery; they get the money. Cotton pays everybody who handles it, sells it, manufactures it ,...—rarely pays the man who grows it. Second hand the Yankees received the wages of slavery. They grew rich. We grew poor. The receiver is as bad as the thief. That applies to us, too—for we received the savages they stole from Africa and brought to us in their slave-ships. As with the Egyptians, so it shall be with us: if they let us go, it must be across a Red Sea—but one made red by blood.”

July 8, 1862

Mary Boykin Chesnut

Camden, South Carolina

“Ban” - ARCHAIC word for [curse].

“The land might be smitten by the ban which once fell upon the Canaanites”

“Savage” - ARCHAIC word for a person belonging to a primitive society

Morrill Tariffs - In May 1860, Congress passed the Morrill Tariff Act proposed by Republican Congressmen Justin Morrill (Former Whig). It raised the average agricultural tariff from 15% to 37%, with increases to 48% within 3 years at southern ports. All southern states opposed the tariffs.

Happy Birthday!

Camp Compatriots for October

Bob Ritter – October 3 Lee Duvall – October 27

2023 – 2024 Camp Officers

Blake Moore– Commander

Lee Duvall – 1st Lt. Commander

Mark LeGrand – 2nd Lt. Commander

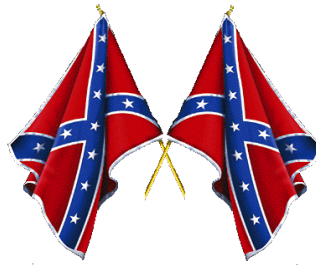
Danny Brown – Adjutant

Bob Ritter - Treasurer

Ken Temples – Chaplain

Nathan Oxner – Color Sergeant

Nicholas Ward – Judge Advocate



The General Joe Wheeler Camp is named after Major General Joseph Wheeler of Augusta, Ga. It was Wheeler's troops who turned back Sherman's Cavalry led by Gen. Kilpatrick in February of 1865. Wheeler is known as the Savior of Aiken.

Remaining 2023 Camp Activities

- October 2, November 6 and December 4 camp meetings will be held at the Aiken County Historical Museum at 6:30pm.
- Dec. 16 – The Wheeler Camp will host the Wreaths Across America Service at 3:00pm in Bethany Cemetery honoring all Veterans, especially Confederate Veterans.

The Camp has adopted and cares for 54 Confederate graves located in Bethany Cemetery, Aiken's largest cemetery where the only Unknown Confederate grave is located in the city.

MEETING TIME: Normally, the camp meeting is the first Monday of the month at 6:30pm with no camp meeting in February or July. The camp meeting in September is on the second Monday due to Labor Day. The Prayer Breakfast is our regular meeting in January.

MEETING PLACE: Aiken County Historical Museum, 433 Newberry St. SW, Aiken, SC 29801

For additional information contact: scscv1245@gmail.com