

THE LEGIONARY

June 2005

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273

Columbia, S.C.

www.wadehamptoncamp.org

"A Fraternal Organization of Southern Men"

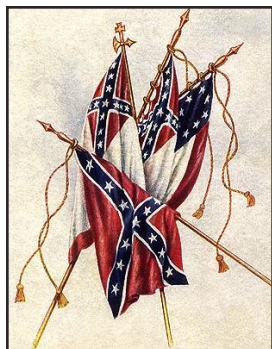
Nashville to Host 110th SCV Annual Reunion

Tennessee Event Set for July

The 2005 Reunion will be held at the Nashville Music City Sheraton, July 18-23. The men of the host camps extend a warm welcome to SCV compatriots to visit the area so rich in Southern history.

The theme chosen for the 2005 Reunion is "Preserving the Legacy."

This was chosen for one reason: the proceeds of the 2005 Reunion will be donated to the Tennessee State Museum, for the preservation of five dozen banners that make up the Tennessee Confederate battle flag collection.



These cherished links to our past are in need of preservation and it is the hope of the Reunion Committee and the host camps that we can raise the funds necessary to protect these bloodstained banners for future generations.

If you go to the Reunion, you may want to visit the Tennessee State Museum's War Between the States'

exhibits.

Displays include:

- Sam Davis' boot cut open by Union troops to search for hidden papers;
- Gen. Patrick Cleburne's cap;
- Nathan Bedford Forrest's revolver;
- Photographs of Tennessee black Union soldiers;



The 110th SCV Annual Reunion will honor our Confederate forefathers, similar to the scene above, from 2005 Confederate Memorial Day at Elmwood Cemetery.

See Reunion, Page 7

Equating Confederacy with Nazi Germany Shows Ignorance

It seems you just can't have a public discussion about the War Between The States without a liberal attempting to demonize the South by comparing the Confederacy to Nazi Germany.

Take a recent Associated Press article about a proposal in Memphis, Tenn., to rename Confederate Park, Jefferson Davis Park and Nathan Bedford Forrest Park and

place the statues of the two Confederate leaders in museums.

Shelby County (Tenn.) Commissioner Walter Bailey shows his stupidity by equating the Confederacy with Hitler's Fascist regime (which many a Southerner died fighting against).

Bailey, according to the AP, said he went to Germany six years ago and was

impressed by how they remembered the Nazi era.

"It was in the museums. You can't find any park memorializing Hitler," Bailey said.

Mr. Bailey apparently missed out on rudimentary history courses while in high school.

See History, Page 4

Basking in the Battle For Columbia's Aftermath

The last three months, March, April and May, have been as "Confederately" active as any in memory.

Wade Hampton's grand memorial service, the SC Division and special National conventions, and Confederate Memorial Day activities alone presented challenges all by themselves.

Yet the most significantly demanding event was no doubt the Battle for Columbia and without any doubt the most rewarding of all was our first-ever Living History & Education Day (LED).

The memories of that mass of young students and their teachers will last for a long, long time.

Actually, I still have not put away my copy of The State newspaper with the color front page picture of all those kids waving small ANV flags at LED. WOW! I never thought I'd ever see something like that. Our ancestors would be proud...real proud.

The educational building blocks are in place and next year's LED should be one of even grander impact.

So many teachers and parents went out of their way to thank us for such a well organized and effective learning experience. All the praise starts and stops with Larry Bates and Rusty Rentz who, along with a dedicated and caring corps of guides, cre-

Commander's Corner

By Jeff O'Cain

ated an opportunity for us all "to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

Demonstrations by the Artillery, Infantry, Cavalry, Post Office, Chaplain, Blacksmith, Engineers, the Confederate Relic Room & Museum, Cayce Museum, H.L. Hunley exhibit and so many others were so very well received.

But the two educational experiences that stand head and shoulders above all were that of H.K. Edgerton as a period-loyal Confederate black man and David Chaltas as "The Old General" Robert E. Lee.

One specific group of three teachers and four parents from Midway Elementary School sought me out at Ft. Mick to express their heartfelt appreciation, sheer surprise and enjoyment of the presentations by these two gifted men.

As the most highly regarded and articulate black Confederate certainly in all of America today, H.K. held every young person's undivided attention giving a masterful perspective of The Cause from that

of a typical black Southerner in the 1860s.

On Saturday, he manned the battle colors, rallying his fellow Confederates comrades in Ft. Mick against the Federal assault.

Serving as the SCV Kentucky Division Chaplain, David Chaltas brought Gen. Robert E. Lee to life for the near 1,000 youngsters who, thanks solely to him, now definitely know precisely why true Southerners hold "Marse Robert" in such saintly reverence.

Gen. Lee would certainly be humbled by Chaplain Chaltas' portrayal. What a striking figure he presented while attending the Friday evening church services in Lexington, Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies in Columbia and interacting with the crowds at Saturday's Battle for Columbia.

We owe every single person who contributed to the success of our first Living History & Education Day a huge debt of appreciation and gratitude.

For business reasons I will not be with you at the June meeting. Your capable and dedicated Lt. Commander Tommy Rollings will man the helm.

I will be in Texas guiding/hunting for giant 300-plus pound European Boar and, unlike with my African exploits, I'll be using nothing more than a Maasi spear.

No mistakes allowed here! See you in July...healthy and in one piece, I hope.



Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will 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 principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

-Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, New Orleans, La., April 25, 1906.

The Legionary

is the official publication of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp, No. 273, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Columbia, S.C. Individuals interested in joining the Camp or the SCV should contact the following individuals:
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Lieutenant's Ledger

By Tommy Rollings

Our Forefathers Offer Inspiration Against Adversity

Compatriots, rather than speak what is on my mind this month, I felt this would be a good time to share a passage from one of my favorite books.

The History of Kershaw's Brigade was written by D. Augustus Dickert, a captain in Kershaw's Brigade, which contained my Great-Grandfather, Aaron Plyler.

Whenever our struggle looks bleak, we should all strive to emulate the tenacity of the Confederate soldiers Dickert wrote about in the following excerpt:

"What is said of the South Carolinians can be truthfully said of Georgians. People of the same blood, and kindred in all that makes them one, they could be with propriety one and the same people. The Georgians would charge a breast-work or storm a battery with the same light-heartedness as they went to their husking bees or corn-shucking, all in a frolick.

To illustrate their manner of fighting, I will quote from a Northern journal, published just after the Seven Days battles around Richmond, a conversation between Major D., of the New York, and a civilian of the North.

"The Major was boasting in a noisy manner of the courage, daring, and superiority of the Northern soldiers over those of the South. 'Well, why was it,' asked the civilian, 'if you were so superior in every essential to the Rebels, that you got such an everlasting licking around Richmond?' 'Licking, h——l,' said the wounded Major, 'who could fight such people? Indians! Worse than an Apache.

"Just as we would get in line of battle and ready for an advance, a little Georgia Colonel, in his shirt sleeves and copperas breeches, would pop out into a cornfield at the head of his regiment and shout at the top of his voice, 'Charge!' Man alive! here would come the devils like a whirlwind-over ditches, gullies, fences, and fields, shouting, yelling, whooping, that makes the cold chills run up your back-flash their glittering bayonets in our very faces, and break our lines to pieces before you could say 'boo.'

"Do you call that fighting? It was murder.' No more need be said of the Georgians."

Indeed. Hopefully, one day our ancestors will speak of our tenacity in our fight with the same sense of admiration and respect.

Firm Foundation Essential in Defense of Noble Heritage of the Confederacy

Scripture lesson: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose. - *Romans* 8:28.

In Romans 8:31, Paul writes: What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Paul is reminding us that if we know God and live by faith in Him, we need not fear mere man or our present world.

We need to look to the Word of God and pray very often. We do not need to fear anything save doing the will of our Heavenly Father! Today our

Confederate history, symbols and culture are under a total assault by our enemies. One reason we are losing ground today in this struggle is because we do not have enough chaplains and pastors who are equally as dedicated, devoted and devout as those in the Confederate armies.

God uses men. You only have to read Hebrews 11 to discover this fact. May God

We, the descendants of
those noble Southerners
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fend our Southern heritage.

be pleased to awaken in each of us a desire to serve Him and to stand solidly upon the foundation of His Word. Only take seriously the word of Paul in our Scripture lesson and you can do anything that our Confederate ancestors did.

One of General Robert E. Lee's favorite hymns was "How Firm A Foundation." Indeed this hymn was sung at his funeral. May God help us all to see the absolute necessity for standing upon the proper foundation - His foundation.

Speaking of Robert E. Lee, He once met with a group of Chaplains, led by his favorite, Dr. B. T. Lacy. They called on Lee to ask for his help in getting official inspections on Sundays limited to times that would not interfere with worship services.

Chaplain's Pulpit

Bob Slimp

Lee issued a General Order in July 1862 stating: "Habitually all duties except those of inspection will be suspended on Sundays, to afford the troops rest and to enable them to attend religious services. He then thanked the Chaplains for coming and said: "My chief concern is to try to be an humble, earnest Christian. He called the Bible the book of books.

Before ending his meeting with them Lee made the following short address: "Knowing that intercessory prayer is our mightiest weapon and the supreme call for all Christians today, I pleadingly urge our people everywhere to pray. Believing that prayer is the greatest contribution that our people can make in this critical hour, I humbly urge that we take time to pray, - to really pray.

"Let there be prayer at sunup, at noon-day, at sundown, at midnight - all through the day. Let us pray for our children, our youth, our aged, our pastors, our homes. Let's pray for our churches and most of all for our fellow soldiers in our fight for freedom.

"Let us pray for ourselves that we may not lose the word 'concern' out of our Christian vocabulary. Let us pray for our nation. Let us pray for those who have never known Jesus Christ and His redeeming love, for moral forces everywhere, for our national leaders. May our prayers be our passion and may they be our practice."

We, the descendants of those noble Southerners who earnestly fought for what they knew was right, need to arise out of our sleep, and once again defend our Southern heritage.

If we would all do this, we would win the battle and our Southern heritage would continue to live and inspire us and all future generations until that great future day, when our Lord Jesus Christ shall come again!

As a great revival of the Christian faith swept our Confederate armies, may we in the SCV live for our Lord and pray for Revival in our country today!

Federal Court Overturns Ban on Confederate Flag Items

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — A federal judge has ruled a high school dress code that banned items bearing the “Rebel flag” is overly broad and violates students’ rights to free speech.

But U.S. District Judge John Copenhaver Jr. warned if students use the Confederate battle flag as a symbol to violate the rights of others, “the very ban struck down today might be entirely appropriate.”

Copenhaver’s ruling came in a lawsuit filed by Hurricane (W.Va.) High School senior Franklin Bragg, who was ordered to serve two in-house detentions last November for wearing the T-shirt with the flag’s image.

The lawsuit was filed by the ACLU of West Virginia after attempts to resolve the issue with school officials failed.

Some view the flag as a symbol of hate and racism. Others see it as honoring Southern history. Bragg has said he wore the T-shirt to show his Southern heritage.

Bragg sued Principal Joyce Swanson and the Putnam County Board of Education, arguing he had worn similar T-shirts and a Confederate flag belt buckle before Swanson became principal last fall.

Bragg also argued other clothing with political and advertising slogans was permitted.

Swanson modified the 1,000-student school’s dress code to prohibit clothing that featured “profanity, vulgarity, sexual innuendo, and racist language and/or symbols or graphics ... This includes items displaying the Rebel flag, which has been used as a symbol of racism at high schools in Putnam County.”

Putnam County, which is between Huntington and Charleston, is 98 percent white, according to the 2000 census.

About 0.6 percent of the county’s 51,589 residents are black.

In his ruling, issued Tuesday, Copenhaver wrote that courts have moved to ban

such images in schools where racial tensions exist.

Testimony at a hearing last month did not show such a climate existed at the Putnam County school.

“To suggest a ban is warranted simply because some associate it with racism proves too much for First Amendment purposes,” Copenhaver wrote.

The dress code is unconstitutional because it issues an outright ban on “items” displaying the flag, he wrote.

Although the policy may have been written with the best intentions, “the offending portion unjustifiably silenced a significant amount of permissible speech in contravention of the First Amendment,” he wrote.

Swanson said she had not seen the ruling and declined to comment.

Copenhaver’s ruling dismissed the board of education from the case.

-The Associated Press

Flag

A few facts for Mr. Bailey and others unclear on the differences between Nazi Germany and the Confederacy:

- Nazi Germany invaded and took over other sovereign nations in a quest for lebensraum, or “living space.” The Confederacy defended itself against invasion by the north, seeking not to expand at the expense of others, but to free itself from oppression. Had the North not drawn the South into conflict, the War Between The States would likely have never happened;
- Nazi Germany murdered millions of its own citizens, along with millions from other nations, in a genocidal quest for world domination. There was no genocide, organized or otherwise, under the Confederacy. The deaths at Andersonville and other POW camps were the result of supply shortages, not an active policy to kill off prisoners and refugees;
- Nazi Germany consciously sought to work slave laborers to death. Southern slave owners almost never consciously worked their slaves to the point of anything close to death, if for no other reason than it was a stupid policy businesswise.

Anyone with even a minute grasp of history understands these differences, which leads one to believe that the only reason anyone compares the Confederacy to Nazi Germany is because it’s politically expedient to do so.

Normally, this wouldn’t be much of a problem, but the lapdog liberal media have such an intense hatred for the Old South that they’re not only willing to overlook such egregious historical errors, they gladly pile on by giving the ignorant and malicious a viable forum from which to spew their venom.



Show your real colors with a new “Hampton’s Red Shirts” logo golf shirt and logo button-down shirt

Sizes range from M to XXL and are priced as follows:

	M, L, XL	XXL
Golf shirts	\$25	\$27
Button down long and short sleeve	\$32	\$34

Shirts are available at each Wade Hampton Camp meeting or by calling J.D. Holt at (803) 782-4973.

NAACP Vows “Drastic” Action if Flag Flies in Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — The Confederate flag is rising again in Missouri, and an NAACP leader is vowing a “drastic” response.

Republican Gov. Matt Blunt has ordered the Confederate flag to fly Sunday at the Confederate Memorial State Historic Site in Higginsville, where an afternoon graveside service is planned to mark Confederate Memorial Day.

The flag will fly for only one day, but a Blunt spokesman said Friday the governor also supports a scholarly review of whether it would be appropriate to again fly the Confederate flag regularly at the historic site.

Mary Ratliff, president of the Missouri State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was irate when she learned Friday of Blunt’s decision.

“It is just appalling to me that the governor would again raise a flag that is so humiliating and reminds us of the vestige of slavery that has divided our nation for all these years,” Ratliff said.

The state NAACP has a regularly scheduled meeting Saturday in Columbia, and Ratliff said she would be “asking for drastic measures from our national office.”

She noted the NAACP has led a 5-year-old boycott of South Carolina because of its display of the Confederate flag on the statehouse grounds, although not everyone

Those soldiers died for that flag. That’s the one day honoring those soldiers and it should fly for that day...

is following the group’s lead.

The Confederate flag has been a hot issue in Missouri for several years.

Confederate flags had flown daily at the Higginsville site and the Fort Davidson State Historic Site in Pilot Knob until they were ordered down in January 2003 by Democratic Gov. Bob Holden’s administration.

That decision came shortly after a comment by then-Rep. Dick Gephardt of St. Louis - who was running for the Democratic nomination for president at the time - that the Confederate flag should no longer fly “anytime, anywhere” because it is a divisive symbol.

Blunt disagreed with that decision, not necessarily because he wants the Confederate flags to fly permanently, but because he viewed it as coming “at the whim of a presidential candidate,” spokesman Spence Jackson said Friday.

“The governor has a long-standing view that the State Parks Advisory Board should make decisions after discussing with schol-

ars about the appropriate display of the flag,” Jackson said, “with distance from any effort to politicize or obstruct the honoring of war dead.”

Blunt supported legislation, which failed to come to a vote this year in the House, that would have allowed the state park board to decide whether the Confederate flag should fly over Missouri’s historical gravesites.

The bill was strongly opposed by many black lawmakers.

Jackson said Blunt directed the Confederate flag to fly Sunday at the request of Rep. Mike McGhee, R-Odessa, whose district includes the historical site. McGhee said he was acting upon the request of several Higginsville residents.

“Those soldiers died for that flag. That’s the one day honoring those soldiers and it should fly for that day,” McGhee said. But “I don’t think that flag belongs anywhere except over the graves of those soldiers.”

Missouri never joined the Confederacy, but was a divided state during the Civil War, with some residents fighting for the Union and some for the Confederacy.

Although there were no major battles fought on Missouri soil during the conflict, a number of smaller skirmishes took place.

Also, there were numerous incidents of Yankee troops terrorizing civilians believed to have pro-Southern sympathies, embittering the populace in many parts of the state.

-The Associated Press

N.C. Confederates Remembered in Cumberland Mountains

JACKSBORO, Tenn. — Forgotten for decades, the final resting place of more than 100 Confederate soldiers from North Carolina has been restored on a little hill overlooking the Cumberland Mountains.

Re-enactors and members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans from Tennessee and North Carolina marked the occasion earlier this month with a brief ceremony at the Delap-Civil War Cemetery.

New headstones honor 113 men and boys from the 58th North Carolina Confederate Infantry out of Watauga County, just over the Great Smoky Mountains.

They died in the Cumberland Mountains in the harsh winter of 1862-63.

They died of disease, not combat, trying to keep open the Cumberland Gap.

The markers are arranged in alphabetical order. At least 121 graves have been discovered, and more headstones are on order from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Three flagpoles fly the flags of the United States and Tennessee, North Carolina and the Confederacy.

“No one knew anything about it,” said Alice Coker, 89, a retired public health worker who spent years tracking the mystery of who was buried in brush-covered graves marked only by field stones and a large tree on which was carved the word, “Boothill.”

About two years ago, Leta Cornett of Vilas, N.C., provided the answer when she contacted the Campbell County Historical Society about where her great-great-grandfather might be buried, and the society pointed her to Coker.

Cornett’s ancestor, Dudley G. Glenn, a member of the 58th North Carolina, died at what was then-known as Big Creek Gap, now LaFollette, a few miles from the Tennessee community of Jacksboro. Cornett secured the unit’s roster and from that the historical society determined who was buried on the hill.

Parts of eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina were the hotbeds of secession that other parts of the South, and the two states, were.

But even areas of the South that weren’t overall as strong in support of the Confederacy sent large numbers of able-bodied men and boys to fight for the Southern cause.

-The Tennessean

Media Awakens to Ineffectiveness of NAACP Boycott

MYRTLE BEACH — If Crystal Hunt and Marquita Jackson were looking to draw attention, they succeeded.

Wolf whistles and honking horns followed the bikini-clad duo as they strutted down Ocean Boulevard.

Hunt was wearing a red-white-and-blue Confederate battle flag wrap over her white two-piece, Jackson a bra bearing the familiar diagonal blue cross and white stars co-opted by the Ku Klux Klan. You could say the two black women were thumbing their noses at the NAACP's 5-year-old boycott of South Carolina except for one thing: Neither of the 21-year-old North Carolina women had any idea there even was a boycott.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People started the boycott in 2000 to get the Confederate battle flag off the South Carolina statehouse dome.

That goal was achieved in July of that year, but the organization continued the sanctions when the flag was moved to a memorial on the statehouse grounds - a place of honor the group feels the flag doesn't deserve.

But judging from the columns of black motorcyclists zooming up and down the Grand Strand during the recent "Black Bike Week," few are heeding the call.

"I spend my money wherever I want to," Jackson, a stay-at-home mom from Fayetteville, N.C., said defiantly as she headed for the beach Memorial Day weekend. "They don't give it to me."

In the heady early days of the boycott, business and civic organizations canceled conventions at Palmetto State venues and pickets stood vigil at highway welcome centers.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association, under pressure from black coaches, declared a moratorium on scheduling new events in South Carolina or Mississippi, whose state flag incorporates the Confederate banner.

The NCAA moratorium still stands, and some presidential candidates campaigning in the state last year were careful to bring their own food and stay at supporters' homes to avoid feeding the local economy.

But the boycott has largely slipped from the public eye and out of most people's minds.

"I'll be honest with you, we no longer

Judging from the columns of black motorcyclists zooming up and down the Grand Strand during the recent "Black Bike Week," few are heeding the boycott.

see any significant or measurable impact from that - haven't since the flag came down," said Marion Edmonds, spokesman for the Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism.

The NAACP insists the boycott is still having an effect. But hard numbers are difficult to come by.

If there has been an effect, it is not reflected in tourism-related tax collections, Edmonds said. According to his agency, accommodations tax receipts increased \$3.5 million during the boycott period, and admissions tax collections grew \$2.5 million - slow but steady.

Edmonds thinks event planners saw the removal of the flag from the statehouse dome - where it was raised to commemorate the centennial of the Civil War and remained flying in defiance of the civil rights movement - as "a good-faith effort."

Steve Camp, president of the Midlands Authority for Conventions Sports and Tourism in the state capital of Columbia, said he still fields calls about whether the boycott is on - and still has people tell him they'll take their convention business elsewhere.

"I don't know that we lose money," he said. "I think that we lose opportunity."

For instance, Camp would love to pursue the NCAA men's basketball tournament, but he knows that's a nonstarter as long as that flag remains on the statehouse grounds.

In the meantime, he's grateful that organizations like the Eastern Intercollegiate Athletic Association - a small conference of historically black Southern colleges - agreed to return its basketball tournament to Columbia this year.

"We just need to leave that issue alone," said conference President Willie Jefferson. "We can call for that boycott from now to the 22nd century, and things still will not change."

Dwight James, executive director of the NAACP's state conference, said the need to maintain the boycott transcends mundane economics.

He said one need only have attended the black biker festival over the Memorial Day holiday in Myrtle Beach to witness "the Confederate mentality" that he sees as still rampant in South Carolina.

When the predominantly white Carolina Harley-Davidson Dealers Association held its annual rally in the beach resort the week before, traffic along Ocean Boulevard was the usual two-way affair.

But when the black riders came to town, orange cones went up, and the popular strip was limited to southbound traffic only.

For two years, the NAACP has battled the city in federal court over what the organization sees as an "apartheid traffic pattern" imposed during the five-day festival.

Though angry over the one-way traffic and jacked-up hotel rates, the black bikers were not going to let their fun in the sun be spoiled by a perceived hostile environment - or by a boycott called by NAACP officials.

"I mean, they represent me and stuff, but at the same time they do expect a whole lot," said Maurice Christian, a 28-year-old car dealer from Raleigh, N.C.

Some visitors questioned the very logic of the boycott. Sitting in a lawn chair outside his hotel on the strip, Lamar Banks, an Air Force staff sergeant from Hampton, Va., said:

"Most of the people working in these hotels, cleaning the rooms, sitting at the front desk are African-American.

So if we don't come down here, then we're taking money out of their pocket and food off their table. How's that helping us as a whole?"

Hunt, one of the bathing suit rebels, feels the NAACP should be focusing on more important things, like educating poor black youth.

If the boycott hasn't achieved its objective in five years, she said, it never will, many believe.

"It's silly," said Hunt, a criminal justice student at Fayetteville State University. "It's a new millennium. Everybody's not worried about a flag."

-The Associated Press

In the Confederation

What's Going On

SCV to Donate Money for Oklahoma Museum

The Sons of the Confederate Veterans plans to donate \$35,000 to cover costs for an exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center.

The money, which will be presented Friday in a check from the group's General Executive Council, should pay for floor and wall coverings for the exhibit, said M.L. "Beau" Cantrell of the Snead-Reaves Camp No. 1417 in Oklahoma City.

Many of the items in the museum's Confederate memorial exhibit will be displayed in the military display, he said. A separate, more personal memorial will be established in the center to explain the history of the Civil War and the history of the South, he said.

Blackburn said the memorial hall would allow the history center to use objects from other states.

"It's to remind everyone that we came from somewhere else and we brought our cultural values with us," Blackburn said.

More than 80 battles were fought during the Civil War in what is now Oklahoma as Confederate soldiers prevented Union troops from invading Texas.

"That was their strategic mission and they accomplished it," Cantrell said. "The only Yankees that got to Texas through Indian Territory went there as prisoners of war." •

Large Confederate Flag Erected in Alabama

VERBENA, Ala. — A huge Confederate battle flag flying over Interstate 65 north of Montgomery will become a permanent fixture, according to officials with the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The organization bought land on the side of the interstate near Verbena and put up the flag, which has been flying for several months above the tree lines from the top of a large pole, easily visible from the heavily traveled interstate.

Leonard Wilson, commander of the Alabama division of Sons of Confederate Veterans, said the flag will be dedicated in a ceremony at 5 p.m. on June 26.

Important June Dates to Remember

Notable Confederate Birthdays

June 1: Lt. Gen. John Bell Hood
June 1: Maj. Gen. John Buchanan Floyd*
June 1: Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan*
June 2: Brig. Gen. Benjamin Hardin Helm*
June 3: Brig. Gen. Martin Edwin Green*
June 3: Brig. Gen. Otho French Strahl*
June 4: Brig. Gen. Paul Jones Semmes*
June 11: Maj. Gen. James Lawson Kemper*
June 26: Brig. Gen. Victor Jean Baptiste Girardey*
June 23: Maj. Gen. Daniel Smith Donelson*
June 27: Brig. Gen. Junius Daniel*

*Died in Confederate service

Coming Events

June 23: Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp Meeting, Seawell's, 6 p.m.
July 18-23: 2005 SCV National Reunion, Nashville, Tenn.

Reunion

- Flag of Confederate raider, C.S.S. Alabama;
- President Andrew Johnson's piano; and
- Hand-drawn map of Shiloh battlefield prepared for General Beauregard.

Tennessee was the primary battlefield of the Civil War in the west, with more than 400 battles and skirmishes within its

borders.

The museum has artifacts from each of the major battles in Tennessee. The Tennessee State Museum's holdings of uniforms, battle flags and weapons are among the best in the nation. So come on to Nashville, spend some time, renew old friendships and help the men of Tennessee preserve the legacy.

SCV, UDC Honor Confederate Veteran

PETERSBURG, Va. — It's never too late to honor the ones who suffered and sacrificed for their country.

In fact, 118 years have gone by since Civil War Capt. Washington Franklin Sydnor passed away in Petersburg. Nevertheless, his storied legacy drew dozens yesterday to Blandford Cemetery for a graveside memorial and marker dedication in his honor.

The ceremony was put on by the Petersburg Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the A.P. Hill Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

"We have to do what we can to keep his good name alive," said Steven Edmondson, commander of the A.P. Hill Camp.

But the idea for the memorial was actually conceived thousands of miles away by Rhoda Sydnor Collins, Sydnor's great-niece. Collins is a member of the San Francisco-based UDC and wanted to recognize her distant relative. After visiting the cemetery, she was disappointed that Sydnor didn't have his own gravesite marker.

"I'm the one that instigated this whole thing," Collins said yesterday in a phone interview from her home in Capitola, Calif.

"My son does all the family history, and he researched the entire thing."

Collins sought help from the federal government, which provides free grave-stones to war veterans. After months of phone calls and e-mails to folks in the Petersburg area, the marker and the ceremony were finally set in stone.

"I wish I could have been there," Collins said after the ceremony had concluded. "But it gives a feeling of completeness to know his grave is marked."

Washington Sydnor was born in Dinwiddie in 1838 and graduated from the Virginia Military Institute. During the Civil War, he fought with the 41st Virginia Infantry Regiment. On April 4, 1863, he was wounded at Chancellorsville and hospitalized. He eventually retired to the Invalid Corps in 1865.

Following the war, Sydnor served as chief of police in Petersburg, a superintendent at the Virginia State Penitentiary and a salesman for Baughman Brothers Book and Job Printers in Richmond. He married Sarah Elizabeth Davidson in 1866, but the couple had no children - just a slew of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Important Dates in the War of Northern Aggression

- June 1, 1862: Robert E. Lee takes command of the Army of Northern Virginia after Gen. Joseph Johnston is wounded during the Battle of Seven Pines.
- June 8, 1862: Confederate forces under Maj. Gen. Richard Ewell rebuff Federals at Cross Keys, Va.
- June 9, 1862: Stonewall Jackson gains control of upper and middle Shenandoah Valley after Confederates defeat Federals at Port Republic, Va.
- June 9, 1863: Confederate and Union meet at Brandy Station, Va., in one of the largest cavalry battles of the war.
- June 10, 1861: Confederates win first land battle in Virginia, at Great Bethel.
- June 16, 1862: Federals thumped after launching unsuccessful frontal assault at Secessionville, S.C. Federal casualties outnumber Confederates, 685-204
- June 21, 1862: Federal troops land near Simmons Bluff, S.C., on Wadmelaw Sound, burning a Confederates encampment before pulling back.
- June 27, 1862: Confederate win at Gaines Mill convinces Federals to abandon advance on Richmond.
- June 30, 1862: Federal gunboat attempts to shell city of Tampa into submission, but with draws after short time.

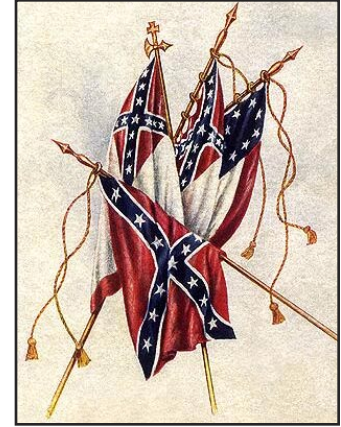
Words To Remember

"I can only say that I am nothing but a poor sinner, trusting in Christ alone for salvation."

- Gen. Robert E. Lee

Next Camp Meeting

Thursday, June 23



6 p.m. at Seawell's
Restaurant, on Rosewood

Scripture Thought

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

- John 15:13

THE LEGIONARY

Official Publication of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273

A Non-Profit Organization

June 2005 Issue

R. Dietrich, Editor

205 Coopers Hawk Circle

Irmo, SC 29063



www.wadehamptoncamp.org