

SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION



July, 2015

Message from the Commander

Commander Jeff Frank

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Following the horrific attack in Charleston, SC, the focus shifted from the victims and perpetrator of the crime, to attacks on the Confederate Battle Flag. Those initial attacks have grown into an unwarranted cultural cleansing of our Southern Heritage and all things Confederate. Activists, with politicians quickly piling on, were followed by major retailers pulling any products with a Confederate Flag and even a cable network pulling "Dukes of Hazard" reruns from their programming. As the attacks continued over time, so has their scope, to include vandalism of Confederate monuments and graves.

Watching these events take place around us has been very difficult. As both students and teachers of history, we too should learn from history, so as not to repeat it.

In 1861, President Lincoln successfully orchestrated events so as to force the South to defend itself and appear to be the aggressor.

We must continue to hold the high ground during these attacks and not be goaded into lowering ourselves to the tactics of our attackers, or we risk falling into the same trap.

In 1938, British Prime Minister Chamberlain's attempts to appease Hitler and avoid war, only emboldened him. After having Czechoslovakia hand over the area of their county known as the Sudetenland to Germany in September 1938, Germany moved to occupy the remainder of Czechoslovakia in March 1939 and then invaded Poland in September 1939.

It has been suggested, from within our organization (on more than one occasion), that replacing the Battle Flag with another flag would silence our attackers. I have always believed appeasement would only embolden them and they would simply target the next flag or symbol. The people and organizations attacking our heritage will continue to vilify us regardless of what symbol we use, to further their own agendas and justify their existence. This belief has already been proven to be true, as activists and politicians have expanded their attacks to include; streets named after leaders of the Confederacy, Confederate monuments, and more...

This Month's Program

Michael Hardy will present, "Capitals of the Confederacy".

Food Drive

Bring canned food or other non-perishables (rice, etc...) for the months of July, August and September, which will be donated to a local charity.

Encouraging news can also be found, sometimes in unexpected places. An article in a blog from a major newspaper, after the reenactment of the Battle of Bentonville in March, included the following excerpt.

“Thank you for your patience,” one horseback-riding rebel said, tipping his cap, “and remember: Today’s dead Yankees are brought to you by the Army of Northern Virginia.”

Wait, what? That proclamation elicited a disturbingly raucous cheer from the people surrounding me, many of whom had affixed to their clothes a sticker that read “I Support Confederate Heritage.”

While the writer considered the cheers from the crowd “disturbing”, I had a considerable different take. I saw it as hope. Proof that over 150 years of Northern propaganda has failed to destroy the pride Southerners have (and rightly so) in their heritage.

I will be participating in upcoming living history programs at Appomattox Court House National Historic Park (July 25-26) and Gettysburg National Military Park (August 7-9). A firsthand report of how recent policy changes related to Confederate flags may have impacted these parks will be provided in the August newsletter. Based on their [press release](#), I don’t expect any significant changes.

I attended the Hillsborough Board of Commissioners meeting held on Monday, July 13th. This was the fourth meeting where the “Confederate Memorial” lettering on the exterior of the Orange County Museum was going to be discussed and a vote was expected. After comments from several residents of Hillsborough, and Orange County, the commissioners provided their comments and a vote was taken to begin the process of the removal of the “Confederate Memorial” lettering and the addition of an interpretive sign. The vote passed unanimously. An application is to be submitted to the Historic District Commission (HDC), which should specify both what is being removed from the building and what is being added. A Certificate of Appropriateness must be issued by the HDC before any change can occur to a structure within the Historic District. The HDC has no authority to modify the wording of the signage submitted with the application.

Commissioner Jenn Weaver acknowledged that a majority, from an on-line poll and from those that had spoken at

meetings supported leaving the lettering (six of seven residents that spoke July 13th supported leaving the lettering), but that these were not scientific polling methods and did not really represent the majority of residents. She went on to state that the lettering represented Jim Crow laws, white supremacy and failed reconstruction.

The proposed amendment to our By-Laws (detailed in last month’s newsletter), which defines a Life Membership option for the camp, will be voted on at our July meeting.

In case you missed it...

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



Welcoming Andrew Tucker to our ranks!

- We had several guests again at our monthly meeting!
 - Gary and Carolyn Kepley
 - Bill Wilson
 - Nicholas Allen
 - Pat Edwards
 - Keith Jones (from the Forsythe Rifles Camp #2245, in Winston-Salem, and past Brigade Commander)
- Welcome our new members!
 - Charles Nooe, Jr., who has transferred from the Danville, Virginia, camp. Please introduce yourself and make him feel at home.
 - Andrew Tucker, joined at our June meeting. Ancestor: Henry Thomas Daugherty, Pvt., Co. F, 14th VA Cavalry.
 - Charles Lockee (paperwork in-process :)

- Any camp members that do not have a name tag please contact 2nd Lt. Commander Sam Scott.
- Michael Briggs, camp founder and past commander, presented an excellent program on his recent book, "Guilford under the Stars and Bars", and signed copies at the meeting.

SCV License Plates



If you are interested in a SCV license plate, order one now! The NC DMV has run out of the tags after reportedly receiving nine months

worth of orders in ten days, but expects to have them back in stock by August 10, 2015. UPDATE: They are available as of 7/14/2015.

A new threat, in addition to Governor Pat McCrory's call to stop issuing these to our organization, is in the form of a Senate proposal that would reduce the amount of federal highway funds given to any state which issues license plates with our logo.

Book Discussion/Signing

While attending the discussion on Carol Moore's latest book, "Guilford County and the Civil War", she quoted a statement made by Zebulon Vance at a Memorial Day address on May 3, 1872, which I thought was very timely.

"It is our duty, the duo of those for whom they died, to keep alive the memories of their nobleness and unavailing courage ... It is our duo to keep fresh and green the record of their deeds, and when in calmer times the muse of history takes up the pen to write the story of their ill fated struggle, she may abundant material, replete with truth and justice... Then I can but commend this custom of annually honoring the graves of our fallen heroes. Care for the dead has been in all ages a good test of civilization. It is redolent not only of the most beautiful humanity but is especially suggestive of the immorality of the soul and of that great Christian doctrine of the resurrection when the bodies of these our slaughtered children shall arise in glorious array, even as the flowers have arisen from the earth, clothed with beano such as can only be bestowed by him whose hand paints the lilies o the valley and adorns with its wondrous tints the rose of Sharon."

Flag Rally in Burlington

A flag rally was held at Dixie Outfitters in Burlington on Saturday, July 11th. Jamie Funkhouser spoke to the crowd about our defending our heritage and history. After Jamie's statements, the store owner announced the crowd needed to disperse, due to a request by the property owner, and that he would be turning in a 30 day notice terminating his lease. We will keep you informed of his new location.



Fieldtrip!

A fieldtrip to visit the CSS Neuse, in Kinston, is planned for Saturday September 19th. We also will tour local battlefields as well. The current plan is for a few of us to caravan. Please contact Lt. Commander Don Saunders if you are interested in joining us for this trip.

Calendar of Events

120th National SCV Reunion

July 15th-19th

Richmond, VA

384th Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, July 21st

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

Capt. Bill's Seafood

6108 West Market St.

Greensboro, NC 27409

Speaker: Michael Hardy will give a program on, "Capitals of the Confederacy".

Summer Division Executive Council Meeting

August 15th

Hosted by the General Rufus Barringer Camp #2318

VFD and Community Center

6916 NC Hwy 200

Concord, NC 28025

385th Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, August 18th

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

Capt. Bill's Seafood

6108 West Market St.

Greensboro, NC 27409

Speaker: Kelly Hinson will give a first person impression program as Mrs. Rose O'Neal Greenhow, Confederate spy and namesake of the Order of the Confederate Rose.

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

JULY 2015						
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AUGUST 2015						
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