

# SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION



November, 2015

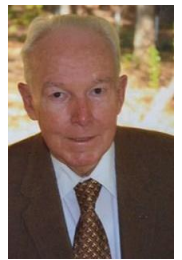
## Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the Commander
- 1 Lee-Jackson Banquet
- 2 The Chaplain's Corner
- 2 In case you missed it...
- 2 Large Battle Flag Raised in Danville
- 3 Soldier Reunion Parade - Newton, NC
- 4 Calendar of Events
- 4 The Charge
- 4 Camp Staff

## Message from the Commander

Commander Jeff Frank

It is with a heavy heart I report the passing of Dr. Thomas Edgar Sikes, a long time member of our camp, on November 5<sup>th</sup>. An Air Force veteran, his service in professional and volunteer organizations was extensive. Dr. Sikes consistently attended our meetings, accompanied by his wife Betty Gale, who continued to join us even after his health conditions prohibited his attendance. Please keep Betty Gale in your thoughts and prayers.

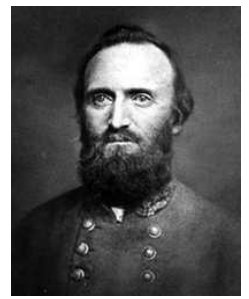
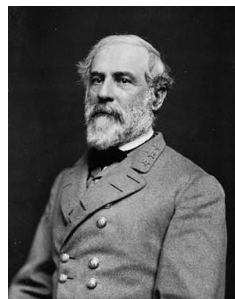


Michael Givens' (past SCV Commander-in-Chief) lecture on "Hollywood: A Carolina Perspective", presented by the Greensboro Lecture League, was attended by myself and David and Myra Moore. He opened the program with a video of excerpts from various commercials/movies from his career, which includes around 1000 commercials and 50 feature films. While his subject matter was much different than those presented during his tenure as SCV Commander-in-Chief, pride in his Southern heritage still came through. For more information you can visit his business web site, Michael Givens & Associates Acting & Film Institute ([www.mgafilm.org](http://www.mgafilm.org)), which is located in Charleston, SC.

### This Month's Program

"Col. John Singleton Mosby", presented by Steve Campbell

### Lee-Jackson Banquet



6:00 PM  
January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Capt. Bill's Seafood  
6108 West Market St.  
Greensboro, NC 27409

Speaker for the evening...

Jack Malar will present, "The Bond of Lee and Jackson"

Coat & Tie (or period dress welcomed)

Live music provided by, Linda & Company (tentative)

No pre-registration. Meals will be ordered from the menu.

## The Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain David A. Long, III

"A Correct View Of Life"

General Robert E. Lee wisely said,

"Get correct views of life, and learn to see the world in its true light. It will enable you to live pleasantly, to do good, and when summoned away, to leave without regret."

Although Robert E. Lee was a man of great faith, he was also a realist. He viewed life through the lens of the Bible and learned to be content within the parameters of reality. He could accept both victory and defeat with patience because he had learned to trust in the Providence of Almighty God.

We often live with exaggerated expectations and have a tendency to put others on pedestals. But humans are human, which means that they are subject to weaknesses as part of the human race. At times the best people will disappoint us. However, if we have a realistic view of life, we learn to accept things that would normally confuse us.

The Apostle Paul lived with life's harsh realities. The Roman government, of which he was a citizen, opposed his ministry, and the Scribes and Pharisees, of which he was a member, saw him as a threat to Judaism Paul learned that God's grace was sufficient to sustain him through the tough times. Before his death he could say with no regrets that he had "fought a good fight."

"The fear of the Lord leads to life: Then one rests content, untouched by trouble."

Proverbs 19:23

### In case you missed it...

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

- Guests at our October meeting included...
  - Howard Cole
  - Jerry Armfield
  - Jonas Crews
  - Heather Sloan

- New Business
  - John Plybon began a discussion about donating to the Flags Across the Carolinas project, adopted by the NC SCV Mechanized Cavalry. The discussion lead to Herb Tucker making a motion for the camp to donate \$200.00, plus any funds members wanted to add personally. The motion passed unanimously. A donation totaling \$240.00 to be sent to the NB Forrest Camp #803 for this project.
  - A discussion related to how we might impact the education of young adults, as it relates to our Southern heritage and the War for Southern Independence, developed following comments made by Drew Tucker. Commander Jeff Frank stated his belief that home schooling would provide the best opportunity for acceptance of a balanced view of history. Heather Sloan provided additional comments on home schooling.
- Announcements
  - Commander Jeff Frank, Lt. Commander Don Saunders and Color Sgt. John Pugh provided coverage for the NC SCV booth on opening day of the NC State Fair.
  - Reminder about the Veteran's Day Parade in High Point on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Unfortunately our speaker, SFC Charles Tilton, failed to make the meeting. Lt. Commander Don Saunders gave a brief program on the Battle Flag in place of the planned program. The program was preceded by going around the room and having members state where their ancestors were from (County, etc.), which was suggested by Adjutant Roy Smith.

## Large Battle Flag Raised in Danville

A large, 20'x30', battle flag was raised on a 90' flag pole along the Danville Expressway on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, by the Virginia Flaggers. This was in direct response to the ruling by Danville Circuit Court Judge James Reynolds, who dismissed a suit filed against the City of Danville asking for the return of the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Flag of the Confederacy to the monument located at Sutherlin Mansion.

The Heritage Preservation Association Inc. and co-plaintiffs asked for the return of the flag based on a Virginia state law

that forbids the altering of memorials for war veterans and on a breach of contract of a city council resolution.

Excerpt from Danville City Council resolution in 1994 states...

"Neither the city, its successors in interest, nor any tenant of the property shall alter the design, location or inscription of the monument, nor shall the city, its successors in interest, or any tenant of the property remove or alter the flag flying from the monument,"

Virginia state law...

§ 15.2-1812. Memorials for war veterans.

A locality may, within the geographical limits of the locality, authorize and permit the erection of monuments or memorials for any war or conflict, or for any engagement of such war or conflict, to include the following monuments or memorials: Algonquin (1622), French and Indian (1754-1763), Revolutionary (1775-1783), War of 1812 (1812-1815), Mexican (1846-1848), Confederate or Union monuments or memorials of the War Between the States (1861-1865), Spanish-American (1898), World War I (1917-1918), World War II (1941-1945), Korean (1950-1953), Vietnam (1965-1973), Operation Desert Shield-Desert Storm (1990-1991), Global War on Terrorism (2000- ), Operation Enduring Freedom (2001- ), and Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003- ). If such are erected, it shall be unlawful for the authorities of the locality, or any other person or persons, to disturb or interfere with any monuments or memorials so erected, or to prevent its citizens from taking proper measures and exercising proper means for the protection, preservation and care of same. For purposes of this section, "disturb or interfere with" includes removal of, damaging or defacing monuments or memorials, or, in the case of the War Between the States, the placement of Union markings or monuments on previously designated Confederate memorials or the placement of Confederate markings or monuments on previously designated Union memorials.

...

The suit was dismissed with the judge ruling the city council resolution did not constitute a contract and additionally that the monument is not covered under state law because the law was enacted in 1998 and is not specifically retroactive. (The monument at Sutherlin Mansion was erected in 1995.)

An appeal of the decision is being considered.

We have seen activist judges at local, state and national levels stretch their interpretation of laws to extremes in order to ensure a specific outcome (in my opinion). The SCV is a non-political organization, and North Carolina judicial elections are nonpartisan. When judicial seats are on our local and state ballots, let us remember how their rulings may have impacted the goals of our organization.

This is the fifth Memorial Battle Flag raised in the Danville area since the removal of the 3'x5' flag from Sutherlin Mansion!

For the latest information on the Virginia Flaggers, or to make contributions, you can visit, <http://vaflaggers.blogspot.com/>.

## Soldiers Reunion Parade – Newton, NC

From Mark Dixon, Lt. Commander of the Cpt. Charles F. Connor Camp #849, Hickory, on November 6<sup>th</sup> -

"The City of Newton is at it again. On Nov. 4th a secret non public meeting was held with The Mayor, The City Mgr, Legion Commander, Newton Merchants President, NAACP President and Old Soldiers reunion Committee. In this meeting The Mayor and NAACP President demanded that all parade participants sign a promise of No Confederate flags, pins or clothing for the "parade safety". Reunion Chairman Wayne Dellinger resigned and American Legion Post 16 Commander Ron Harris pulled sponsorship as a show of support for the cause. However this isn't the end it is my belief that this will go before City Council on Tuesday Night."

Danny Bolick, NC Division Commander, reported a "fantastic turnout" by supporters at the Newton City Council meeting.

No decisions related to the parade were made at this meeting.

Description of the annual Soldiers Reunion from the City of Newton's web site...

"The Soldiers Reunion celebration in Newton is believed to be the longest-running patriotic celebration in the United States not based on a holiday. The tradition began in Newton on July 4, 1889, when Civil War veterans answered a statewide call for recognition of their wartime efforts and to receive their pensions. The

gathering in Newton led to annual reunions, starting the popular patriotic Soldiers Reunion. Today, the celebration offers a variety of family-friendly activities and events for veterans and the community to enjoy, many of which are centered around the iconic 1924 Courthouse Square."

So they have proposed banning the flag of the specific veterans who are responsible for the existence of the event!

## Calendar of Events

### 388<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, November 17<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: Steve Campbell will speak on "Col. John Singleton Mosby" (the "Gray Ghost").

### Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>

### Jamestown Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 PM

Line-up time 1:30 PM at the Jamestown Town Hall (301 E. Main Street, Jamestown, NC 27282) in the front and rear parking lots. (Please enter from Teague Drive).

### 389<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, December 15<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: Dennis Barbour will give a program on "Robert E. Lee".

### Christmas Day

Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

## 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

NOVEMBER 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Camp Staff

**Commander:** Jeff Frank

[commander@coljohnsloancamp.org](mailto:commander@coljohnsloancamp.org)

Home: (336) 621-8083

Cell: (336) 337-4137

Call Sign: WF4CSA

**Lt. Commander:** Don Saunders

[ltcommander@coljohnsloancamp.org](mailto:ltcommander@coljohnsloancamp.org)

Phone: (336) 299-2996

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander:** Sam Scott

**Adjutant/Treasurer:** Roy Smith

[adjutant@coljohnsloancamp.org](mailto:adjutant@coljohnsloancamp.org)

Phone: (336) 312-0647

**Chaplain:** David Long

**Color Sergeant:** John Pugh

**Chief of Staff:** Doug Phillips

**Editor/Webmaster:** Jeff Frank

[webmaster@coljohnsloancamp.org](mailto:webmaster@coljohnsloancamp.org)

## Mailing Address

Colonel John Sloan Camp #1290  
P.O. Box 36302  
Greensboro, NC 27416