"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." (Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906)

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Commander’s Comments

This has been mostly a good year for the SCV, and more importantly, for our Confederate heritage. Some of the furor that we were experiencing this time last year has cooled, although we still have some of the same problems with assaults on our heritage. But, as you will read below in the Heritage News section, the SCV has won some recent battles.

We are also encouraged by the positive activities, events and projects undertaken throughout the year by many of the Oklahoma Division camps and individual compatriots. The projects and events that recognize and honor our Confederate soldier ancestors show everyone that we remain intensely committed to remembering and protecting the good names of our ancestors. These events also have the salutary effect of keeping camp members, especially new ones, involved with their camps and reinforcing some of reasons we exist and why they have a home in the SCV. Our hats are off to the camp commanders who have promoted these projects and events. We encourage those camps who are not involved with camp projects and events to begin planning now what your camp will do in 2017 to help further our SCV Mission.

Through the hard work of many compatriots, we have grown our membership, although there are several members who, as of November 15, had not renewed their memberships. We ask camp commanders not to give up on these men, rather make one more effort to retain any whom you have not contacted.

In closing, we are in the Christmas season, and on behalf of myself and Lt. Commander Cash, we wish each one of you, our fellow Division compatriots, and your families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year

Ken Cook, Oklahoma Division Commander

Confederate
By Charley Wilson

"If you are true Southerners, reach back to your Southern roots for enough fortitude to stand up. Our heritage cannot be saved if they see us as weaklings. During Lincoln's War the South had 104,000 deserters. Think before you join them." – Elijah Coleman Lee-Jackson Day 2012, Lexington, Virginia

What's our organization? The Sons of Confederate Veterans or the Civil War Roundtable? If we’re in the SCV, then we are Confederate, and if we’re in the Civil War Roundtable we can be mixed – mixed up or some of both. Our Confederate ancestors established the SCV in 1896. In the SCV, we ought to know better than to do something like a Yankee? I know we ought to keep the SCV as right as we can: Confederate.
SCV National Reunion

N. B. Forest, Camp 215, of Memphis will host the 2017 Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, July 18-23, at the Memphis Cook Convention Center in downtown Memphis. The primary hotel is the Sheraton (downtown). The overflow hotel is the Crowne Plaza.

The Reunion is within reasonable easy driving distance, which will hopefully enable many Oklahoma Division compatriots to attend. For more information, go to the official Reunion website at http://scvmemphis2017.org.

Visit the Oklahoma Division Website

If you haven’t visited the Oklahoma Division website in a while, you should do so again. It is filled with useful information and great photos of many of the Division’s camps’ activities. The Division Newsletter is also archived on the website. For those with out-of-state contacts, the website is a great way to showcase the Division. Pass it along. The webmaster has done a superlative job with the website, and it’s well worth frequent visits: www.oklahomascv.org. And, don’t forget the Division Facebook page – full of valuable information. Visit it regularly, also.

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 4</td>
<td>DEC Winter Meeting – Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 17-19</td>
<td>Battle of Round Mountain Reenactment – Yale</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Texas Independence Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Confederate Flag Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>Oklahoma Division Convention – Shawnee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18-23</td>
<td>SCV National Reunion – Memphis, TN</td>
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“Lest We Forget”

Confederate Christmas by Mort Künstler

Response to Third Quarter Newsletter

A magnificent Division newsletter.

The “Confederate Veteran” could take a clue from you folks. Your pictures show neat, well-dressed and well-groomed members at various functions, meetings, work details, award ceremonies and memorial services. Far too many of the photos used by our national magazine have pictures that make us all appear to be a bunch of ‘red necks’. Very professional approach Commander.

Jeff Toalson, Commander
James City Cavalry, Camp No. 2095, Williamsburg, VA

I am sure you knew you would hear from me after this newsletter. What a surprise to see the cartoon I sent you in your newsletter with my name attached. Another surprise was seeing the article by Lunelle Mizell McCalister who is a very distant cousin of mine on the Mizell family side. She is here in the Tampa area also.

Speaking of relatives, Kevin Easterling is also a distant cousin. His father and I shared a motel room in Charleston, SC in 2000 at their SCV reunion. I never met Kevin, and he would certainly not know who I am. It’s a small world.

Having a national reunion in OKC would be wonderful. I just hope I’m still vertical and ventilating when it happens

Scott Peeler
General Jubal A. Early, Camp No. 556, Tampa, FL

As I read about the modern day Monuments Men, I recalled this story of General McCain and thought you’d be interested. This is the same Major General McCain, which the National HQ Camp, No. 584, is named after and the famous Adjutant in Chief who saved the SCV during the 1950s.

http://www.mdah.ms.gov/senseofplace/2014/02/07/mississippi-monuments-man-william-d-mccain/

Michael L. Landree, Executive Director
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Perfect Score

The following camps achieved 100 per cent membership retention for the 2016-17 year: Coalgate, Cooperton, Elk City, Moore, Pryor and Shawnee.

Well done, gentlemen. You’ve met the goal. Congratulations! We hope that all camps may profit from your example.
The First Terrorist Attack in the USA
Contributed by Bently Couch, Division Historian

On October 16, 1859, John Brown led eighteen men in a terrorist attack on the Harpers Ferry Armory in Virginia. He had received 200 Sharps rifles and pikes from northern societies who sponsored his raid. The armory contained 100,000 muskets and rifles, which Brown planned to seize and use to arm local slaves. They would then head south, killing all white Southerners.

Initially, they met no resistance entering the town. They cut the telegraph wires and easily captured the armory, which was being defended by a single watchman. They next rounded up hostages from nearby farms, including the grandnephew of George Washington. They also spread the news to the local slaves to rise up, and kill all the white people.

Ironically, the first person the John Brown gang murdered was a free black man, Hayward Shepherd, who worked for the B&O Railroad. Shepherd was attempting to sound the warning.

By the morning of October 18, the engine house was surrounded by a company of U.S. Marines under the command of First Lieutenant Israel Greene, USMC, with Colonel Robert E. Lee of the United States Army in overall command. First Lieutenant J.E.B. Stuart approached the engine house and told the raiders that their lives would be spared if they surrendered. Brown refused, saying, "No, I prefer to die here." Stuart then gave a signal. The Marines used sledge hammers and a makeshift battering-ram to break down the engine room door. In three minutes Brown and the survivors were captives.

Editor: The State of Virginia tried and convicted Brown for treason and hanged him on December 2, 1859.

How Many Confederates are There?

There are an estimated eighty million living descendants of Confederate soldiers in the United States today. We assume at least half are females, and a great many are less than twelve years old. Still, why are there only 30,000 or so members of the SCV? There are still a great many potential members out there that we haven’t found. (Division Commander)

Oklahoma Civil War Monuments

The following link has information about several Civil War monuments and sites in Oklahoma. It’s as of 2004, so it obviously doesn’t show more recent monuments such as those at Tulsa, Ardmore and Fort Washita, but it still has lots of useful information.

http://uwf.edu/wlees/Monuments.pdf

The Horse Marines by John Paul Strain

Generals N.B. Forrest, J. R. Chalmers and the captured USS Undine, Paris Landing, Tennessee, October 31, 1864
Confederate Arizona was declared a territory of the Confederate States of America on August 1, 1861. The Territory consisted of about the southern half of the modern states of Arizona and New Mexico, with its capital located at Mesilla in modern New Mexico. Confederate hold on the territory was broken by the Confederate defeat at the Battle of Glorieta Pass, the beginning of the end of the Confederate New Mexico campaign. In July 1862, the government of the Confederate Territory of Arizona relocated to El Paso, Texas, where it remained for the duration of the war. Arizona Territory continued to be represented in the Confederate Congress, and Confederate troops continued to fight under the Arizona banner until the end of the war.

After the establishment of the Confederate Arizona Territory, Governor John Robert Baylor began organizing a regiment of rangers, modeled on the Texas Rangers. Governor Baylor wanted the regiment to be made up of several companies of cavalry. On January 25, 1862, the first company, Company A, Baylor's Regiment of Arizona Rangers, commanded by Captain Sherod Hunter, was mustered into Confederate service at Dona Ana (New Mexico). Hunter's Company of about seventy-five men, was enlisted for three years or the duration of the war.

On February 10, 1862, Company A was ordered to occupy Tucson, the largest town in the western part of Confederate Arizona. On the march to Tucson, Captain Hunter's men captured, without firing a shot, a scouting party of nine men of Company A, 1st Regiment California Volunteer Cavalry at White's Mills near the Pima Villages, about twenty miles south of modern Phoenix. Company A's most successful action in Arizona was at the Battle of Picacho Pass where it defeated a company of California cavalry west of Tucson.

Without reinforcements, Company A could not hold Tucson, so began a withdrawal to Mesilla. Its engagement with the California Cavalry or the California Column, as it was also called, slowed the Californians long enough to allow the successful withdrawal of Colonel Henry Sibley's brigade down the Rio Grande Valley after its defeat at Glorieta Pass.

After Company A arrived at Mesilla on May 27, 1862, it was organized with two Arizona militia companies, the Arizona Guards of Piños Altos and the Arizona Rangers of Mesilla as Herbert's Battalion of Arizona Cavalry, commanded by Lt. Colonel Philemon T. Herbert. The battalion served as rearguard for the Army of New Mexico, as Sibley's brigade was grandiloquently called, during its withdrawal from El Paso to San Antonio, in July 1862.

At San Antonio, the Battalion of Arizona Cavalry was formally assigned to Sibley's Brigade. On December 2, 1862, Sibley was ordered to New Iberia, Louisiana to take over command of his brigade. On December 25, he found that most of the brigade had been ordered to Galveston, but Herbert's Battalion was in Louisiana scouting in the vicinity of Plaquemine and the Mississippi River. In April 1863, Sibley's Brigade, including Herbert's Arizona Battalion, was among the forces of Lt. General Richard Taylor opposing the Union army under General Nathaniel Banks at Fort Bisland on the Bayou Teche. The Battle of Fort Bisland was a Confederate defeat, and General Taylor ordered a retreat into western Louisiana.

By the end of May 1863, the Arizona Battalion had been reduced by losses and was broken up. Company A still had enough men to continue as a viable company and was kept in being but renamed the Arizona Scout Company, attached to Col. Thomas Green's brigade of Texas cavalry. The other two companies of the Battalion were disbanded, and the men were consolidated with those of the Arizona Scout Company. For the next year or so, the Arizona Scout Company was shuffled among several Texas brigades. In 1864, the Arizona Scout Company was attached to Brig. General Richard Gano's 5th Texas Cavalry Brigade. The Brigade was ordered to Indian Territory to support Col. Stand Watie's Indian Brigade. The most important battle of the combined brigades was at Cabin Creek in Indian Territory on September 19, where they captured a large Union commissary train. Arizona troops were surrendered as part of Lt. General Edmond Kirby Smith's surrender of the Army of Trans-Mississippi.

On September 2, 1865, returning veterans of the Arizona Scout Company, along with other citizens, formed the 1st Arizona Volunteer Infantry to fight Apache. The 1st Arizona Volunteer Infantry was drafted into federal service on August 5, 1917, and re-designated the 158th Infantry Regiment and sent to France, but saw no combat. The regiment furnished replacements for frontline regiments and was selected as the honor guard for President Woodrow Wilson during his stay in France for the peace conference. The regimental band was also chosen as the President's honor band.

The 158th was again called into Federal service on September 16, 1940. It was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division and sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for training. In late 1941, the 158th was detached from the 45th Division and sent to Panama to guard the Canal and to undergo jungle warfare training. It was in Panama that the 158th acquired its nickname, "Bushmasters," for a deadly pit viper that inhabited the jungles there. In January 1943, the unit was deployed to Brisbane, Australia, where it became part of the U.S. Sixth Army. The 158th saw extensive combat in the New Guinea Campaign and on Luzon during the liberation of the Philippines. The Philippine government awarded the regiment a Presidential Unit Citation, with the streamer embroidered "17 OCTOBER 1944 TO 4 JULY 1945".

Most recently, the Bushmasters were deployed for a combat tour to Afghanistan in 2007. The regiment's motto is Cuidado, "Take Care".
Diaspora of Roswell, Georgia's Mill Workers  
Bently Couch, Division Historian

In 1864, at least 400 and possibly as many as 700 mill workers, nearly all women, black and white and their children, were arrested as traitors and shipped north by force, and very few of them ever made their way back home.

It was July, during the Atlanta Campaign. General Sherman burning his way to Atlanta. Union General Kenner Garrard began his twelve-day occupation of Roswell, Georgia which was completely undefended. Everyone except the mill-workers had fled the city. The mills, two cotton mills and a woolen mill, remained in operation, making cloth for uniforms and other military needs, like rope and canvas.

On July 5, 1864, Federal General Kenner Garrard's cavalry reached Roswell and finding the city undefended, he occupied it. General Garrard reported to General William T. Sherman on July 6, 1864 that..." there were fine factories here. I had the building burnt, all were burnt. The cotton factory was working up to the time of its destruction, some 400 women being employed."

Sherman messaged back that the destruction of the mills met his "entire approval." He then added, "I repeat my orders that you arrest all people, male and female, connected with those factories, no matter what the clamor, and let them foot it, under guard, to Marietta, whence I will send them by [railroad] cars, to the North. The poor women will make a howl ...Let them [the women] take along their children and clothing, providing they have a means of hauling or you can spare them."

Then, a day later, he added, "Whenever the people are in the way, ship them to a new country north and west." The women and a few men who were too old to fight and all the children were rounded up and marched, under guard, the ten miles to Marietta, Georgia. Along the way, Garrard herded up more women and elderly citizens along the way.

A northern newspaper correspondent reported on the deportation... "only think of it! Four hundred weeping and terrified Ellens, Susans, and Maggies transported in springless and seatless army wagons, away from their loved ones and brothers of the sunny South, and all for the offense of weaving tentcloth."

On July 10, 1864, General Thomas reported the arrival of four to five hundred mill hands, mostly women, in Marietta. Other documents indicate that an undetermined number of children accompanied their mothers.

From Marietta, they were loaded into boxcars, given several days' rations, and taken to Louisville, Kentucky. Many were unloaded in Louisville while others were taken across the Ohio River into Indiana.

In the beginning, the women in Kentucky were fed and housed by a Louisville refugee hospital, but then they were left to find living quarters and employment on their own. The ones in Indiana struggled from the beginning, taking whatever work they could find. They knew nothing but mill work. There was very little possibility that they would get home, and most were illiterate and could not write to anyone to let them know where they were. Many of the women died from disease, starvation, or exposure.

Eventually, not knowing if their husbands were alive or dead, many of the women who survived remarried in the North. In the South, men came home from the war to find their wives and families missing, and presumed them dead, or remarried. Some few of the women did make it back.

Adeline Bagley Buice was a seamstress working at the Roswell Mills while her husband was off to war. Deported north with the other women, she went all the way to Chicago. Left to fend for herself as best she could, it would be five years before Adeline and her daughter would return to Roswell on foot. Her husband thinking her dead, had remarried.

In 1998 that the Roswell Mills Camp No. 1547, Sons of the Confederate Veterans, undertook a project to try to identify the victims and locate their descendants. In July of 2000, the city of Roswell erected a monument to these exiles. The 10-foot tall granite Corinthian column stands in a small park in the heart of the mill village. The shattered column symbolizes lives torn asunder, an eternal reminder of the suffering of those innocent victims caught up in the North’s War on women and children.
Camp News and Activities

On Saturday, October 1, Commander Charley Wilson, Camp Pvt. Drury Warren of Ponca City, had a recruiting table at a gun show at Coffeyville, Kansas. The following is his report.

“On Saturday, October 1st, I attended the Gun Show at Coffeyville and added two new members - one from South Coffeyville and one from Nowata. Could possibly get another one or two.

Also, a third gentleman wanted to join SCV and he couldn’t determine his G-GF. A few days later, I found his G-Gf who served in the Confederacy in North Carolina cavalry. This man is retired from the gov’t and he has an Army background. He knows much about our true history. He advised me that he doesn't recite the Pledge of Allegiance. There are more men learning truths without ever being in the SCV. He'll be joining SCV thru another Oklahoma Camp.

We ought to be at these Gun Shows and other events to tell folks about the SCV because most don’t have a clue that Sons of Confederate Veterans was established by our Confederate ancestors in 1896, or much else. Of course, wherever we are, we should be saying something for the Cause. Our Confederate ancestors were right. Let’s keep SCV as right as we can.”

On September 26, Commander Bently Couch of Camp Captain James J. McAlester of McAlester announced the appointment of Compatriot Steve Ward as Adjutant to fill out the term of Adjutant Allen Harrison who transferred his membership to the newly reconstituted Camp Tandy Walker of Shawnee. “I would like to publicly thank him for the enormous amount of help he provided me in my role as camp commander”, said Commander Couch. Congratulations to Adjutant Ward and a big “thank you” for his willingness to serve his camp and the SCV.

Commander Jim Herndon of Camp Col. William Penn Adair of Bartlesville announced the Camp has a new adjutant. He is Compatriot Richard Lyke. His contact information is rocketeer_99@yahoo.com and 573-450-1018. Congratulations to Adjutant Lyke and a big “thank you” for his willingness to serve his camp and the SCV.

At its monthly Camp meeting on October 11, Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh presented Camp Past-Camp Commander (and Past-Commander of Camp Col. John Jumper) Jim McFarland with the Camp’s Jack E. Westbrook Award for his more than twenty-five years of faithful service to the Oklahoma SCV. Commander Ron Burton of Camp Col. John Jumper of Claremore presented Jim with a Past-Commander’s Medal at the meeting. Tim Wantland of Camp Col. John Jumper, presented a very interesting and informative program.
Three of the longest serving members of the Oklahoma Division of the SCV. Left to right are Greg Parker (First), Camp BG Albert Pike of El Reno, and Rick Brand (Fourth) and Ken Gray (Second) both of Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore. A hearty and well-deserved “thank you” for, cumulatively, more than one hundred years of service. Compatriot Parker presented a program on Confederate flags at Camp McCurtain’s monthly meeting on October 17. (Contributed by Larry Logan)

On Saturday, October 29, about thirty Southern patriots gathered at Muskogee’s Greenhill cemetery to dedicate six headstones recently placed on heretofore unmarked graves of Confederate soldiers. The project was a joint venture of Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh of Tulsa and General Nathan B. Forrest Chapter of the UDC of Muskogee. Camp McIntosh Commander, Bruce Bishop, and General Forrest Chapter President, Betty Trinka, presented the program. The attendees included Commander Ron Burton of Camp Col. John Jumper of Claremore and Commander Mason Page of Camp Dew Moore Wisdom of Muskogee.

PVT Henry Howell, Price’s Arkansas Home Guard
PVT William R. Mott, 8th Missouri Infantry
CPT William H. Noel, Co. C, 2nd Louisiana Infantry
2LT Gaither G. Tyson, 12th Kentucky Cavalry
SGT Fielding Luther Wayman, Bledsoe’s Company, Missouri Light Artillery
PVT Walter Scott Agnew, Co. B, 2nd Cherokee Mounted Volunteers

Editor: To date, there are thirty identified Confederate graves in Green Hill Cemetery with the likelihood of several more, both identified and unidentified.

Camp 513 (of Moore) has determined that our camp namesake, Jackson F. McCurtain, was a full colonel who commanded his own regiment. He went in as a Captain and earned promotions during the war culminating with his promotion to full colonel. Headquarters has been advised and the name change completed. The Division webmaster has been notified and our Facebook moderator advised. The camp is now officially Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain. (Contributed by Larry Logan)

Camp Dew Moore Wisdom of Muskogee hosted a Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday evening, November 19, at The Koffee Kan Restaurant in Wagoner. National SCV Lt. Commander Paul Gramling was the special guest and speaker.

SCV Lt. Commander Gramling, Ms. Arlene Barnum, OK Division Commander, Ken Cook, Camp Wisdom Adjutant, Kevin White, and Camp Wisdom Commander, Mason Page
On Saturday, November 19, Commander Charley Wilson of Camp Pvt. Drury Warren had a table at a gun show in Ponca City. This is his report: “We had good results from the last Ponca City Gun Show on November 19th. Lots of possible members. So far, one new member and three have Applications with approved Confederate ancestors. And hopefully we'll have even more Applications and new members from this show in the next few weeks.

You can't 'wear-out' a Gun Show - keep being at these Gun Shows - there's always gains being made to recruit or educate, you may not see immediate results, but you will.

Also, a man made room for me to park at the Post Office because he said that I was flying the Confederate flag on my vehicle. Got him! No matter where you are, you ought to be talking Confederate and recruiting.

Since November, I've been offering the 18 month’s membership beginning February 1, 2017. It's a better value and besides sometimes it takes a little time before I get their application and money. For $20 more, it's a lot better deal, and I can accumulate them to mail to IHQ on February 1st.

Division Commander: Compatriot Wilson is the Division’s premiere recruiter, so there might be something of value in his report for every camp.

Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore held its December meeting and annual Christmas luncheon on Saturday, December 3. They had a high turnout with twenty-two of the Camp's fifty-two members in attendance. During the meeting, they inducted one new member and one transfer.

Some of the members who attended the meeting, with the Camp’s leadership in the center of the front row – Commander Jerry Patrick, Lt. Commander Rocky Waddell and Adjutant Larry Logan.
Camp compatriot, Jack Cottrell, presenting his program on the Confederate soldier, his faith and how he viewed Christmas.

Commander Bently Couch of Camp Captain James J. McAlester of McAlester submitted the following report and photographs of the Camp’s Fourth Quarter activities: The Camp meets on the third Saturday of the month. Membership has remained fairly constant in this quarter, at twenty members. The Camp had four new recruits and four men transferred to the newly revived Camp Colonel Tandy Walker of Shawnee.

Each meeting has a speaker who presents a topic on Southern history. This quarter, Ronnie Keesee told the story of his Confederate ancestors and entertained the camp on his guitar with period songs. At another meeting, Commander Couch had a show-and-tell with War Between the States projectiles. At the October meeting, the Camp had a pot-luck-dinner.

Adjutant Steve Ward is developing a New Members Manual that will provide information to new recruits to rapidly integrate them into the Camp so they can quickly become productive members of the organization.

Camp members have adopted a "Confederate Christmas Wreath" program similar to the one Camp Shelby’s Oklahoma Iron Men has used very successfully for the last few years. Adjutant Steve Ward, a new compatriot, and his wife Kathy volunteered to assemble the wreaths. Wreaths were placed on the graves of thirty-one Confederate veterans and one former camp member in Oak Hill Cemetery in McAlester. Also, wreaths were placed on two Confederates veterans’ graves in the Oakwood Cemetery in Wewoka.

Allen Harrison presents Patrick Self with his SCV certificate based on his ancestor Captain Daugherty of the 29th Texas Cavalry.

Past Adjutant Allen Harrison (right) turns over Camp records to Adjutant Steve Ward.
Commander Allen Harrison submitted the following report and photographs of the Fourth Quarter activities of Camp Col. Tandy Walker of Shawnee. Commander Harrison presented a Camp Certificate of Appreciation to Division Lt. Commander Rex Cash for his exceptional work on the 2015 Confederate Flag Day Rally in Oklahoma City and SCV Membership Certificates to five new members, at the Camp’s September meeting.

Lt. Commander Cash (L.) and Camp Commander Harrison

Philip Cobb whose ancestor is Private Frances Marion Ward Co. E, 3rd Arkansas Infantry

Kelly Murdock whose ancestor is Private Layton F. W. Bost Co. C, 1st Mississippi Cavalry.

Don Clark whose ancestor is Thomas Lowe Clark Co. B, 19th Arkansas Infantry

Billy Putman whose ancestor is Private William M. Putman Co. C 17th Mississippi Infantry
Daniel Putman whose ancestor is Corporal Henderson G. Putman Co. I, 23rd Mississippi Infantry.

At the October meeting, Robert Hargrove gave a very informative presentation on his ancestor, Lt. James A Black, Co. A, 52nd North Carolina Infantry – “From Merchant to Soldier”.

Compatriots Charley Wilson, Camp Pvt. Drury Warren, (L) of Ponca City and Steve Sanders, Camp Col. William Penn Adair of Bartlesville at a gun show at Dewey, Oklahoma on December 10. “There was interest for membership in the SCV, as most attendees had never heard of the SCV, and some were thinking that they might have Confederate ancestors. We are doing some genealogy and Confederate service research to determine ancestry and Confederate service for those interested in joining the Sons of Confederate Veterans”.

As attested by the above reports and photographs, the Oklahoma Division has several very active camps and camp members involved in good camp meetings, important activities and projects, as well as aggressive membership recruitment. Please note a common thread among these camps: their meeting programs were presented by camp members or guests from other camps. You don’t need a professor, or celebrity or someone outside the SCV to have a good program. Every member of the SCV has a Confederate ancestor with a story that needs telling.

The leadership of the Oklahoma Division is proud of the camps and compatriots who participate in activities and events that further our Mission: the Charge. We extend a hearty Confederate “welcome” to all the new members and look forward to their participation in their Camp and Division meetings, activities and events. (Division Commander)
Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans
Editorial

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

That seems simple enough. We are only charged with doing five things: (1.) defend the Confederate soldier’s good name, (2.) assume the guardianship of his history, (3) emulate his virtues, (4.) perpetuate his principles and (5.) perpetuate his ideals.

Fulfillment of the Charge involves more than just buying a membership and waving the flag from time to time. Fulfillment means regularly participating in camp meetings, where, if a good program is given, members can learn something of their history so they can get a better understanding of that history and thereby, refute slanders against the Confederate soldier’s good name. It also means participating in camp and division events, such as Confederate Memorial Day, placing headstones, cleaning and decorating graves, thereby, honoring the memory of our Confederate soldiers. It means, to the best of our abilities, defending our Confederate monuments and memorials. Fulfillment means membership recruitment in order to give us more voices and to keep the SCV continuously reinvigorated. It also means defending the flag, the symbol of our soldier ancestors. All of these activities help preserve the Confederate soldiers’ good names and helps preserve their history.

Fulfillment of the Charge also means that we must understand, to the extend we can, what the Confederate soldiers’ virtues, principles and ideals were, and then strive to emulate them. Ordinarily, and correctly, we believe, and know, that this included self-sacrifice for family, home and country. We believe that he also recognized that his personal liberty was God given, not government bestowed, and it was his responsibility to maintain and keep it. We also believe, and know, the Confederate soldier had a strong since of duty and honor, the latter then connoted reputation. When his country was in peril, duty demanded he stand up and count for something beyond himself. To be a man of honor meant to be honest, trustworthy, reliable, loyal — willing to do the right thing in whatever situation confronted him. To do the opposite of honor or to do nothing or the minimum to get by was dishonorable and ruinous to his reputation. For us, members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, duty and honor must mean our dedication to the organization – Sons of Confederate Veterans – and to our Mission – the Charge, in its literal meaning, as well as the spirit of its meaning.

Each of us should examine ourselves and honestly answer the question of whether we only give lip service to the Charge and sit by passively while someone else does the heavy lifting. It is the responsibility of each of us to stand up and do our duty and act in the nineteenth century meaning of honor.

Heritage News

Virginia Flaggers at the grave of Stonewall Jackson
(Contributed by Charley Wilson)

Victory in Richmond!
(Courtesy of the Virginia Flaggers)

We reported earlier that Joe Morrissey had announced at a press conference in September that he would make removing the Jefferson Davis monument his first priority when elected, only to back track a few days later.

Before election night, he would once again voice a desire to remove the monument, and was billed as the front runner going into last night’s election. We are pleased to report that Morrissey lost his bid for election last night (November 8)!

and in Portsmouth!

Portsmouth’s incumbent Mayor, Kenny Wright, had been one of the major forces driving the City Council’s (so far) failed attempts to remove Portsmouth’s Confederate monument. We are happy to report he too was defeated.
Sons of Confederate Veterans Dedicate New Flag

SOUTHPORT, FL (WJHG/WECP) - The Confederate Flag has drawn controversy in recent years, not just over its history, but for those trying to defend it. The Sons of Confederate Veterans, along with their sister organization the United Daughters of the Confederacy, held a flag dedication ceremony on Saturday afternoon. Members dressed in traditional Confederate soldier’s uniforms, blasted a cannon and sang along to "Dixie."

"Well, we put this flag here as a two-fold purpose, which is basically the purpose of the Sons of Confederate Veterans," said Stan Peacock, a member of the Sons of the Confederacy (sic). "We put it here to preserve Southern heritage and to honor the Confederate soldiers who fought and died during the war."

The new Confederate Flag flies high off of County Road 2321 in Southport. The flag project was funded with donations from individuals and local businesses.

Confederate flags flap in the wind at the Talladega Superspeedway on top of the vendor tent of Tracy Johnson of Ardmore, Alabama (Josh Bean/jbean@al.com)

Arson Blamed for Small Fire at Confederate Museum in New Orleans

Faimon Roberts III – froberts@theadvocate.com

Federal authorities are investigating an overnight arson at the Confederate Memorial Hall Museum on Camp Street near Lee Circle, according to a museum spokesman. Just before 2:00 a.m. Wednesday, two men hopped over the gate about halfway up the steps to the museum’s front door, according to Richard Angelico, a member of the museum’s board of directors. One of the men was carrying a tire, which they placed on the step in front of the museum’s door. They set the tire alight and fled, Angelico said. The fire triggered heat sensors near the door and set off the building’s alarm. Firefighters were called to the scene about 2:15 a.m., a Fire Department spokesman said. Heat from the fire left visible marks on the doors and caused the granite steps to crack, he said. The fire was quickly extinguished, but the investigation into the incident has just begun.

Angelico said the men wore hoodies and baseball caps and kept their heads down, but they were captured on security cameras mounted on the building. Investigators from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, as well as the FBI and the New Orleans Police Department are all looking into the arson, Angelico said. He refused to comment on any possible motives for the attack, including whether he thought it might be related to Tuesday’s election.

Although the museum houses a large collection of Confederate artifacts, it has not been involved in the controversy over four Confederate-related city monuments, including a statue of Robert E. Lee just a block away, that the city wants to remove. "The monuments are all on public property, and this is a private museum," Angelico said.

Confederate Flag Ban at Natchez Cemetery Creating Controversy

NATCHEZ, Miss. (AP) - A new policy governing Confederate battle flags at the Natchez City Cemetery is drawing scrutiny.

The cemetery association’s president, Cyndy Stevens, tells The Natchez Democrat that descendants of Confederate veterans can place a small Confederate flag on their ancestors’ graves on Confederate Memorial Day in April and Memorial Day. The policy used to be for one week in April.

Organizations can also place flags on the graves of Confederate veterans buried in two Confederate burial plots. They can no longer place flags on graves of individuals in private family plots. Stevens says they received complaints the Confederate flags were up too long and put on plots against families’ wishes. Jason Blaney from the Sons of Confederate Veterans disagrees with the policy, saying it will make it difficult to get the flags up and down in a timely manner.
Commission Votes 6-3 to Keep Confederate Statues in Charlottesville

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (WVIR) – Statues of Confederate military leaders could be staying in downtown Charlottesville. The Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Monuments and Public Spaces voted 6-3 Tuesday evening to let the statues remain in place.

Commission members have been tasked with recommending to city officials how to best handle the issues surrounding statues of General Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson in Court Square and General Robert Edward Lee in Lee Park, as well as other landmarks and monuments.

The commission will next put together a draft proposal. The public will then get a chance to preview that draft during a forum scheduled to take place at Walker Upper Elementary School on November 10. The final meeting for the commission will be held on November 28. The official presentation to Charlottesville City Council will be on December 19.

She Couldn’t Allow the Truth to be Covered up and Neglected
(Contributed by Charley Wilson)

Katheryne Boone Hamilton, the descendant of a free black man who served for the Confederacy in the Civil War, said, “There are some naysayers that say it never happened. I tell people, ‘You don’t have to believe me. Just let this be a catalyst for you to do your own research. I don’t try to force it on anyone, but I simply suggest to do your own research’.”

Her great-grandfather, Jason Boone, was born and raised in the Skeetertown area of the old Nansemond County (Virginia), the descendant of Joe Skeeter, for whom the area had been named. Hamilton, a Holland-area native and retired nurse, discovered her ancestor’s history of service in the late ‘90s, when her sister “got bit by the genealogy research bug.” They found that Jason Boone and his brother, Anthony, both served for the Confederacy.

“Jason Boone was a member of a community of freeborn blacks that had been in existence for over 150 years,” Hamilton said, speaking of what she believes was her ancestor’s motive for fighting for the Confederacy. “He had a lot at stake. I’m sure he thought about what was going to happen to Skeetertown. (When he saw others going to war), he felt like he was obligated to march off as well. He had a home to protect as well as they did.”

Both brothers survived the war and lived to be old men. Jason Boone fathered thirty children in two different marriages.

Commission Rejects Plan to Relocate Confederate Statue

GATLINBURG, Tenn. — The Tennessee Historical Commission has rejected a move by the Memphis City Council to relocate a controversial statue of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest from a park near downtown Memphis.

The application for the move was submitted in reaction to the Tennessee Heritage Protection Act of 2013, which prevents cities or counties from relocating, removing, renaming, or otherwise disturbing war memorials on public properties.

The Tennessee Historical Commission on Friday (October 21) denied the application for waiver based on criteria adopted by the commission in October 2015.

The Commission meeting took place at Gatlinburg. The 29-member board meets three times a year. Eighteen members of the board were at Friday’s meeting. Family approval and court approval would be required to remove the remains of Forrest and his wife. The city of Memphis can submit another waiver, but the criteria has not changed.

Gen. Braxton Bragg’s Old Servant

The following tribute of respect from Leonidas Polk Bivouac, No.3, and William Henry Trousdale Camp, 495, of Confederate Veterans, truthfully portrays the feeling that exists between the Southern people, especially the Confederate Veterans, and the old and faithful Southern Negroes:

“Whereas the faithful old Negro man, Braxton Bragg, died in Columbia, Tenn. Wednesday morning, January 17, 1900; and whereas Bragg was the body servant of Gen. Braxton Bragg, and was true to his Southern friends, and principles through life; therefore, be it Resolved, that a page in our minutes be set apart in honor of Braxton Bragg, the Negro, who died at an advanced age; that our thanks are hereby extended to our comrades, Daughters of the Confederacy, and citizens generally who were so kind to Bragg during life and in his last sickness; also to our comrades who made the funeral arrangements.”

funeral services. Although the weather was inclement, the funeral was largely attended. The Columbia newspapers and the “CONFEDERATE VETERAN” are requested to publish these proceedings. W. A. Smith, J. M. Hodge, B. S. Thomas, Committee.

“Confederate Veteran” – May 1900

(Contributed by Charley Wilson)

SCV Real Sons

Gentlemen,

I wanted to make you aware of something that we don’t think of often, and many SCV members don’t even know they still exist. We still have three Real Sons in our ranks. I provide their information to you below for your information and action as you see fit. The SCV Headquarters sends a birthday letter to them each year with all our signatures on them. I’m sure each of you would appreciate having this information so that you can send them birthday greetings as well as Christmas, Easter, etc. cards and letters.

Johnnie Holley, ATM Commander

CALVIN CRANE
1110 MONTROSE AVE SE
ROANOKE, VA  24015
Born 27-Feb-17
Camp 1326 – Real Son
Joined 04-Feb-1993
Father - PVT. JAMES ANTHONY CRANE, CO. B 13TH VA LIGHT ARTILLERY

CLIFFORD HAMM
2200 UPTON AVE
GASTONIA, NC  28052
Born 22-Aug-23
Camp 872 – Real Son
Joined 15-May-2002
Father - PVT JOHN BERRY HAM, CO G, 71st NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS

MIKE YANCEY
8178 WALNUT KNOLL COVE
CORDOVA, TN  38018
Born 12-Dec-23
Camp 1640 – Real Son
Joined 06-Dec-1989
Father - PVT SAM YANCEY, CO. B 7TH MS CAVALRY

Civil War Artifacts and Memorabilia

Recently, we circulated to the DEC members a series of email exchanges between Past-Commander Larry Logan and Mr. Nick Conrad, of an independent film company that has done business with many networks most notably The Learning Channel and The History Channel. THC has asked his company to explore doing the kind of program he describes in the emails.

“The program is about the Confederate soldier and the events at the end of the war. There are many stories of how they figured out ways to get many of their original items they used in the war to their homes so they could be preserved. We are talking about flags, weapons, belts and buckles, uniforms, hats, and anything associated with them in their effort to defend the homeland. The focus of the program will be how those that were preserved then have made it through the years to those that have them today.

There could be a few in our division I hope we can focus on if we have them or not. It will be easy for some to focus on how we will be treated in the program. Personally, I see an opportunity to show the pride we have in who we are and who our ancestors were”. (Past-Commander Logan)

We realize that some members may be leery of this, as we have on too many occasions been approached by people who have professed good intentions, but in the end were only looking for opportunities to further disparage the SCV and what we stand for. Let’s be cautious, but not paranoid. ATM Commander Johnnie Holley has received assurances from SCV Executive Director Landree that this is legitimate request.

Mr. Conrad’s proposal: “We’re for looking for people who have ties with Confederate soldiers or Confederate officials and any memorabilia/artifacts/family heirlooms/etc. that have been passed down from the Confederacy. The goal of the show is to trace these items from the Civil War all the way to present day. If anyone fits the bill or knows someone that might, please have them contact me at conrad.n@tijat.com”.

If you indeed have Civil War artifacts or memorabilia, especially if it has provenance back to an identifiable Confederate soldier, we encourage you to contact Mr. Conrad for more information about his program. You can then individually decide if you want to participate. As Commander Logan stated, this can be an opportunity.
20 September 2016

Dear Compatriots of Oklahoma Division,
Sons of Confederate Veterans,

On behalf of Commander-in-Chief Thos. V. Strain, Jr. and the entire membership of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, I want to thank you for your generous donation to the Sons of Confederate Veterans Relief Fund.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a non-profit veterans’ organization, but it is also charitable in nature. This fund is set aside specifically to support our members who have had tragedies in their lives and assist them back on their feet. Donations such as this one enable us to help those brothers of ours in great need.

The recent flooding in Louisiana required a significant amount of funding to support our members who are continuing to struggle with their losses. Fifteen members lost their homes or had significant damages which this fund supported. Thank you very much for providing assistance to these members; they are very grateful to those like you who are willing to support them.

Thank you again for your steadfast commitment to the Sons of Confederate Veterans and our efforts.

Deo Vindice,

Michael L. Landree
Executive Director

The SCV is a 501 c 3 tax-exempt organization; therefore, your donation may be tax deductible in accordance with the current rules of the IRS. You have received no goods or services for this contribution. Please use $500.00 when determining your allowed tax deduction.

With the approval of a majority of the DEC, the Oklahoma Division made a $500 donation to the SCV Relief Fund.
The Music Room of the Confederate White House – Richmond