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Paul C. Graham, Editor

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

NO ACC TOURNAMENT IN MYRTLE BEACH

On May 19, the Atlantic Coast Conference announced that BB&T Coastal Field, home of the Myrtle Beach Pelicans, had been selected as the site of the 2011-2013 baseball championship. The Myrtle Beach Pelicans teamed with the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce to compete in the bidding process to secure the tournament. As part of the proposal, money would have been raised for local scholarships to benefit the United Negro College Fund and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and a baseball clinic would have been hosted for disadvantaged children.

After the tournament was announced, the state NAACP passed a resolution condemning the ACC for breaking an economic boycott in place against the state since 2001, a boycott prompted by the Confederate flag's presence on Statehouse grounds. Both U.S. Rep. James E. Clyburn, Majority Whip, and Mickey James, president of the Myrtle Beach NAACP, offered letters of support for hosting the event in Myrtle Beach.

Numerous high-profile events have been held locally and in our state in recent years, including the Democratic Presidential Primary Debate in Myrtle Beach in January 2008,

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The Confederate Battle Flag at the Soldiers' Monument, 2009

THE FLAG IS NOT TO BLAME

By Paul C. Graham

In a recent turn of events, the *Atlantic Coast Conference* (ACC) reneged on their awarding a conference tournament to Myrtle Beach. This, despite Congressman Jim Clyburn and local *National Association for the Advancement of Colored People* (NAACP) officials endorsed the plan and lobbied for the tournament to be held at said city.

When the ACC reversed their initial decision, a flurry of stories sprang into being condemning South Carolina's continuance to fly the "Confederate Flag" on State House grounds and pontificating about how South Carolina is "hurting itself," "losing money," and "hurting its image."

Let us be clear, it is *not* the presence of the Confederate flag on State House grounds that is causing the problems, it is the aggression of the NAACP and their myrmidons, which includes the ACC.

South Carolina has already addressed the "flag issue," made a compromise, obtained consensus, passed legislation, and executed the adopted measures.

We now have a historically accurate flag at a historically significant place. It no longer flies in a "place of sovereignty" over the South Carolina Statehouse, neither is it present in the chambers of the South Carolina House or Senate. We also caused a monument to be erected on State House grounds honoring the history of our citizens of African descent.

Any discussion now of the issue must now include, if it is to be an honest discussion, that the "issues" in 2009 are fundamentally different than the "issues" of 2000.

The flag that flew over the South Carolina Statehouse and was present in the House and Senate chambers was a rectangular flag modeled on the Battle Flag of the Army of Northern Virginia. Although this flag is often referred to as the "Confederate Flag," it is actually a late 19th century combination of the Battle Flag's colors with the Second Navy Jack's design. It was never an official flag of the Southern Nation; neither did it fly over any Confederate military installation, ship, or troop in any official capacity. While it has been used by the United Confederate Veterans and other Southern groups over the years and has become an iconographic symbol of the South, it was not an official soldiers' flag during the war.

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which was hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus Institute. This same group also hosted a meeting in Myrtle Beach in February 2009. In South Carolina, the Southeastern Conference held a women's basketball championship in Greenville recently, and the Southern Conference and Big South Conference (both Division I) have held more than 100 conference tournament championships.

Brad Dean, president and CEO, Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of

Commerce, offers the following comments:

"We're disappointed to learn the ACC has cancelled its plans to bring its men's baseball championship to Myrtle Beach, but we respect their decision. We admire the leadership of the Myrtle Beach Pelicans in identifying this opportunity, and we are extremely grateful to those who offered their support and encouragement for this effort, most notably the Myrtle Beach NAACP and Congressman Jim

Clyburn. Knowing that other high-profile events have been held in our state in recent years, including numerous presidential debates and dozens of other Division I conference tournament championships, we were looking forward to welcoming the ACC to Myrtle Beach. We'll continue to look for ways to attract prestigious events to the Grand Strand, and we wish the ACC well in its future endeavors." ❏

Source: *CarolinaLive.com*, July 6, 2009

FLAG



Flags on South Carolina State Capitol Dome, 2000

Perhaps, for the sake of argument, we could concede that *this* flag that *may have* caused confusion regarding its meaning. *This* flag, after all, was adopted and used by many who opposed forced federal integration in the 1960s as well as a host of other groups whom we are now quick to point out "misused the flag."

The fact of the matter is that the flag that at one time flew over the State Capitol building was *not moved* to the Confederate monument, it was *taken down* from said building and replaced with nothing. It was removed from the House and Senate chambers and replaced with nothing.

The flag of the Army of Northern Virginia—a flag that was never flown over the South Carolina State Capitol, nor displayed in its Senate or House Chambers—is *the* flag that *now* flies at the Confederate Soldiers Monument. *This* flag is a soldiers' flag and cannot be said to

represent anything other than our brave Confederate soldiers who fought under it and the sacrifices they made on behalf and in defense of our State.

Any opposition to the flag *now* flying at the Soldiers' Monument is a direct attack, *not* on some real or imagined hostility towards our neighbors of African descent, rather... IT IS AN ATTACK ON THE DEAD!

It is an attack on those men—whether black or white, Jew or Gentile, Protestant or Catholic—who gave their last full measure for the cause of liberty won by their progenitors in 1776.

We must be aware of the logical fallacy of *equivocation* now being used by the ACC, the NAACP and others through the media. *Equivocation* is a case when two or more *different* issues are used within a *single* argument. The current argument against the flag is *not* the same argument as was put forth in 2000, although our enemies frame it as such and we, more often than not, fall into their trap.

The compromise of 2000, for better or for worse, wiped the slate clean. Any argument now must now deal with the fact that the General Assembly of the sovereign state of South Carolina, with the unanimous consent with the black legislative caucus, removed by their actions any and all ambiguities regarding the current flag and its significance. We now have a historically accurate flag flying at a historically significant location which admits of no possibility of misinterpretation or ambiguity of meaning.

That battle of 2000 is over. The current aggression against the people of South Carolina—all people of South Carolina—is a different battle and is fought on a different terrain.

The ACC, in deference to Congressman Jim Clyburn and Micky James, President of the Myrtle Beach Chapter of the NAACP, have taken it upon

themselves to insult the people of South Carolina, besmirch their good name, and hold us up to the world as an aberration of humanity.

Let us never forget that South Carolina has done her duty. She has eliminated any confusion. She has clarified any doubts as to the current display of the flag and its meaning.

The NCAA, The ACC, the National Media, and the leadership of the NAACP have no interest in our State or our people. We could remove the flag tomorrow and they would find other bugaboos hiding about the State House grounds or elsewhere that require their immediate attention. There will always be "issues" with those people or they go out of business.

The best thing we can do is face the facts: There is nothing we can do to satisfy the NAACP and their unquestioning followers. There is nothing our State can do to cause the other non-Southern states of the union to embrace us as their equals. Scratching and bowing before those people who ought to know better only adds insult to injury. Our enemies do not like us and never will. They do not hate the flag; they hate us!

This being said let us do our duty. Let us continue to define and defend our own symbols. Let us dictate the terms of engagement. Let us fulfill the charge. In brief, let us be true men—sons of the honorable and valiant Confederate Soldier.

Never let us lose an opportunity to remind our family, friends, and neighbors who the aggressor is in this war. We never wanted this fight and have done our part, in good faith, to make our intentions clear to our detractors.

Our sentiments echo those of Confederate President Jefferson Davis who said, "All we ask is to be let alone." We have never asked for anything more and will never settle for anything less. ❏

The commander of the S.C. Division Sons of Confederate Veterans has said the NAACP is wrongfully hurting the state's economy by preventing the Atlantic Coast Conference's from holding tournaments in South Carolina.

Randy Burbage said the NAACP has found "willing partners in the NCAA and ACC to practice economic obstructionism and harm the economy of our state, which is suffering through record unemployment.

"Blame in this dispute falls solely on the NAACP and not on the State Legislature," Burbage said in a written

statement after the ACC announced it would not hold a scheduled baseball tournament in Myrtle Beach next year because the Confederate flag flies on the Statehouse grounds.

"The NAACP's economic boycott is hurting those people they seek to defend more than anyone else," he added.

"It is truly sad that the ACC feels it must ask the NAACP for its permission to hold a baseball tournament in South Carolina," said Burbage.

"Our state legislature came to a legal and lawful agreement in 2000 to

move the Confederate flag to its current location at the Soldiers Monument, where it flies today. The NAACP was not happy with this decision after initially agreeing to accept any location other than the statehouse dome and has chosen to continue its economic boycott of South Carolina."

"We feel that the Atlantic Coast Conference was very wrong in pulling the baseball tournament from Myrtle Beach and harming the economy of our state," he concluded. "🇺🇸"

AUBURN UNIVERSITY ACQUIRES ULYSSES S. GRANT LETTER TO ROBERT E. LEE

Auburn University has acquired an original copy of Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's 1865 letter to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, setting the terms of surrender for the Army of Northern Virginia.

S. Grant to Robert E. Lee, setting the terms of surrender of Lee's Army.

The copy, handwritten by Grant and dated April 10, 1865, a day after the original letter was written, was donated to the school by 1971 graduate James Starr, the university said.

Letter was sent to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

"In 30 years as an archivist, I have never received an item of greater significance," said Dwayne Cox, head of the Auburn Libraries Special Collections.

In the letter, Grant proposes that Lee's officers and men agree "not to take up arms against the Government of the United States." Artillery is to be stacked and turned over to an officer appointed by Grant, though Confederate officers are to be allowed to keep their sidearms and privately owned horses.

"This done each Officer and men will be allowed to return to their homes, not to be disturbed by the United States authorities as long as they observe their Parolle & the laws inforced where they reside," Grant wrote.

The letter is on display in Special

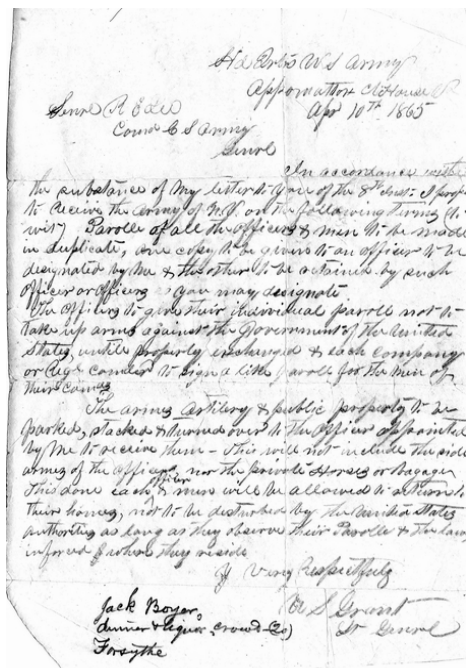
Collections, on the ground floor of the Ralph Brown Draughon Library at Auburn.

Source: *The Birmingham News*, Birmingham, AL, 12 June 2009



Post Script:

Of course, we all know what General Grant's word was worth. Considering the aftermath of the war and the ravages of reconstruction, much of which occurred while Grant was President of the United States, it is little wonder that General Lees later said, "[I]f I had foreseen the use those people designed to make of their victory, there would have been no surrender at Appomattox Courthouse; no sir, not by me. Had I foreseen these results of subjugation, I would have preferred to die at Appomattox with my brave men, my sword in my right hand." -Ed.



The handwritten letter from Ulysses

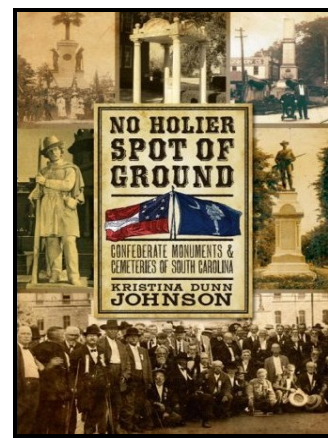
KRISSY DUNN JOHNSON TO SPEAK AT JULY CAMP MEETING

Krissy Dunn Johnson, Curator of History at the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, will be speaking on her recently released book, *No Holier Spot of Ground: Confederate Monuments and Cemeteries of South Carolina*. The book details the impact of wartime death and how different generations from the Palmetto State have attempted to remember the legacy of the war. Krissy will be available to sign copies of her book, on sale for \$21.39 (includes sales tax). All proceeds go towards the museum.

Ms. Johnson received her B.A. from Emory University and her M.A. in public

history from the University of South Carolina. She has worked at Gettysburg National Military Park, the Atlanta History Center, and Historic Columbia Foundation.

Currently, Krissy serves as the Curator of History at the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum. She has just released her first book, *No Holier Spot of Ground: Confederate Monuments and Cemeteries of South Carolina*. "🇺🇸"



Important Dates in *The War for Southern Independence*:

- Jul. 13, 1821: Birthday of General Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821-1877)
Jul. 05, 1861: Battle of Carthage, MO. Confederate victory halts Federal advance into southwest MO.
Jul. 10, 1861: Confederate government signs treaty with Creek Indians.
Jul. 10, 1861: Federal siege of Battery Wagner in Charleston Harbor begins.
Jul. 18, 1861: Heavy skirmishing along Bull Run.
Jul. 21, 1861: Battle of First Manassas, VA. Confederates rout Federal Army in the first great battle of the war.
Jul. 15, 1862: Confederate ironclad *Arkansas* attacks and badly damages three Federal vessels at Vicksburg.
Jul. 01, 1863: Battle of Gettysburg, PA begins
Jul. 02, 1863: Battle of Gettysburg continues with action at Little Round Top and Big Round Top, Devil's Den, the Wheatfield, the Peach Orchard, Cemetery Hill, and Culp's Hill.
Jul. 03, 1863: Battle of Gettysburg ends with the Pickett-Pettigrew charge.
Jul. 04, 1863: Vicksburg surrendered to Federals. Confederate victory at Sewanee, TN.
Jul. 13, 1863: Draft riots in New York City in response to the Federal Conscription Act.
Jul. 9, 1864: Battle of Monocacy, MD. Advance on Washington, Jubal Early's infantry reach Fredericksburg and rout the Union defenders.
Jul. 12, 1864: Confederate Cavalry under Gen. Jubal Early invade the suburbs of Washington, DC.
Jul. 24, 1864: Second Battle of Kernstown, VA. Confederates inflict heavy losses.
Jul. 30, 1864: Battle of the Crater, Petersburg, VA.

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, July 23rd
6:00 p.m.



Seawell's Restaurant
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

Guest Speaker:
Krissy Dunn Johnson
Topic:
"Confederate Monuments and
Cemeteries in SC"

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