



THE LEGIONARY

NOVEMBER 2014

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina ♦ www.wadehamptoncamp.org

Charles Bray, Acting Editor

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

Possible Change in VA Headstone Policy _____ Brian Albrecht – Cleveland, OH
The Plain Dealer

The following news article discusses proposed bipartisan legislation which, if enacted, would remove the roadblock that has stopped the Department of Veterans Affairs from placing tombstones on the unmarked graves of veteran's. I feel we should make every effort to write our Congressional representatives in both the House and Senate and encourage them to pass this legislation. If this obstacle can be removed the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be able to place head stones in Oakwood Cemetery, Richmond, VA where 17,200 Confederate veterans are buried in unmarked graves. Unmarked graves of our Confederate ancestors regardless of location would be eligible to receive markers.

CLEVELAND, Ohio – The recent introduction of a bipartisan bill by U.S. Senators **Rob Portman** (R-Ohio) and **Jon Tester** (D-Montana) to provide headstones for historic unmarked veterans graves came as welcome news to state and local historians. The "Honor Those Who Served Act of 2014" would enable veterans service agencies, military researchers, historians or genealogists to request a free headstone or marker from the **Department of Veterans Affairs** (VA) for a veteran's grave.

Until 2012 the VA provided headstones for unmarked veterans' graves based on documentation of that vet's identity and service provided by these groups or individuals. That policy was then changed, limiting headstone requests to a veteran's next-of-kin or authorized family representative – a difficult requirement when dealing with graves dating back 100 years or more, and unknown family descendants. (The policy does not apply to replacement of worn, illegible or damaged markers.)

The Portman-Tester bill matches a similar measure introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives last year by Rep. Steve Stivers, a Columbus Republican.

Portman said in a news release, "This bipartisan legislation is a common-sense way to honor the men and women who have worn the uniform throughout our nation's history with the official recognition they have earned and deserve."

Todd Kleismit, director of community and government relations at the **Ohio History Connection**, also commented in the release, "Prior to the VA's policy change, organizations like ours had been working diligently to research and recognize military veterans buried in unmarked graves.

"We hope that this legislation can help us get back to that important work that has been postponed now for the past couple of years," he added.

Last year the VA said the policy is intended to discourage someone from marking a veteran's grave in a way that the descendants may not want or even know about. A spokesperson added that the VA was reviewing that policy.

But Bill Stark, a volunteer archivist with the Cleveland Grays and member of the Woodland Cemetery Foundation who has documented and obtained nearly 200 headstones for veterans' graves in area cemeteries, said the next-of-kin requirement still stands. "The VA hasn't moved on this at all," he said.

There are dozens of unmarked veteran's graves in the area that he could request headstones for, but "I haven't tried because I know it (the request) would be rejected," he said.

Stark noted that in a section of Cleveland's **Woodland Cemetery** containing the graves of black Civil War veterans, there are a number of unmarked graves.

"There's nothing we can do about it unless a descendant wants to sign a form, but we don't know who they are, if there are any at all," he added.

He was encouraged by introduction of the Portman-Tester bill. "It's an excellent sign. I'm glad now because it's covered in the Senate," Stark said. "Both of these legislators seem to be very interested in getting this done. At this point, I'm optimistic."

However, being a self-described "pessimist by nature," Stark added, "If we're still talking about this next year, it wouldn't surprise me."

He told a story illustrating how seriously this matter can still be viewed by some veterans' families. He was contacted last year by a man in South Dakota whose great-great grandfather had fought in the Civil War, then came to Cleveland where he died

Continued

and was buried in the Monroe Street Cemetery. Stark said the man was a serious genealogist – "as tenacious as a pit bull" -- and was able to provide the VA with documentation showing his family relationship, and obtain a VA headstone for the grave. He drove to Cleveland to see the grave marker installed. Stark said the man stood there, then addressed his distant relative by his first name, saying, "John, you couldn't hide from me." It's that important.

"Oh, definitely," Stark said.



COMMANDERS CORNER

TERRY M. HUGHEY

It is difficult to realize 2014 is rapidly approaching to an end. As I reflect upon the many accomplishments our Camp completed this past year; it makes me very proud of our Camp and the fine compatriots that make our service to our Confederate Soldier possible. To each of you I commend you for your service and hard work. But, most importantly, I thank you for the personal support and friendship you have extended me as your Commander. I truly thank you.

Even though 2014 is approaching its end; our Camp year has not concluded. I was overjoyed by the Camp's participation in Lexington County's Veteran's Day parade. Bobby Epting of Camp 51 assembled a fine assembly of parade participants, headed by our most lovely and gracious Camp Lady, Sue Bray.

Please note our Camp will participate in the Columbia Veteran's Day Parade and our Camp is planning to participate in the Christmas in Cayce

Parade. Your help and participation is most welcomed.

Your support and attendance for our last Camp Meeting on the 20th is vital to our Camp's ability to remember and honor our Confederate ancestor and to never let fade from history the Confederate Soldiers good name and the *Cause* he sacrificed so much.

I wish each you and all in your family a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

Speaker Bio

Our Camp Speaker for November is Eddie Rogers from Aiken, SC. Eddie will be portraying Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton. Eddie also portrays Wade Hampton as Senator Hampton and he will shortly begin portraying Hampton as Governor Hampton. Eddie is well versed as a Hampton re-enactor and has appeared throughout South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia and Virginia. He works at the Aiken County Historical Museum where he frequently portrays Hampton. Eddie will bring with him an exact replica of the sword Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton carried during the War. As our Camp concludes our Camp meetings for 2014; I know of no more appropriate way to end 2014 with a portrayal of our Camp's name sake. Hope to see everyone present and accounted for on the 20th. Deo Vindice.



CHAPLAINS WITNESS

WALTER LINDLER

"ON THIS DAY OF THANKSGIVING, CAUSE ME TO GRATEFULLY REMEMBER THE GOOD GIFTS THAT YOU SKOWERED UPON ME. DEEPEN IN ME THE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR GOODNESS, AND AWAKEN MY HEART TO PRAISE YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS, ESPECIALLY THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS THAT YOU HAVE PURCHASED AND WON FOR ME AND THE WHOLE WORLD IN THE ATONING DEATH OF YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST. KEEP ME MINDFUL OF YOUR MERCIES EVERYDAY, AND GRANT THAT I MAY THANK, PRAISE, SERVE, AND OBEY YOU NOT ONLY WITH MY LIPS BUT ALSO WITH A LIFE DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF OUR NEIGHBOR. TO YOU, O LORD, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT, BE ALL HONOR AND GLORY, PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING, NOW AND FOREVER." AMEN

President Jefferson Davis, Confederate States of America, made the following Thanksgiving Day proclamation in 1862. His first such proclamation, "a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer," had been issued in 1861. It was not until two years later that the infidel Abraham Lincoln copied Davis and announced the first official Thanksgiving Day in the North.

To the People of the Confederate States:



President Jefferson Davis

Once more upon the plains of Manassas have our armies been blessed by the Lord of Hosts with a triumph over our enemies. It is my privilege to invite you once more to His footstool, not now in the garb of fasting and sorrow, but with joy and gladness, to render thanks for the great mercies received at His hand.

A few months since, and our enemies poured forth their invading legions upon our soil. They laid waste our fields, polluted our altars and violated the sanctity of our homes. Around our capital they gathered their forces, and with boastful threats, claimed it as already their prize.

The brave troops which rallied to its defense have extinguished these vain hopes, and, under the guidance of the same Almighty hand, have scattered our enemies and driven them back in dismay.

Uniting these defeated forces and the various armies which had been ravaging our coasts with the

with the army of invasion in Northern Virginia, our enemies have renewed their attempt to subjugate us at the very place where their first effort was defeated, and the vengeance of retributive justice has overtaken the entire host in a second and complete overthrow.

To this signal success accorded to our arms in the East has been graciously added another equally brilliant in the West. On the very day on which our forces were led to victory on the Plains of Manassas, in Virginia, the same Almighty arm assisted us to overcome our enemies at Richmond, in Kentucky. Thus, at one and the same time, have two great hostile armies been stricken down, and the wicked designs of their armies been set at naught.

In such circumstances, it is meet and right that, as a people, we should bow down in adoring thankfulness to that gracious God who has been our bulwark and defense, and to offer unto him the tribute of thanksgiving and praise. In his hand is the issue of all events, and to him should we, in an especial manner, ascribe the honor of this great deliverance.

Now, therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, do issue this, my proclamation, setting apart Thursday, the 18th day of September inst., as a ***“day of prayer”*** and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the great mercies vouchsafed to our people, and more especially for the triumph of our arms at Richmond and Manassas; and I do hereby invite the people of the Confederate States to meet on that day at their respective places of public worship, and to unite in rendering thanks and praise to God for these great mercies, and to implore Him to conduct our country safely through the perils which surround us, to the final attainment of the blessings of peace and security.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States, at Richmond, this fourth day of September, A.D.1862.

Jefferson Davis Pr

Chaplains Prayer List

With the Holiday season rapidly approaching please remember our camp compatriots and their family members who are having health problems or have lost a loved one in your prayers.

Bill and Anita Calliham	Bob Fortner	Fred Morrison
Bill Chisholm	Mark Lynn	Bill Smyth's wife Ann
Jesse Folk	Rusty James nephew of Scott James	Robert Spigner



Adjutant's Desk

CHARLIE BRAY

I am proud to report that we have received **91%** of our membership's renewals for a total of **147** members. Additionally we had **5** new members join our ranks since the July camp meeting. I encourage those of you who have not sent in your dues to please do so as soon as possible.

If you have questions regarding dues please contact me as shown below.

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp 273
507 Sail Point Way
Columbia, SC 29212-8711

Home TN: 803-749-1042

Cell TN: 803-414-6808

E-Mail: cdbiii@bellsouth.net

There are several events coming up during the holiday season that we encourage you and your families to attend.

The **25th annual Christmas Traditions Holiday House** will be hosted by the Cayce Museum on Saturday December 7, 2014 starting at 6:00 p.m. The sights, sounds and tastes of Christmas abound at the Museum's Holiday Open House, each room of the Museum will be decorated with trees and crafts from the 18th century to present. The Open House will also feature live entertainment, docents dressed in period attire, and light refreshments will be served.

As in years past there will once again be a **War Between The States Lantern Tour** adjacent to the Cayce Historical Museum. These tours have been well received by young and old and will run from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm. **There will be no charge for any of these activities.**

The **West Metro Holiday Parade of Lights** will be held Saturday, December 13 and will begin at 5:30 p.m..

This beloved night time parade begins at the corner of Hwy. 1 & 12th Street in West Columbia and proceeds down 12th Street ending in front of the Cayce Municipal Complex. Crowds have been estimated over 20,000 so come grab yourself a viewing spot early!

I have attended this event several times and encourage you to bring your children and/or grand children to see it. The lights on the floats make it a most wonderful event.

This will also be the first year the Wade Hampton Camp has had its own float in the parade, so come and cheer us on.

Renewal letters and ID cards have been mailed to all members who are current on their dues. If you have paid your dues and not received your renewal package, please contact me as shown above and I will get your package to you ASAP.



Saluda Guards Flag and Banner Project

Compatriots it was in the June 2014 Legionary that we kicked off the fund raiser to restore the Saluda flag and banner. The cost for this restoration was **\$17,000.00** and at this time **\$11,558.00** has been raised. As it now stands we have reached the point where there is light at the end of the tunnel and we now need to raise **\$5,442.00** more to complete funding of this project. The wonderful thing about this remaining monetary hurdle is if each SC Division member contributed **\$2.00** we would have the monies needed to finalize this project ensuring two more relics representing our ancestor's legacy are preserved for future generations.

Historic Banner Restoration

Columbia, SC – The Lt. *Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273, Sons of Confederate Veterans*, Columbia, SC has begun a fund raising project to conserve a historical artifact of local and national importance, the Saluda Guards banner. The fragile banner is part of the collection of the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Museum. It is reputed to be stained with blood and is in need of conservation to insure its survival as part of South Carolina's military material culture.

The banner which was made by the ladies of Lexington and presented in 1861 to the Saluda Guards, initially formed as Company O of the 1st SC Volunteer Infantry Regiment. This local home guard unit was composed of soldiers from Lexington, Saluda, Ridge Road and surrounding towns and counties. The Saluda Guards participated in the campaigns of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia during the War Between the States. Following conservation the Saluda Guards flag will be on exhibit for the public to view.

Contributions toward this artifact preservation project are welcome and appreciated. Contributions are both State and Federal tax deductible. Checks or money orders can be payable to:

South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum

c/o Allen Roberson, Director

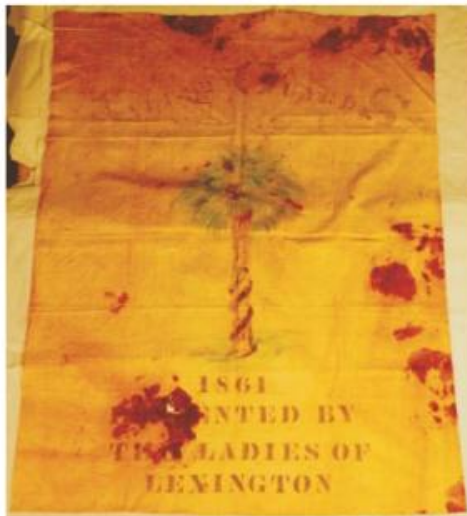
Saluda Guards Banner Preservation Project

301 Gervais Street

Columbia, S.C. 29201

Founded in 1896, the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum is the oldest museum in the Columbia area. The museum focuses on South Carolina's military history from the Revolutionary War to present.

Saluda Guards Banner



Saluda Guards Flag



The Charge

To you Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 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.**

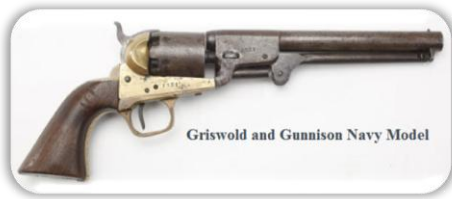
Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee

Commander General, United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906



When Georgia seceded from the Union and soon joined the other cotton states in forming the Confederate States of America in 1861, attention was quickly focused on developing the industrial might necessary to support the Southern nation. Griswoldville became an important link in the South's chain of military industrial complexes.



With the Union blockade tightening along the coast and no real demand for new cotton gins, the **Griswold Cotton Gin Company** was retooled to manufacture a Southern version of Samuel Colt's famed .44-caliber Navy Revolver. Such an action would lead to court battles today, but Griswold and the Southern government were not particularly worried about Yankee lawsuits.

Between 1862 and 1864, the factory at Griswoldville produced more than **3,500** six-shooters of the Colt Navy design. Made using frames of brass instead of iron (to stretch the South's limited supply of iron), the Griswold & Gunnison revolvers were popular in both the Confederate army and navy.

The greatest moments of both heroism and tragedy during General William Tecumseh Sherman's March to the Sea took place at the little known **Battle of Griswoldville, Georgia**, on **November 22, 1864**.

The scene of the deadliest fighting is now preserved at Griswoldville Battlefield State Historic Site. Located in the small community of Griswoldville about 12 miles north of Macon, the park offers historical markers, interpretive signs and 17 acres of key land at the heart of the battlefield.

The only major infantry engagement of the March to the Sea, the Battle of Griswoldville developed as Sherman began to move his columns southeast through Central Georgia. His right wing, composed of the XV and XVII (15th and 17th) Corps marched southeast from Gray for Irwinton and Gordon.

To guard this movement, Brigadier General Charles C. Walcutt's Second Brigade of Woods' Division of the XV Corps was ordered to swing south towards Macon with two guns from Arndt's Michigan Battery. It was not thought that Walcutt would oppose anything more than units from Confederate General Joseph "Fighting Joe" Wheeler's cavalry.

Union General Judson Kilpatrick had made a light assault on Macon on November 21, 1864, but had withdrawn after sharp fighting at the Battle of Walnut Creek. More skirmishing took place at Griswoldville and continued into the morning of the 22nd. General Wheeler correctly assumed that the Federals were moving east and pulled out of his positions near Griswoldville for a sweep around to oppose the head of the Union column.

Also believing that the danger was shifting to the east, Confederate General William J. Hardee ordered a large force of Georgia militia, state line troops and two battalions of emergency soldiers from the factories at Athens and Augusta to march up the Gordon Road from Macon. They were to parallel the railroad until they met expected trains that could carry them to Augusta, which Hardee now believed to be the target of Sherman's campaign.



Led by Brigadier General Pleasant J. Philips, these soldiers began arriving at Griswoldville just as the last of Wheeler's troopers were withdrawing. Warned that a Union force of around 1,000 men was just ahead, Philips formed a line of battle and moved into the ruined town.

No Union force was found and the general decided to continue moving up the road, assuming that the Federals had also withdrawn. His route put him on a collision course with Walcutt's brigade, which had arrived and taken up a position on the ridge at today's Griswold Battlefield State Historic Site. Neither side knew the other was there.

As Philips and his men marched forward, they began to encounter Union skirmishers who fired and fell back slowly to their main line on the ridge. Now alerted that enemy infantry was approaching, the Federals began desperately piling fence rails, logs and anything else that might stop a bullet along the length of their line atop the ridge.

Surveying the situation and deciding that he outnumbered the Federals on the ridge, General Philips decided to attack. The Georgia troops formed for battle and their four cannon opened fire on the Union lines from the top of a hill near the railroad tracks.

The Confederates who fought at the Battle of Griswoldville were, with the exception of their artillerymen and a few others, not seasoned regular soldiers. They were men ranging in age from their early teens to their 60s who had turned out to defend their homes and neighbors against Sherman's invasion. At Griswoldville they became heroes.

As the Union soldiers watched from atop the ridge, the Confederates emerged from the trees in three sweeping lines and began to advance across a fallow field. It was an open field attack not unlike Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg. When the Confederates came within killing range, the Federals opened fire with deadly effect. The courageous Georgians went down in waves, but continued to fight with a desperation that surprised both Union troops then and modern historians today. When asked why, one mortally wounded Southern soldier told his Federal captors that the men beside him were his neighbors and they were fighting for each other.

Before night fell and the firing ended, the Confederates made **seven distinct attacks** across the open ground, but were driven back each time. In the process they suffered horrendous casualties. More than 500 men and boys fell dead or wounded on the field at Griswoldville. Trying to help the living after the battle, Union soldiers found one 14-year-old boy still alive under a pile of bodies. He had been wounded in the arm and leg and near him lay his father, two brothers and an uncle, all dead.

Among the dead and wounded were found several black men who had fought in the battle alongside the white Southern soldiers. Little is known about them.

Union losses in the battle totaled 13 killed and 86 wounded. Confederate losses are estimated at 50 killed and 500 wounded. It is said that the water in the branch that runs through the ravine on the battlefield was turned red with blood.

Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

Nov. 1, 1861	George McClellan replaces Winfield Scott and is promoted to General-in-Chief of the U.S. armies. Over the next year McClellan proved to be an inadequate communicator for the position and Lincoln removed him but let him continue as the commander of the Army of the Potomac.
Nov. 8, 1861	A major international incident is created when the U.S. Navy stops the British vessel H. M. S. Trent and removes two Confederate ministers en route to their posts in England and France. War with Britain is averted when the emissaries are released early in January.
Nov. 4, 1862	Democrat Horatio Seymour is elected governor of New York. He is no friend of emancipation and has said <i>"If it is true that slavery must be abolished to save this Union, then the people of the South should be allowed to withdraw themselves from the government which cannot give them the protection guaranteed by its terms."</i>
Nov. 21, 1862	President Jefferson Davis appoints Virginian James A. Seddon secretary of war which he will hold until early 1865 when resigns from the post.
Nov. 19, 1863	At the dedication of the military cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, President Lincoln makes his Gettysburg Address.
Nov. 25, 1863	Gen. Bragg's forces are swept off of Missionary Ridge and the siege of Chattanooga is lifted.
Nov. 1, 1864	A new Maryland state constitution, abolishing slavery, takes effect.
Nov. 16, 1864	Gen. Sherman organizes his army into two wings and begins his march through Georgia toward the sea. It is estimated the destruction caused by Gen. Sherman's army totals \$100 million in damage.

March Camp Meeting THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

6 O'CLOCK P.M.



SEAWELL'S RESTAURANT

**1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC**

SPEAKER

Mr. Eddie Rogers

"Portraying Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton"

WWW.WADEHAMPTONCAMP.ORG



Columbia, SC 29212

507 Sail Point Way

C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III

A Non-Profit Organization

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton III Camp No. 273

The Official Publication of

THE LEGIONARY

