

THE LEGIONARY

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



COMMANDERS CORNER

RUSTY RENTZ

Gentlemen of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Commander the last three years. Over this time many members have stepped up to insure we are carrying out the Charge as given to us by Stephen D. Lee. I would like to sincerely thank all members that have given of their time and resources to insure the Honorable name of our Confederate Ancestors will not be forgotten.

Compatriot Billy Pittman was elected Commander at our November 2018 meeting. Billy brings youth, new ideas and a high energy level to this most critical office in our camp. I ask all to step up to the plate when you are asked to serve or contribute in some fashion as you have always done.

I would like to wish all our members and their families a truly Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. As we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of these holidays let us not forget the real meaning of Christmas. This is the day Christians celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior for those who believe. I ask each to take a moment and reflect on this truth this Christmas season.

Our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet will be Friday January 18, 2019 at 6:30 pm at Seawell's Restaurant. This is an evening for the whole family to include a great meal, entertainment by the Pickin Pearls, an informative and entertaining program and some nice door prizes. A flyer with this and more information is included in this newsletter. We are asking you RSVP to Charlie Bray to insure an accurate count to Seawell's.

Again, I want to thank all the members of this great camp for their support and contributions the last three years.

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*



Quote: President George W. Bush – December 6, 2001

"Now once again, we celebrate Christmas in a time of testing, with American troops far from home. . . It is worth recalling the words from a beautiful Christmas hymn. In the third verse of "Oh Holy Night" we sing, "His law is love, and His gospel is peace. Chains ye shall break, for the slave is our brother. And in His name all oppression shall cease. . . We fight so that oppression may cease, and even in the midst of war, we pray for peace on Earth and good will to men."



~ Events of December ~

This Month, December (11-12), in 1862, witnessed "The Sack of Fredericksburg."



By the time the fighting ended on Dec. 11, Fredericksburg was desolate. Fighting in the streets, combined with a bombardment by more than 180 cannons, had left the venerable old town shattered and in ruins. The few residents who had not fled Fredericksburg had seen their homes riddled with bullets, shot, and shell.

But the worst was yet to come. On Dec. 12, the Union army crossed the Rappahannock River in force, occupying Fredericksburg. Once across the river, Union soldiers engaged in a more lucrative pastime: For a few hours, discipline and order vanished as soldiers dashed from building to building stealing whatever they could find. Pillaging gave way to vandalism and wanton destruction. Soldiers bayoneted paintings, smashed mirrors and china, hurled glasses through windows, pulled down draperies, and tore up carpeting. Books from private libraries were hurled into the muddy streets; barrels brimming with flour were turned over and poured out onto the floor. The soldiers seemed to delight in destroying everything, wrote one witness.

The sacking of Fredericksburg was the most disgraceful episode in the history of the Army of the Potomac.



TODAY IN THE TOWN OF DAVID A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN TO YOU; HE IS CHRIST THE LORD. -- Luke 2:11

When Pope Julius I declared December 25 to be celebrated as the birthday of Jesus in A.D. 353, who would have ever thought that it would become what it is today? And when Professor Charles Follen lit candles on the first Christmas tree in American in 1832, who would have ever thought that decorations would become as glamorous as they are today?

Even before these two events that shaped what Christmas means today for most, there was a bright, special star that lit the dark night thousands of years ago letting the world know that Jesus the King was born. Usually, we don't celebrate historical figures as children, but in the case of Christ, it is appropriate.

When Christ was born, shepherds came to honor Him, wise men from the East brought Him gifts, and the earth rejoiced at His birth. These people who came to worship Him had no idea what Christ would accomplish as an adult. But they were right in traveling to worship the King because His birth was the most remarkable event in human history. Wise men and women today worship not only the Child of Bethlehem, but the Christ of Calvary.

As we approach the holiday season again, we are faced with yet another opportunity to pause in the midst of all the excitement, decorations, and commercialization, to consider again the origin of Christmas--the One whose birth we celebrate. Let's not forget the true meaning of why we celebrate during this time of year. Celebrate the baby Jesus and trust Him as Savior today.

Thank God for sending His Son that glorious night to be born of a virgin, live a perfect life, die on the cross for your sins, and rise from the dead three days later to give you eternal life through Him.



Chaplains Prayer List: Please remember our camp compatriots and their family members who are having health problems or have lost a loved one in your prayers.



Walter Lindler

Bill Smyth

Bob Slimp



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 - 2019

Event	Date	Contact / Web Site
John M. Kinard Camp 35	Dec. 5, 2018	Meets 7:00 PM 1st Wednesday of the Month – Hawg Heaven – Hwy. 76, Prosperity, SC
Palmetto Camp 22	Dec. 6, 2018	Meets 6:30 PM 1st Thursday of the Month – Cayce Museum, 1800 12 th Street, Cayce, SC

Hampton Redshirts	Jan. 8, 2019	Meets 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM 1st Tuesday of the Month – Cayce Museum – 1800 12 th Street, Cayce, SC
SC 17 th Regiment Camp 2069	Dec. 17, 2018	Meets 7:00PM Third Monday of the Month – 6822 Barnwell Rd. Hilda, SC
15 th Regt. S.C. Volunteers Camp 51	Dec. 25, 2018	Christmas – NO Meeting Meets 6:30 PM last Tuesday of the Month – Lizards Thicket – 4616 Augusta Rd. Lexington, SC
Gen. Paul Quattlebaum Camp 412	Dec. 25, 2019	Christmas – NO Meeting Meets 7:00 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Shealy's BBQ – 340 East Columbia Ave., Batesburg-Leesville, SC
Hunley / Housatonic Memorial Service	Feb. 17, 2019	7:00PM – 9:00PM at Sunrise Presbyterian Church 3222 Middle St. Sullivan's Island, SC - http://csatrust.org
Firing on Columbia	Feb. 16, 2019	12:00 Noon to 1:00p.m. both side of the Gervais St. Bridge, Columbia, SC
25 th Battle of Aiken	Feb. 22 nd , 23 rd and 24 th 2019	1210 Powell Pond Road Living History Day: Friday, Feb. 22 nd @ 9:00a.m. Aiken, SC http://battleofaiken.org
18 th Annual Battle for Broxton's Bridge	March 1 - 3, 2019	Broxton Bridge Plantation, Ehrhardt, SC http://www.broxtonbridge.com/battle.htm Living History Day: Friday, March 1 @ 9:00a.m. Battle of Broxton Bridge: Sat., Mar. 2 & Sunday, Mar. 3
The Skirmish at Gambrel's Hotel	March 10, 11 & 12, 2018	4789 East Old Marion Hwy, Florence, SC 29502 http://www.23rdsc.com/event/
S.C. Division SCV 2019 Convention	March 15-16, 2019	Anderson Civic Center 3027 Martin Luther King Blvd. Anderson, SC http://www.scscv.com
Battle for Columbia Education Day	April, 2019	Culler Farm – 1291 Valley Ridge Rd. Gaston, SC – Exit 125 I-26 East. Start time 9:00AM – 1:30PM.



ADJUTANT'S DESK

CHARLIE BRAY

While putting the Legionary together this month I found myself looking for information on Gen. Lee that would provide a view of him during the war and his thoughts. My search resulted in finding two sites that provided what I was looking for. I have included the following letter Gen. Lee wrote to his wife on Christmas day in 1861. What initially caught my eye was the location in South Carolina where Gen. Lee was stationed and the letter was written.

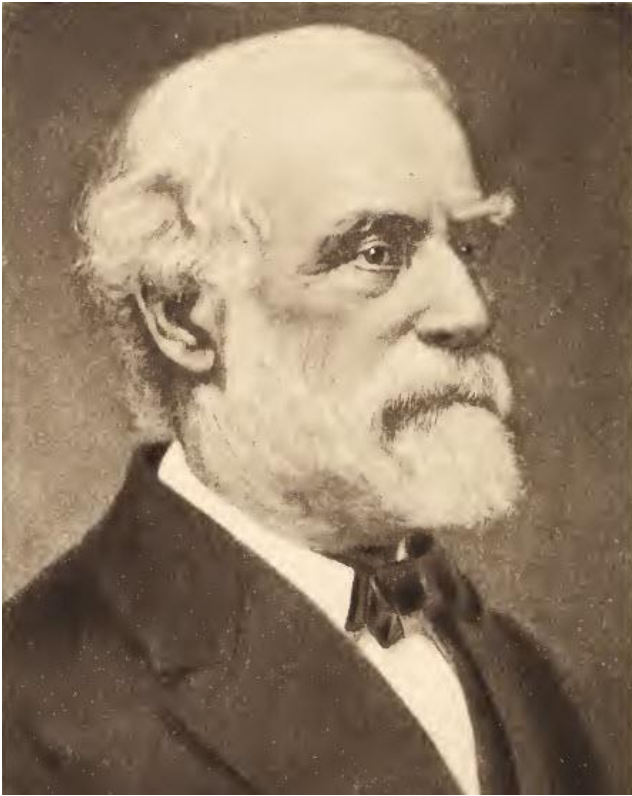
I have listed below the two websites one where I found the letter and additional information about Gen. Lee. The second contains a book written by Gen. Lee's son Capt. Robert E. Lee which contains many letters and family history. I encourage you to go to these sites and learn more about Gen. Lee. The photo of Gen. Lee I placed in the following letter was taken in 1869 and is the last known picture taken of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

- ❖ Lee Family Digital Archive (<http://leefamilyarchive.org>)
- ❖ Recollection & Letters of Gen. Robert E. Lee – Smithsonian Institute (<https://library.si.edu/digital-library/book/recollectionsletoolee>)

LETTER FROM R. E. LEE TO MARY ANNA RANDOLPH CUSTIS LEE (Dec. 25, 1861)

Coosawhatchie, S.C.

25 December '61



I Cannot let this day of grateful rejoicing pass, dear Mary, without some communion with you. I am thankful for the many among the past that I have passed with you, and the remembrance of them fills me with pleasure. For those on which we have been separated we must not repine. If it will make us more resigned and better prepared for what is in store for us, we should rejoice. Now we must be content with the many blessings we receive. If we can only become sensible of our transgressions, so as to be fully penitent and forgiven, that this heavy punishment under which we labour may with justice be removed from us and the whole nation, what a gracious consummation of all that we have endured it will be!

"I hope you had a pleasant visit to Richmond.... So, you do not like my invitation to Fayetteville? I thought I gave you the choice of Richmond too, as well as Charleston and Savannah, but for the threatening movements of the enemy. Well it shows the perverseness of Human nature. To reject those agreeable cities that were accessible and select a decrepit and deserted village because inaccessible. If you were to see this place, I think you would have it too. I am here but little myself. The days I am not here I visit some point exposed to the enemy, and after our dinner at early candle light, am engaged in writing till eleven or twelve o'clock at night.... As to our old home, if not destroyed, it will be difficult ever to be

recognized. Even if the enemy had wished to preserve it, it would almost have been impossible. With the number of troops encamped around it, the change of officers, etc., and all the dire necessities of war, it is vain to think of its being in a habitable condition. I fear, too the want of fuel, shelter, etc., and all the dire necessities of war, it is vain to think of its being in a habitable Condition. I fear too books, furniture, and the relics of Mt. Vernon will be gone. It is better to make up our minds to a general loss. They cannot take away the remembrances of the spot, and the memories of those that to us rendered it sacred. That will remain to us as long as life will last, and we can preserve. In the absence of a home I wish I could purchase 'Stratford'. That is the only other place that I could go to, now accessible to us, that would inspire me with feelings of pleasure and local love. You and the girls could remain there in quiet. It is a poor place, but we could make enough cornbread and bacon for our support, and girls could weave us clothes. I wonder if it is for sale and at how much. Ask Fitzhugh to try to find out, when he gets to Fredericksburg. You must not build your hopes on peace on account of the United States going into a war with England. She will be very loath to do that, notwithstanding the bluster of the Northern papers. Her rulers are not entirely mad, and if they find England is in earnest, and that war or a restitution of their captives must be the consequence, they will be the latter. We must make up our minds to fight our battles and win our independence alone. No one will help us. We require no extraneous aid, if true to ourselves. But we must be patient. It is not a light achievement and cannot be accomplished at once.... I wrote a few days since, giving you all the news, and have now therefore nothing to relate. The enemy is still quite and increasing in strength. We grow in size slowly but are working hard. I have had a day of labour instead of rest and have written at intervals to some of the children. I hope they are with you, and I inclose my letters.

Affectionately & Truly,

R E Lee

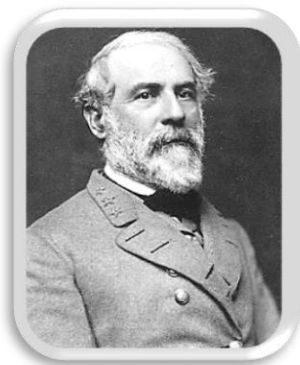


Lee – Jackson Banquet

Friday Evening – January 18, 2019

6:30PM – 9:00PM

At Seawell's Restaurant
1125 Rosewood Dr.
Columbia, SC



General Robert E. Lee



Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson

Entertainment:

Speaker: Ken Temples

MARY'S PRAYER, LEE'S HEART AND STONEWALL'S PASSION

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

Concert by the "Pickin Pearls"

Drawing for Door Prizes

<i>Ticket prices:</i>	<i>Individual</i>	-	<i>\$25.00</i>
	<i>Couples</i>	-	<i>\$45.00</i>
	<i>Children (4 - 11)</i>	-	<i>\$7.50</i>

Dress

Coat and Tie, Period Dress, Red Shirts acceptable

RSVP 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. 2, 1859 John Brown is hung in Charleston, Virginia (present-day West Virginia) for the raid on Harper's Ferry.
- Dec. 4, 1860 President James Buchanan sends a distressed State of the Union message to Congress. He states that secession is unconstitutional, says the federal government lacks the authority to prevent it and calls for a constitutional amendment allowing Southern states to retain slaves as property.
- Dec. 30, 1860 The federal arsenal at Charleston falls into the hands of the South Carolina militia under the command of Col. John Cunningham, 17th Reg. Inf. South Carolina Militia.
- 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. 14, 1863 **Battle of Bean's Station** – CSA Gen. Longstreet's decided to capture Bean's Station. His plan was to catch the federals in a vice. On the 14th, one column was skirmishing with Union pickets. The pickets held out as best they could and warned Shackelford of the Confederate presence. Soon, the battle started and continued throughout most of the day. Confederate flanking attacks and other assaults occurred at various times and locations, but the Federals held until southern reinforcements tipped the scales. By nightfall, the Federals were retiring from Bean's Station through Bean's Gap and on to Blain's Cross Roads.
- Dec. 4, 1865 President Andrew Johnson appoints the Joint Committee on Reconstruction to determine which Southern states are entitled to representation in Congress.

Camp Meeting
THURSDAY, JAN. 18
6:00 P.M.



SEAWELL'S
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

Speaker
Mr. Ken Temples
(MARY'S PRAYER, LEE'S
HEART AND STONEWALL'S
PASSION.)

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C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III

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LT. GEN. WADE HAMPTON III Camp No. 273

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