

THE LEGIONARY

DECEMBER 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

REMINDER: WE WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.

I would like to thank the committee charged for selecting and decorating the state Christmas tree for topping it off with the Confederate Veteran's statue, it makes this year's tree perfect. The officers of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton camp wishes each of you and your families have a safe and Christmas and New Year's holiday season.

Christmas Night of '62

The following is a poem by Confederate soldier William Gordon McCabe (1841 – 1920) giving his thoughts on Christmas Night 1862.

The wintry blast goes wailing by,
the snow is falling overhead;
I hear the lonely sentry's tread,
and distant watch-fires light the sky.

Dim forms go flitting through the gloom;
The soldiers cluster round the blaze
To talk of other Christmas days,
And softly speak of home and home

My saber swinging overhead,
gleams in the watch-fire's fitful glow,
while fiercely drives the blinding snow,
and memory leads me to the dead.

My thoughts go wandering to and fro,
vibrating 'twixt the Now and Then;
I see the low-browed home again,
the old hall wreathed in mistletoe.

And sweetly from the far off years
comes borne the laughter faint and low,
the voices of the Long Ago!
My eyes are wet with tender tears.



2014
South Carolina State Christmas Tree

I feel again the mother kiss,
I see again the glad surprise
That lighted up the tranquil eyes
And brimmed them o'er with tears of bliss

As, rushing from the old hall-door,
She fondly clasped her wayward boy -
Her face all radiant with they joy
She felt to see him home once more.

My saber swinging on the bough
Gleams in the watch-fire's fitful glow,
while fiercely drives the blinding snow
aslant upon my saddened brow.

Those cherished faces are all gone!
Asleep within the quiet graves
where lies the snow in drifting waves, -
And I am sitting here alone.

There's not a comrade here tonight
but knows that loved ones far away
on bended knees this night will pray:
"God bring our darling from the fight."

But there are none to wish me back,
for me no yearning prayers arise
the lips are mute and closed the eyes -
My home is in the bivouac.

COMMANDERS CORNER

TERRY HUGHEY

I write to wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas, and hope you will be surrounded by those you love and hold dear. I recognize the beauty and the excitement, as well as how hectic, this time of year can be. However, I hope each of you can take some time to back away from the rush of shopping, gift wrapping and the planning for that special dinner and simply give thanks to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

During this so very special time of the year, please note the success in remembering and honoring our Confederate ancestors depends on each of us. We cannot imagine the horrors our Confederate soldiers and their families endured the Christmases they were separated from each other. We must continue to do our part to honor the Confederate soldier's good name as we gather together with family and friends this Christmas. Our part can be as simple as our attendance at Camp meetings. Such a simple act

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is vital in the continued support and remembrance of our Confederate ancestors.

As we each gather around our respective Christmas trees and dinner tables to express our humble prayers of thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, please join with me for a moment of quiet gratitude for the lives of our Confederate ancestors and that we will not fail in honoring and standing up for their good name and the *Cause* for which they sacrificed their all.

I wish each of you and your families a happy and safe Christmas.



CHAPLAINS WITNESS

WALTER LINDLER

Was The Week Before Christmas:

Can you imagine living during the Civil War era and celebrating Christmas as they must have back then?

People then were lucky to get a warm piece of clothing, a piece of fruit or a peppermint stick or maybe even a hand carved toy of some type. How simple things were then as compared to today. No electricity for Christmas lights and a cedar tree out of grandpa's field with popcorn threaded strings for decorations and maybe a few holly berries for some color and a homemade Angel atop of the tree, that was Christmas then.

Today we seemed to have forgotten the true meaning of Christmas and what we should really be celebrating. We seem to go overboard to give the children and adults material things and load the tree down with expensive gifts that either or not appreciated or will never be used a week after Christmas. I ask myself *Why*?

In today's world we don't identify a Christmas tree as a Christmas tree, but as a Holiday tree or Holiday decorations. I ask myself *Why*? Are we taking Christ out of Christmas? Unfortunately it seems that way.

The greatest gift of all was the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Without this we are all lost and missing the true meaning of Christmas. We should be telling ourselves that this is what Christmas is all about.

A time to reflect on how Blessed we are to be living in the country in which we live and how fortunate we are to have what we have. I am often reminded of those who are less fortunate than I and how heartbreaking it is to see people murder and take advantage of others. It is hard to understand what some people mean in the actions they take in this world today.

The Holiday Season is a time to reflect on how precious life and friends and family and health really are. I have often been reminded that "Christmas is for Kids" and rightfully so, but it is also a time to be Joyful Happy sharing smiles and taking nothing for granted for the simple reason we may not be given another day on this earth.

Just imagine how wonderful Christmas would be if we could find a cure for cancer, heart disease and diabetes. That would be a wonderful Christmas Gift to many, or giving a gift

to someone who hasn't the luxury of a warm home or food on the table to feed their families.

God did not intend for us to let those in need to go unnoticed and I am afraid that we are doing just that in society today. It doesn't take very much effort on our part to donate to those organizations that do look out for families who don't have what we have. I am sure that people during the Civil War era were closer to one another, more so than we are today and I am sure that God is not happy with His World and His People.

I pray that we will realize that Christmas will be celebrated for the right reasons this year and that we will have World Peace and Peace among our fellowman

Take time to tell someone you love them. We are given today, but we have no idea what tomorrow may bring.

Pray for those families who lost their loved ones in Connecticut on Friday and be Thankful for our Families and Loved Ones.

May you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year!



"ALMIGHTY GOD YOU HAVE MADE YOURSELF KNOWN IN YOUR SON, JESUS, REDEMER OF THE WORLD. WE PRAY THAT HIS BIRTH, AS A HUMAN CHILD WILL SET US FREE FROM THE OLD SLAVERY OF OUR SIN, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD NOW AND FOREVER".

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

Bill Chisholm

Mark Lynn

Jesse Folk

Rev. Bob Slimp's wife Ursula Slimp

Fred Morrison

Bill Smyth's wife Ann

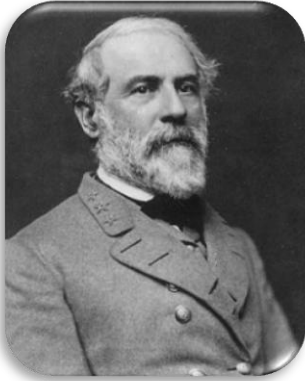


The 2015 Lee – Jackson Banquet

Thursday Evening – January 29

6:30PM – 9:00PM

At Seawell's Restaurant



General Robert E. Lee



Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson

Entertainment:

Speaker: Kenneth Wingate

Toasts To: Gen. Robert E. Lee and Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson

Music By: "Ladies of the Pickin' Parlor"

Door Prizes

Grand Prize 1– Three Volume Set "War Between the States" by Shelby Foote

Grand Prize 2 – A special secret door prize will also be awarded.

Additional Door Prizes Will be Drawn For

Ticket prices are:

Individual - \$25.00

Couples - \$45.00

Children (4 – 11) - \$7.50

Dress

Coat and Tie, Period Dress, Red Shirts acceptable

RSVP CONTACT

Please contact Charles Bray by Phone or E-Mail

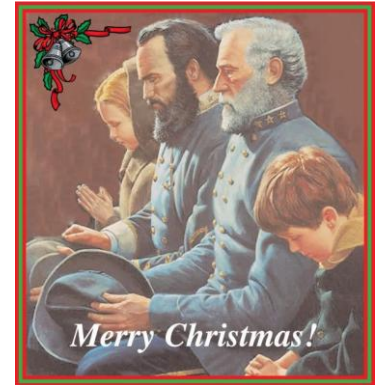
Home TN: - 803-749-1042 Cell TN: - 803-414-6808

E-Mail: cdbiii@bellsouth.net

Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

- Dec. 11 1860 Under orders from Secretary of War John Floyd, General Don Carlos Buell visits Robert Anderson at Fort Sumter. Buell tells Anderson he may occupy any fort that he wants to if he is attacked or feels he is about to be attacked.
- Dec. 7, 1861 Stonewall Jackson destroys the West Virginia side of Dam Number 5 on the Potomac River, disrupting the C&O Canal and impacting the Union's ability to repair the B&O Railroad.
- Dec. 10, 1861 John T. Ford leases the First Baptist Church on 10th St. in Washington and turns it into a theater. Built in 1833, the church had been vacant since 1859, when the church merged with the nearby Fourth Baptist Church.
- Dec. 7, 1862 John Hunt Morgan captures a federal garrison in Hartsville, killing and wounding 1000 before 1800 men surrendered.
- Dec. 13, 1862 Confederate General T. R. R. Cobb dies during the battle of Fredericksburg. South Carolinian Maxcy Gregg is mortally wounded and dies two days later.
- Dec. 13, 1862 General Ambrose Burnside and the Army of the Potomac is soundly beaten by Lee's Army of North Virginia.
- Dec. 9, 1863 Unhappy with proposals from the mint director, Salmon Chase recommends the words "In God We Trust" be added to the design of the new one, two and three-penny coins.
- Dec. 15-16, 1864 Confederate Gen. John B. Hood brought his reduced army before the defenses of Nashville where it was repulsed by Gen. George H. Thomas in what would be the most complete victory of the war.

NO CAMP MEETING IN DECEMBER



**Y'ALL HAVE A MERRY
CHRISTMAS
&
A SAFE AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

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