

THE LEGIONARY

August 2006

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"

SCV Takes Stand After Billboard Comes Down

By Warner Montgomery
The Columbia Star

The constitutional right to freedom of expression has taken a hit from bigotry once again. A billboard placed by the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans was brought down by political pressure exerted by members of the Darlington County Council, after Darlington railroad company S.C. Central complained.

SCV members from across the state, including many members of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp, held a rally at the Statehouse on Aug. 8 to draw attention to the action.

The SCV, an international, non-profit historical honor society, headquartered in Columbia, Tennessee, has nearly 3,500 members in 68 local chapters in SC. The

For more about S.C. Central Railroad, see
'Shrinking Violets' story
on Page 3

chapters engage in a variety of activities such as sponsoring living history demonstrations in schools, reenactments, marking Confederate graves, and preserving historic sites.

As part of its membership promotions, the SCV contracted with Palmetto Outdoor Media to place a billboard on highway 52 near the Darlington Speedway timed to be up for the last NASCAR races May 12-13. It stated "Victory is great, but honor is greater. Defend your Southern heritage" and gave its 800 telephone number. A Con-

federate flag and the SCV seal were also on the billboard.

Palmetto Outdoor Media received complaints from Darlington politicians and removed the sign May 10, Confederate Memorial Day.

After a threatened law suit from the SCV, and after the first race, the billboard was put back up.

On June 16, Palmetto Outdoor Media was told by SC Central Railroad, owner of the right-of-way where the sign was located, that the sign was offensive and demanded the entire billboard be removed - sign, frame, and all.

Randall B. Burbage, commander of the SC SCV, informed the membership on July 11, 2006, that their attorney is studying the possibilities of pursuing legal action on the First Amendment rights violation.

New Confederate Monument Going Up - In Delaware

By J.L. Miller
Wilmington (Del) News Journal

GEORGETOWN, Del. - When Delaware's Union veterans returned home from the Civil War they were welcomed as conquering heroes, their exploits celebrated and statues erected in their honor.

Returning Confederate veterans were looked upon with suspicion and their service went unheralded.

Now, 141 years after the last shot was fired in a war that divided Delaware and the nation, a group of Delawareans whose ancestors fought for the South is planning a monument to honor those who chose to don Confederate gray instead of Union blue.

Delaware Grays Camp 2068 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a national organization founded in 1896 by veterans and their descendants, has reached an

agreement with the Georgetown Historical Society to place the monument on the grounds of the Nutter D. Marvel Museum in Georgetown.

The Delaware Grays, a nonprofit organization, is raising money for the monument and hopes to unveil it next year.

Robert B. Eldreth Jr., an Ellendale resident and adjutant of the Delaware Grays,

See Delaware, Page 3

'Southern Avenger' Responds to Simple-Minded Columnist

Charleston Post & Courier sports columnist Ken Burger showed his rear last month with a small-minded piece about the Confederate flag. Among several well-written responses was this from an individual who calls himself the Southern Avenger.

In his Sunday column entitled "Time to take down the flag," the Post & Courier's Ken Burger recommends that South Carolina should finally comply with the ongoing NAACP tourism boycott and remove the Confederate flag that flies above a memorial

on Statehouse grounds.

While Burger admits the economic impact has been minimal, the fact that various NCAA sporting events have been denied to SC is enough reason to "furl the flag and put it in a museum where it belongs." Explains Burger, "The only thing holding us back is that flag and some of the people who think flying it somehow honors their ancestors."

See Avenger, Page 3

The Legionary, Battle for Columbia and Recruitment

Compatriots, I have three important items to pass on to you in this edition of The Legionary.

First and most pressing seems to be the need for a new editor. Our current editor will be stepping down after the end of this year and we'll need someone to take his place.

Commander's Corner

Tommy Rollings

The Legionary is critical to the wellbeing of our Camp and anyone who's interested in taking over can speak with me or our current editor in the coming months.

Secondly, the executive committee and Battle for Columbia staff have finally found

We have something to offer every descendant of a Confederate soldier, now let's get out there and let them know it!

a new date for the battle.

The event will be held on Feb. 16-18, 2007.

This will be the anniversary of the burning of Columbia by General William T. Sherman's troops.

Our event will be coordinated with the Greater Columbia Civil War Alliance's event commemorating the burning of Columbia.

There will be a ball held at the historic Columbia Mills building which houses the State Museum.

The Chairman of the G.C.C.W.A., Frank Knapp, and Battle for Columbia co-chairman Jeff O'cain believe that both our events will benefit from being held on the same weekend.

Finally, our Camp growth has become a little stagnant over the past year.

Each member needs to work to recruit at least one new member. We have something to offer every descendant of a Confederate soldier, now let's get out there and let them know it! We can't bring in new members if they don't know we're here.

Myself and several other Camp members will be attending the Division recruiting conference on Saturday, Aug. 19.

I hope to bring some ideas and suggestions that will benefit the Camp to our next meeting.

Remember: RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT!!!

See y'all on the 24th.

Standing Tall Against NCAA is a Battle We Must Win

The NCAA has recently served notice that unless the Confederate battle flag is removed from its place next to our Confederate soldiers' monument and unless Mississippi removes the Confederate flag from the Magnolia State flag, both states will not be allowed to have any regional or national NCAA tournaments or championships played in either state.

The NAACP approves of this blackmail. South Carolina NAACP President Lonnie Randolph boasted that it will continue its ban against the Confederate Battle Flag on the State House grounds to the extent of discouraging any organization from having a regional or national convention or athletic event of any kind in South Carolina.

Southerners must not give into this unwarranted outside pressure. Our Southern heritage is simply more important than threats and bans by either the NCAA or the NAACP!

Our Confederate flag is an extremely important symbol of all that we stood for in the past and what we must preserve today.

Chaplain's Pulpit

Robert Slimp

The Confederate flag stands for more than states' rights, although it stands for that and rightly so.

It stands for the ultimate truth of the Triune God of the Bible and the fact that "the truth shall set us free." True freedom represents much more than a political right to vote. Liberty without godliness is but another name for anarchy or despotism. The religion of the Gospel is the rock on which civil liberty rests.

We must suspect and resist anyone who would try to talk us into lowering our flag that bears the St. Andrew's Cross. This flag with the cross (X) on it has two major aspects: it was symbolic of the Christian faith, as well as being identified with the

origin of many of the Southern people.

The South was predominantly Scotch-Irish. Thus they chose the part of the Scottish national flag that represented those two elements. The South had a Christian culture, believing that God's dominion or rule was over every aspect of life. And that is still, to a large degree true today.

President Jefferson Davis said to the Mississippi Legislature in 1881 that the late conflict would at some future time "be fought in a different time and in a different arena." I believe with all of the attacks being made against our Southern symbols and history, this is the time.

Certainly, we who are sons of Confederate Veterans must do all in our power to win the fight to preserve the honor of our heroic ancestors and to pass on the true history of the South to our future generations.

Winning this fight is far more important than having a particular athletic event in either South Carolina or Mississippi. This is a battle we can and must win!

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:
Commander Tommy Rollings (803) 791-1130
Adjutant Layne Waters (803) 798-2429

Avenger

But with all due respect, the only thing holding us back are people who think like Ken Burger.

Any people, living anywhere on this planet have long had symbols that exclusively represent them. For the Scottish, it has been the cross of St. Andrew. For the Irish, the shamrock. Japan has its rising sun. Israel, its star of David. And the Islamic world, its star and crescent. Each of these symbols was born of the history and heritage of the cultures they represent, none of which were perfect and many that were tragic.

For nearly a century-and-a-half, there has been no symbol more universally recognized as representing the American South than the Confederate battle flag.

That this symbol was born of a war fought primarily by white men, in a region primarily dominated by white men and in a country founded by white men is no more noteworthy nor shameful than the fact that Israel's Star of David symbolically represents a majority Jewish nation.

That 20 percent of Israel's population is Arab doesn't change the fact that their national flag has long represented the majority of Israelis. Just like the Confederate flag has historically represented the majority-white American South.

But today, it seems that many people are not so fond of the Confederate flag, white

Southerners included. But, so what? If a majority of white Southerners are so guilt-ridden, like Mr. Burger, that they want to take down the Confederate flag, then by all means, rip that sucker down. But shouldn't the majority make such decisions? Is it proper for Arabs to tell Jews where they can fly their flag?

Was it ever moral for the English to make such demands of the Irish? And is it moral that the NAACP, the NCAA and Ken Burger should dictate to millions of Southerners where they can fly their own flag? But no one ever asks us. In virtually every Southern state where the flag has been removed, bruised and abused on a consistent basis, it has happened without ever consulting the people it represents.

Only in Mississippi was the removal of the flag put to a referendum, where the overwhelming majority voted to keep it and it remains flying today.

Imagine if democracy had been practiced on the flag question in every Southern state? If Mississippi was any indication, every single former state of the Confederacy would likely be flying the flag proudly and prominently over every capitol and courthouse.

Would the NAACP then boycott the entire South? Who cares? They would be powerless to do anything about it. Would the NCAA no longer hold any sporting

events in the South? I seriously doubt it. If money talks and BS walks, you'd likely see "Dixie" slam-dunking contests and "rebel" regionals before you'd see the NCAA ignore the entire South.

But some, like Mr. Burger, still insist on making the undemocratic argument that the flag is so offensive that it should still come down. That the majority should capitulate to the minority.

But what will these folks say to America's ever-growing, largest racial minority, Hispanics, many of whom have been showing us lately exactly which flag they prefer above the red, white and blue?

In "progressive" cities like San Francisco, there has already been a city-wide ban on American flags as to not offend anyone. The majority of San Franciscans were outraged. But should the American flag's alleged offensiveness outweigh the will of the majority?

Or is the meaning of the American flag and the respect paid to it worth fighting for? It's a safe bet that those who love it think so.

The same is true of the Confederate flag. And 100 years from now, whether or not we eventually forfeit the South's most famous symbol will be of much greater significance than the politically-correct sensitivities of today's minority, much less long-forgotten touchdowns and home runs.

Information About Shrinking Violets at S.C. Central Railroad

Information about S.C. Central Railroad, the company offended by the SCV sign, is scarce.

According to information found on the Internet, the company is based in Darlington and operates two rail lines in the state.

One extends from Florence to Bishopville, the other from Cheraw to Society

Hill. S.C. Central might be surprised to realize how many people in that area of the state not only aren't offended by Southern heritage, but take pride in the SCV.

CSX Transportation sold the lines to S.C. Central in 1987.

Traffic includes paper, forest products, grain, steel, coal, chemicals, food products

and automobiles.

The company can be reached at:

General manager Lamont Jones
621 Field Pond Rd.
Darlington, S.C. 29540
Phone: (843) 398-9850
Fax: (843) 398-9683

Delaware

is well aware of the wounds that linger so many years later - and he said the group has no intent to offend.

"We're not a hate organization. We're not about spreading hate. We're only about preserving history," Eldreth said.

Eldreth is aware that controversy could result, because the Confederate battle flag, with its familiar blue cross and white stars on a red field, will be depicted on the monument's 9-foot-tall obelisk, along with the

letters "CSA."

The obelisk will be flanked by smaller stones bearing the names of Delawareans who served the Confederacy in a military or civilian capacity.

No one is sure how many Delawareans fought for the Confederacy - estimates have ranged as low as 200 and as high as 2,000 - but they suffered and died along with 12,284 Delawareans who fought for the United States.

Research Problems?

The SCV can help. For complete assistance in all aspects of lineage & genealogy contact:

Jim Harley
mshjehjr@bellsouth.net
(803) 772-8080

Important Dates in the War of Northern Aggression

- Aug. 2, 1865: After wiping out most of the New Bedford whaling fleet in the Pacific, Capt. James I. Waddell of the *CSS Shenendoah* learns the War is over and heads for England.
- Aug. 9, 1862: Stonewall Jackson and A.P. Hill repulse Federals at Cedar Mountain, Va., giving Robert E. Lee the chance to take the initiative.
- Aug. 10, 1861: Confederates, led by Sterling Price, take control of Southwestern Missouri with victory at Wilson's Creek.
- Aug. 17, 1863: Federal batteries erected on Morris Island open and continue their bombardment of Fort Sumter and the Charleston defenses til Aug. 23. Despite a severe pounding, Fort Sumter's garrison held out.
- Aug. 21, 1864: Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest initiates daring raid on Union-held Memphis, Tenn., capturing 500 prisoners.
- Aug. 26, 1861: Confederates rout Federals at Kessler's Cross Lanes, in what was then western Virginia.
- Aug. 28, 1862: Massed Confederate artillery devastates a Union assault by Fitz John Porter's command and Longstreet's wing of 28,000 men counterattacks in the largest, simultaneous mass assault of the war at Second Manassas, resulting in a major Southern victory.

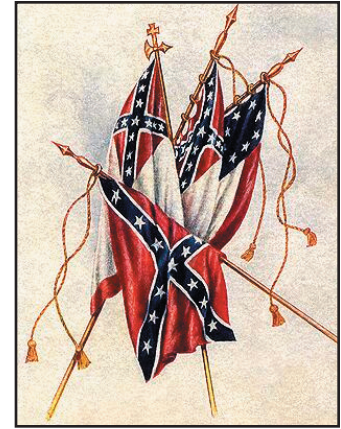
Words To Remember

"I do not desire to survive the independence of my country."

-Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson

Next Camp Meeting

Thursday, August 24



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

Scripture Thought

"Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good."

-Romans 12:21

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