

THE LEGIONARY

December 2006

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"

Time at Hand to Stand Up to the NCAA

An effort is underway to fight the strong-arm tactics the NCAA is using on South Carolina and Mississippi as it tries to get those states to bend to its will.

You can go to www.ncaainterference.org and sign a petition that calls on the NCAA to lift its discriminatory ban on "predeter-

mined" athletic events in South Carolina and Mississippi.

The petition also urges the NCAA to cease any discussions of expanding its ban to include "non-predetermined" athletic events in those states or bans in other states that might prominently display Confederate symbols on state property.

Finally, the petition calls upon the NCAA to operate under the limitations of a non-profit organization and abandon the practice of attempting to influence state legislation.

A few years back, the NCAA put in place a ban that forbade universities in Mississippi

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Special Camp Meeting at Relic Room

The Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp will have a special meeting at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 16, at the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Museum.

The camp will get its own special tour of the Relic Room, which holds some of our state's most spectacular military artifacts and history. Cost for the tour is \$4 for adults.

This will be the Hampton Camp's last get-together of the 2006 year. We don't have a regularly scheduled December meeting at Seawell's, so this will be the final opportunity to see each other before the year ends.

Remember, we kick off 2007 on Jan. 18, with the Lee-Jackson Banquet at Seawell's.



Several members of the Hampton Camp took part in the annual Cayce Christmas Parade recently. From left, Larry Bates, Kyle Killian, Tommy Rollings, Robert Spigner and Eddie Killian.

Watch's Connection to Hunley Commander Still Not Clear

CHARLESTON — Gold, bejeweled and ornately inscribed, the old pocket watch just plain looks like something George Dixon would have bought.

But did he?

The watch may have been a Christmas present from the Hunley captain to Queen Bennett — the girl who, legend has it, was Dixon's Mobile, Ala., sweetheart. Now, her descendants are donating the family heirloom, and the mystery of its provenance, to the

Hunley's eventual museum.

The watch, along with a pistol that once belonged to Bennett's father, will soon be on the Hunley lab tour. But don't expect the mystery of the watch to be solved anytime soon. After all, it has been more than a century in the making.

George Dixon was a riverboat man, perhaps from the Midwest, who found himself in Mobile in the early days of the Civil War.

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Winding Down 2006 and Preparing for a New Year

Compatriots, the next few months will be full of exciting and important business for the Camp. First will be a special Camp meeting this month.

By special arrangement, we will meet on Saturday, Dec. 16, at the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Museum. We will receive our own guided tour.

I have it on good authority that the cavalry saber that belonged to General Hampton will still be at the museum and we'll be able to view it.

Our tour starts at 10 a.m. and costs \$4 for adults. This will be a good time to visit the Relic Room, even if you've been there before.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, the Hampton Camp will be in the Sandy Run Christmas parade. We'll form up at 9 a.m. just off Exit 125.

This has become a Camp favorite as we are always warmly received and have time for good fellowship afterwards at Piggie Park. Come as you are, just be there!

Our 2007 Lee and Jackson banquet will

Commander's Corner

Tommy Rollings

be held on Thursday, Jan. 18, at Seawell's. Our guest speaker will be Senator and past Division Commander Danny Verdin.

Sen. Verdin will be speaking on Robert E. Lee. It's important to note that Friday, Jan. 19 would be Robert E. Lee's 200th birthday! Come celebrate the lives of Generals Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson with your friends and Compatriots.

We'll have interesting and entertaining speakers, a special tribute to "Stonewall" and even door prizes! This will also be awards night, so bring your significant other (even if she's prettier than you) and all your family and friends.

You'll be receiving a letter soon with information on reservations and ticket prices. Please notify me ASAP if you plan to attend. I guarantee you'll enjoy yourself!

Finally, our Camp project, the 2007 Battle for Columbia will be happening Feb. 16-18. Gentlemen, it is vitally important that we make 2007's event a financial success.

You will each be receiving a letter with your allotment of five tickets to sell. I am calling on each of you to help your Camp by selling at least these five tickets.

As much as it pains me to say, without a financially successful event in '07, we may see the end of the Battle for Columbia.

If you care just one little bit about preserving the Confederate soldiers' good name, about presenting the true history of the South to future generations, about your friends, comrades and Compatriots who have worked so hard for the past four years, and about your Camp, then please, please, help by selling some tickets and promoting our event every chance you get.

The Battle for Columbia's success depends on YOU!

Thanks, y'all, and have a very merry Christmas and a blessed new year!

-Tommy

Remembing a Southern Family Struggles During the War

Dear Compatriots, your Chaplains believe that the real meaning of Christmas may be found in the announcement of the angel to the shepherds watching over their flocks near Bethlehem: "And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord.'" (Luke 2:11)

This tells the whole story of Christmas very well, for Jesus Christ came into the world to save His people from their sins. Let us thank God for sending us the gift of His Son, by whose merits alone we may be saved for eternal life in Heaven.

Here is the quote for Dec. 25, 1864 from the journal of Catharine Whitehead. She was the young wife of Major Charles Rowland, who was serving in the Army of

Chaplain's Pulpit

Robert Slimp

The Tennessee. In the meanwhile, she was managing her husband's plantation near Waynesboro, Ga.

"Sunday, Dec. 25, 1864, The greeting of 'Merry Christmas' seems like a mockery, now, while there is so much trouble and suffering in our midst. I have not had the heart to give utterance to it today.

"What a striking contrast between this Christmas and those that were spent in former years; then it was a time of merry making, a time of joyful reunion when we were all gathered together in our happy home;

now it is a season of sadness as it only recalls those joyous days that are gone, never more to return, as love ones with us then, have passed away to meet with us again no more on earth and the brightest of our circle fallen by the hand of a savage and merciless foe.

"I have been thinking all day of the contrast between this and last Christmas, my darling husband was with me and we were very happy together, and now there are hundreds of miles between us, and many anxious hours do I spend in being separated from him, which is increased each day as I fail to hear from him.

"I have not heard from him since the fight at Franklin, TN, but I trust in God and pray that he will watch over and protect him from all dangers, and yet bring us to

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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 Tommy Rollings (803) 791-1130
Adjutant Layne Waters (803) 798-2429

and South Carolina from hosting national tournaments.

It's really not surprising that the NCAA decided to step out and issue such an edict. After all, the organization has had spectacular success reducing cheating among coaches and school boosters, athlete graduation rates are through the roof and it's difficult to remember the last time an athlete of any sort was charged with a criminal activity.

The fact is, the Confederate battle flag is displayed in Mississippi and South Carolina in accordance with respective state laws in each state. The NCAA long ago lost touch

with the real issues that plague athletes in this country. The organization appears to be less guided toward the athletic agenda they were created to govern and more interested in shoving feel-good liberalism down the throats of its members, whether they're interested or not.

The people of Mississippi and South Carolina have closed the book on issues concerning the Confederate flag. Mississippi used voters to make the law that protect the flying of the flag. And South Carolina legislators created a bill that was signed into law by the Governor.

The NCAA needs to recognize the will

of the people and not their will.

The Black Coaches Association is a faction of the NCAA that has led the way in pushing discrimination. It has influenced the NCAA in many decisions over the past few years and asked the NCAA to expand sanctions against Mississippi and South Carolina.

It's time to put an end to divisiveness of the NCAA. College students and alumni should start sending their college leadership a message and let them know that the NCAA should be banned from interfering into legislative matters that do not pertain to sports.

Chaplain

gether again. God has been more merciful unto us and my heart is full of gratitude and thankfulness for all the blessings He has given me and above all do I thank Him for having spared me life of my precious husband and child.

"Last Christmas we had a happy time together and I remember so well how much pleasure the children had in receiving their presents from the Christmas tree.

"I have had the pleasure today in witnessing the happiness of my little darling. As soon as he opened his eyes this morning

he called for his stocking and was perfectly wild with delight when he opened it and saw all the gifts from 'Santa Claus,' and exclaimed 'Oh! Mamma ain't Santa Taus a dood old man.'

"I do wish Charlie could have seen him as I know it would have given him so much pleasure. I gave Millie the marbles aunty sent him, and he was delighted and they have been a great source of amusement to him.

"I regret we had not church to attend today, but pastor Porter sent word that he

could not come down from Waynesboro because it is rumored that Sherman's Cavalry General Kilpatrick is in the area.

"I did manage to have Sunday School this afternoon and my scholars recited good lessons and sang all their hymns beautifully. I have a great deal of pleasure in teaching them, it is the happiest hour of the week to me and I enjoy teaching them and strive to have the glory of my Heavenly Father in view and hope my own soul is profited by the exercises."

Hunley

There he most likely met Robert Bennett, a steamboat pilot who worked the same rivers and perhaps the same ships. Bennett may have even introduced Dixon to his eldest daughter, a teenager everyone called Queenie.

Mobile historians say the two were involved in serious courtship by October 1861, when Dixon joined the 21st Alabama and marched off to war with a gold \$20 piece in his pocket. The coin, according to legend, was a gift from Queen.

Months later, in April of 1862, Dixon was shot in the leg as his company stormed the battlefield at Shiloh. But the coin deflected the bullet and probably saved his life.

Dixon returned to Mobile to convalesce. It was there that he began work on Horace Hunley's submarine project and spent the Christmas 1862. Within a year, he would be in Charleston, in command of the Hunley.

But what of the watch? Did he buy it, give it to Queen? George Bennett Walker Jr. and Sally Necessary, Bennett's great-grandchildren, say the watch had been in the family for years. Family lore claimed it was Queen's, but they had no proof.

Then a few years ago, they discovered a door in the back of the watch that opened and, inside it, this inscription: Queen Bennett, December 25th, 1862. As if it were a Christmas present.

Camp Selects Officers, Readies for 2007

All Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp officers, including Commander Tommy Rollings and Adjutant Layne Waters, have been re-elected to a second one-year term.

Elections were held during the Hampton Camp's November meeting. That meeting was the last of the year, though a special event will be held 10 a.m. Dec. 16 at the S.C. Confederate Relic Room and Museum.

Rollings and other camp officers will

be sworn in during the Hampton Camp's next gathering, which will take place Jan. 18, during the annual Lee-Jackson Banquet at Seawell's Restaurant, on Rosewood Avenue in Columbia.

Remember, this is the big kickoff event of the year, so dress accordingly, in either coat and tie, redshirt or re-enactor uniform.

The coming year will be a pivotal one for the camp, so plan to attend.

Research Problems?

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

Jim Harley

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(803) 772-8080

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. 18, 1865: Congress ratifies 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery.
- 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 culminates in 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.

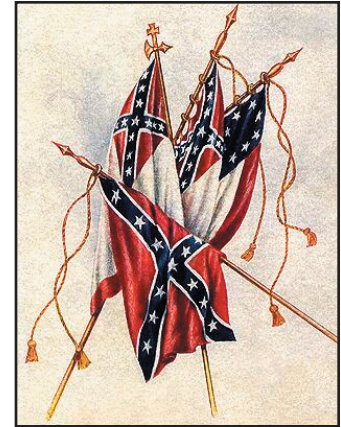
Words To Remember

"Time sets all things right. Error lives but a day. Truth is eternal."

-Lt. Gen. James Longstreet

Next Camp Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 18



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

Scripture Thought

"This is the day that God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

-Psalms 118:24

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