

THE LEGIONARY

DECEMBER 2007

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina ♦ www.wadehamptoncamp.org

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

Confederate Monument Desecration a 'Hate Crime'

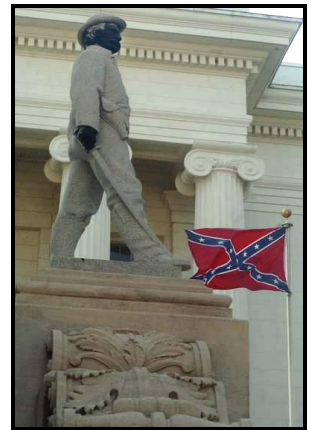
MONTGOMERY, AL - Unlike their visit a few months ago, Sandra Churchwell and Debra Wallace weren't alone last week as they gazed up at the massive Confederate monument on the grounds of the Alabama Capitol. That's because someone hopped over the wrought iron fence surrounding the monument one night on Veterans Day weekend and painted the statues' faces and hands black.

"It's really a shame because this is such a nice monument, it's so old," Mrs. Wallace said of the memorial, which was built on a cornerstone that was laid by Confederate President Jefferson Davis in 1886.

The letters and numbers "N.T. 11 11 31" were also written in black paint on the monument's base and is believed to be a reference to Virginia slave Nat Turner who was hanged on Nov. 11, 1831, for starting a rebellion.

"That's the only thing that we've come up with that has made any sense. It definitely was the right date for Nat Turner," said Bob Canter, senior restoration artisan for the Capitol.

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Confederate Flag in the GOP Debate

In case you missed the CNN YouTube Republican presidential debate on Nov. 28, you missed something. Before you take a closer look, you should know that it was a complete fabrication.

Questions were submitted by the public to the website YouTube. All of the questions posed to the candidates were selected by CNN from the submitted videos. Among those whose questions were asked was included a member of Hillary Clinton's steering committee and numerous other supporters of John Edwards and other Democratic candidates.

What was obvious was the blatant caricature of the selected videos. It was CNN's attempt to portray Republican voters as raving fundamentalist, homophobic, gun-brandishing, and, yes, Confederate flag waving lunatics. If you look into internet blog on the websites of serious leftwing magazines such as *The Nation* and *The New Republic*, you'll see that their readers are convinced that President Bush has had a lobotomy and that fundamentalist rednecks are running the country. That might be an improvement, but that's aside from the point.

The Confederate flag question was nonetheless asked and portrayed as a young man in Houston, Texas, with a Confederate flag on the wall behind him.

Mitt Romney butchered the question and gave the generic Orwellian answer: That's an evil flag. I won't be associated with it. It represents racism and hatred. People shouldn't even have it up in their bedrooms. And, he was indignant that that question was even considered for debate.

Fred Thompson was also allowed to reply. His answer was a traditional political flip flop. He said the flag doesn't represent racism to most of the people who have one in their bedrooms. Then he said that it represents racism to most Americans. It's ok next to monuments, but never belongs in positions of authority, such as atop state capitols.

When John McCain was asked this question in the debate right here in Columbia on May 15, he laid out what every mainstream GOP candidate should have in their back pocket, as the canned answer to the Confederate flag question. He stands by the compromise to keep the flag where it now stands. The Fox News black moderator repeated the question, which was more like an accusation of racism, and McCain stood by his answer.

But that wasn't all. McCain straddled the fence on the question by saying that he detests the Confederate flag because it represents racism and bigotry. The crowd was silent. But when he reiterated that he stood by his statement in favor of moving on

See *Debate*, page 3

Compatriots,

This will be my last Commander's Corner column. I would like to start it off by thanking each of you for your support and help over the last two years. There hasn't been a time when I asked anything of you that you didn't deliver. I hope that I'll be leaving the Camp in better shape in some ways than it was when you elected me. I believe that your votes to have the Camp take over operations of the Battle for Columbia event will be a big step toward financial stability for us. We've also shown our continuing commitment to fulfilling *The Charge* by agreeing to keep hosting the Midland's best living history event. We'll probably have to find a new place to hold Camp meetings beginning some time next

year and I know each of you will give Commander Rentz your best efforts with the task.

We will not be having a regular meeting in December; however, I have booked a tour of Kensington Mansion near Eastover for the Camp. Wade Hampton spent a good deal of time there. He even took his honeymoon there. Our tour date is Saturday, 15 December, at 9:30 a.m. Information can be found on our website. If you'd like to go, please e-mail or call so I can give the folks at the mansion a good headcount. Also, please plan to attend the Sandy Run Christmas parade which will be held on Saturday, December 22, at 10:00 a.m. Those participating will form up at 9:00 a.m.

Our Lee-Jackson banquet is rapidly

approaching. All the information concerning this event can be found on our website as well as the flyer in this issue of *The Legionary*. Please note that there will be no free admissions to the event. The only exception is those attending who are under the age of 4. Stan Clardy is our special entertainer for the evening and we have to pay for his services. Anyone who has seen his performance will attest that it's worth every penny!

In closing I'd like to say it has been an honor to be your Commander. It has been a privilege to serve the Camp. I wouldn't trade all of the wonderful memories and experiences for the world!

See y'all on December 15th or at the Lee-Jackson Banquet.

Chaplain's Pulpit

—REV. ROBERT SLIMP

On Confederate Memorial Day in 1871, as the South Carolina dead from Gettysburg were reentered in Charleston's Magnolia Cemetery, John L. Girardeau, who had been a Chaplain with 26th South Carolina Regiment spoke to 6,000 gathered in the devastated old city:

"The question must be answered: did those who fell for the Confederacy die in vain. Only one reply deserves to be returned to these inquiries – our brethren will not have died in vain, if we cherish in our hearts, and, as far as in us lies, practically maintain, the principles for which they gave their lives. We must continue to instill in our people these principles against the radicalism and all the disintegrative forces of Reconstruction which we now face. The Yankees are trying to destroy our time honored order of family and social relationships and our obedience to the Bible and the truth of the Christian faith. We must be true to the principles for which our Confederate heroes fought and bring them back into our society today and I speak of the ideas which once true are true forever – these principles hallowed by the blood of patriots.

They include States' Rights and Gospel of Jesus Christ." The spirit of that resistance must be summarized with the words of the dying Stonewall Jackson at Chancellorsville: 'Hold Your Ground, Sir!' The bleeding form of Liberty rises from the earth before us and utters the same command. We must by God's help hold our ground, or consent to be traitors to our ancestry, our dead, our trusts, for posterity, to our firesides, our social order and our civil and religious liberty."

I certainly hope that we all agree with Dr. Girardeau and General S. D. Lee and *will not surrender* the rights that are still guaranteed to us by our first Constitution.

I was thrilled when, just the other Saturday at the Carolina-Clemson football game, an airplane flew around Williams Bryce Stadium with the stirring banner flying behind which read: "Let the Band Play Dixie" Goosebumps crept up my back. Where I was sitting, several of us stood and sang Dixie. I felt at that moment that the South was very much alive and that we must *never* lose our Dixie. We are still a free and a unique people. May we so remain until

Gabriel blows his horn!

Christmas is coming. The most important Christmas sermon ever given was the announcement of the angels given to the Shepherds watching over their flocks by night at Bethlehem:

"And lo, the angel of the of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid, 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 2:9-11).

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners from their sins and will save all of us who repent and receive Him as our Lord and Savior. It was *this* truth that brought the Great Revival to the Confederate Armies during the war. May this truth bring us revival again because we need it!

In closing, your Camp chaplains, Reggie Miller and myself, would like to wish each and every one of you a very merry and blessed Christmas!

General Lee's Christmas message to his daughter

On Christmas Day, 1861, Robert E. Lee took a piece of white paper, folded it to make a four-page booklet, and wrote a letter to his daughter, Mary:

"May God guard and preserve you for me, my dear daughter. Among the calamities of war the hardest to bear, perhaps, is the separation of families and

friends. Yet all must be endured to accomplish our independence and maintain our self-government. Having distributed such poor Christmas gifts as I had to those around me, I have been looking for something for you, I send you some sweet violets that I gathered for you this morning while covered with dense white frost that glistened in the

bright sun like diamonds and formed a broche of rare beauty and sweetness, which could not be fabricated by the expenditure of a world of money. Yet how little it will purchase. But see how God provides for our pleasure in every way. May He guard and preserve you for me, my dear daughter."

Individuals interested in joining the SCV or this Camp should contact
Compatriot Scott James: Phone (803) 781-1836, E-mail wscottjames@bellsouth.net
WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN!

Monument

The vandalism, committed one night during the weekend of Nov. 10-11, was apparently intended to commemorate the 176th anniversary of Turner's death.

"It's just totally shocking that somebody would do something like this," said Leonard Wilson, commander of the Alabama Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. "It's just totally senseless." The group is offering a \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of those responsible and wants the defacing to be investigated as a hate crime.

The memorial stands 98 feet tall and has a 45-foot-square limestone base. It has five layered, angular ledges leading up to smaller bases for a statue of a man on each of the four sides. The granite statues represent the cavalry, infantry, artillery and navy.

State Rep. Alvin Holmes, Montgomery Democrat, had opposed

\$200,000 in state funds being used to refurbish the monument in 2005, but said someone who wants to recognize Nat Turner should have done so within the law.

"It belongs to the state and I think it was inappropriate for anyone to do that just as it was that someone shot the sign on the Martin Luther King Expressway 38 times and painted the whole thing black," he said. "As I was against that, I'm against this, too."

Restorers have started testing materials that can remove the paint, and the cleaning will cost several thousand dollars, Mr. Canter said. He said the waist-high black fence was put up in the late 1980s to deter vandals from breaking off pieces of the monument, which features a three dimensional battle scene sculpted of bronze. There are several cameras and the block is patrolled by the State Capitol Police, who are

investigating the vandalism.

Mr. Canter said it's likely there was more than one vandal — possibly one per statue — and while he couldn't comment on the investigation, he said there is ample surveillance footage and is confident the culprits would be caught.

In the meantime, Mr. Canter said the unwelcome paint job was bringing the most people he'd seen to the site since the 2005 cleaning.

Miss Churchwell and Miss Wallace noticed the same thing as they stopped by during a detour on their daily afternoon walk. "That's the silver lining, I guess, if you're looking for the good to come out of the bad," Miss Churchwell said.

-Associated Press, 11-19-2007

Debate

and making the flag a non-issue, the crowd gave its loudest and most enthusiastic response of the night.

The backdrop of debate over the Confederate flag is that the issue has been solved and nobody wants to hold up the State House for another five years.

So why didn't Mitt Romney get the memo?

With all of the money and all of the marketing done by the establishment carpetbagger Chamber of Commerce consultant Warren Tompkins, for Romney, you'd think Romney himself would have learned. If not from Tompkins, then maybe from McCain's slam dunk answer at the earlier debate.

But he didn't. And with every word of his answer last week, he kept shoving his foot deeper into his mouth.

Immediately, our own Don Gordon was quoted in the *State* newspaper denouncing Romney. Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan put out a press release denouncing Romney. And Larry Salley spent most of his Radio Free Dixie talk radio show (Sundays, 2-3pm on 1230AM) railing against all three candidates, and then some.

Even the South Carolina John McCain website relished the opportunity to say that this will cost Romney at least 10 percentage points in the South Carolina primary.

Our little Jan. 19 primary is the most critical all primaries, since it was set up as the establishment firewall primary. Whoever wins here becomes the nominee. Over the last 30 years, other traditionally early primaries—Iowa, New Hampshire,

Michigan, and Arizona—have only been won 60 percent of the time by the candidate who went on to become the nominee. But South Carolina is the only real red state primary in the bunch, and we matter most, with a perfect record of 100 percent.

So what does all of this mean? Through the years, we have been too eager to live up to the caricature that the left has cut out for us.

This is not only bad strategy, but, also, we make ourselves into the flipside of the same coin as our politically correct enemies.

In the meanwhile, we must continue to answer the Charge of Stephen D. Lee and educate our people about their history and the intrinsic ongoing damage caused by *those people*. On Jan. 19, don't think that any of the GOP candidates understand that. They all say that the War was fought over slavery, and thank goodness that President Lincoln rushed in to save the Union. Huckabee, Giuliani, and the others, that is.

But wouldn't it be nice if there was, in fact, one who "got" the War, the flag, and the true history of the South? Wouldn't it be nice if one of them came here seeking our vote without insulting our heritage at every opportunity? Believe it or not, there is.

Who? Well, we'd love to tell you, but it might sound like an endorsement.

I'll bet, however, that there is a certain outspoken chaplain in the Camp that will be happy to tell you all about Ron Paul, I mean, that candidate, if you really wanted to know.

You could also visit Morgan Utz Camp No. 1818, MO Division of the SCV's Blog at <http://utzfmc.wordpress.com> for his view on *The War of Northern Aggression*.

Adjutant's Notice

To all regular members who have paid your 2007-2008 dues. Please find your dues card with in this month's Legionary.

The cards are blank so that you can fill them out using the SCV International Identity Number found on the Legionary address label next to your name, for example...

Johnny Doe **2468376**

1234 Confederate St

Southern Town, SC 01220-1860

SCV and Camp dues are due each year July 1 and are not late until November 1. Late payments can only be accepted with a late fee of \$10.00. Annual dues are completely handled by the SCV Division. You should have received an itemized dues statement by mail and payment must be returned by mail with a check or money order. No cash dues payments accepted at camp meetings please! The adjutant will continue to accept late 2007-2008 dues as before.

If you have any questions, please contact me ASAP by e-mail at lwaters2@sc.rr.com (preferred) or by phone at 803-798-2429.

New Meeting Location

Compatriots –

Our incoming Commander, Rusty Rentz, has asked that if any compatriot has a suggestion or idea for a possible new meeting place for the Camp, that he please contact Compatriot Robert Spigner at 783-0157 or APPX3@aol.com. We need your input!

-ED.

Important Dates in *The War to Suppress Yankee Arrogance*:

- Dec. 1, 1863 – Confederate spy Belle Boyd is released from prison in Washington, DC.
- Dec. 4, 1862 – Gen. Johnston assumes overall command in the west.
- Dec. 6, 1889 – Death of Confederate Jefferson Davis in New Orleans, LA.
- Dec. 8, 1860 – US Sec. of Treas. Howell Cobb resigns. The GA native will become a Confederate Maj. Gen. in 1863.
- Dec. 10, 1861 – An act of the Confederate Congress in Richmond admits KY to the Confederacy, thus completing the 13 states.
- Dec. 11, 1861 – Suffering under the Union blockade, Charleston, SC is struck by a disastrous fire that sweeps through its business district.
- Dec. 12, 1862 – In MS, the *USS Cairo* strikes a torpedo in the Yazoo River. She is the first US ship sunk by this method.
- Dec. 13, 1862 – Battle of Fredericksburg, VA. Over 186,000 troops are engaged there.
- Dec. 14, 1862 – At Fredericksburg, the Federal Army withdraws after being severely beaten in the previous days' assaults.
- Dec. 17, 1860 – At Columbia, the SC Secession Convention issues a resolution in favor of SC seceding from the Federal Union known as the United States of America.
- Dec. 18, 1862 – At Lexington, TN, Gen. Forrest's Cavalry defeats Federal cavalry force.
- Dec. 20, 1860 – By a vote of 169 to 0, SC adopts an Ordinance of Secession and the Union is dissolved.
- Dec. 26, 1860 – In Charleston Harbor, SC, State Troops seize Castle Pinckney.
- Dec. 27, 1863 – Confederate Congress abolishes substitution for military service.
- Dec. 28, 1862 – Vicksburg Campaign. Battle of Chickasaw Bayou.
- Dec. 30, 1861 – SC troops seize the US arsenal at Charleston, after Pres. Buchanan's failure to remove US troops from the Charleston Harbor.

Y'all Come!!!

Lee-Jackson Banquet
Friday, Jan 18
7:00 PM



Seawell's Restaurant
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC
 See insert for Details

Unofficial December Meeting
 Visit to

Kennington Manson
 Near Eastover, SC

Saturday, Dec 15. 9:30 a.m.

Contact Tommy Rollins or visit the
 Camp website for more information

www.wadehamptoncamp.org



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