



# THE LEGIONARY

May 2008

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina ♦ [www.wadehamptoncamp.org](http://www.wadehamptoncamp.org)

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

## CONFEDERATE MEMORY LOSS

*By The Southern Avenger*

May 10th is Confederate Memorial Day in South Carolina and as usual the holiday will likely pass with less fanfare than some might like. That a holiday to honor the Confederate dead doesn't get as much attention as their flag says more about today's politics than it does yesterday's soldiers.

For us modern folks, it is the flag that first comes to mind upon hearing the word "Confederate" and how one feels about the South's most famous symbol is the key to how we feel about everything else associated with it. Some insist that the Confederate flag stands for bravery and sacrifice while others believe it stands for slavery. Some contend that it stands for regional pride while others consider it a symbol of racism.

The Confederate flag is not the first symbol in history to have double meaning. There's little doubt Muslims during the Crusades had as negative a view of the Christian cross as their opponents did a favorable one. Englishman likely had a different feeling about the Union Jack than those in India and elsewhere who watched as foreigners colonized their homeland. And the American Indian, no doubt, has had a love/hate relationship with Old Glory for centuries. Yet no reasonable man would dare suggest that Christians, the English or Americans surrender their most cherished symbols.

Black Southerners are not without reason in their distaste for the Confederate flag. But does their distaste discount white Southerners' affection? Should the worst aspect attributed to a symbol, however accurate or inaccurate, define that symbol for everyone?

*See Memory, Page 3*

## BLACK COUNCILWOMAN ATTENDS CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL



*By David Bauerlein*

Jacksonville City Councilwoman Glorious Johnson admires Abraham Lincoln and the Confederate Flag.

On Sunday, the African-American councilwoman joined the Southern side of the Civil War when she lead a local chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans singing *I Wish I Was in Dixie* [Sic.] in honor of Confederate soldiers.

Her appearance marked the first time an African-American council member has come to the annual memorial event at the Old City Cemetery near downtown.

It wasn't an entirely new venue for Johnson, who is considering a future run for mayor. She also has attended the Jackson-Lee Dinner put on by the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The Kirby-Smith Camp of the organization invited Johnson, a former music teacher, to lead *I Wish I Was in Dixie* [Sic.] at the event Sunday. The song became a favorite anthem of Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.

"Let's sing loud and let's sing proud," Johnson told the group.

Behind her, Confederate flags rippled in the breeze at graves where the Kirby-Smith Camp says 40 Confederate soldiers are buried.

*See Councilwoman, Page 3*

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

- **RUSTY RENTZ**

Why did each of us join the SCV? Was it to make new acquaintances? Did it sound trendy at the time? Were you talked into joining and really did not understand what the SCV was? With a camp of over 190 members, it is likely that we have many members that would answer "yes" to one or more of the above. Regardless, of how you got here, you are part of a very special group engaged in a very important work.

We, as proud descendants of Confederate soldiers, have both a duty and responsibility to our ancestors and the Lt. General Wade Hampton Camp. I am often asked by members how they can support the SCV in general and the Wade Hampton Camp in particular. I will list several ways I believe we all can support our organization and honor our Confederate ancestor.

We can attend camp meetings, recruit new members, volunteer for camp

activities, attend State and National Conventions, clean Confederate cemeteries, place tombstones on Confederate graves, financially support the camp, attend Confederate Memorial Day services, contact our legislators, write letters to the editor, invite friends to camp meetings, offer assistance to camp officers, etc.

During the month of May did you or will you do any of the following: Attend the Statewide Confederate Memorial Day Service held in Columbia? Attend or serve as a volunteer at *Battle For Columbia*? Stand as an honor guard on May 10 at the Statehouse? Attend our next camp meeting?

I hope each member will evaluate their commitment to their ancestor and the just CAUSE for which they fought. We are the few that have taken a stand to protect their name. There are many ways to achieve this, with just a few being

mentioned above. As this year progresses, let each of us make an effort to be more supportive of the SCV and The Lt. General Wade Hampton Camp.

The SC Division is updating the SC Division History in book form. One section of the book will be devoted to members that have received an award from their camp—division or national. If you fall into this category please inform me of the award you received and what year it was presented to you so it can be included in the book.

Our next meeting will be Thursday May 22, 2008 at Seawell's Restaurant with the meal beginning at 6:00 pm. Our program will be presented by Division Chaplain Ed Westbury. His topic for the evening will be "Black Confederates". I look forward to seeing everyone and hope you will bring a potential member.

## CHAPLAIN'S PULPIT

- **LARRY BATES**

The Lord has shown His goodness and mercy to our Camp in a number of ways. First, we have been praying for two compatriots who have been hospitalized recently. I've received reports that longtime Quartermaster Earl Eargle is improving and doing much better. Marion Hutson is once again attending our meetings after a few back surgeries and a knee replacement. This is a real answer to prayer and we rejoice with them and their families. I have been told that two more compatriots will be having surgery in May and I will be praying that God will be merciful and their surgery is successful.

*The Battle For Columbia* re-enactment, which we have been praying for, went very well. God really blessed us with good weather. The Wednesday before the battle, the Weather Channel was reporting it would rain from Minnesota to Florida for both Saturday and Sunday but as it turned out the only rain we got was a very short downpour in the early hours of the morning Saturday night. I am reminded of Psalms 107 that says, "He calms the storm... Oh, that men would give thanks to

the Lord for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!" It was good to see joyful looks on the faces of those who gave and labored to make the event a success. We also had some unexpected blessings. Just a day or so before the event, Ed Killian was able to come up with over 500 bags of much needed ice for the re-enactors and the event. Thank you Eddie! David Chaltas from Jeremiah, Kentucky, who is famous for his impression of Gen. Lee joined us Saturday, and strengthened and lifted the spirits of everyone, spectator and compatriot alike, who were blessed to come in contact with him. His living history presentation of Gen. Lee amazed educated and entertained the public as it always does. David was also able to attend the services at Elmwood and the State House on Saturday and marched to the State House with HK Edgerton. All the glory for the success of the event is the Lord's and we are grateful to Him for His mercy and the joy He has given our hearts.

The picture included in this column is of our period Church service, led

by Palmetto Battalion Chaplain Mike Short of Fort Mill. The Lord's Day Service held on the battlefield at the John Culler farm was well attended by re-enactors, event staff and the public.



For the devotional last meeting, I gave Gen. Stonewall Jackson's testimony on how he received Christ as Savior. I will continue to speak on Gen. Jackson in regards to his Christian life for the devotionals at the May and June meetings. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## ADJUTANT'S DESK

- **RICKY LEE BADGER**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the camp for allowing me the honor to serve as Camp Adjutant. The Adjutant position has several duties. The adjutant must process new member applications, collect dues, take minutes,

give the treasurer's report, record and administer the roll call, pay bills, process transfers and deceased member reports, order supplies, process and file resolutions, keep records current and pass dated records to the historian. The adjutant also reports

delinquent members to the membership committee. I look forward to performing these duties and working with everyone in the camp. If you have any questions, please contact me at: (Work) 803-647-3365 (Home) 803-732-3050 (Email) rickybadger@aol.com.

For example, many black Americans have made African heritage a symbol of pride. Should the fact that more enslavement and slave trading occurred in Africa by Africans than it ever did in the entire West, discount African symbolism entirely?

Many have compared the Confederate flag to the Nazi swastika as an irredeemable symbol that stands exclusively for 'hate' and hate alone. But to compare Nazism, an imperial philosophy defined exclusively by anti-Semitism and white supremacy, with the War for Southern Independence, a struggle for national sovereignty not unlike the American Revolution, is absurd. That Adolf Hitler targeted a certain ethnic group for annihilation is certain as the fact that Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee did not. And whereas the swastika represented the singular vision of a race-obsessed dictator, Confederate imagery grew out of the

Christian and American character of the Southern people, from the St. Andrews Cross that adorns the battle flag to the 13 stars that define the red, white and blue banner.

Mutual respect does not necessarily entail mutual understanding, and just like the cultural divide in hip-hop and country music, a black American doesn't have to understand Robert E. Lee anymore than a white American needs to understand Malcolm X. What has happened to the Confederate flag is that those who neither like it nor understand it have been allowed to define it exclusively, which would be like reading a history of the Boston Red Sox written by the New York Yankees. Both groups belong to the same game and play on the same field, but naturally have entirely different perspectives.

Whether the Confederate flag stays with us or continues to wither on the

vine, it is but one symptom of a much larger problem. Political correctness and multicultural philosophy have rendered too many white Americans defenseless against those who would gladly rob them of their cultural inheritance just out of spite. It was Martin Luther King Jr. who said "a nation or civilization that continues to produce soft-minded men purchases its own spiritual death on the installment plan." And with the increasing attacks on traditional American symbols, everything from Christmas to Christopher Columbus in recent years, you can bet the ongoing destruction of the Confederate flag is but the first down-payment.

*This commentary was broadcast on WTMA, Charleston, SC on May 9, 2008..*

*The "Southern Avenger" Jack Hunter is a conservative commentator (WTMA 1250 AM talk radio) and columnist (Charleston City Paper) living in Charleston, SC.*

## COUNCILWOMAN

Tending to such graves is part of the mission for the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

During the ceremony, Johnson joined about 60 others who pledged allegiance to the United States flag and then said a "salute to the Confederate Flag."

The Confederate flag has been controversial, particularly when elements of it have been used in state flags. The Sons of Confederate Veterans has asked Florida to sell specialty license plates with the Confederate Flag on them.

Johnson said in an interview after the ceremony she doesn't view the Confederate flag as a racist symbol. She said by talking with members of the organization, she has learned more about the Civil War.

"This flag is not a flag of hate, but a flag about heritage and history," she said. "The people out here are not about hate, but about heritage."

Johnson, a Republican, cites Lincoln as a fellow member of the GOP. She said Lincoln deserves credit for signing the Emancipation Proclamation that ended slavery, though she said Lincoln did so partly because freed slaves would

give the Union forces more military recruits.

She said debates about whether schools should be named after Confederate leaders cause divisions in the community when the city needs to come together to tackle problems such as the high murder rate.

"How can we heal when we unearth things and open wounds that had been healing?" she said.

Isaiah Rumlin, president of the Jacksonville chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said Johnson "is an elected official who can say anything she wants to under freedom of speech. She can do what she wants to do. If she feels like she is doing the right thing, she has to deal with that."

Juan Gray, board chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Coalition's Jacksonville chapter, said Johnson told him before the event that she would be attending the Confederate memorial event. Gray said Johnson told her it was part of her mission to be a "representative off all the people."

"If there's a way for Councilwoman Johnson to create some

dialogue, that's fine with me," Gray said. "After they sing I Wish I Was in Dixie, I hope they would help solve some of the problems in Jacksonville, which is in 'Dixie.'"

Source: "Black councilwoman sets precedent." *The Times-Union*, Jacksonville, FL, 04/27/2008. (<http://www.jacksonville.com>)

To View a video of this event, including Ms. Johnson's leading the attendees in singing *Dixie*, use the URL below:

<http://tinyurl.com/4le9ox>

*Editor's Note:*

*Somebody finally gets it!*

*This kind of "reaching-out" should come as a surprise to no one and the fact that it does says a lot about what Americans, for the most part, have become.*

*It's too bad that this kind of "coming together" is viewed with suspicion by our enemies. Southerners, both black and white, have more in common with each other than they do with the Yankees—both the Northern-born and the Homemade kind.*

*Why can't we all just get along? Apparently we can when folks are willing to respect one another's cultural heritage.*

**Individuals interested in joining the SCV or this Camp should contact  
Compatriot Scott James: Phone (803) 781-1836, E-mail [wscottjames@bellsouth.net](mailto:wscottjames@bellsouth.net)  
WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN!**

## Important Dates in *The War of the Southrons*:

- May 1, 1863: Battle of Chancellorsville, VA begins.
- May 2, 1863: Battle of Chancellorsville: Gen. Jackson's flank movement is successful. Later he is accidentally wounded by his own men.
- May 3, 1863: Battle of Chancellorsville: Federals frontal assault fails at Fredericksburg.
- May 5, 1863: Battle of the Wilderness, VA, begins.
- May 6, 1861: Arkansas and Tennessee vote to secede from the Union.
- May 7, 1864: In Northern Georgia, U.S. Gen. Sherman, with 3 armies numbering 100,000 men, begin their barbaric march to Atlanta.
- May 8, 1862: Valley Campaign, Battle of McDowell, VA is a victory for Gen. Jackson.
- May 10, 1864: Lt. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson dies of his wounds of May 2nd.
- May 10, 1864: Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, VA.
- May 11, 1864: Battle of Yellow Tavern, VA. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart is mortally wounded in his cavalry battle outside of Richmond.
- May 12, 1864: Gen. J.E.B. Stuart dies.
- May 16, 1861: Confederate Congress admits Tennessee into the Confederacy.
- May 18, 1863: The Federal assault on Vicksburg begins.
- May 20, 1861: North Carolina becomes the 11th and final full state to secede from the Union.
- May 21, 1865: Under the command of Lt. Waddell, the CSS *Shenandoah* enters the sea of Okhotsk, looking for Yankee whalers.
- May 22, 1865: C.S. President Jefferson Davis is imprisoned at Ft. Monroe, VA.
- May 24, 1861: Yankee troops first set foot on Southern soil.
- May 27, 1863: At Port Hudson, LA, the 13,000 man Federal army attacks the 4,500 Confederate defenders in the 1st assault on the post. After heavy Federal loses, the attack fails.



Y'all Come!!!

**Next Camp Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 22nd**  
**6:00 p.m.**



**Seawell's Restaurant**  
**1125 Rosewood Drive**  
**Columbia, SC**

**Guest Speaker:**

**Ed Westbury**  
 Chaplain, SC Division, SCV

**Topic:**

**"Black Confederates"**

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 SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS