

# THE LEGIONARY

December 2005

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273

Columbia, S.C.

[www.wadehamptoncamp.org](http://www.wadehamptoncamp.org)

*"A Fraternal Organization of Southern Men"*

## Hampton Joins with Generals Lee and Jackson

The 2006 Lee-Jackson Banquet promises to be the best ever.

Compatriots from both the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp and the Palmetto Camp will meet on Friday, Jan. 20 at Seawell's, as the Hampton Camp consolidates its January meeting with the annual Lee-Jackson Banquet.

The featured speaker will be Dr. Terry Rude, past S.C. Division Chaplain. Dr. Rude is one of the most powerful and moving speakers in all of South Carolina and we are very fortunate to have him give his rousing presentation on Generals Lee and Jackson.

Also, a grand introduction of both camps' new Commanders will be made, including incoming Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Commander Tommy Rollings, who will replace Jeff O'Cain.

The Banquet will begin at 7 p.m. and run until 9:30 p.m. Dress is coat & tie (preferred), period dress and Redshirts. Blue-



grass music will be provided by the talented group Ridgehill.

Note that this year's Banquet differs from those of the past in that it's being consolidated with the January Camp meeting.

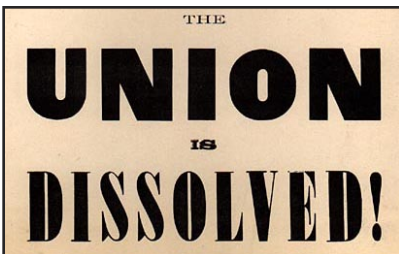
Also, it's important that everyone contact Farroll Gunter directly for tickets. A "Firm Reservation" card will be included

in the January Legionary, which will be mailed earlier than usual, to enable Compatriots to make reservations.

Reservations are crucial so that we can give Seawell's an accurate headcount and allow them to provide the proper amount of food and seats. Reservations must be made no later than Monday, Jan. 16.

## December 1860 - A Look Back at History

*The following is an excerpt from the Charleston Mercury, written after South Carolina had voted to secede from the Union in December 1860.*



The last week has been full of stirring incidents in the progress of that great movement, which is now working out the deliverance and liberty of the South. Our Commissioners have appeared in Washington. The Custom House, the United States Arsenal, Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney are in our possession. On Morris' Island, and on Sullivan's Island, our engineers are busy throw-

ing up earth works, with a view to the Harbor and Fort Sumter.

The sudden abandonment of Fort Moultrie by the United States troops, and the occupation by them of Fort Sumter, has filled our people

with military enthusiasm. The threatening aspect of the Black Republican party - the resignation of his office by the Secretary of War in Washington, and the confusion and excitement which bankruptcy of the Government and the conflict between the two sections of the Union occasion at the Federal Metropolis, augers well for our

See History, Page 4

## Compatriot Vernon Felder Passes Away

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Compatriot Vernon Felder passed away Nov. 21, at Providence Northeast Hospital.

Compatriot Felder, 74, was a regular at Hampton Camp meetings and events after he joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans in 2001.

Born in Branchville, Compatriot Felder served his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict. He was a retired insurance adjuster and a member of Shandon Masonic Lodge.

Compatriot Felder was survived by two sons, Gary and Michael Felder, and a daughter, Ashley.

# Closing Out 2005 and Remembering a Compatriot

In the early afternoon on the Saturday following Thanksgiving, Past Commander Don Gordon and I sadly attended the funeral of one of our Camp compatriots, Vernon Felder, in Orangeburg.

I had met Vernon by way of his daughter in 2001. He was 70 then and expressed to me his strong personal desire to honor his Confederate veteran grandfather who he had known well as a child.

The opportunity to join the SCV was the blessing he had sought for many, many years. He was absolutely elated at the prospect of joining our Camp.

Following his induction Vernon attended nearly every meeting. He was a quiet man, but rarely failed to seek me out at meetings and share something new he had discovered or remembered about his Confederate grandfather.

He was so proud to be a part of the SCV and particularly our Camp.

Vernon participated in nearly everything the Camp did, and because he was such a quiet and unassuming person, his attendance sometimes went completely unnoticed.

One particular incidence of this comes to mind. In preparation for our first Battle for Columbia in 2004 Vernon helped by bringing his riding lawnmower to the site and literally manicuring the vendor area and "Main Street," and he enthusiastically sold his 10 event ticket allotment that year.

He volunteered to serve as a marshal with his B Company Commander, Larry Bates, whose unit had been assigned re-

## Commander's Corner

Jeff O'Cain

sponsibility for crowd control.

Late Sunday of the 2004 event I asked Larry how he felt the men in B Company had responded. Larry was very complimentary of his men with one exception, Vernon Felder.

He said he had not seen Vernon and was surprised and disappointed that Vernon had failed to show up.

I immediately realized that Larry had not been informed that Vernon had, in fact, been willing to be reassigned to handle another important responsible duty, serving as the lone parking attendant at the farthest corner of the massive parking area.

His post was a solitary one and the greatest distance from Ft. Mick.

For two complete days Vernon set up at his post with a lawn chair, water jug and a bagged lunch completely removed from everyone else.

He never left his post once from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days! I checked on Vernon a couple times each day, and he would say to me "Commander, sounds like our event is going very well."

The fact is Vernon never saw the battles or any of the activities either day, but could only hear sounds from the bluegrass music, crowd noise and battles at Ft. Mick.

What moved me about Vernon was the quiet and subdued manner that he contributed to our Camp. Many "responsible duties" in our Camp are not glamorous or exciting, and some are individual jobs that require only one or two dedicated men to handle.

The collective efforts of men like Vernon make our Camp stronger and more capable of fulfilling our sworn obligations to The Charge.

The Camp will now have a new Commander in Tommy Rollings, and just like me the success of his term will NOT be measured by how much and how well he himself gets things done, but rather, by the good men who willingly step forward to assume the Responsible Duties of the Camp.

Now that he has fallen, who will fill the gap in our lines left by Vernon Felder? Who will pick up his colors and advance them a little further for our cause?

To all the men who unselfishly stepped forward and assumed the Responsible Duties of our Camp over the past two years, I am humbly grateful to you all!

You made my term as Camp Commander better and more fulfilling. One of the proudest honors of my life has been to serve as Commander of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273.

And Vernon, thanks for all you did so quietly and unselfishly...the Camp will miss you!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years to all my SCV brothers and their families!

## Florence Politician Panders to Easily Offended at Southerners' Expense

**FLORENCE** — The Florence City Council has voted to defer a decision on use of tax funds for the Pee Dee Patriotic Parade.

In October, the council received the accommodations tax board's annual recommendation for appropriations, which included \$4,500 for the Pee Dee Patriotic Parade.

But on Monday, Councilman Bill Bradham, one of the main organizers of the parade, said the parade committee has not had a chance to discuss changes.

Councilman Ed Robinson said he still has a problem with the city funding the parade because a Confederate re-enactment group

participated last year.

"I'd like the committee to keep in mind that you have a segment of the population that has been offended by this," Robinson said. "My point of view is that we have problems in this community that aren't just going to go away. These are problems that need to be dealt with seriously. We want to grow in a means and method that will not affect anybody in a negative way."

Bradham again defended the intention of the event.

"The parade was never intended or designed to offend one person or any group of people," Bradham said.

### 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

# As a New Year Looms, Now is the Time to Step Up

**W**ith the passing of Vernon Felder I am reminded of the tremendous responsibility each of you have bestowed upon me.

Vernon was exactly the type of man I am counting on each of you to be to help me lead our Camp into the future.

We have some lofty goals just ahead on the horizon, and the Camp and I need every compatriot's diligence and hard work to achieve them.

I am looking to each of you to help me advance the colors into 2006. Our Camp presents us with several duties to make the Camp run smoothly and make our experiences more enjoyable.

Many of you have already contacted me about your willingness to be involved in the staffing of the Camp and the Battle for Columbia.

I believe we have already made some improvements, but there is much left to be done.

In October, I had agreed to become Col- or Sergeant to give Eddie and Kyle Killian some relief. I now know I will be unable

## Commander-Elect

### Tommy Rollings

to perform that duty and would like to ask a responsible Compatriot to step forward and assume this important position for the Camp.

In addition, Ken and Randy Felder volunteered two years ago to become the set-up committee for our monthly meetings. They agreed to handle this for one year. At the end of their year, no one would offer to take over for them. It has now been another year and I will not ask them to continue.

It is now up to you...Do you want to walk into our meetings and see empty tables and walls? Do you want to pledge allegiance to flags of our State and Countries that are packed away in someone's closet?

Do you want to see our head tables and podium without the portraits of our brave heroes, Lee, Jackson, Hampton, and

Gregg? I think not, and I am calling on you, the men of the Lieutenant General Wade Hampton Camp to prove I am right!

The Camp will never be better than we make it! You will never be prouder of it than by making it happen!

Thanks to all of you who have offered of yourselves and your time to help your Commander Elect and your Camp become better in '06. If you have decided to take a "wait and see" approach, it's important that you know the Camp is being driven proudly into the future.

Won't you come with us?

\* \* \*

You can show your support by enjoying some fellowship and a great time in the Camp's entry in the Sandy Run Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 17.

We will form up between the interstate and Sandy Run just off exit 125 at roughly 9 AM. When you exit, go to the right. We will meet at the dairy on the right side of the road.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to each of you and your families!

## Wanted: a Few Good Men of Dedication to Serve as Chaplains

**F**or our chaplains we want effective Gospel preachers, whose burden shall be Christ and Him crucified.

It is a common mistake that anybody will do to preach to soldiers; and hence the chaplaincies are generally filled by young and inexperienced men.

But a moment's reflection will suffice to convince, that since we have in the army the flower of the country so we ought to have the best preaching talent of the country.

I call upon our city and country pastors to earnestly consider whether it is not their duty to enter this wide field of usefulness.

It is a field worthy the attention of our most experienced, most useful minister, and if they cannot get their consent to enter regularly upon it, I call upon them to at least give us occasional visits. We want men who will stick to their posts.

I am persuaded that a great deal of harm has been done by chaplains resigning, or absenting themselves, for long periods from their commands, on "details to collect clothing," or some such pretext.

The great business of the chaplain is to preach Christ publicly, and from tent to tent, and the temporal welfare of the soldiers should be made subordinate to this.

## Chaplain's Pulpit

### Robert Slimp

We want men physically able, as well as willing to endure hardships and privations.

If a chaplain would live up to the full measure of his usefulness, he must be with his regiment on the weary march (frequently resigning his horse to some foot-sore soldier), be with them around the bivouac-fire after evening prayers are over; be drenched on the outposts, or face the pelting snow-storm; divide with some hungry soldier his last hard cracker, and, in a word, share with his regiment whatever hardships they may be called on to endure.

How does Chaplains Jones' description of Chaplains apply to those of us who are in the SCV?

We, like the men he referred to represent to the world of today, ourselves, our families, our churches, and the SCV. That means that we must be the best possible representatives for our God, our family and the institutions of which we are apart. That

is what God and duty demand of us.

Let us resolve, that during the new year of 2006 we will be good representatives for our Savior, whose birth we celebrate, our families, our churches and the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

We are engaged in a war in which our enemies are determined to destroy our Southern symbols, our history and the good name of our ancestors. We cannot allow this to happen. With God, being our helper in this noble cause we can win the victory.

*-Chaplain Bob Slimp and all of the Chaplains of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp.*

## Research Problems?

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

**Jim Harley**

mshjehjr@bellsouth.net

(803) 772-8080



# 'Heritage Not Hate' Means Precisely What it Says

*The following is a letter to the editor by Brad Robinson of Mardela Springs, Va., that appeared in the Delmarva (Va.) Daily Times on Nov. 23.*

Lately, I have read the letters to the editor in The Daily Times concerning the cause of our Civil War. Many refer to the Confederate battle flag (Southern cross) as "the rebel flag" -- the key word being rebel, which leads one to believe this was a rebellion.

The Revolutionary War was born out of a rebellion against England. It later won the title of revolution. It is considered a revolution if you win and a rebellion if you lose. If the South had succeeded in gaining her independence, it would be known as a revolution.

My family has a deep Confederate heritage. As a boy, my grandmother would tell me about my Confederate ancestors who died in the war, none of whom owned slaves. All through school I was taught that this war was all about slavery.

Would a man to leave his family to fight a war to preserve and expand slavery? I hardly think so. If you want to know the truth about this matter, dig deep. Modern, revised history books cannot be trusted to answer these questions.

I do not excuse the institution of slavery or its part in the war. Without a doubt, there were Southern landowners who had a vested interest in keeping slavery alive.

However, the majority of the Confederate Army was made up of common, everyday folks. Only about 5 percent of the southern population actually owned slaves. These facts also need to be considered.

This was considered a second war for independence for the South, a time to stand up for a constitutional government. It was a time for the people of the South to fight for their homeland under Northern aggression, for rights guaranteed them in the Declaration of Independence.

I admit Southerners missed the point that "all men are created equal," but at that time, the black race was perhaps equally

misunderstood by northerners and southerners alike.

Modern history books idolize Abraham Lincoln, while such true heroes of the South as Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and Stonewall Jackson are demonized. The "facts" in these books always include a Yankee "spin."

It's no wonder there is so much controversy over this symbol. People have never been taught differently. I agree that if one is going to talk historical facts, one should try to get it right before reporting it to everyone else.

Groups like the Ku Klux Klan have hijacked the flag and given it a bad name. Do not underestimate these high school boys about what they believe this flag represents: Southern pride, heritage and a little bit of "rebel," which we all should admit to having during our high school years.

As for my Confederate flag, it means what I have stated above.

"Heritage, not hate" is not a mockery. It means just what it says.

## History

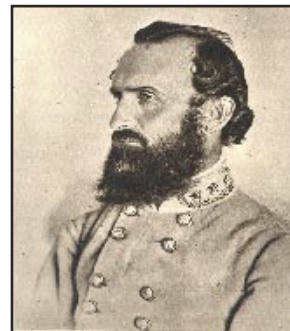
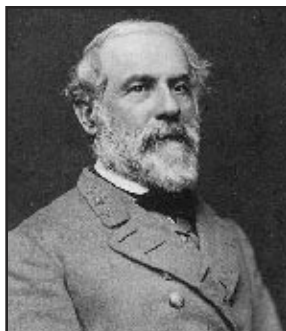
cause. The Government stands paralyzed. If it dares to send the Federal troops, now in Fortress Monroe, or the Norfolk Navy Yard, to Charleston, Virginia will rise up and seize the fortresses of the United States within her territory; and before this week is out, every military post on Southern ground will be in possession of the State authorities of the Southern States. They will all see that the issue of force is made by the Federal Government; and that the fate of our Southern State must be the fate of all.

The coercive power of the Federal Government, so long vaunted as adequate to suppress the secession of a State, is rapidly proving itself to be, what it has long been supposed and said to be - a wretched humbug - a scarecrow - a dirty bundle of red rags and old clothes. We said it ten years ago, and again a few months since, that secession could not and would not be put down by the Federal Government.

Even General JACKSON, in all the plenitude of his popularity, felt the inadequacy of military force to perpetuate the Union; and whilst putting forth his Proclamation and Force Bill with one hand, he was under great apprehension and most busy with the other hand in getting up a Tariff in the House of Representatives, which he afterwards said was far better for the South in its concessions, than the Compromise Tariff of 1833, made by Mr. CLAY.

That still greater humbug, of the eighteen millions of free-men, north of the Ohio and MASON and DIXON'S line, who are to rush down upon the South in true Tartarie style, is also rapidly changing its frowns into grimace. Before long, we fear, we will be the tender object of their distorted smiles and grim affections; and by the aid of our frontier Southern States, they will put forth their meek endeavors to win us back to their paternal embraces.

## The 2006 Lee-Jackson Banquet Friday Evening, Jan. 20, 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Seawell's Restaurant



### RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE

Ticket prices:

Single \$25 • Couple \$40

Child (under 12) \$9 • Youth (12 to 17) \$15

### DRESS CODE:

Coat & Tie, Uniform, Period Clothing, Redshirts

To Make Your Firm Reservations

### CONTACT

Compatriot Farroll Gunter by Phone, Mail or E-Mail:

Home: 803-957-6722, Cell: 803-609-2978

136 Rose Lake Road, Lexington, SC 29072

E-Mail: fgunter@alltel.net

# Franklin Reclaims Part of Hallowed Tenn. Battlefield

By Kevin Walters

The Tennessean

**FRANKLIN, Tenn.** — When the metal arm of the trackhoe piloted by Franklin Mayor Tom Miller plunged through the roof of what had long been a Pizza Hut yesterday, it scattered roofing shingles, lumber and bricks to loud approval from a crowd of about 200.

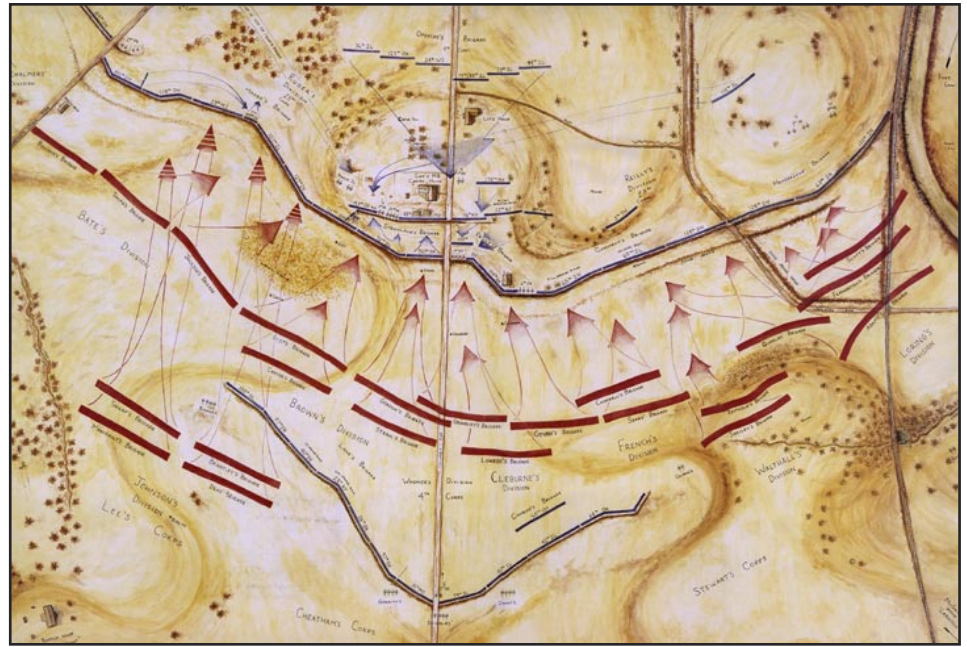
In that moment, decades of frustration for many came to an end. The land where the pizza restaurant once stood, bought by the city for \$300,000 earlier this year, will be converted to a park to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died there during the Nov. 30, 1864, Battle of Franklin.

The occasion served as a display of political might on the part of preservationists on Franklin's Board of Mayor and Aldermen. For some, including many in the national preservationist community, the gesture serves as a sign that Franklin is changing its image as a city that had forsaken its Civil War heritage.

"There's no question there's a number of preservationists on our board, but I think there is a groundswell not just in Franklin but throughout the country of people wanting to preserve the past, and you're seeing that brought out in Franklin," Miller said.

With TV crews perched, a surreal scene unfolded that mixed celebration with commemoration while a crowd that included Civil War re-enactors, local and state politicians such as Rep. Lincoln Davis and sightseers clutching digital cameras gawked as the restaurant was smashed by Miller and others in a ceremony complete with speeches, sledgehammers and, afterward, brie and refreshments.

Jim Lighthizer, president of the national group Civil War Preservation Trust, recalled how years ago he told a group of Franklin preservationists that if they wanted to exact change they had to get involved



Map of the Battle of Franklin showing the Carter House at the center.

politically.

The city's purchase of the Pizza Hut property, along with the nearby Country Club of Franklin for the same reason, has drawn criticism from some people who have said leaders need to worry about basic infrastructure such as roads before they delve into amenities such as more parks. Still others have questioned the accuracy of some preservationists and historians' statements about where the fighting took place, though the vast majority of that criticism has surrounded the country club property — not the Pizza Hut.

Overnight, a graffiti artist decorated the Pizza Hut building with the Latin motto, "Deo Vindice," translated as "God will Vindicate," which was on the Great Seal of the Confederacy. But the old restaurant, its signature red roof removed earlier, was viewed as an atrocity to many like local historian Ed Bearss.

Bearss, 82, chief historian emeritus for the National Park Service, World War II veteran and participant in Ken Burns' Civil War miniseries, asked people to think about Pizza Huts being built on a long list of battle sites, including Omaha Beach or Mount Surabachi, among others. The demolition of this restaurant was "a long step to what is soon going to be bulldozed a blight on the soldiers who fell here," Bearss said.

If a groundswell developed here in Franklin, it came to national attention in April when National Geographic writer Adam Goodheart wrote a story for the

magazine about the erosion of the nation's battlefields. Part of the pictorial was a shot of the Pizza Hut side-by-side with photos of the six Confederate generals who were killed during the Battle of Franklin. One of them, Gen. Patrick Cleburne, is believed to have been shot near where the restaurant stood.

The Franklin portion of the article received the most attention, Goodheart said in a phone interview. What's happened in Franklin is unique and is an example of a larger change occurring in communities, he said.

"The battlefields are part of the national consciousness, and what we think of when we think of America are these landscapes," Goodheart said. "I think people realize that America is slipping away from us day by day, and they're starting to wake up to the magnitude of the problem."

J.T. Thompson, president of the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society, believes that after years of neglect "the planets are lining up" for preservation here after years when preservation was ignored.

He is trying to raise \$55,000 toward the purchase of historic site Shy's Hill in Nashville.

The Battle of Franklin happened 141 years ago yesterday, which also happened to be Franklin resident and preservationist Tommy Murdic's 52nd birthday. An African-American, Murdic said there is support for the project among black residents in Franklin.

## Membership Help Line

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

**Scott James**

wscottjames@prodigy.net  
(803) 781-1836



# Recalling the Passing of President Jefferson Davis

By Calvin E. Johnson, Jr.

[www.accessnorthga.com](http://www.accessnorthga.com)

The Christmas Season of 1889, was a time of sadness in Dixie. Hundreds of thousands of people came to remember and pay their last respects to Jefferson Davis in the crescent city of New Orleans.

On Dec. 6, 1889, Jefferson Davis died at the home of a friend. Do our young people know who Davis was?

Jefferson Davis graduated from West Point Military Academy, served valiantly in the War with Mexico, was Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce, elected US senator from Mississippi and was the first and only President of the Confederate States of America. Davis also wrote the book *Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* at his last home in Mississippi.

Jefferson Davis and wife Varina found great contentment and peace at "Beauvoir" their beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast Home. This is where he wished to die when his time came but it was not to be.

In November 1889, Varina attended to their home as Davis left for Brierfield Plantation to take care of family business. As he traveled through New Orleans Davis was exposed to a cold-rain that caused him a severe cold and bronchitis that was further complicated by Malaria.

Milo Copper, a former servant of the Davis family, upon hearing of Davis' illness, made the long trip from Florida to New Orleans to be near Davis' side. As Cooper entered Davis' sick room, he burst into tears and fell on his knees and prayed that God would spare the life of Jefferson



Jefferson Davis, seen here while he was president of the Confederate States of America.

Davis and bless the family.

Jefferson Davis died between 12:30 a.m. and 1 a.m. on Dec. 6, 1889. The news of his death hit the front page of many Southern newspapers. The praises and tributes read similar to that of a New Orleans paper that read:

"Throughout the South are Lamentations and tears; in every country on the globe where there are lovers of liberty there is mourning; wherever there are men who

love heroic patriotism, dauntless resolution, fortitude or intellectual power, there is an sincere sorrowing.

"The beloved of our land, the unfaltering upholder of constitutional liberty, the typical hero and sage, is no more; the fearless heart that beats with sympathy for all mankind is stilled forever, a great light is gone - Jefferson Davis is dead!"

The body of Jefferson Davis laid in state at the city hall of New Orleans, Louisiana from midnight, Dec. 6, 1889, to Dec. 11. The United States and Confederate flags hung from above and in the city hall that was covered with many flowers.

The church bells tolled as over 80,000 people lined the streets of New Orleans to pay their respects to a Southern legend. All schools and businesses were closed that day.

Those men who comprised the honor Guard for the procession to Metairie Cemetery included: the Army of Northern Virginia Association, the Army of Tennessee and the Washington Artillery. Metairie Cemetery would be a temporary burial place for Davis as he was moved in 1893, by funeral train to Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Va.

The sad part of this story is that the United States War Department did not recognize Davis and the US flag was not flown at half-mast. The US flag was flown at half mast in the South. Jefferson Davis was the only former Secretary of War that was not given the respect and honor by the United States Government.

Teach your children the true story of their American Heritage!

## Beauvoir Expected to Rebound from Katrina-Related Damage

**JACKSON, Miss.** — A Columbus native has an ardent interest in restoring the Gulf Coast estate where Confederate President Jefferson Davis lived his final years.

Beauvoir was severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina, but Phillip Gunter hopes it can be repaired by the 200th anniversary of Davis' birthday in 2008.

"It is structurally sound and we can restore it," said Gunter, a member of the Beauvoir Board of Trustees.

Katrina's 145 mph winds and massive storm surge wiped out many structures on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, but Beauvoir was left standing. However, the hurricane ripped off the 153-year-old mansion's front and side porches and caused its roof to cave in.

An estimated \$32 million is needed to renovate Davis' house and adjacent library, said Gunter, a Brandon financial planner.

He noted he had been at the beachfront property for a Beauvoir board meeting just two weeks before Hurricane Katrina smashed

the Coast on Aug. 29. He has since returned to see the damage.

"It's been through a lot of hurricanes. This one did real damage. Camille did too (in 1969), but not to this extent," Gunter said.

Also left standing at the Biloxi estate is the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library. While its first floor was gutted by the tidal surge, the upstairs archives were not damaged. The contents of the house and library have been retrieved and are now in safe storage.

However, Katrina destroyed the library pavilion, where Davis wrote his memoirs. Also leveled were the Confederate Soldiers' Museum and all other buildings on the Beauvoir property.

Built in 1852, Beauvoir was Davis' retirement home until his death in 1889. It's a National Historic Landmark and Gulf Coast tourist attraction.

Davis served as the Confederate States of America's only presi-

**See Beauvoir, Page 7**

## In the Confederation

### What's Going On

## Tools Sought to Repair Geiger Cemetery Gate

The gate at Geiger Cemetery, where several Confederate soldiers are buried, is in need of repair.

Anyone in the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp with the tools and willingness to help drill through brick supports in order to rehang the gate is asked to contact Scott James at [wscottjames@prodigy.net](mailto:wscottjames@prodigy.net), or by calling (803) 781-1836.

With the right tools, we should be able to repair this gate within an hour or so.

Remember, many of the men buried in Geiger Cemetery are the former inhabitants of the Confederate Veterans Home that use to sit at the corner of Confederate Avenue and Bull Street. Several of their wives are buried next to them.

Also inside Geiger are the graves of several unknown Confederate soldiers who died in the cause they believed in.

What better way to fulfill our obligation to The Charge than by ensuring the resting place of these brave men is well groomed.

## Confederate Memorial Approved in Alabama

**MOULTON, Ala.** — The Lawrence County Commission gave its approval, paving the way for a Sons of Confederate Veterans camp to place a Civil War monument on the courthouse lawn.

The monument will recognize only the dead from the South, said Leland Free, commander of the Lt. J.K. McBride Camp 241, Sons of Confederate Veterans in Moulton.

Free, without prior public discussion, persuaded commissioners Monday to allow the group to erect a monument to the county's 2,400 Confederate veterans. The vote was unanimous, but two commissioners said they wanted all Civil War veterans honored on the courthouse lawn.

Free said a joint monument would water down each side's contribution to the war.

"It would be like wearing a jacket with Auburn on one sleeve and Alabama on the other," Free said.

*-The Decatur Daily*

## Important December Dates to Remember

### Notable Confederate Birthdays

Dec. 1: Brig. Gen. Archibald Gracie, Jr.\*  
Dec. 1: Brig. Gen. Micah Jenkins, Edisto Island  
Dec. 1: Maj. Gen. William Mahone  
Dec. 4: Maj. Gen. William Loring  
Dec. 16: Maj. Gen. Henry Heth  
Dec. 16: Brig. Gen. Robert Selden Garnett\*  
Dec. 16: Brig. Gen. Samuel Garland, Jr.\*  
Dec. 17: Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones  
Dec. 19: Brig. Gen. James Jay Archer\*  
Dec. 19: Brig. Gen. James Carpenter Carter\*  
Dec. 24: Brig. Gen. Milledge Luke Bonham, Edgefield District  
Dec. 25: Brig. Gen. Preston Smith\*  
Dec. 28: Maj. Gen. William Booth Taliaferro  
Dec. 30: Brig. Gen. James Cantey, Sumter

\*Died in Confederate service

### Coming Events

Jan. 20: Lee-Jackson Banquet, Seawell's  
Feb. 16: Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp meeting, Seawell's  
March 23: Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp meeting, Seawell's

## Beauvoir

dent from 1861 to 1865. Prior to that, he was a U.S. senator from Mississippi from 1847 to 1851 and 1857 to 1861 and the U.S. secretary of war from 1853 to 1857.

Beauvoir is owned by the Mississippi Division of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Mississippi has over the years has provided money to help maintain it and to build the presidential library, which opened in 1998.

"I look at it as a Mississippi treasure and not just a Coast treasure," said Gunter, who was born in Columbus, where he spent much of his youth.

Private and public funds are needed.

"We're getting a lot of offers from historic groups to help," Gunter said.

Among them are the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Winterthur Museum. The History Channel has also been in contact, Gunter said.

The antebellum mansion has been stabilized and its roof sealed as renovation plans get drawn and money raised to bring it back to the way it was.

"The building is quite solid and very restorable," said Ken P'Pool, director of the Historic Preservation Division at the state Department of Archives and History.

With it designated a National Historic Landmark, federal funds will likely be provided.

"The property gets special treatment under federal consideration and, hopefully,

federal funding for it," P'Pool said.

Beauvoir's restoration will be slow, as will the whole Gulf Coast rebuilding effort.

"It's going to have to come back along with the Coast," said Gunter, expressing hopes the house will be ready by June 2008 to commemorate Davis' 200th birthday. "It would be really nice to have everything back by then."

Of the 1,500 historic buildings on the Gulf Coast, about 300 were obliterated, according to the state Department of Archives and History's latest survey.

Gunter noted historic preservationists have a daunting task ahead of them to fix Beauvoir and other old buildings on the Gulf Coast.

"Our slogan before this was that we're giving the past a future. We now need to work harder to give the past a future," he said.

Gunter, 57, has served as chairman of the Beauvoir Board of Trustees and has also been on the Mississippi Civil War Battlefield Commission.

His interest in Civil War history is a trait that goes back to his family roots in Lowndes County.

He noted several ancestors were members of a Confederate army unit from the area.

Donations to the Fund can be sent to P.O. Box 7, Meridian, MS 39302.

*-The Associated Press*

## Important Dates in the War of Northern Aggression

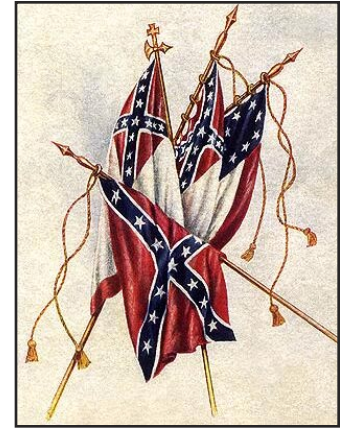
- Dec. 7, 1862: John Hunt Morgan's Confederate forces rout Union troops at Harts-ville, Tenn. Federal dead, wounded and captured outnumber Confeder-ates, 1,855-149.
- Dec. 13, 1862: Southern forces inflict massive casualties on Union forces at Freder-icksburg, Va. Nearly 13,000 Federal troops were killed, wounded or captured, compared to 5,300 Confederates. However, South Carolina native Maxcy Gregg was killed in action.
- Dec. 17, 1860: South Carolina Secessionist Convention is called to order. The con-vention decides unanimously to secede from the U.S.
- Dec. 20, 1860: Republic of South Carolina born as Palmetto State secedes.
- Dec. 26, 1861: Confederate campaign to subdue Union sympathizers in Indian Terri-tory and consolidate control ends with victory at Chustenahlah, Okla.
- Dec. 26, 1862: Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton frustrates Grant's bid to take Vicksburg by direct approach at Chickasaw Bayou, Miss.
- Dec. 27, 1864: Federal attempts to capture Wilmington, the South's last open port on the Atlantic Coast, are rebuffed.
- Dec. 31, 1862: Union attempts to cut off Nathan Bedford Forrest in Tennessee were thwarted at Parker's Cross Roads, Tenn.

### Words To Remember

"I cannot trust a man to control others who cannot control himself."  
-Robert E. Lee

## Next Camp Meeting

Friday, Jan. 20



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

### Scripture Thought

"The path of the righteous man is beset on all sides by the inequities of the selfish and the tyranny of evil men."  
- Ezekiel 25:17

## THE LEGIONARY

Official Publication of the

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273

A Non-Profit Organization

December 2005 Issue

R. Dietrich, Editor  
205 Coopers Hawk Circle  
Irmo, SC 29063



[www.wadehamptoncamp.org](http://www.wadehamptoncamp.org)