



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 November 2023*



Commander's Column

Greetings Fellow Compatriots,

As we enter the Thanksgiving season, we need to remember all of our many blessings that God has given each one of us.

Chad Hett and Nathan Oxner gave very good talks about their Confederate ancestors. It was quite interesting to hear about some of their family history.

The next meeting will be held on November 6th at 6:30pm at the Aiken County Historical Museum. Looking forward to seeing **YOU** there. I will be giving a presentation on the "Battle of the Wilderness". Ken Temples will be serving homemade chili for the meal. So, come out, hear about Southern history, and support your Camp. **Since a quilt exhibit is in the ballroom and parlor, the next camp meeting will be held in the conference room.**

Please circle December 16th on your calendar for our Wreaths Across America Service at 3:00pm in Bethany Cemetery. Let's all come out in support of all of our veterans.

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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From the Chaplain's Desk



(The Column below was entered into the Wheeler Dispatch many years ago by then Wheeler Camp Chaplain Blake Moore. I ran across it and thought it would be nice to re-run it for our new members. Originally borrowed from Web Author, Gordon Leidner)

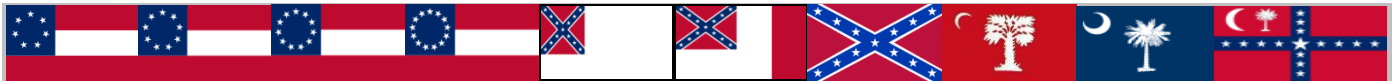
A Floridian by the name of Major P. B. Bird, when mortally wounded in the trenches of Richmond near the end of the war, considered his relationship with the Lord and said "But for leaving my wife and children, I should not feel sad at the prospect of dying. There is no cloud between God and me now." Soldiers often talked of their mothers. During one prayer meeting, a young soldier cried aloud "Oh that my mother were here!" When asked why he wanted to see his mother, he replied "Because she has so long been praying for me, and now I have found the saviour." Another wounded Christian soldier asked a friend to "Tell my mother that I read my Testament and put all my trust in the Lord...I am not afraid to die." J.W. Jones, traveling through the South after the war, spied a crippled veteran working in a field, guiding a plow with his one good arm. Recognizing him as a man he had known in the war, he stopped to talk to him and provide some encouragement. This particular young man had left college and a promising career when the war broke out, had been wounded in battle, and was baptized by Jones during the war. Jones says "to see him thus, then, his hopes blighted, his fortune wrecked, and his body maimed for life, deeply touched my heart..... I shall never forget how the noble fellow, straightening himself up, replied, with a proud smile: 'Oh Brother Jones, that is all right. I thank God that I have one arm left and an opportunity to use it for the support of those I love.'"

Everyone's life is like a 'bed of roses,' flowers are fragrant and the petals are soft, but the stems are covered with thorns. When God is in your life, the thorns are still there, but you do not have to bare the pain alone. Do you have a God in your life to help you with the thorns and to thank Him for the flowers and the petals? 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 & daughters Madison & Melanie, Clair Henkes, Tom Huckabee, Ken Temples, Eddie Rodgers, Blake & Janice Moore & grandson Collin Umbarger & Joe and Brenda Willis, Mark LeGrand's parents, and Danny Brown's granddaughter Kealey



Charlottesville's Lee Equestrian Memorial Melted Down for Trinkets This country continues to fall to new lows!!



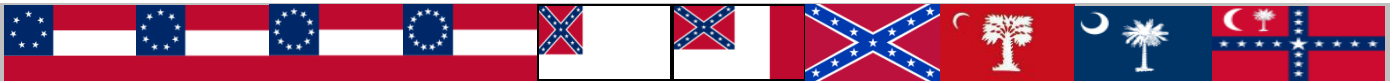
The hateful, ignorant far-left extremists who destroyed the once magnificent, renowned artwork and historical Robert E Lee equestrian memorial in Charlottesville shared this photo of it being melted down out of spite and envy. Their intention was to rub salt in the already open wounds of the millions of Americans who respect and honor our Southern Heritage. I don't know about you, but I think this image of Lee in the furnace does just the opposite.

To me, it is a symbol of what they can NEVER destroy...his eternal and POWERFUL memory. They may crush granite to stone, melt down bronze, and gleefully desecrate some of our memorials, but they can NEVER tarnish the honor and memory of our Confederate heroes, whose names will be spoken with honor and reverence long after the hate-driven monument destroyers are long dead and gone.

We can and WILL raise new monuments, memorials and flags. We can and WILL continue to teach the next generation the truth about their immortal deeds.

Turn your anger into action, but don't let it consume you. Remember whose child you are, and from whom you are descended. Let your pride in them sustain your joy!

For Christ and the Confederacy,
Susan Lee
Virginia Flaggars



U. S. Soldiers Will Use Rebel Yell When Ordered to Go 'Over the Top'

The famous rebel yell, the battle cry of the Confederacy, which thrilled civil war soldiers, will ring over the bloody battlefields of France when the 82d division, composed of troops trained in Atlanta, faces the German armies. The battle cry, which has gone down in history as the most blood-stirring ever heard on any battlefield, and which was so dear to the hearts of the southern men who went to the war in 1861, will be taught General Eben Swift's men at Camp Gordon by a company of confederate veterans.

Another bond between the north and the south will have been wrought when the "Yanks" of the 82d instill terror in the hearts of the enemy by the almost forgotten battle cry of the confederacy. General Eben Swift, commander of the 82d division, has requested Federal Judge William T. Newman, an old soldier, to make arrangements for a company of veterans to go out to Camp Gordon and demonstrate the yell.

"I want my men taught the rebel yell for their use in France," General Swift said last night. "I met Judge Newman on the occasion of a recent visit by him to see the camp, and at that time I suggested to him that the rebel yell would not sound badly when we meet the Germans. Our boys will use it when they go 'over the top.'"

Judge Newman said that he would make every effort to comply with the general's request. The sad death of General West delayed his plans, however, and it may be some days before the necessary steps can be taken to get the veterans to assemble at the camp.

Southerners will be thrilled to learn that the battle cry of their fathers will again ring out in defense of freedom and democratic principles. It is expected that the precedent set by General Swift will be followed in other camps, and before long the entire United States army may be using the yell when they charge.

Happy Birthday!

No Camp Compatriots Birthdays in November

2023 – 2024 Camp Officers

Blake Moore – Commander

Lee Duvall – 1st Lt. Commander

Mark LeGrand – 2nd Lt. Commander

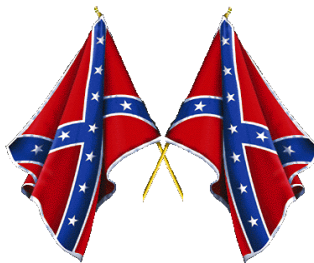
Danny Brown – Adjutant

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

- 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