

SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION



March, 2012

Message from the Commander

Commander Don Saunders

We have many hard working dedicated SCV members of the Sloan camp. Just to name a few: Color Sgt. John Pugh has had the camp colors at every meeting for over nine years. Adjutant Mike Myers takes care of the paper work between national and the camp. Chaplin David Long always brings words of encouragement and faith in our meeting, newsletter, and conversations. There are other members who faithfully attend camp meetings and assist in camp projects. Now to the point of this article, "HELP WANTED." Please consider service to the Sloan camp.

Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the Commander
- 2 The Chaplain's Corner
- 2 The Charge
- 3 Confederate Flag Day 2012
- 3 The Museum of the Confederacy - Appomattox
- 4 The Greensborough Patriot
- 5 The Greensborough Patriot
- 5 150th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Fort Macon
- 6 Calendar of Events

- 1) Photographer - to take pictures at our meeting, programs, and projects.
- 2) Cemetery Project - to create and collect an inventory of Confederate soldiers' graves in Guilford County.
- 3) Welcome Committee - to greet guests at our meeting and answer any question about the SCV.
- 4) Marker Maintenance Committee - Members to periodically clean and repaint markers as needed.

It's VO Time

That's right. It's Vidalia Onion time again. Please begin taking orders for those delicious Vidalia onions. They are still 10 lbs./\$10. Onions will be delivered in early May. NOTE: Eric Garrison, Onion King 2011, plans to defend his title.

Cards for the Troops

All members are urged to bring an Easter Card to send to our troops in Afghanistan. Carol Hefley (949-4010) is leading this OCR project.

Jeff Frank, newsletter editor, received a certificate of appreciation at the February meeting

Welcome New Members

- Larry W. Carter, 1105 Foxfire Dr. Greensboro, NC 27410 phone 855-1181. Larry's Great-Great-Grandfather is 1st Lt. John Dixon Howell Robinson, 13th Alabama Infantry, Co. E. Lt. Robinson was from Tallapoosa County, Alabama.
- Jeffrey A. Cox, 5500 Brooke Dylan Ct., McLeansville, NC 27301, phone 375-8882. Jeff's Great-Great-Grandfather is Pvt. John Harvey Cox, 19th Tennessee, Co. B. Private Cox was from Sullivan County, Tennessee.

"Once you get them running, you stay right on top of them, and that way a small force can defeat a large one every time... Only thus can a weaker country cope with a stronger; it must make up in activity what it lacks in strength.

Who could not conquer with such troops as these?

My troops may fail to take a position, but are never driven from one!"

General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson

The Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain David Long

Saint Patrick and the Irish

Patrick is the Patron Saint of Ireland. His life's story is full of legend and mighty works! Just like George Washington who probably did not cut down a cherry tree or throw a silver dollar across the Potomac, Patrick did not rid Ireland of snakes or convert a pagan king by using a shamrock and speaking of God as a Trinity. What we know of him we know largely from his autobiographies.

Patrick was born in Scotland. While still a youth, he was kidnapped by Irish pirates and carried to Ireland where he was sold into slavery. He was a slave whose main responsibility was the tending of his master's sheep. He said that he spent much time in prayer and became a Christian while praying and reading the Bible. It was really the only learning which he had! One night he had a dream that he would return to his own country in six years. He either escaped or was freed and he made his way to a seaport which was some 200 miles away where he persuaded some sailors to take him home to Britain. After various adventures in a strange land, including near-starvation, he returned home and was re-united with his family, a much changed young man.

Patrick became a missionary to Ireland and he and others were responsible for the establishment of the Christian Church as they converted the pagans who lived there. Patrick became a Bishop and at his death, a feast day was set, March 17. The principle cathedral in New York is dedicated to him as are numerous cathedrals in the English speaking world.

I have attended the St. Patrick's Day parade in Savannah, Georgia, many times. It is second in number of participants to the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City.

When the Irish came to this country, they competed with the Negroes for jobs. They were looked down on by the urban people with which they lived. They became workers on the docks of Savannah and Memphis and New Orleans, Charleston and Galveston. They became policemen and diggers of ditches.

When the War of Northern Aggression broke out, it became the way for the Irish to obtain the approval of the South. Five generals of the Confederate Army were Irish-born: Patrick Cleburne, Joseph Finegan, Walter Payne Layne, and Patrick Theodore Moore. "Strange people these Irish!" reflected Gen. Richard Taylor, commander of the Louisiana Tigers. "Fighting every one's battles, and cheerfully taking the hot end of the poker, they are only found wanting when engaged in what they believe to be their natural cause.....As Argyle's to the tartan, my heart has warmed to be an Irishman."

Texas had its all-Irish regiment - the Davis Guards, or "The Fighting Irishmen", as they were better known. I have their flag. It is the First Flag of the Confederacy with a golden harp in the center. The harp is a symbol of the Irish.

I hope that on March 17, you will remember the "Fighting Irish" of your Confederate Army.

Charge to The Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength 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 principals he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General
United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906

Confederate Flag Day 2012

The North Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans hosted the Twenty-Fourth Annual Confederate Flag Day Observance and Celebration on Saturday, March 10th, at the State Capital in Raleigh.

The program was held in the old House of Representatives chamber (House of Commons 1840-1868) on the second floor of the capital building.

Program

- Posting of the Colors – Color Guard
- Invocation – Reverend Herman White, Chaplain NC Division, SCV
- Welcome – Thomas Smith, Commander NC Division, SCV
- Pledge to the United States Flag
- Salute to the Confederate Flag
- Salute to the North Carolina Flag
- *Lorena* – Ellis Selph Band
- *Ashokan Farewell* – Ellis Selph Band
- *While the Band was Playing 'Dixie', I was Humming 'Home, Sweet Home'* – Ellis Selph Band
- Presentation of the NC Division Chief of Staff – Commander Smith
- Introduction of Speaker – Dr. Boyd D. Cathey, Aide-de-Camp, NC Division, SCV
- Keynote Address – Bernhard Thuersam, Executive Director, Cape Fear Historical Institute
- *Dixie* – Ellis Selph Band
- Benediction – Reverend White
- Retiring of Colors – Color Guard



The 1st National Flag of the Confederacy flying above the State Capital building

The Museum of the Confederacy - Appomattox

The grand opening of the Museum of the Confederacy – Appomattox will be held Saturday, March 31, 2012. The museum is located at, 159 Horseshoe Rd, Appomattox, VA 24522 (at the intersection of US 460 and SR 24).

A Confederate flag will NOT be flown on the grounds of the museum. Also, as part of the opening ceremonies, the Confederate color guard will be followed by a Union color guard to the tune of *Battle Cry of Freedom*.

Feel free to forward any questions/comments to The Museum of the Confederacy at, (855) 649-1861, or via email to Waite Rawls at WRawls@moc.org.



The Greensborough Patriot

March 6, 1862

To the Citizens of Guilford.—Lieut. W. P. Wilson and Sergeants Sloan and Nelson are authorized to receive recruits for the Guilford Grays in my name. The company has been stationed at Fort Macon, and by the gentlemanly and soldier like bearing of the men has won for itself the commendation of every commandant of this post. It is my purpose to recruit from Old Guilford enough men to make the maximum number allowed by law (125.) I deem it unnecessary at this time, when the enemy is on the soil of Carolina, to appeal to the patriotism of the men of this county. Then come forward to assist the other brave men from Guilford to cleanse, at any cost, our State from the foul invader. The recruiting officers will explain everything appertaining to the service, pay, clothing, etc.

WM. ADAMS, Capt. G. Grays.

Feb 27

Guilford in Motion.

The whole Guilford Militia has for the last week or ten days been in a state of commotion. So far, order and good feeling has prevailed. The draft in the 68th Regiment took place Saturday last. As soon as the companies that are being formed are organized, we will give a statement showing the number in service from Guilford.

Volunteering is still going on quite briskly. The following gentlemen are forming volunteer companies for the war, with fair prospects of early success, viz:

Chas. E. Shober, Lt. Jas. T. Morehead, Jr., Lt. Watlington; dr. A. P. McDaniel; David Scott, Jr., (who was in the Bethel fight) and perhaps othes. The old companies from Guilford have also lately received large numbers of recruits. From present indications, Guilford will do her part in achieving the Independence of the Southern Confederacy.

March 20, 1862

The Battle near Newbern.

The Burnside fleet, or a portion of it, came up the Neuse river on Thursday last, and landed fifteen or twenty thousand troops a few miles below Newbern. The fight took place on Friday morning, and lasted about two and a half hours.

Much confusion prevails relative to this affair, so disastrous. The following statement of facts we gather from sources which we think likely to be correct. Our line was formed on the south side of the Neuse, near our lowest Fort, and fronting down the river, commencing on the left with Sloan's regiment, (Major Gilmer commanding;) then Lee's Campbell's, Sinclair's, the Militia, Avery's (in part,) Vance's, with Latham's battery on Campbell's left, and Brem's on his right; the Orange Cavalry, and probably that of Franklin, on Vance's left. In this position they were attacked by the enemy. The Militia, after a few ineffectual shots, became panic-stricken and fled, followed by Sinclair's regiment, which exposed Brem's battery to a flank fire.

Col. Campbell sustained his position in the centre with great gallantry, twice drove back the enemy across the breastwork, and would have continued the fight with vigor, but neither the Militia nor Sinclair's regiment rallied to his support after these charges. Col. Avery's regiment fought well and suffered severely. He was himself wounded and captured. Lieut. Col. Hoke and Major Gaston Lewis, of this regiment, also distinguished themselves in the action. Not a large portion of Vance's regiment were engaged with the enemy, but those who were behaved well. Major Carmichael of this regiment is certainly killed. No other field officer was killed or captured. Two pieces of Brem's artillery are saved, all our other pieces were lost. Latham lost sixty horses, and all his men missing except eighteen. Brem lost twenty four horses, and nine men killed and wounded. The commands of Lee and Sloan were not much engaged, but ordered to retreat after our centre was lost. The retreat was not well conducted on the part of portions of several of the regiments and became a rout. Vance's command on the extreme right, with the Cavalry of Orange and Franklin, did not reach the Bridge across Trent, until it had been fired and destroyed. They were therefore compelled to retire on the right side of the river to Trenton, but have since joined their comrades at Kinston, where our army is being rallied, and reinforcements are hurrying on to their assistance.

Our loss in killed and seriously wounded is probably from 60 to 70, in prisoners about 150. To this must be added the loss of all our camp equipage.

General French, of Mississippi, an old army officer, has arrived at Kinston, and will be the senior in commission, and entitled to the command.

The Greensborough Patriot

We deem proper to add, that as to the companies from Orange belonging to this army, though some of the men were dispersed in the retreat, they were coming in at the last advices, and we have no reason to believe that any of them were killed or captured by the enemy.

A part of Newbern has been burned, but how much we have not learned.—Hillsborough Recorder.

We are advised that Col. Sloan's Reg't. in which were the Guilford Grays, was stationed on the left of the line, where the breast works approached Neuse River, Fort Thompson being in the angle made by the River and the breast works extending from it and the Fort south-west. Col. Sloan was accidentally and unavoidably absent—an incident, regretted by none so much as himself. He has waited long and anxiously for the enemy. By permission of the Commanding General, he ventured to leave his command for two or three days to attend to an urgent call, advised that he might do so safely at the time, the most reliable information being that there would be no attack of the enemy for some time yet to come. Col. Sloan is a gallant and noble officer. Sober, gentlemanly, and universally respected and beloved by his men whom he has with great labor and care trained and drilled for effective service. But we are happy to be assured that his place, was in all things filled and supplied by our gallant young townsman Major John A. Gilmer, on whom devolved the entire command of the Regiment.

We find the mouths of all, having knowledge of his firm, cool, and discreet and daring conduct filled with laudation and praises. His Regiment was placed at a point where threatened much fighting and much danger, from the Fleet on the left and from the land in front of the breastworks. It unexpectedly turned out that the fighting commenced out of reach of his guns in front of breastworks to his right, and it was some time before he could reach any of the enemy with his pivot guns, which he did most effectually for some time before the order to retreat. His regiment, whilst exposed to a hail storm of bombs obeyed their orders and firmly stood their ground, doing their whole duty, until ordered to retire. The enemy's fleet did not come up the River, in range of the mounted cannon in Fort Thompson, until our forces on land along the breastwork, had by overpowering numbers, been forced to retire. We are advised that the regiment commanded by Major Gilmer, was among the last to retreat, which they did in good order. We regret to learn that of the Guilford Grays, Samuel A. Hunter, a noble and most worthy young gentleman, was

killed, and Samuel Jordan, an equally worthy member of the Grays, is missing. No other loss to the Guilford Grays, who acquitted themselves with great credit, and in a manner worthy of all praise.

Capt. B. L. Cole and his cavalry company from Guilford, were in Col. Spruill's regiment. This Company was also in the fight, and acquitted themselves well. We have no particulars as to the losses, if any, of Capt. Cole's company, but will recur to it when we shall be more fully advised.

Although defeated at Newbern, certainly there was enough done by a few, against most overwhelming odds, to teach the enemy that our subjugation is an impossibility and that we are a race of people that can never be conquered. Let none be discouraged at this and other reverses; but let us put on our whole armor, unite our whole strength—each and every one resolve to “do or die,” and the signs that might seem gloomy to any other people, will soon pass away.

150th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Ft. Macon
Fort Macon State Park
2303 East Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, NC, 28512
April 21 & 22, 2012

Reenactment of the Battle of Fort Macon

Living History events will be performed throughout the day by soldiers of the North and South. Flag talks, music, uniform talks, musket firing demonstrations, drills and children's activities are a few of the programs being performed. The bombardment and surrender of Fort Macon will be reenacted at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Open 9:00 a.m – 5:00 p.m. Saturday, 10:00 a.m – 5:00 p.m. Sunday.

Night Cannonade

On April 21, 1862 a large body of Federal troops could be seen in the darkness up the beach of Bogue Banks toward Fort Macon. Fort Macon State Park will reenact the continuous artillery fire that dispersed the Union troops and drove them away. Spectators will be able to experience the sights and sounds of the bombardment just as the people of Beaufort and Morehead City thronged the waterfront areas watching the dazzling spectacle of the night bombardment 150 years ago. Starts at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Calendar of Events

344th Regular Meeting - (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, March 20th, at 6:00 PM
 Capt. Bill's Seafood
 6108 West Market St.
 Greensboro, NC 27409
 (336) 852-5162

Speaker: Eric Richardson will present, "Black Confederates – Debunking the myth of the White Confederate Military."

Colonel Charles F. Fisher Camp #813 Meeting

Tuesday, April 3rd, 6:00 PM Meal, 7:00 PM Meeting
 Twin Lakes Retirement Community Center
 100 Wade Coble Drive
 Burlington, NC 27215

Lt. FC Frazier Camp #668 Meeting

Monday, April 9th, 6:00 PM Meal, 7:00 PM Meeting
 Women's Club of High Point
 4106 Johnson Street
 High Point, NC 27265

Anderson-Tew-Bingham Camp #2192 Meeting

Tuesday, April 10th, 6:00 PM Meal, 7:00 PM Meeting
 La Fiesta Restaurant
 1040 Mebane Oaks Road
 Mebane, NC 27302

345th Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, April 17th, at 6:00 PM
 Capt. Bill's Seafood
 6108 West Market St.
 Greensboro, NC 27409
 (336) 852-5162

Speaker: Jim Mills will present a program on Bowie Knives.

150th Anniversary Reenactment of the Battle of Ft. Macon

Saturday, April 21st, and Sunday, April 22nd
 Fort Macon State Park
 2303 East Fort Macon Road
 Atlantic Beach, NC 28512

MARCH 2012						
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APRIL 2012						
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29	30					

Camp Staff

Don Saunders - Commander
 Josh Myers - Lt. Commander
 Sammy Scott - 2nd Lt. Commander
 Thad Tucker - Treasurer
 Mike Myers - Adjutant
 David Long - Chaplain
 John Pugh - Color Sergeant
 Rahlo Fowler - Chief of Staff
 Jeff Frank – Newsletter

Mailing Address

Colonel John Sloan Camp #1290
 P.O. Box 4895
 Greensboro, NC 27404

Reminder

As tax time approaches...
 remember donations to the
 camp are tax-exempt!