

# SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION



April, 2015

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## Message from the Commander

Commander Jeff Frank

As the spring brings a close to the Sesquicentennial, and an end to the highly publicized 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary events of the War for Southern Independence, the sacrifices and heroic deeds of our ancestors are in no way lessened. Their stories are just as important one hundred and fifty-one years later, and beyond. Lest We Forget.

Membership cards are being redistributed due to an error in the expiration date. For those that receive the newsletter in the mail and have not been given a new card, it will be enclosed with this month's newsletter. For others, please see myself or the adjutant at the meeting to obtain your new card. Note that our yearly membership period is not based on the calendar year, but runs from August 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Vidalia Onions Fundraising

Lt. Commander Don Saunders

A Sloan Camp member recently asked me: "What did we do with the Vidalia onion money?" You may have asked the same question. There's not an answer. There are many answers.

In past years, the Vidalia onion money has provided money to fund the Sloan Camp newsletter, camp program speaker's honorarium, Lee-Jackson banquet, insurance for our monuments and markers, and a major contribution to the Sloan Camp monument and marker preservation fund. In addition, the Vidalia onion money has provided donations to: NC SCV Heritage Defense Fund, General Joseph E. Johnson Monument at Bentonville, NC, 16th SC (Confederate) Museum in Greenville, SC, Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA, Civil War Trust, NC Flag Conservation in Raleigh, NC, assistance to the Captain Robert Bingham Camp in Mebane, NC, and the Forsyth Rifles Camp in Winston-Salem, NC. These are some of the projects and causes the Sloan Camp has supported.

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"The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert it's self, though it may be at another time and in another form."

President Jefferson Davis, C.S.A.

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- April 1-May 8 - take orders (no Money)
- May 8 - turn in final order
- May 15 - pick-up onions (Sears/Whole Foods at Friendly)
- May 19 - money due at camp meeting

## The Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain David A. Long, III

"The Emancipation Proclamation"

Abraham Lincoln was a tender and compassionate president, especially when ministering to wounded soldiers. His compassion is illustrated in the following story:

"Despite his busy schedule during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln often visited the hospitals to cheer the wounded. On one occasion he saw a young fellow who was near death." Is there anything that I can do for you?" asked the compassionate President." Please write a letter to my mother, came the reply. Unrecognized by the soldier, the Chief Executive sat down and wrote as the youth told him what to say. The letter read, " My dearest mother, I was badly hurt while doing my duty, and I won't recover. Don't sorrow too much for me. May God bless you and Father . Kiss Mary and John for me. He was too weak to go on, so Lincoln signed the letter for him and then added this postscript:" Written for your son by Abraham Lincoln."

Asking to see the note, the soldier was astonished to see who had shown him such kindness. Are you really the President?" he asked. "Yes" was the quiet answer. "Now, is there anything else I can do?" The lad feebly answered, "Will you please hold my hand? I think it would help to see me through to the end." The tall, gaunt man granted his request, offering warm words of encouragement until death stole in with the dawn."

One of the characteristics of Godly leaders is their willingness to help those who are hurting and weak. This was the true secret of his greatness. A person of greatness condescends to those who are less fortunate.

I have received a notice of a new exhibit at the Greensboro Historical Museum. It read:

"Just this week we are opening a new exhibit, The Emancipation Proclamation. The exhibit will present a rare opportunity to see an 1864 printed Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln, as well as related objects "

It is your opportunity to see one of the documents of United States history. Don't miss it!

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you"

Ephesians 4:32

## In case you missed it...

If you were not able to attend last month's meeting, here is what you missed.

- New membership cards being distributed due to error in the expiration date.
- Business cards for the camp are available for all members. The cards include: camp name, location, website, purpose and meeting location/time.
- Chaplain Long was presented a Certificate of Appreciation, on behalf of Commander Ron Perdue, the Lt. F. C. Frazier Camp 668 and the Mattie Clyburn Rice Memorial Dedication Committee.
- Michael Myers was presented a Certificate of Appreciation, on behalf of the Col. John Sloan Camp 1290, for his past service as camp adjutant.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Sam Scott spoke of Past Commander Jim Siske's appreciation of the flowers and camp attendees at his mother's funeral. He also commented on recent coverage by news correspondent Brian Williams (NBC) on the progress being made on the restoration of the H. L. Hunley.
- Frank Powell discussed the design, construction and history of many of the flags at the NC Historical Museum.

## 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

## Ancestor of President Jefferson Davis Visits Greensboro

The Col. John Sloan Camp 1290, and Guilford Chapter 301 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, had the pleasure of organizing a visit by Bertram Hayes-Davis (great-great-grandson of President Jefferson Davis) and his wife Carol. He was following in President Davis' footsteps in his flight from Richmond on April 2, 1865, to his imprisonment at Fortress Monroe. The purpose of the visit was to gather information about his time in Greensboro to help plan a future trip to be filmed for a documentary.

Local authors/historians present included; Carol Moore, Michael Briggs and Clint Johnson. The Col. John Sloan Camp was represented by Commander Jeff Frank and Lt. Commander Don Saunders. Guilford Chapter 301 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy was represented by President Joanne Sharpe and Michele Miller, Chapter Director of the Children of the Confederacy.

The group met at Natty Greene's on Elm street mid-day, and following introductions, were lead on a walking tour by Michael Briggs of the locations President Davis and the Confederate Cabinet stayed and conducted the last cabinet meetings of the Confederacy. Other relative historical data and the nearby monuments erected by the Col. John Sloan Camp were discussed as well.



Initial meeting and introductions.

The party returned to Natty Greene's for lunch, further discussions and viewed the original appointment book of the officers in The Confederate States of America. The book was left in Greensboro in 1865 for safe keeping while the cabinet fled to Charlotte.

The visit appeared to go very well. Everyone had a great time and Bertram seemed pleased with the information provided to him.



Walking tour at monuments at Hamburger Square.



Viewing the officers appointment book.

Unfortunately, their brief visit to not lend itself to a "meet and greet" with our general membership. Hopefully we can arrange an event where everyone will have an opportunity to participate on a future visit.

*(Photographers from the News & Record were present from the initial meeting through the beginning of lunch. A news article has yet to be published (as far as I know). Links to any relevant articles will be provided on the website as they become available)*

## Calendar of Events

### 381<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

6:00 pm for Meal, Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Capt. Bill's Seafood

6108 West Market St.

Greensboro, NC 27409

Speaker: Robert ("Bert") Dunkerly, National Park Historian at Richmond National Battlefield Park, will discuss "The Confederate Surrender at Greensboro". He will also have his book available for purchase and signing.

### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Surrender at Bennett Place

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

Bennett Place, State Historic Site

\$10.00 / person (12 and under free), \$5.00 off-site parking

Visit <http://www.bennettplacehistoricsite.com/special-events/150th-surrender-anniversary/> for more information.

### Old Salem Confederate Memorial Day Service

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2:00 PM

Winston-Salem, NC

### Place Flags for Veterans in Greenhill Cemetery (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

### Greensboro Confederate Memorial Day Service

Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm

Greenhill Cemetery

Greensboro, NC

### Confederate Memorial Day

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

### Pick-up Vidalia Onions Orders (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Friday afternoon/evening, May 15<sup>th</sup>

Sears/Whole Foods parking lot at Friendly Center

### Summerfield Founder's Day Celebration (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

The Col. John Sloan Camp will participate by setting-up a table in the History Tent from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

### 382<sup>nd</sup> Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm for Meal, Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Capt. Bill's Seafood

6108 West Market St.

Greensboro, NC 27409

Speaker: Rodney Williams will give a program on "The Last Cannoneer".

APRIL 2015						
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31						

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