

THE LEGIONARY

November 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"



The time is at hand to stand and be counted with your Compatriots. If you haven't re-enlisted in the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp, please do so now.

Your Camp Needs You, Now Re-enlist, in Memory of Your Ancestor

The Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp is at a critical juncture. As of early November, more than one in three Camp Compatriots hadn't sent in their dues for 2006.

If this Camp is to continue leading the fight against detractors who disparage our Southern forefathers, we need every man to stand tall and re-enlist.

When each of us joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans, we vowed to follow The Charge, which includes the following admonition: "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 made him glorious, and which you also cherish."

We may not have had the opportunity to stand with our ancestors at Little Round Top or the Hornet's Nest, but we can make sure those brave men and the cause they fought for isn't forgotten.

If you haven't paid up for 2006, the rates are: Regular Membership - \$50; Associate Membership - \$20; Division Life Membership - \$45; National Life Membership - \$30; and Division and National Life Membership - \$25. Send checks to Adjutant Eddie Killian, Box 861, Gaston, S.C., 29053-0861.



Wachovia's Problems are of its Own Making

One has to chuckle when one considers the pickle banking giant Wachovia has gotten itself into with its recent mea culpa over slavery.

In June, the Charlotte, N.C.-based bank company with great flourish publicly apologized for its role in slavery, even though it wasn't Wachovia but two of its predecessor banks that were involved.

"On behalf of Wachovia Corp., I apologize to all Americans, and especially to African-Americans and people of African descent," Wachovia chief executive Ken Thompson said then. "We are deeply saddened by these findings."

To remedy the wrongs of the distant past, the bank pledged \$10 million to scholarship programs and various civic organizations. (Wachovia, of course, was one of many companies that fell over itself in its quest to bring down the Confederate flag from the S.C. State House, to demonstrate itself an enlightened corporate citizen.)

The apology and pledge weren't enough, though. Late last month several black lawmakers in South Carolina publicly attacked Wachovia, decrying the fact that the bank was being honored as Columbia's Corporate Citizen of the Year.

See Wachovia, Page 7

Plans Firmed for 2006 Lee-Jackson Banquet

The upcoming Lee-Jackson Banquet, the second annual event by the Central South Carolina SCV Council, is expected to be even better than the first.

Set to begin at 7 p.m., Friday Jan. 20 at Seawells, the banquet will feature Mr. Russell Darden of Virginia as speaker.

Mr. Darden will give his exceptional presentation on Point Lookout POW Camp in Maryland, where his great-uncle, Corp. Julius Howell, was held.

See Banquet, Page 4

Remembering History, 'Pa Pa' and The Major

The Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273 was chartered on April 21, 1932. The men who stepped forward to establish our Camp 73 years ago surely must have been truly great individuals.

Other than the routine observance of The Charge much of the other work and objectives was quite different then.

They didn't have any problems with the media or politically correct enemies as we do today.

The flag was flown everywhere. The school books of the times presented the true Southern point of view of the War of Northern Aggression.

Imagine not having to deal with the likes of Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center or John Monk and Brad Warthen of The State. Life for the Sons of Confederate Veterans was much different then than it is today.

Local SCV Camps and UDC Chapters found themselves providing much needed assistance to the local United Confederate Veterans Camps, whose members were growing very old and needed help managing their own UCV Camp business.

Our Confederate veteran heroes were aging fast, and they needed help. The Sons and Daughters responded. So did our government, both city and state.

My grandparents lived downtown off Elmwood Avenue, not far from the Confederate Soldiers Home on Confederate Avenue.

My grandfather, "Pa Pa," took me many times as a child in the early '50s for walks past the stately old mansion on the corner at Bull Street where a crisp new Confederate flag was always flying.

On occasion he would point out several very old men sitting in

Commander's Corner

Jeff O'Cain

rocking chairs on the front porch and tell me, "Jeff, those are very important men who are heroes just like my grandfather and your great-great grandfather, Major Watson O'Cain."

Of course back then I hadn't the foggiest idea of what he spoke. But I do remem-

ber the walks to the Confederate Soldiers Home and can today remember seeing the old white bearded men on the porch.

Whether they were actual Confederate veterans or not is lost.

More importantly, the learning process about my Southern heritage began right then and there at the Confederate Soldiers Home in 1950, and my grandfather never stopped telling me all he knew and remembered of my Confederate ancestor until he died in 1983. I always listened intently.

It gave him great pleasure in telling me the stories of when he was child and sat with "The Major," an affectionate title the family used until his death in 1911.

"Pa Pa" told me many stories of his childhood with "The Major," particularly when he turned 12 and, as a rite of male passage, was allowed to hold his sword from the War.

I wish I could see my grandfather again because I have so many questions that I wish I had asked him back then. He was, after all, my closest contact to my Confederate ancestor, and I was blessed to have a grandfather who cared so much about his grandfather to tell me the stories.

Now having served for two years we will at this month's Camp meeting elect a new Commander.

My motivation to step forward originally was solely to honor my Confederate ancestor.

I know "The Major" is proud of me for helping advance the colors, but I now know that "Pa Pa," a veteran of World War I and World War II, would be even prouder.

I miss my grandfather "Pa Pa" much the same way he missed his grandfather "The Major."



Major Watson O'Cain, great-great grandfather of Commander Jeff O'Cain, fought for the South and died in 1911.

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 Jeff O'Cain (803) 772-0016
Adjutant Eddie Killian (803) 264-3018

Success, Promise in View as Camp Readies for 2006

Well, as we read this another year has nearly passed. Looking back at the accomplishments of the Camp, I am very pleased.

We became the largest Camp in the Division. We won Division Camp of the year. Once again one of our Chaplains was elected Chaplain of the year.

The second annual Battle for Columbia was blessed with beautiful weather and attendance by both spectators and re-enactors doubled.

The Camp and many individuals in it won accolades for their performance in our organization. Commander O'Cain's idea for reorganizing the Camp into smaller Companies was recognized by the SCV leadership as a great way to manage larger Camps.

Our Adjutant's Corp worked tirelessly to capture every Compatriot's correct address, e-mail, and telephone numbers.

In short, the Camp has improved in the past two years, and I believe we can all see it clearly.

This month we will meet with the important task of electing new Camp officers. The topic was discussed during the September and October Command and Staff meetings.

Lieutenant's Ledger

Tommy Rollings

We even took a poll to see who we thought would be the best choice for Commander.

To my surprise, I received the majority of the votes. I explained to all the men present that I believe I am not the best choice.

I really did not believe I could handle this most important task.

Each time I gave a reason explaining why I could not, someone would give me a reason why I could.

I soon saw a pattern emerging. Nearly every man in the room was offering to help me in some way by shouldering some of the load himself.

It appeared that even though I lacked confidence in myself, those around me did not.

I began to think of one of my Confederate ancestors, Aaron Plyler, who was Color Bearer for the 8th S.C. Infantry.

I bet his commanding officer, Colonel Stackhouse didn't have to ask him to carry

the Regiment's colors into battle. No, Aaron volunteered, and after being shot, he returned. After a second wound, he returned again.

Many of you have approached me after Camp meetings and have contacted me by telephone to offer your support if I were to run for Commander.

If the fine men of the Flagship Camp of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans have that much faith in and support for me, there will be no way I can fail you.

To honor the fine men of the Camp, and to honor my Confederate ancestor, I am stepping forward to offer for Commander for 2006.

If I am nominated, I will run. If elected, I will serve.

In closing I would like only to say I know how General Lee felt when he reviewed his men and believed them to be invincible.

I have worked with you to grow the Camp and to put together the Midlands' best Living History program. I have seen what you are willing to do.

I hope only that you will all continue to perform at the same level for your next Commander, whomever he may be.

See ya'll at Seawell's on the 17th!

Black Union Veteran, Survivor of Fort Wagner, to be Honored

By Wayne Washington

The State

CHARLESTON — A researcher for the National Parks Service has weaved together the intriguing story of a black Union veteran from Vermont who fought in South Carolina only to later claim the Palmetto State as his home.

Isaac Sawyer was a private in the Massachusetts 54th Regiment. The famous black fighting unit, chronicled in the 1989 movie "Glory," saw extensive Civil War action in South Carolina.

Sawyer is buried in an unmarked grave in Monrovia Union Cemetery in Charleston, the city his regiment fought to take and later occupied. Now, more than a century after his death, the African American Civil War Memorial Museum and the National Parks Service plan to honor Sawyer on Veteran's Day this Friday.

Russell Horres, a retired biomedical scientist who has conducted volunteer research for the National Parks Service for four years, stumbled on to a reference to

Sawyer last year. Horres was looking for information about another black Civil War veteran, George Gregory. Gregory was listed as a witness on Sawyer's pension application and, like Sawyer, is buried at Monrovia Union. But Gregory was a Charleston native.

Sawyer, on the other hand, was from Vermont.

Why, Horres wondered, would a black Union veteran from Vermont choose to live in South Carolina after the Civil War?

Horres' research indicates Sawyer chose South Carolina as his home — during a life that saw him go from escaped slave to history-making soldier to quiet, anonymous businessman — for the most human of reasons: Love.

With musket balls and artillery shells ripping through the air, and limbs being blasted from blue-uniformed men, Sawyer could not have guessed on July 18, 1863, that he had 30 years left to live.

Just making it to dawn seemed a bad bet.

A private in Company E — the unit wading through knee-deep water and mud during the first, deadly assault on Morris Island's Fort Wagner — Sawyer had lived through much already.

More than 140 years after the 54th's assault on Fort Wagner, Horres became riveted by Sawyer's life story.

Horres was trying to help the Parks Service meet a request from the African

See Union, Page 5

Research Problems?

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

Jim Harley

mshjehjr@bellsouth.net

(803) 772-8080

Va. SCV Camp Keeps Vigil over Confederate Graves

LYNCHBURG, Va. - Brian Giles wants to make sure no one forgets the Confederate soldiers from Central Virginia who fought in the Civil War.

The great-great-grandson of a Confederate soldier who fought at Gettysburg, Giles has spent countless hours scouring the countryside looking for forgotten gravesites of Confederate veterans.

Over the past year, Giles and his Sons of Confederate Veterans chapter in Lynchburg have uncovered more than 500 gravesites in Amherst, Nelson and Campbell counties, with more than 300 sites in Amherst County alone. In addition, Giles' group occasionally cleans old cemeteries where Confederate soldiers were buried.

"They're so overgrown and the weeds are so tall, you can't even see the tombstones," he said.

Tim Roach, who works with Giles in his efforts, said discovering the graves is an ongoing process.

"It'll never be a project that we'll finish," Roach said.

"The (graves) that we have found, we're going to have to come back to so that they don't get overgrown again."

Giles, 32, said that he researches the veterans on the Internet, then goes out to cemeteries to take photos of the veterans' tombstones.

He also said that he documents his discoveries to help provide a record for future Civil War researchers.

A history buff since high school, Giles said that both sides of his family had connections to the Civil War.

"I've probably got about 25 to 30 ancestors who served in the Civil War," said Giles, who lives in Lynchburg.

He added that this occasionally resulted in his discovering a family connection in the cemeteries.

"The most neat thing is when you go in there and find a soldier that your relative fought with," Giles said.

"It makes you sit back and think, 'Did he know granddaddy?'"

Giles said that one of the tricks to find-

ing the graves of Civil War veterans is to see if the person buried there was born between the years 1815 and 1846.

"Between that time period, that's where you'd start looking," Giles said.

He added that a slight peak at the top of the tombstones usually indicates the graves of Confederate veterans.

"Once you see that peak, nine times out of 10, that's a Confederate soldier buried there," Giles said.

Roach said that uncovering the gravesites was a rewarding experience.

"You get a satisfaction knowing somebody that's part of history is less likely to be forgotten because of overgrowth and inattention," Roach said.

"If you clear them out so people can see them, and make it known who's buried, someone who might be related to someone buried there might discover a new relative."

Giles said that discovering the veterans' graves sometimes affected him personally.

See Vigil, Page 7

Banquet

He will play the actual recording of his ancestor's speech before a joint session of Congress in 1944.

Don Jones' bluegrass band Ridgehill will again provide excellent musical entertainment.

National Lt. Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan will be the Master of Ceremonies.

There will be raffles, door prizes and many vendors along with our Quartermasters Table. Many other fun surprises will happen as well.

Tickets are \$25 single, \$40 couple, \$15 youth 12-18 and \$9 child under 12. Please purchase tickets in advance since we must give Seawells an attendance number before the event.

Farroll Gunter is Lee-Jackson Banquet Ticket Chairman and will be available to sell tickets at the November meeting.

Remember, we do not meet in December, so please buy tickets ASAP. Our January meeting will be on the 19th, the Thursday evening before Lee-Jackson Banquet. More details will follow in next month's Legionary.

Clark Headlines November Meeting

Our November speaker will now be E.M. Clark, with a fine presentation about Confederate generals.

E.M. is a past commander of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp, charter member of the 15th Regiment Camp in Lexington, founder of the Guardian program and has served since its inception as Division Guardian Chairman.

As a certified electrician, E.M. has graciously helped BFC each year with the complex electrical systems and setup.



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.

Hampton Camp Compatriot Stands Tall Defending Flag

Paul Graham, a longtime member of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp, did us proud recently when he took pen in hand to defend the honor of the Confederate Battle Flag.

Graham's ire was raised when, upon picking up a publication called Columbia City Paper, he came across a tired piece of doggerel, supposedly written to the "Confederate" flag on the Statehouse grounds.

Graham was upset by the fact that the writer, who didn't have the guts to attach his or her name, used the phrase "Northern Virginia" erroneously by citing it as a geographical location, instead of the name for one of the Confederacy's armies.

"We all know that the Army of Northern Virginia was chalked full of South Carolina men," he said. "It would have taken the writer three minutes on Google to get information on the flag and who fought under it."

Here's the offending poem:

"Dear Confederate flag on the State House grounds,

Here's a poem for you:

I see you waving from the State House yard

But to understand you makes me think too hard

I wonder what you should mean to me...

Tradition? History? Or Slavery?

I just don't know who to believe about you

The NAACP or Maurice's Barbecue

Governor Sanford seems to like you though

But I didn't vote for him, so I just don't know.

Meanwhile it is 2005

Did the values we had back then really survive?

I mean, I love the South, and it's beautiful weather

But I can't look at you without feeling the whip-crack of leather

And maybe it's true - it's heritage not hate

Like the bumper sticker on the pick up trucks relate

But recently I found out something that doesn't fit

That flag is historically inaccurate!

The confederate flag... I traced its roots

It didn't originate in South Carolina by our rebel troops

You see, this flag that you seem to feel with in ya...

Was the Battle Flag of Northern Virginia!

So why you're here, I just don't get it

Take you down, leave you up, whatever, just forget it.

Because we all know the State House's real plan of action

is to make the confederate flag a tourist attraction!

Red state/Blue state, heritage... or hate

When the cash register rings we don't discriminate

So fly, fly, fly those colors that don't run

Until eventually we're bored, and think up a new one."

This is Compatriot Graham's response:

You know how to rhyme and you showed several times

Your disdain for the war torn banner

However, you never arose to the challenge

To get to the heart of the matter.

The flag whose roots you said that you searched

To produce a historical coup

Was indeed the flag under which South Carolinians fought,

And other Southrons too!

Now I'm no poet, that's plain to see,

but I know a little 'bout history

And so could you, if you'd have only read, about the Flag of Northern Virginia

Our own General Hampton and his Legion of men

Fought under that war-torn flag,

As did cavalry, infantry, and artillery

All hailing from our land.

If you took some time to examine the facts, you would not at all be bewildered

In fact it would make perfect sense to you-as though the truth to you did matter!

But alas, it does not, or so it would seem,

for you history is very mistaken.

There is no other flag, NO, no other flag

That meant more to our citizen soldiers.

Don't besmirch these men for doing their job

they answered the call of their home

Don't hate the flag under which they fought

Why won't you just leave them alone?

And so, kind sir, I make this plea for a little understanding

For the folks you seem to be reprimanding

"Heritage not hate" is not the debate,

It's ignorance, intolerance, and misunderstanding!

Union

American Civil War Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. for more information on black soldiers in the Civil War. Horres did a computer search on Gregory and was led to Monrovia Union Cemetery. A computer

search of the cemetery led to a sketchy reference to Sawyer as a black veteran also buried in the cemetery. Horres shifted his research to Sawyer, combing through old Charleston city directories, U.S. Census Bureau reports, and death and marriage records. Researchers with the Civil War Memorial Museum also helped find Sawyer's pension and military service records.

What emerged was an incomplete but fascinating picture. Records show Sawyer said he was born in Virginia in 1844. He signed up for the Massachusetts 54th in Brattleboro, Vt., on April 3, 1863.

Horres' search for information in Vermont records came up dry.

But Horres believes he knows why Saw-

yer was in Vermont and why there is no record of him having lived there. "I believe Sawyer escaped from slavery and moved north to Vermont."

While slavery was outlawed in Vermont, federal fugitive laws allowed slave hunters to recapture escaped slaves anywhere they were found and return them to bondage. As a result, escaped slaves needed to live quiet, below-the-radar lives to avoid detection.

By May 1863, Sawyer was on his way to Hilton Head with the 54th. The regiment later took part in a raid on Darien, Ga., that outraged local whites and some Union officials, who decried the property destruction and what some saw as black mistreatment of white civilians.

Membership Help Line

For complete assistance in all aspects of membership & recruiting contact:

Scott James

wscottjames@prodigy.net

(803) 781-1836

Easily Offended Find Reason to Whine in Southern Utah

By Terry Greene Sterling
The Washington Post

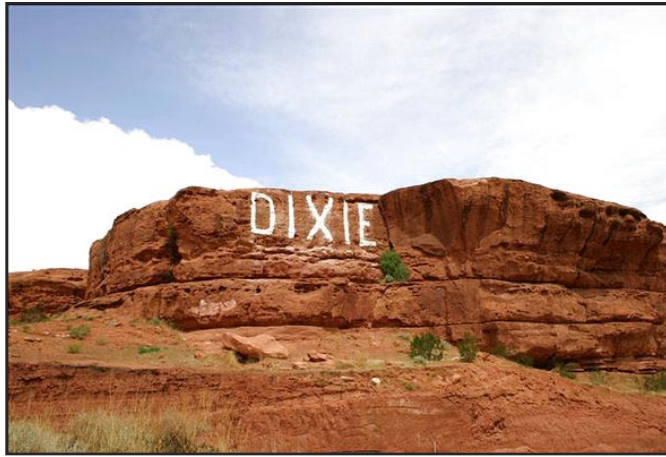
ST. GEORGE, Utah - The Rebels Monument, a bronze statue of a mounted Confederate soldier grasping a tattered flag while assisting a wounded comrade, sits on the campus of Dixie State College in this southwestern Utah town. An American flag and a Utah flag fly high over the monument, but a third flagpole is empty. It once bore the flag of the Confederate States of America, the former school flag of Dixie State.

In this region, known as Utah's Dixie, the monument is a reminder of an ongoing dispute within the school and community between those who see Confederate icons as key to the area's pioneer identity and those who find such symbols offensive. The college, which for 12 years has been ridding itself of Confederate symbols, is at the center of the imbroglio. The latest debate has swirled around the college's former mascot, a Confederate soldier, which was removed from the campus in 2001 and replaced this semester with a red hawk.

Utah's Dixie seems incongruous in the West, but the name was coined by Mormon converts from the South, who just before the Civil War settled the area to cultivate cotton. "Little Dixies" are scattered across the country, retaining a strong Southern identity after being settled by migrating Southerners during the Civil War era, said William Ferris, senior associate director of the Center for the Study of the American South at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Flanked by the Mojave Desert, steep mountains and fierce canyons, Utah's Dixie was so secluded that after the Mormon Church banned plural marriages in the late 19th century, practicing polygamists remained in the area because it was an easy place to hide from the law.

But that isolation eroded in the last decade, as St. George experienced a surge in population to its current 67,680. The town sits 110 miles east of Las Vegas and about 300 miles south of Salt Lake City. Its proximity to Zion, Bryce Canyon and Grand Canyon national parks; low crime rate; temperate climate; and relatively low housing costs attracted newcomers mostly from the Las Vegas-Southern California corridor



"Dixie" is painted on a bluff overlooking St. George. The region became known as "Utah's Dixie" after Mormons from the South settled there.

and retirees from all over the nation.

St. George is at the center "of wonderful places to hike, and a hub for my archaeological interest in Native American rock art," said Boma Johnson, 65, a retired Bureau of Land Management archaeologist who moved here six years ago from Arizona.

Destination spas, golf courses, chain stores and gated housing developments ring the historic downtown, a green oasis tucked beneath a tan bluff upon which the word "DIXIE" is painted. On another bluff overlooking the town, a large "D," representing Dixie State, lights up at night.

The word "Dixie," thought to have evolved from the name of a coin used in New Orleans in the 19th century, evokes different meanings, Ferris said.

To many, "Dixie" is a place name for the generic South. To others, particularly African Americans and those sensitive to their feelings, the name harks back to slavery, racism and the Civil War, which explains why it is fading from the South, Ferris said.

But that is not the case in southwestern Utah. The Dixie Directory, a regional phone book, lists more than 90 businesses and publicly funded institutions that carry the name, including the Dixie National Forest, a convention center, a high school, a grammar school, a hospital and the college.

"In Utah, the word 'Dixie' is associated mostly with growing cotton on the edge of the Mojave Desert," said Dixie State President Lee Caldwell.

"Here, folks didn't experience the Civil War or the tensions dividing the country."

The college and the community are fused by history. Founded by Mormons in

1911, the school was turned over to the state in 1933.

For years, it shared its campus with Dixie High School and was known as Dixie Junior College.

In the early 1960s, the junior college was moved to its own campus. Rodney Rebel, a Confederate soldier, became the mascot for the athletic teams, the Rebels. The Confederate flag became the school flag. The school booster club became the "Colonels," a word that often signifies Civil War veterans.

At the time, some colleges in the South adopted Confederate mascots and icons to protest the

civil rights movement, Ferris said. Current Dixie college administrators say they cannot speak to the motives of the former administrators who approved of the symbols.

Former teacher Louise Excell said the symbols began to be removed from the college in 1993 because "people from the outside world were offended by the Confederate symbolism," and Robert Huddleston, who was then its president, "didn't want Dixie State College to be perceived as racist."

"People underestimate the power of a symbol. Whether you are racist or not, when you have Confederate symbols you are associating yourself with the Confederacy and all the terrifying things that go with it, most notably slavery," said Excell, who taught humanities at the college from 1993 to 2003 and now lives in nearby Springdale.

"The few African Americans who came to the school were football and basketball players, and they felt uncomfortable. I remember so vividly one of my black students sitting in a chair with tears in his eyes, saying, 'I hate this place,'" she said.

Huddleston, who retired as president last spring, did not return phone calls seeking an interview. But in an e-mail, he wrote that he banned the Confederate flag (the first symbol to be removed) "because it did not reflect the proper image of Dixie State College."

In 2000, Utah let the junior college begin offering four-year degrees. The college now has about 9,000 students and is contemplating joining the National Collegiate Athletics Association, which recently banned offensive mascots from its championship games.

In the Confederation

What's Going On

S.C. Relic Room Details State's Martial Tradition

"The S.C. Martial Tradition" chronicles the Palmetto State's role in American history from the Revolutionary War to World War II at the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Museum.

Cost is \$4 for those 21 and older; free, 20 and younger. The Relic Room is located at 301 Gervais St. in the Columbia Mills building. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays; 1-5 p.m. the first Sunday monthly.

SCV Applauds Virginia Gubernatorial Candidate

The Sons of Confederate Veterans applaud Virginia Republican gubernatorial candidate Jerry Kilgore for his strong public stance supporting the designation of April as Confederate History and Heritage Month in Virginia. He joins Independent Russ Potts, and fellow Republican candidates Bill Bolling and Bob McDonnell as supporters of this month.

Millions of Virginia citizens are rightfully proud of their Confederate ancestry and state history. Many view Confederate History and Heritage Month as important.

To deny so many of Virginia's citizens a chance to show pride in their heritage and families is both unfair and discriminatory.

Vigil

"When you're looking through these graves, you wonder, 'How much suffering did he go through? Was he injured? Did he make it back home from the war?'"

He said that next year, he hoped to do more research on black soldiers in Amherst County.

"There's history out there, but there's not a lot of public information on that topic," Giles said.

"Even if they were slaves or free, there were soldiers, and they were respected very highly in the Confederate army."

Giles also said that in cleaning the cemeteries, his group sometimes encountered veterans from outside the Confederate army.

-The Lynchburg News & Advance

Important November Dates to Remember

Notable Confederate Birthdays

Nov. 2: Brig. Gen. James Byron Gordon*
Nov. 2: Brig. Gen. Robert Hopkins Hatton*
Nov. 3: Lt. Gen. Jubal Early
Nov. 3: Brig. Gen. Samuel Wragg Ferguson, Charleston
Nov. 3: Brig. Gen. Thomas Muldrup Logan, Charleston
Nov. 4: Brig. Gen. Alexander Robert Lawton, Beaufort County
Nov. 5: Brig. Gen. Edward Dorr Tracy*
Nov. 9: Lt. Gen. Ambrose Powell Hill*
Nov. 10: Brig. Gen. Albert Gallatin Jenkins*
Nov. 11: Brig. Gen. Ben McCulloch*
Nov. 13: Lt. Gen. Theophilus Hunter Holmes
Nov. 15: Maj. Gen. Pierce Manning Butler Young, Spartanburg
Nov. 19: Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee
Nov. 21: Brig. Gen. Richard Brooke Garnett*
Nov. 22: Maj. Gen. Samuel Gibbs French
Nov. 22: Maj. Gen. Benjamin Huger, Charleston
Nov. 24: Brig. Gen. James Heyward Trapier, Georgetown
Nov. 26: Maj. Gen. William Henry Talbot Walker*
Nov. 28: Brig. Gen. Lawrence O'Bryan Branch*
Nov. 30: Maj. Gen. Gustavus Woodson Smith

Wachovia

"Americans know there was a slave history in South Carolina," said Sen. Robert Ford, D-Charleston. "But what we don't know is who the villains were. Wachovia was a villain. We have made several requests to them since the so-called apology and they ignored it."

The bank has refused requests from black leaders in South Carolina for support for various programs, Ford said.

And therein, as they say, lies the rub. Wachovia refuses to be shaken down for more money (Ford has said \$200 billion might do the trick), so black lawmakers turned up the heat.

Now, one would think that because the last slaves and slaveowners died half a century ago and Wachovia didn't officially begin until several years after slavery was abolished this would be a moot issue. After all, how can someone who didn't do something apologize to someone that wasn't around when it happened?

But, as with many causes liberals embrace, logic need not be applied when it comes to discussing slavery reparations.

Reparations have been a hot topic among activists for some time. But the only reason this line of thinking has gained any credence is because someone somewhere thought they could silence the perpetually aggrieved by trying to buy them off.

Corporations such as Coca-Cola, Wal-Mart and SCANA have been doing this for years, giving money to groups such as

the NAACP and the Rainbow Coalition, and pledging themselves to "diversity" by installing de facto quota systems, so employee rosters are "more representative" of America, regardless of talent.

This strategy keeps activist groups happy and assuages white liberal guilt. The problem is, it doesn't work.

Activists, having gotten a whiff of big money, see a rich payday near at hand and keep up the pressure. Liberals, either too stupid or gutless to understand the game, continue to try and placate the race hustlers, who long ago turned the civil rights movement into lucrative jobs.

And no matter how much money these corporations give, it will never be enough. That's because organizations like the NAACP couldn't exist without corporate handouts.

Sadly, it's the average black American, who will likely never see a single cent of this blood money, that ultimately pays the price.

Some buy into the victim culture mentality preached by Jesse Jackson and Louis Farrakhan, believing "white America" wants them to fail. And plenty of non-minorities, inundated with this perverse message by media, begin to believe blacks can't make it without corporate and government welfare.

In this case, though, Wachovia has no one to blame but itself. It made its bed, let it lie in it.

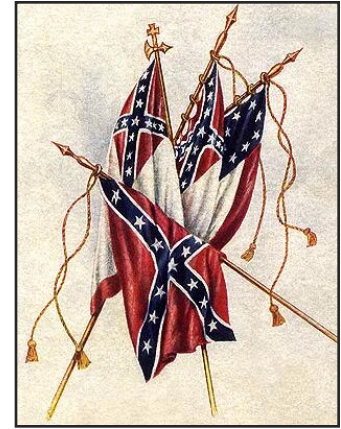
Important Dates in the War of Northern Aggression

- Nov. 4, 1864: Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest led a 23-day raid culminating in an attack on the Yankee supply base at Johnsonville, Tenn. Forrest inflicts more than \$2 million in damage to Yankees.
- Nov. 7, 1862: Confederates maintain hold in Southwest Missouri with victory at Vera Cruz, Mo.
- Nov. 11, 1864: Maj. Gen. John Breckinridge drives Federal forces from Bulls Gap, Tenn., hindering Yankee plans in Eastern Tennessee.
- Nov. 19, 1861: Confederate Col. Douglas H. Cooper, commander of the Indian Department, chased Chief Opothleyahola and his band of Unionist Creeks and Seminoles from the Red Fork of the Arkansas River.
- Nov. 23, 1863: Grant outduels Bragg at Chattanooga, giving the Federals the "Gateway to the South."
- Nov. 24, 1864: Union forces under Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield fail to stop Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood's forces near Columbia, Tenn.
- Nov. 27, 1864: Patrick Cleburne and Confederate forces stop Yankee troops at Ringgold Gap, Ga.
- Nov. 30, 1864: Confederates stopped at Franklin, Tenn., losing six generals and more than 6,000 casualties.

Words To Remember

"All we ask is, to be let alone."
- *Jefferson Davis*

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 17



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

Scripture Thought

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished
my course, I have kept the faith."
- *Timothy 2:7*

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