"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 a mixed year for the SCV, and more importantly, for our Confederate heritage. Our Confederate monuments and symbols, particularly the Battle Flag, remain under assault. Many monuments have been removed, yet, at the same time, new Confederate monuments and mega-flags are being raised.

We are encouraged by the positive activities, events and projects undertaken throughout the year by many of the Oklahoma Division camps and individual compatriots. (See Camp News and Activities.) 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 the 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 2018 to help further our SCV Mission.

National remains four to six weeks behind in posting 2017-18 dues. We have no idea why it’s taking so long this year. The upshot of this delay is that we cannot determine how many members we currently have and how many did not renew. From the camp dues that have been posted, non-renewals appear to be modest. As of now, three camps – Duncan, Altus and Cooperton – had 100 per cent retention. Congratulations gentlemen, job well done.

In closing, we are in the Christmas season, and on behalf of myself, Lt. Commander Cash and all Division officers, 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

"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
2018 Confederate Flag Day

Confederate Flag Day will be March 3, 2018, 11:45-1:15, at Wiley Post Park, located at 2021 S. Robinson Ave. in Oklahoma City. Camps Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore and Captain Clem Vann Rogers of Oklahoma City will jointly host the event. Commander Cook has formed a Flag Day Committee to organize the event and develop the program. Committee members are Larry Logan, Chairman (Moore), Terry Pierce (Oklahoma City) and Don Branum of Camp Indian Territory of Poteau.

Chairman Logan has already secured the permit for the event. If the weather is bad, it will be inside the park’s event center; otherwise, it will be outdoors.

Oklahoma City is a central location, which we hope will encourage more of our members to attend, and we won’t have to be concerned with the unpredictable March weather.

2018 SCV National Reunion

Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp No. 33, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, will host the 2018 Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, July 18-21. The Reunion will be held at the Franklin Cool Springs Marriott, 700 Cool Springs Road, Franklin, Tennessee. Information about registration and hotel reservations can be found at http://www.scv.org/new/reunion2018/.

2018 Stephen D. Lee Institute Symposium

The Rational Confederate in an Irrational World - Defending our Southern heritage in an age devoid of logic and reason.

17 February 2018

Shreveport, Louisiana

The attacks on our Southern heritage are beyond all reason: emotion and insanity rage while facts, rationality, and logic are being driven from public discourse.

It is the purpose of the Stephen D. Lee Institute to provide the antidote to these toxins by bringing together some of the best minds in the South to make the case for Dixie.

We are pleased to announce the 2018 Stephen D. Lee Institute will be held February 17, 2018 in Shreveport, Louisiana. Our host hotel for the event is the Hilton Hotel Shreveport; the symposium will take place at the Shreveport Convention center, which is connected to the Hilton.

We are once again putting together a very distinguished line-up of speakers, including...

Ron Kennedy – noted trouble-maker and author of Dixie Rising: Rules for Rebels and many others

Paul C. Graham – editor of Shotwell Publishing and author of Confederaphobia!

Lee Bright – Two-term South Carolina State Senator and renowned defender of Southern heritage

Jeffery Addicott -- law professor and expert on terrorist tactics

Charles E. McMichael -- Past SCV CIC and heritage defense activist

Special Offer for Current SCV Members

Thanks to the support of the SCV General Executive Council, this year, in an effort to make the SDLI as accessible as possible, we are able to offer a special early registration discount for SCV members of just $95. That’s a $30 savings off our regular registration fee of $125.

This special $95 registration fee is only available to current SCV members, and to take advantage of it you must register before January 17.

Registration Package

- Admission to all symposium programs including a special panel discussion with all of our distinguished speakers Saturday afternoon.
- Desert Reception Friday night at the hotel.
- Lunch Saturday

Registration Cost

$95 for SCV members who register before January 17.
$125 for SCV members after January 17
$150 for non-members (the public is invited)
A limited number of scholarships are available for high-school seniors, college students, and high-school teachers.

To register for the event, go to http://stephendleeinstitute.com/events.html.

Our host hotel is the Hilton Shreveport, 104 Market St, Shreveport, LA 71101 (318) 698-0900.

The Hilton is extending a special SDLI rate of $107 ($119 double-occupancy, plus applicable taxes). The SDLI rate includes free Wi-Fi and complimentary breakfast.

You can make a reservation online at the special SDLI by clicking here. http://aws.passkey.com/goStephenDLeelInst.

Please note: to receive the special SDLI room rate, reservations must be made by January 26, 2018.

Questions may be directed to Chris Sullivan at SDLeeinfo@gmail.com or (864)660-9188

(Submitted by ATM Commander Johnnie Holley)
2018 Division Officer Elections

Commander Ken Cook hereby announces his candidacy for re-election to the office of Division Commander. Lt. Commander Rex Cash has advised Commander Cook that he will not seek re-election to his office.

Compatriot Mason Page of Camp Col. Dew Moore Wisdom of Muskogee and Compatriot Brandon Thompson of Camp Pvt. William Price of Ringling have made it known they intend to stand for election as Division Commander. Compatriot Kevin Easterling has likewise made it known that he intends to stand for election as Division Lt. Commander.

Ft. Washita Brigade Commander, Jerry Patrick, has advised Commander Cook that he intends to stand for election for a full term as Brigade Commander. No one has made any announcements for the other Brigade offices.

Past-Division Commander Logan Gives Radio Interviews

An Oklahoma City radio station invited Past-Commander and Division Deputy Media Spokesman, Larry Logan, to sit for interviews on two occasions – once in October and another in November. They wanted to hear the SCV’s views on the Confederacy as they are currently relevant. The radio hostess seems to be a nice person, but she was obviously on the other side, rather than neutral as she should have been. It was one against three, but Compatriot Logan held his own on both occasions. The interviews have been very civil, but probably changed no opinions. Nevertheless, we believe it’s important to be able to explain our positions. Compatriot Logan has recordings of both interviews. He has another interview on December 23, this time with the station manager, which should be a fairer interview.

Commander Cook Creates Rose Hill Monument Committee

In recent months, it has become obvious that the Oklahoma Division needs to pay closer attention to the Division’s Confederate monument in Rose Hill Cemetery at Ardmore. As many members of the Division know, we raised funds for the monument from within the Division, but also received a substantial contribution from National and contributions from other Divisions with soldiers buried in the adjacent Confederate Section of Rose Hill. The monument was dedicated with an impressive ceremony in June 2013. More than 200 Confederate soldiers are buried in Rose Hill, the most of any cemetery in Oklahoma. The Confederate soldiers buried there died while residents of the old Confederate Soldiers Home at Ardmore. The facility exists now as an Oklahoma Veterans Center.

The Rose Hill Monument Committee will be a standing committee. Members are Terry Pierce (Chairman), Kevin Easterling – both of Camp Captain Clem Vann Rogers of Oklahoma City – and Robert Carroll of Camp BG Stand Watie, Ardmore/Madill.

The Committee will be responsible for periodically monitoring the monument and cemetery and repairing damaged grave-stones, some of which have severely deteriorated over the years and are in need of repair or replacement.

Oklahoma Division Confederate Monument – Rose Hill Cemetery Confederate Section – with well over 200 graves in the background. The bricks surrounding the monument were purchased by descendants of Confederate soldiers to honor them. Memorial bricks may still be purchased by anyone wanting to honor his/her Confederate ancestor(s). For information, contact Terry Pierce at terrypierce41@yahoo.com.

Confederate Memorial at the Ardmore Veterans Center, originally Oklahoma’s Confederate Soldiers Home
Fly the Confederate Flag
Charley Wilson

Last summer, I listed a real estate property to sell for Don Stanley. Within a few days afterwards, he joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans. His Confederate ancestor is his 2nd great-grandfather John C. Stanley of Angelina County, Texas, who served in Madison’s 3rd Texas Cavalry Regiment.

We sold Don’s property, and he bought another place situated along a highway. Soon after Don had moved to his new home, he began flying his Confederate flag next to the highway. He’s been flying the Confederate flag 24/7 for several months now. Don says lots of folks honk, and a few have stopped to ask what it’s all about. He’s Confederate so he knows how to tell them.

There are men out there who want to join Sons of Confederate Veterans. If we don’t talk to them to tell them about the Sons of Confederate Veterans, they won’t know to join.

Our Confederate ancestors were right. The historic Sons of Confederate Veterans is looking for more members. Wherever you are, speak up and stand up for our Confederate veterans and the South.

Ed. Compatriot Wilson is Commander of Camp PVT Drury Warren of Ponca City. He lives in Wichita, Kansas.

Camp News and Activities

Compatriot Fred Argo (left), Commander Bently Couch (right) and Adjutant Steve Ward manned the Camp Capt. James J. McAlester (McAlester) Sons of Confederate Veterans Education and Recruiting Station at the gun show in McAlester on Saturday, September 30.

Members of Camp Capt. James J. McAlester and some spouses toured the Confederate Museum and Cemetery at Atoka on October 17. Their tour guide was Ms. Gwen Walker, shown in the foreground of the bottom photo.
At the meeting of **Camp Capt. James J. McAlester** on October 21, members discussed their educational field trip to the Confederate Museum and Cemetery at Atoka and the successful Recruiting Station the Camp set up at the gun show held at the Southeast Expo Center in McAlester. Chaplain Bob Pattison gave an informative presentation about his WBTS firearms. After lunch, a group of Camp compatriots went to the Jeff-Lee Pool/Park to perform a clean-up of that area as part of the Camp’s Adopt-A-Block duties for Pride in McAlester.

On October 17, **Camp Col. Tandy Walker** (Shawnee) held its monthly meeting. The invocation was given by Jerry Reese, long-time SCV member and reenactor (artillery). Commander Harrison read the Charge. Oklahoma Division Commander, Ken Cook, presented Commander Allen Harrison with a “Dixie Club” Certificate recognizing his recruiting accomplishments. The Camp now has twenty-six members. Commander Cook also presented Commander Harrison with the SCV "Meritorious Service Medal" for his work in reconstituting Camp Walker and increasing its initial membership from eight to the current membership in the space of one year.

The meeting had a good turnout of members and several guests, including Division Commander Ken Cook and Ft. Washita Brigade Commander Jerry Patrick. Commander Cook presented the program: “Black Confederates”, which proved to be very interesting. He put forward documented proof that Black men, slave and non-slave, served the Confederate States of America in the War Between the States. They may have been cooks, livery men, teamsters, artillery crewmen and body servants. No matter the service they rendered, they supported the Confederacy for the most part. Compatriot Don Clark led the membership in singing "Dixie". Commander Harrison gave the closing prayer.
Division Commander Cook presenting his program

(Submitted by Allen Harrison)

At its monthly meeting on November 14, Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh (Tulsa) inducted new member Deryk Newberry. His Confederate ancestor is PVT Joseph Calloway Henson, Co. I, 34th North Carolina Infantry. Camp members nominated 2018 officers: Todd Cathey, Commander and Bob Woodall, Adjutant. Officers will be formally elected and sworn in at the January meeting.

Commander Bishop presenting new member, Deryk Newberry, with his SCV Membership Certificate

(Submitted by Allen Harrison)

Camp Col. Tandy Walker (Shawnee) held its November meeting a week early, on the 19th, because of the Thanksgiving holiday on the fourth Thursday. Commander Allen Harrison presented membership certificates to new members, Bryan D Newland, whose ancestor is Jesse Columbus Garrett, 9th Texas Cavalry (Ross’s), and Karl D. Wilkey, whose ancestor is John W. Tindle, 8th Missouri Infantry (Mitchell's Regiment). With another member in process, this gives the camp twenty-seven members in good standing.

Under old business, members discussed the Confederate Christmas wreath placement. New business included a brief discussion on changing the camp meeting site. No vote or decision was made. Commander Harrison gave the program: "Black Confederates, Individual Stories" Part 2. He related several stories based on sourced details in the book, Virginia’s Black Confederates, Essays and Rosters, authored by Greg Ea-nes.

Compatriot Don Clark lead the group in several old traditional Christmas Carols, such as “Silent Night” and “Joy to the World”. He provided sheet music and all sang with great spirit. Compatriot Clark also led everyone in "Dixie" to close the meeting.

Commander Harrison presenting Compatriot Bryan Newland with his SCV Membership Certificate

(Submitted by Allen Harrison)
At its November meeting, held on the 20th at the Moore Public Library, **Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** (Moore) elected 2018 camp officers: Rocky Waddell, Commander; Jimmy Carter, Lt. Commander and Larry Logan, Adjutant. The officers will be formally sworn in at the January Camp meeting.

The Camp also presented Compatriot Rick Brand a Certificate of Appreciation for his work on the Camp’s Facebook page. Two new members, Joe Protzman and Al Bartraw, were presented with their SCV Membership Certificates.

2018 Camp officers – Rocky Waddell, Jimmy Carter and Larry Logan

Commander Waddell and Lt. Commander Carter present Compatriot Rick Brand a Certificate of Appreciation for his work on the Camp’s Facebook page

Compatriot Joe Protzman receiving his SCV Membership Certificate from Commander Waddell and Lt. Commander Carter

(Submitted by Larry Logan)

At its November meeting, members of **Camp Col. Dew Moore Wisdom** (Muskogee) agreed to donate $50 to the Muskogee High School History Club. The Club will use the funds to help with their research of the nineteenth century and to visit historical sites in Oklahoma. The Camp has also donated three books on the War of Southern Independence to the Muskogee Public Library.

On December 2, Commander Allen Harrison – **Camp Col. Tandy Walker** – presented Compatriot Curtis R. Watson with his SCV Membership Certificate. His Confederate ancestor is Lt. Colonel Benjamin Wilkerson Watson, Co. C, 19th Texas Cavalry (Burford’s Regiment). Compatriot Watson is proprietor of Curtis Watson’s Catfish Restaurant in McLoud, the site of our DEC meetings. His membership certificate was presented at his restaurant because he works there every evening and is unable to attend Camp meetings.

James Bowling is the new commander of **Camp Col. John W. Jordan** (Mannford). He replaced Terry Cumber, who transferred his membership to **Camp Indian Territory** (Poteau).
**Camp Col. Tandy Walker** has a Christmas Season project to place Christmas wreaths on the graves of Confederate veterans. This year, they began their project on December 7 by placing wreaths on Confederate graves in Fairview Cemetery in Shawnee. Many other placements followed in the following days in other local cemeteries.

![Christmas wreaths placed at the graves of two Confederate veterans, who were also members of the United Confederate Veterans](image)

At its December meeting on the 16th, **Camp Capt. James J. McAlester** was honored to have James Skelton, Chief of the Kusa Nunahi Tribal Band of Cherokee, and his wife, Andrea, as their distinguished guests. The Camp discussed the possibility of running a Camp advertisement in the McAlester *News-Capital*, the local newspaper. Adjutant Steve Ward explained how the newspaper was formatted and circulated a variety of previous SCV advertisements of various sizes and costs. Further discussion will continue when a suitable advertisement is drawn up for the Camp. Nick Wallace, an Archaeological Technician for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, gave his presentation on the Choctaw Cavalry during the WBTS, complete with firearms and a saddle.

![In the above two photos, Choctaw Nation Archaeological Technician, Nick Wallace, demonstrates a rifle used by the Choctaw Cavalry during the WBTS, as well as a cavalry saddle of the period.](image)

(All Camp McAlester reports and photos submitted by Steve Ward.)

*NUTTIN LIKE A GOOD OL CUPPAH COFFEE BEFORE PERFERATEN BLUE UNIFORMS.....*  
(Courtesy of George Dennis Andrews)
The Angel of Marye’s Heights
Bently Couch, Division Historian

In front of the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (about 40 miles north of the Mason-Dixon Line) is a bronze statue honoring a Confederate soldier, Sergeant Richard Rowland Kirkland, the “Angle of Marye’s Heights.” He is cast on one knee, giving a drink to a wounded Union soldier. Another monument to Kirkland is on the Fredericksburg Battlefield.

Kirkland was born August 1843, in Flat Rock, South Carolina. At age eighteen, he enlisted in Company E, 2nd South Carolina Infantry in the Confederate Army. Later, he transferred to Company G of the same regiment, and was promoted to sergeant. He saw action during the First Battle of Manassas, Savage’s Station, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg and Chickamauga.

By December 1862, the Army of Northern Virginia had taken up positions in and around Fredericksburg, Virginia, while the Union army gathered directly across the Rappahannock River. On the 11th more than a hundred Northern cannons opened on the town, in an indiscriminate effort to drive Confederate snipers from cover. Union shells crashed through roofs, exploding in living rooms and in businesses. The cannon fire had little effect on the Confederates. Southern sharpshooters dug themselves out of the cellars and continued picking off the Northerners. The next day, Northern infantry crossed the Rappahannock and fought their way through the town from house to house and hand to hand. By the end of the day, the outnumbered Confederates slowly withdrew from the city.

About noon on the 13th, the sun had burned away the morning fog. The enemy was coming straight for the Confederate’s strongest position, a sunken road bordered by a long, four-foot-tall stone wall protecting Southern infantry, including Richard Kirkland’s unit. To back them up, dozens of cannons topped Marye’s Heights. The Southern artillery opened fire, first with solid shot and shell tearing great gaps in the blue line. As the enemy came closer, the artillery crews changed to grape shot and canister. The doomed blue line was ripped to shreds. But those who could, still continued toward the wall. Then at 200 yards, the gray infantry rose from the cover of the stone wall and leveled their muskets. A sheet of flame sent a storm of lead into the attackers, stopping the blue advance. Wave followed wave of blue attackers charging toward the wall.

The Confederates inflicted heavy casualties on the Yankees. The morning of December 14 revealed that over 8,000 blue-clad soldiers had been cut down in front of the stone wall. Many remaining on the battlefield survived, but were suffering. Confederate soldiers listened to the painful cries of the wounded for hours, but dared not venture out for fear of being shot by the enemy. During the day, Kirkland approached Confederate Brigadier General Joseph B. Kershaw, and informed him that he wished to help the wounded Union soldiers. At first, Kershaw denied his request, but later relented. When Kirkland asked if he could show a white handkerchief, General Kershaw stated he could not do that. Kirkland responded, “All right, sir, I’ll take my chances”.

Kirkland gathered all the canteens he could carry, filled them with water, then ventured out onto the no-man’s land. At first, there was some musket fire from the Union side, but it soon subsided. Within a very short time, it became obvious what Kirkland was doing. He darted back and forth several times, giving the wounded Union soldiers water, warm clothing, and blankets. Soldiers from both the Union and Confederate armies watched as he performed his task. General Kershaw later stated that he observed Kirkland for more than an hour and a half. Kirkland did not stop until he had helped every wounded soldier he could. Sergeant Kirkland’s actions remain a legend in Fredericksburg to this day.

Kirkland went on to fight in other battles. At Gettysburg, he further distinguishing himself for courage and ability, and was promoted to lieutenant. On September 20, 1863, he and two other men took command of a charge near “Snodgrass Hill” during the Battle of Chickamauga. Realizing they had advanced too far forward of their own unit, they attempted to return, and Kirkland was shot. His last words were, "I'm done for... save yourselves and please tell my Pa I died right." His body was returned home to South Carolina and was buried in Camden.

In 1997, the Sons of Confederate Veterans awarded Richard Kirkland the Confederate Medal of Honor, which is on display in the South Carolina state capitol in Columbia. If your enemy is thirsty, give him drink. Romans 12:20
We are frequently admonished to “keep it Confederate”, which we take to mean practice those things which our Confederate soldier ancestors practiced or believed in, especially in our camp and division meetings and other SCV activities. We are told that our Confederate veterans set the standards by which we should operate. What exactly were those standards? How did they expect us, their descendants, to conduct ourselves when involved in SCV activities or in our lives? The only written standards of which we are aware are set forth in the Charge. The Charge is embodied in our National and Division constitutions as our mission statement. It is our reason for existence. So what are the standards or commandments established by the Charge? We are charged with vindicating the cause for which our ancestors fought, to defend the Confederate soldier’s good name, to guard his history and to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

We are often told that we are not a history club or the Civil War Round Table. We are most assuredly not these things, but we are charged with guarding and presenting the Confederate soldier’s history and vindicating his cause. So how are we to accomplish that? We first must educate ourselves in true Confederate history before we are able to educate others. Many camps do this by regularly having speakers at their monthly meetings. The speakers may be someone from within the camp, from another camp or a non-SCV speaker knowledgeable in his or her subject. We can’t say one way or the other whether the earliest SCV camps had this practice, but maybe not, as the earliest Sons would have heard it directly from the mouths of their fathers, uncles, grandfathers or other veterans they grew up around. Those men are long gone. None of us have heard the history of the Confederate soldiers directly from them. What better way to teach our members the truth of the Confederate soldier and the cause for which he fought than by having frequent good history lessons at camp meetings? Spending an hour having a good Confederate or Southern history lesson gains us infinitely more than spending an hour every month complaining about the government or the PC crowd, about which we can do little or nothing. Discussing history at camp meetings does not make us a history club. Rather, it’s an obvious and common sense way to help us fulfill our obligations under the Charge.

We are further charged with emulating the Confederate soldier’s virtues, perpetuating the principles, which he loved and the ideals which made him glorious. The dictionary defines virtue as moral excellence, goodness, righteousness, conformity of one’s life to moral and ethical principles, a particular moral excellence, a good or admirable quality. Synonyms include goodness, morality, integrity, dignity, rectitude, honor, decency, respectability, nobility, worthiness, consideration and many more. We know that his principles embodied these words. His ideals included family, home, religion, love of country, self-reliance, loyalty, honor, sacrifice, honesty and other such traits. We expect that all of us in the SCV believe in, and to the best of our abilities, practice these same principles and ideals. These are among the human attributes that make life worthwhile.

We have been told that we are not a charity, that charity is up to the individual, not something for us to be involved with as an organization. Confederate soldiers on and off the battlefield practiced charity individually and organizationally. A noble example of individual charity is the actions of the Angel of Marye’s Heights. His example was not unique during the War. Neither are examples of collective charity. Our soldiers were decent human beings, not murderers nor callous to the suffering of others, even their enemies. They did what they could, whenever they could, on the battlefield, and when enemy wounded or prisoners fell into their hands, they treated them as they expected to be treated under similar circumstances. In keeping with compassion, decency and other virtuous traits possessed of the veterans, the SCV created a Relief Fund more than a hundred years ago to help compatriots in distress from natural disasters. For several years, until 2005, it was dormant. It has since helped hundreds of compatriots in need. Is this not keeping it Confederate? We believe the Confederate veterans thought so, for they practiced charity. The SCV is definitely not a charity, but we are charitable, and fraternal.

The Confederate veterans also believed there came a time to put the War behind them and end the sectional bitterness by reconciling with those who were once their mortal enemies. We wrote about this in last quarter’s newsletter. The Confederate veterans’ reconciliation activities are well documented, yet we received criticism of the article – liberal PCism, we were told. National has been roundly criticized by some for inviting a representative of the SUVCW to our Reunions, and of our commander attending theirs. Isn’t that what the Confederate veterans did? There may have been some criticism of them also. If so, the overwhelming majority agreed with their leadership and continued the practice. The old veterans recognized that we were once again one country. They did not believe reconciliation was surrender to Yankeeism or a repudiation of their principles and ideals or the cause for which they and their departed brothers had fought and died. Rather, in the spirit of nobility, honor and dignity, it was time to recognize, for better or worse, that we were again one country, and they believed the country and its flag deserved their loyalty. By the end of World War I, reconciliation and loyalty to the country was pretty well established. Is not loyalty and allegiance to one’s country and its flag being Confederate? The Confederate veterans who gave us the Charge thought so.

As Sons of Confederate veterans, we are expected to live and act by the words and meaning of the Charge. Let us, in every way we are able, keep faith with our revered Confederate veterans by learning and perpetuating their history, thereby being better able to vindicate their cause, and by emulating their virtues, principles and ideals.

Let’s keep faith with them by zealously defending their memorials, monuments and flags, by participating in commemorations on Confederate Memorial Day and Confederate Flag Day, by taking care of their graves and placing gravestones on unmarked graves and Crosses of Honor on marked graves. Many camps engage in these and other memorial activities. Many more should. By all means, let’s keep it Confederate!
Message from the Chaplain
Frank Gilbert, Division Chaplain

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11 (KJV)

As we celebrate this Christmas and New Year’s season let us take time to reflect on THE most important event in history. And that is what is recorded in the scripture verse above. The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ signaled the end of the old covenant and the beginning of the new covenant. Christ became the gateway for our entrance into the Kingdom of God. Our Confederate ancestors knew this fact, and the great majority of them practiced this faith in their day to day lives.

We as their living flesh and blood would do well to maintain their faith as our own. However, it doesn't just happen, we have to yield to the Holy Spirit’s tug on our heart and make the decision to accept the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ in our own life. Follow the lead of our ancestors and take that leap of faith today, if you haven’t already done so. It’s a decision that will have eternal benefits. God bless you and yours during this wonderful time of the year.

Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!

Answer: leftists, fascists, communists, anarchists, cowardly politicians and assorted misguided people possessed with loathing of their Southern ancestors and heritage

(Photo submitted by Charley Wilson)

Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>DEC Winter Meeting – McLoud</td>
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<td>March 2</td>
<td>Texas Independence Day</td>
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<td>March 3</td>
<td>Confederate Flag Day – Oklahoma City</td>
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<td>April 28</td>
<td>Oklahoma Division Convention – Shawnee</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 18-21</td>
<td>SCV National Reunion – Murfreesboro, TN</td>
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At their 2017 National Encampment (Convention), the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil war adopted the following resolution supporting the SCV’s right to maintain its monuments and memorials and to fly Confederate flags. While we can never agree with their point of view regarding the War of Southern Independence, nor can we expect them to agree with ours, we can at least be appreciative of their support for our monuments and Battle Flag.

**Battlefield Flag and Monument Policy**

As approved during the 136th National Encampment - Lansing, Michigan, 2017

WHEREAS, we, as the descendants of Union soldiers, sailors and marines and revenue cutter servicemen who, as members of the Grand Army of the Republic, met in joint reunions with Confederate veterans under both flags in the bond of unity.

WHEREAS, we, as members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War strongly condemn the use of any American or Confederate flag by any and all hate groups.

WHEREAS, we the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War strongly condemn the removal, defacement or destruction of any Civil War Veterans Monument or tablet, whether Union or confederate.

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, support the flying of all U.S. and C.S.A. flags at our National Battlefield sites and to be honored publicly in museums as our authentic archival documentation of our National past.

THEREFORE, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are committed to teaching the history of the American Civil War in our educational system and ask that all descendants of Civil War participants join us in this endeavor.

**A Black Advocate for Confederate Monuments**

The October 10, 2017, issue of the Washington Post had an article about eighty-eight-year-old Nelson Winbush, who is a Florida black man and proponent of Confederate monuments. His grandfather, Louis Napoleon Nelson, was a Tennessee slave who followed his master and sons into the Confederate military. Initially Louis was a cook but later became a rifleman and a chaplain under the command of cavalry leader, Nathan Bedford Forrest.

According to the Post, Winbush said his grandfather believed he was defending his home state of Tennessee from Yankee invaders, not fighting to preserve slavery. His final wish, Winbush said, was that he be buried in his Confederate uniform. This pride has been embraced by Winbush, who joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans nearly three decades ago.

(Courtesy of Philip Leigh)

"For, as a New Englander, I recognize that the South is still the land of Washington, who made our Nation – of Jefferson, who shaped its direction – and of Robert E. Lee who, after gallant failure, urged those who had followed him in bravery to reunite America in purpose and courage." John F. Kennedy, September 17, 1960. (There was a time when a President could make such a statement and not be pilloried for it.)

(Contributed by Charley Wilson)
Heritage Report
Carl Jones – SCV Chief of Heritage Operations

Compatriots,

I just wanted to give you a brief and general overview of the outcome of our most recent General Executive Council meeting held on October 21, 2017, at Elm Springs.

There continues to be an immense amount of activity within the various Divisions to fight back against the “pc” attacks on our heritage. Louisiana is continuing to stand strong in the situation concerning the Caddo Parrish monument, and Past-Commander in Chief Chuck McMichael is monitoring the situation and providing a voice in the hearings. As well, the fight to have the General Beauregard monument reinstated in New Orleans continues, and we have allocated more money towards that fight.

I cannot let too much out of the bag, as I don’t want to get ahead of myself, but we are waging valiant fights in Dallas, Texas, as well as in Charlottesville, Virginia. We will not rest in these situations until every avenue has been exhausted to defend these monuments. ATM Commander Johnnie Holley has been involved in the situation in Dallas, and JAG Scott Hall has kept in constant contact with the Virginia Division concerning Charlottesville.

The Tennessee Division has fought, and WON, numerous court cases in their Division over the situation in Memphis. We had another big victory this past week when the Tennessee Historical Commission denied the City of Memphis a waiver that would allow them to move the Nathan B. Forrest monument. Army of Tennessee Councilman Jason Boshers attended this hearing.

Mississippi is gearing up for a big fight over their State Flag, again, and this time it is the SCV, who is on the offensive. An effort is underway to bring an amendment in that State that will enshrine the State Flag design in their State constitution, making it unconstitutional to change the flag design. The GEC allocated $50,000 from the Heritage Operations budget towards this effort.

We are currently looking at no less than FIVE potential mega-flags being erected in four Divisions in the near future. Details will be forthcoming as events unfold.

Last, but not least, we are moving forward with the construction of the National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs. This project will be monumental in promotion of our Heritage for GENERATIONS to come, as WE will control the content and the narrative. No PC, and no snowflake influence. Just the facts of our ancestors and the Cause they contended for. We are still accepting donations for this very important project as well as for our Heritage Defense Fund.

As I said, this is a general overview of just a few of the highlights that we covered. With your support, we will continue to forward the Colors and carry out the Charge. Each of us are responsible for the promotion and defense of our Heritage within your own centers of influence, and ultimately it will be what we do within our local Camps and our local areas that determine the outcome of our efforts. Know the facts, build your camps, create relationships within your community, and let’s march on to victory.

A Win in Richmond

The Richmond City Council resolution to ask the General Assembly for permission to move the monuments on Monument Avenue failed soundly, 6-2.

The fight is far from over. There is still a commission appointed to "study" the issue, but this is a huge win, and the result of a lot of hard work and grass roots organizing, and thanks to many of you who contacted City Council members and let your voice be heard!

Susan Hathaway, Virginia flaggers

(Submitted by Charley Wilson)

Veterans Honoring Veterans

Over the weekend, I spoke at the Whiteville, North Carolina, SCV Camp. During Q&A after my presentation, one gentleman posed the following question: "Of all the great moments that the Virginia Flaggers have experienced, what is your personal favorite, a moment when you just knew liberal heads were exploding?" As of today, I have a new answer to that question – this photo!
Today, at the annual Veterans Day service at the Virginia War Memorial, wreaths were laid by local Sons of Confederate Veterans camps in memory of our Confederate Veterans. In this photo, a Veteran of color, is seen helping another Veteran of color place one of the wreaths, while our Confederate Battle Flag-hating Governor stands just a few feet away.

A friend described it best – fighting men respect other fighting men, period. Today’s service, and this photo, are striking reminders of the fact that when left alone and not influenced by the ignorance and hate of meddlesome Yankees and self-loathing scalawags, we, the people of the South, have no trouble showing respect for one another.

God bless ALL of our Veterans, God Save the South!

Susan Hathaway, Virginia Flaggers

(Submitted by Charley Wilson)

Supreme Court Rejects Suit Over Mississippi Flag Confederate Emblem

Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. — The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday (November 27) rejected an appeal from an African-American attorney who called the Confederate battle emblem on the Mississippi flag "an official endorsement of white supremacy."

The justices did not comment as they ended a lawsuit by lawyer Carlos Moore that sought to have the flag declared an unconstitutional relic of slavery.

Mississippi has used the same flag since 1894. It’s the last state banner featuring the Confederate symbol, a red field topped by a blue tilted cross dotted by thirteen white stars. Critics say the symbol is racist. Supporters say it represents history. Moore said Monday that he has received five death threats because of the lawsuit and three death threats because he removed the Mississippi flag from his courtroom after he became a Clarksdale city judge. He said he’s disappointed but not surprised that the justices chose not to consider the case. "We always knew it was a long shot," Moore told The Associated Press.

He said he believes the flag hurts the economy in Mississippi, a state with a thirty-eight percent black population. "We’re hopeful that one day the flag will come down," Moore said. "It seems that the public sentiment continues to change, and I am confident that it will come down in my lifetime and definitely in my daughter’s." Moore’s lawsuit argued, in part, that the flag is an oppressive symbol that his daughter, who’s now seven, should not have to face in her public school.

Republican Governor, Phil Bryant, has called Moore’s lawsuit “frivolous.” Bryant has said repeatedly that if the flag design is to be reconsidered, it should be done by a statewide vote as it was more than sixteen years ago.

In an April 2001 referendum, Mississippi residents voted to keep the flag. But, the banner and other Confederate symbols have come under increased scrutiny since 2015, when nine black worshippers were shot to death in a church in Charleston, South Carolina. A white man who had posed in photos glorifying the rebel flag was sentenced to death in the fatal shootings, which police contend were racially motivated.

Several cities and towns and all eight of Mississippi’s public universities have stopped flying the state flag amid concerns that it is offensive. Many pulled the flag from display after the Charleston church massacre.

Moore filed his lawsuit in February 2016. A federal district judge and an appeals court ruled against him, but his attorneys asked the Supreme Court in June to consider the case during the term that began in October. The court accepts a fraction of cases on appeal.

In written arguments filed to the Supreme Court on October 18, attorneys for the governor wrote of Moore: "All in all, Petitioner alleges that he personally and deeply is offended by Mississippi’s state flag — and the sincerity of those beliefs is not doubted." But, the state attorneys said a lawsuit must show an “allegation of discriminatory treatment,” and Moore failed to do that.

Edward Young, an 85-year-old Mississippi resident who is white, said Monday in the coastal city of Bay St. Louis that the Supreme Court decision to stop the flag lawsuit was "sensible." "That flag has been flying over this land for a long time, so why would they want to remove it?" Young said. "We don’t have any race riots like they do elsewhere. We get along very well with people here, no matter what color your skin is."

Edgar Tice, a 48-year-old African-American resident of Mississippi, said he is "totally against" the state flag. "It’s the Confederate battle flag, and what were they fighting for?" Tice asked. "Slavery. So, I’m against that.”
Oklahoma City School Board Votes to Change Names of Schools Honoring Confederate Heroes

On two occasions, Oklahoma Division Deputy Media Spokesman, Larry Logan, made presentations before the Oklahoma City School Board in defense of Generals Robert E. Lee, Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson and Stand Watie, who have had schools named for them for decades. In addition to his oral presentations, Board members invited him to present detailed written arguments, which were prepared with input from Division Chief of Heritage Operations, Bryce Hill, and Division Commander, Ken Cook. Despite valiant efforts, they were to no avail. The Board members’ minds were closed. It’s unlikely they even read the written submissions.

All indications are that the School Board was predisposed to make the name changes regardless of arguments or opinions in support of retaining the names. The public Board meetings were pro forma only. The Board later met in closed session and voted unanimously to change the names. So much for courage.

Confederate Leaders’ Names Popular with Voters in Oklahoma City Schools Survey

Tim Willet — newsok.com — Oklahoma City

Although hundreds of people voted to keep the names of Confederate leaders on three elementary schools, Oklahoma City School Board members said Friday it won’t matter. "It doesn't mean anything. The decision's made, and the names are going to be changed," member Mark Mann said. "The encouraging thing is there are a lot of good names, a lot of people who are worthy of having a school named after them."

In an anonymous online survey 1,100 people weighed in on possible replacement names for Jackson, Lee and Stand Watie elementary schools in south Oklahoma City. The names of Confederate generals Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and Issac Stand Watie received the most votes with more than 300 each, but several people who made significant contributions at the state and local level also were popular with voters. Wayne Dempsey (182 votes) was a minister, youth mentor and former Oklahoma City school board member. Clara Luper (107) was a civil rights activist and educator in Oklahoma City. Wilma Mankiller (29) was the first woman to be principal chief of the Oklahoma-based Cherokee Nation. Ralph Ellison (23) was a poet and novelist who played football at Douglass High School.

Said one survey respondent: "As a longtime personal friend and fellow parishioner of the late Dr. Dempsey and being aware of his lifetime work and sacrifices made as a teacher, board member and advocate for the education of OKC’s youth, I think it would be a fitting tribute to his legacy."

Board member Charles Henry said one of the schools should be named after Luper, who was black, and the other two also should be named after minorities. "Oklahoma City Public Schools are predominantly Hispanic," he said. "I think we should have a school named after someone who is Hispanic or Asian. I think it sends a good message when we show diversity in our school system."

Military heroes, civic leaders, presidents, entertainers and astronauts were among those represented in the survey. Former U.S. President Barack Obama received 120 votes. Mayor Mick Cornett, Thunder star Russell Westbrook and President Donald Trump also received votes, survey data provided by Oklahoma City Public Schools shows.

Dozens of the submitted names were derogatory or racist and not considered suitable for consideration, according to board members interviewed for this story. Mann said some were "pretty hateful."

"There are a lot of good people with excellent qualifications from Oklahoma who have done outstanding things," he said. "Any time you can get input from the community, it helps you make better or more informed decisions." Henry said he wasn’t surprised by the number of votes for Jackson, Lee and Stand Watie. "I knew that there would be an effort to try to preserve those names," he said.

The school board voted unanimously in October to rename the three schools after Superintendant Aurora Lora said the generals did not "reflect our values in 2017."

Following the vote, the district launched an online survey to find suitable replacement names. Parents, teachers, students and community members were encouraged to participate in the month-long survey. "We gave everybody a chance to tell us what they think the schools should be named," board Chairwoman Paula Lewis said Friday. "They’re fine to say they want it to be named what it was, but the fact is we’re changing the name of the schools. I don't think we'll open that can of worms back up." Committees charged with making recommendations to Lora will sort through the names when they convene in January, district spokeswoman Beth Harrison said.

"The committees will be charged with narrowing the suggestions to a few finalists which will then go to the students to research and select their favorites," she said. The board is expected to vote on replacement names in late May.

Ed. The stupidity and arrogance of the Oklahoma City School Board is breathtaking. Wouldn’t it have been more appropriate to have taken the survey prior to the School Board’s vote? One has to wonder if they may have suspected the outcome. Mr. Henry admitted as much: "I knew that there would be an effort to try to preserve those names". There can be no question that the School Board was determined to change the names of the schools, and the public be damned. As far as the "can of worms", the School Board, itself, created it with its arrogant behavior and total contempt for public opinion. It would be sweet justice if the voters would remember how they were treated at the next School Board election, but they probably won’t. They were too apathetic to attend the Board meetings or otherwise voice their opinions. Why would they bother at election time? That kind of apathy and unconcern is one of the principle reasons why we are losing ground in many instances. Public opinion and input matters, when it’s timely, comes in large numbers and in the proper forum. See the above article regarding the Richmond City Council vote.
“Lest We Forget”

Confederate Christmas by Mort Kuntzler

The Southern Advocate is the voice of the Oklahoma Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a non-profit organization of patriotic, historical, sectional and genealogical orientation, as a service to its Compatriots and their friends. Opinions reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the Division, SCV or their policies. Contents may be reproduced only when in the best interest of the SCV. Comments and articles to the newsletter are solicited. Please direct articles, photos, comments, suggestions, etc. to the Editor at khcook469@gmail.com.