



# The Southern Advocate

The Quarterly Newsletter of the  
**Oklahoma Division**

**Sons of Confederate Veterans**

<http://oklahomascv.org/>



*"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. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906)*

Volume 7, Number 3

Summer Quarter

July-September 2015

## Commander's Comments

Allen Harrison, Division Commander

This quarter has been the worst for the International Sons of Confederate Veterans in my memory. I joined in 1998 after the upheaval in our division.

The horrendous killings in Charleston, SC unleashed the dogs of war from the left. The left's assault on southern culture has been going on for decades, but not at the current intensity. The left and their friends in the Republican Party have been successful in removing flags and monuments across the Confederacy. Even efforts are underway to legally disinter the remains of Gen. Nathan B. Forest and his wife in Memphis. This is total insanity since all Confederate veterans were recognized by Congress, and President Eisenhower signed the bill into law in 1959.

The secular progressives do not like our traditions (battle flag, Confederate Memorial Day), food (too fat and sweet), our conservatism and our Christianity. They do not like the fact that most of the great leaders of our military have come from the South. Granted, our current President has reduced the military to a dangerous level, but southerners still serve in a disproportionate number to their northern counterparts.

Past-Commander Logan has been working with the FBI and the Oklahoma City police department to locate the vandal who desecrated the Confederate monument in Fairlawn Cemetery. As of this date the perpetrator has not been apprehended.

It is that time of year again when dues are payable to International Headquarters. I am sure camp commanders are in contact with their men encouraging them to submit their dues.

I will take this opportunity to thank the members of the Division Executive Council for attending our meeting August 8. Much was accomplished.

## Is Our Freedom of Speech Endangered?

Commentary

The First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech". But, that's just what the Supreme Court has done with its ruling for the plaintiff in *Walker v. Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc.* In declaring that because a state licenses vehicle tags, it has the authority to determine what speech may be placed on those tags. Most of us have always believed that the Constitution, including the First Amendment, was written for the people, not the state. Heretofore, most of us probably have not known that the state has speech rights, and that the state determines what those speech rights are, and that when they conflict with a citizen's speech rights, the state wins. Of course, we are all aware that the state has the right to restrict certain individual speech rights when those rights are deemed to be detrimental to the welfare of the public, such as the "crying fire in a crowded theater" standard and incitement of a crime such as rioting and looting, for example. Now, we also know that the Supreme Court has created state speech rights that extend far beyond these accepted common-sense limitations.

The Court's ruling may have opened a Pandora's Box. The state (By state, we mean the individual fifty states as well as the Federal state.) licenses a great many activities and institutions. For example, the Federal state licenses airwave and cable rights for radio and television companies. Imagine a Federal bureaucracy mandating program content, or denying license renewal, or even revoking the license of a company that refuses to limit itself to state-acceptable speech. And, what might happen should the Federal state gain regulatory control of the internet? The tag issue may be only the tip of the iceberg.

One can only imagine, or fear, how far this might go.

# Report of National Reunion

Submitted by Bently Couch

Editor's Note: *The following report is excerpted from a report by the Commander of the Maryland Division, who sent a copy to Compatriot Bently Couch, previously a member of the Maryland Division, but having relocated to Oklahoma is currently Commander of Camp Capt. James J. McAlester. The report presented herein contains highlights of the business conducted at the Convention/Reunion.*

**Action on proposed constitutional amendments:** To stop any one or more members of the McCain Camp (Headquarters Camp) from operating as an unchartered camp within the boundaries of a division. Not recommended. Passed on voice vote.

The following proposed constitutional amendments failed on voice votes: (1.) To give only the most recent Past C-in-C voting privileges to offset the sitting C-in-C in the event of any ill-advised action. (2.) To amend the Standing Orders to be more specific in the invocation of Robert's Rules of Order.

A proposal to give the GEC more authority in disciplinary matters over the SCV Disciplinary Committee was recommended but failed to achieve the required two-thirds affirmative vote (424 ayes, 344 noes).

## The Convention passed the following resolutions:

1. To commend JEB Stuart Camp #1343 for hosting the 2015 SCV National Reunion,
2. To praise those who oppose and condemn those who support legislative action to remove flags,
3. To condemn NASCAR for cowardliness and lack of support for the Confederate flag,
4. To withhold contracts from cities which condemn Confederate flags or do not allow their display,
5. To reaffirm the status of Confederate veteran recognition by the federal Government per Congress and VA,
6. To call upon the NAACP to rescind a 1991 resolution declaring war on all Confederate items in the Florida (?),
7. To condemn National Cathedral, The Citadel, The University of the South for their lack of regard for and efforts to destroy Confederate icons and to call upon all religious and academic institutions to continue to recognize Confederate iconography,
8. To commend and support the Sons of Union Veterans for their defense of our flags and symbols,
9. To support any legal effort in the rehabilitation of Capt. Henry Wirz,
10. To demand that all states continue or initiate a license plate program without censorship and to stop the blatant content discrimination caused by demonization and hysteria.

Commander-in-Chief Kelly Barrow presented the **SCV's Battle Plan** for combatting the current anti-Confederate frenzy sweeping the country:

(1.) Camp and division officers represent the SCV to the local community. (2.) Keep a consistent and focused message through the division to the media. (3.) Always wear a coat and tie when at SCV functions. (4.) Visit other veterans' groups. Donate to the SCV Heritage Defense Fund at the new website, <http://www.scvheritagedefense.org>. (5.) If you know a business that flies a Confederate flag, get them a certification from SCV HQ. (6.) Divisions should collect heritage violations from camps. A form should be available soon, in the meantime violations can be reported on the new website. (7.) Check locations where there are no camps. Try to establish a new camp where none are located. (8.) SCV HQ has a media plan and talking points for divisions. (9.) Engage with other national organizations: UDC, SUV, etc. The "Friends of the SCV" program is currently FREE. (10.) Sign up for the Telegraph. Sign up on-line or call SCV HQ. (11.) There is a one-day one-half price special on Life Membership, but, you must watch the website to find out when it is. (12.) Make sure that all officer listings (name, e-mail, address) are correct on your camp and division websites.

The next big battle is at Forrest Park in Memphis, TN. There will be a Southern Heritage Festival at Elm Springs coming up with some big concert names. March 4<sup>th</sup> is the official Confederate Flag Day. The flag went up over Montgomery, AL that day. The Third National is the official flag for Confederate Flag Day. So, the first Saturday in March (the 5<sup>th</sup>) is Confederate Flag Day for 2016. Be sure to fly your flags especially on that day. The 2016 reunion will be in Richardson, TX. A late entry from Franklin, TN was received for the 2018 reunion. Charleston was also nominated, but the convention voted in favor of Franklin.

Report from Executive Director Michael Landree:

**Membership:** The SCV has 25,000 active members and 68,000 inactive members.

**Dues:** The SCV is considering a national payment system that will allow compatriots to pay all dues (national, division, & camp) through the website. The website would use an automatic electronic funds transfer (EFT) system that would move funds directly from a bank account to the SCV.

**Record keeping:** The filing system at Elm Springs is archaic. The staff at headquarters uses fifty filing cabinets to manage all of the records that need to be maintained. Some records are scattered all over the country and others have been destroyed over the years. The SCV can use its headquarters staff much more efficiently in other professional activities than 1950's era clerical work.

**SCV Headquarters Building at Elm Springs:** The building is in good shape and the seventy acres of grounds are beautiful. Elm Springs has been around since 1837 and is now on the Civil War Trails registry with a site marker.

**Associate Members:** Associate members are encouraged to convert their memberships to the official "Friends of the SCV" status.



## Rally to the Flag!

Commander Rex Cash  
Colonel Roger Quarles Mills Brigade

Gentlemen of the Oklahoma Division of the SCV:

Our banner is in danger! You've seen the news. Former allies have caved in to political cowardice. Confederate flags are coming down and statues of Confederate heroes are disappearing across the land. Commander-In-Chief Barrow has called upon all Divisions to host a Confederate Flag Rally on the March 5, 2016. See his comments on Page 27 of the latest issue of *Confederate Veteran*. Commander Harrison has bestowed upon me the honor of serving as the coordinator for the Oklahoma Division Rally.

The tentative plan is to hold the rally at the State Capitol South Plaza. But, here's the simple truth. Any event with a small turn-out is self-defeating. All we're doing is handing cheap victories to the enemies of our heritage. They laugh and say *"See, it's just a few cranks on the lunatic fringe!"*

The victors have written the history for far too long. This is going to be a well-organized event with to-the-point speakers. We mean for this to be the largest flag rally in Oklahoma history. We're reaching out to other like-minded organizations. We're going to put a Confederate Battle Flag in the hand of every person that attends. We're going to turn the Capitol South Plaza red with a sea of Confederate Flags!

This will only happen with the participation of every member of the Oklahoma Division and more. That's why we're getting the word out now. Mark it on your calendars. Bring your families, friends and neighbors. I know this means a three- or four-hour drive each way for some. So, Camp Commanders, I request you make this a regular agenda item at your monthly meetings and start planning car pools. Remember; 100% participation is the goal. I will send out regular updates to camp Commanders to insure you have the latest information on this event.

In the darkest days of the American Revolution, Thomas Paine wrote *"These are the times that try men's souls: The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives everything its value"*. These words are relevant to our situation today.

Our fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and other family members wagered their lives for this banner. When a color bearer fell someone always picked it up. It's our turn now. A few hours of our time is a small price compared to the sacrifice of the soldiers in gray. Let's make them proud! Rally to the Flag!

## 2014 National SCV Awards

### Commendation Medal – Meritorious service or meritorious achievement at camp, brigade or division level

Jimmy Don Carter, Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain, Moore  
Barry Andrew James, Pvt. Grayson & Brewer, Elk City  
Alvin Wayne Johnson, Capt. Benjamin F. Smallwood, Coalgate

### Meritorious Service Medal – Outstanding performance of duty to the SCV

Donald Lee Branham, Indian Territory, Poteau  
Virgil L. Chain, Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men, Duncan  
Richard King McDonald, Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain, Moore  
Robert Woodall, Jr., Col. Daniel N. McIntosh, Tulsa

### Distinguished Service Medal – Outstanding service in a position of responsibility

James L. Orebaugh, First Cherokee Mounted Vols., Edmond

### Dixie Club – Honors members who contribute greatly to the organization by recruiting new members (5-9 new members – certificate; 10-15 new members – bronze medal)

Virgil L Chain, Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men, Duncan  
Alvin Wayne Johnson\*, Capt. Benjamin F. Smallwood, Coalgate  
Larry W. Logan, Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain, Moore  
Jerry C. Patrick, Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain, Moore  
Charley Wilson, Pvt. Drury Warren, Ponca City

\* Certificate with bronze medal



Compatriot James L. Orebaugh, Camp First Cherokee Mounted Volunteers, Edmond – SCV Distinguished Service Medal

Division Commander Allen Harrison presented the National SCV awards to those recipients who were in attendance at the DEC meeting on August 8. (Photos by Editor)



Compatriot Robert Woodall, Jr., Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh, Tulsa – SCV Meritorious Service Medal



Compatriot Virgil L. Chain, Camp Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men, Duncan – SCV Meritorious Service Medal



Compatriot Alvin Wayne Johnson, Camp Capt. Benjamin F. Smallwood, Coalgate – Dixie Award with Bronze Medal. Compatriot Johnson also received the SCV Commendation Medal, but the photo was blurred. Our apologies to Compatriot Johnson.



Compatriot Virgil L. Chain, Camp Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men, Duncan – Dixie Award

## Heritage News

### NATIONAL SCV RESOLUTION ON THE CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG

ATLANTA (July 1, 2015) In 2010, the National Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans passed the below resolution regarding the imagery and use of the Confederate Battle Flag. In today's political climate, the re-publishing of this resolution is timely. It reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the approach of the Sesquicentennial will be a time to educate not only the people of these United States but of the world; and

WHEREAS, the most recognized symbol of the Confederate States is the Battle Flag, a flag each of us hold dear; and

WHEREAS, the use of the Confederate Battle Flag by extremist political groups and individuals who seek to clothe themselves in respectability by misappropriating the banner under which our southern ancestors fought for a Just Cause which is as noble as much latter day is ignoble; and

WHEREAS, the Sons of Confederate Veterans are the true inheritors of legacy and symbols for which the Confederate Veterans fought and died; and

WHEREAS, the Sons of Confederate Veterans does denounce the use of the Confederate Battle Flag and any other Confederate symbol by any hate group and/or the Ku Klux Klan as the desecration of a symbol to which any hate group and/or the Ku Klux Klan has no claim; and

WHEREAS, the misuse of the Confederate Battle Flag by any extremist group or individual espousing political extremism and/or racial superiority degrades the Confederate Battle Flag and maligns the noble purpose of our ancestors who fought against extreme odds for what they knew was just, right, and constitutional; and

WHEREAS, the misuse of other flags and symbols of the Confederate States of America and the Confederate States Army, Navy, and Marines is similarly degrading,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sons of Confederate Veterans in General Convention assembled in Anderson, South Carolina, does hereby condemn in the strongest terms possible the use of the Confederate Battle Flag or any other flag, symbol, seal, title or name bearing any relationship whatsoever to the Confederate States of America or the armed forces of that Government by any such extremist group or individual, of whatever name or designation by which known, and



Compatriot Charley Wilson, Camp Private Drury Warren, Ponca City – Dixie Award



Compatriot Jerry Patrick, Camp Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain, Moore – Dixie Award

### Calendar of Events

September 26 – Lt. Pleasant Porter gravestone dedication – Bixby  
November 11 – Veterans Day  
January (TBA) – DEC winter meeting – Henryetta  
March 5 – Confederate Flag Rally – Oklahoma City

LET IT BE FUTHER RESOVLED, that the Sons of Confederate Veterans in General Convention assembled, does hereby condemn in the strongest terms possible the inappropriate use of the Confederate Battle Flag or any other flag, seal, title or name bearing any relationship whatsoever to the Confederate States of America or the armed forces of that Government of the Confederate States of America by individuals or groups of individuals, organized or unorganized, who espouse political extremism or racial superiority and that this resolution shall be made known to all media outlets now and throughout the years of the Sesquicentennial and it shall be made patent and entered into the permanent records and archives of the General Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at Elm Springs in Columbia, Tennessee.

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## **An American Tragedy in Charleston, South Carolina**

Ben Jones, SCV Chief of Heritage Operations

The unspeakable tragedy at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church is already being used by some in the "agitation/propaganda" business to further divide good-hearted people of different heritages, especially in the Southern states.

We 30,000 members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are heartbroken by this depraved and insane act of murder. Our deepest sympathies and our most heartfelt prayers are with the victims and loved ones of this heinous act of a deluded racist.

We at the SCV have long detested the use of our forefather's symbols by racist groups and individuals. We consider it to be a cowardly desecration of our inheritance. Our ancestors fought for the South, and of that we are not ashamed. In the 150 years since the War ended, the men and women of the South, of all colors, have contributed a higher percentage of military volunteers than any other region of our nation. This country would not exist were it not for Southerners like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. We are American patriots to the core.

The mindless murders at Emanuel AME Church were an act of purposeful evil. Those who try to make larger political hay out of this are misguided and forgetful of our common heritage. As a nation of many ethnicities we should all extend tolerance and understanding to every individual of every heritage. And, that should include those of us of Confederate heritage.

We must not allow the sickness of one demented individual to become that with which the media and our opponents define us. We are the same good-hearted people that we were last week and last year.

May the Lord be with those who are suffering from the dreadful murders in Charleston. We stand with them to decry racism and to decry those who wish to divide us in the aftermath of this evil.

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## **SCV Telegraph**

Ben Jones, SCV Chief of Heritage Operations

The *New York Times* reported that a poll by Pew Research, a much respected firm, showed that 56% of Americans supported removing the Confederate Flag from the grounds of the South Carolina statehouse. That is not a surprise, given the fiery political climate that surrounded that action. But, what the *Times* did not report is this: "Although 42% of African Americans say they have a negative reaction to the display of the flag, about as many Blacks say their reaction to seeing it is neither positive nor negative (49%). African American reactions to the flag are relatively unchanged from 2011. Majorities of whites (56%) and Hispanics (62%) continue to say their reaction to the Confederate flag is neither positive nor negative. About a quarter (27%) of whites view it negatively; only 16% of whites have a positive reaction to the Confederate flag, but that is double the share who said this in 2011 (8%)."

Broken down, this means that half of Black Americans have no problem with the flag, and well more than half of whites and Hispanics have no problem with it. If only 42% of Blacks feel negatively, that means that 58% do not. After over twenty years of the NAACP's relentless attacks on the flag, the only progress they have made is with the media, politicians and corporate bean-counters. In other words, the poll is actually very good for us, but you would never know it by the spin.

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## **Confederate Monument Defaced**



The United Confederate Veterans installed this monument in Fairlawn Cemetery in Oklahoma City in 1927 as a tribute to Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery. There are twenty-seven Confederate soldiers known to be buried in the cemetery. This is the site where the SCV camps and UDC chapters in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area commemorate Confederate Memorial Day. Sometime Wednesday night or early Thurs-

day morning of July 15-16, one or more persons violated this historic monument.

Compatriot Larry Logan, Adjutant of Camp Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore, led the efforts to involve the OKC police as well as the FBI (The FBI considers this to be a Federal hate crime.) in locating the perpetrator(s) and bringing them to justice. Because of lack of evidence, neither agency is currently able to pursue the matter. The FBI has promised an undercover agent will be present at next year's event. In the meantime, the cemetery staff has been able to restore the monument and has installed a security camera nearby.

## Confederate Soldiers are American Veterans by Act of Congress

Jim W. Dean, veteranstoday.com

**U.S. Public Law 810, Approved by 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, 26 February 1929 – 45 Statute 1307, 38 U.S. Code, Sec. 2306:**

"Secretary of War to erect headstones over the graves of soldiers who served in the Confederate Army and to direct him to preserve in the records of the War Department the names and places of burial of all soldiers for whom such headstones shall have been erected."

**U.S. Code Title 38 – Veterans' Benefits, Part II – General Benefits, Chapter 15 – Pension for Non-Service-Connected Disability or Death or for Service, Subchapter I – General, § 1501.**

Definitions: (3) The term "Civil War veteran" includes a person who served in the military or naval forces of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War, and the term "active military or naval service" includes active service in those forces.

Editor: For additional information on the subject, visit the website, <http://www.veteranstoday.com>. (Contributed by Rex Cash)



The University of Texas has moved a statue of Confederate President, Jefferson Davis, away from the center of campus, but statues of other Confederate figures will remain, school President, Greg Fenves, announced. (Washingtontimes.com)

## Camp News and Activities

**Camp Captain Benjamin F. Smallwood** of Coalgate held its June camp meeting at the Coalgate Public Library, on June 5. There were twenty members and guests in attendance, including two newspaper reporters from Ada and Coalgate. Also in attendance were six descendants of Capt. Smallwood. Division Commander Allen Harrison and Division Lt. Commander Bob Pattison spoke briefly. The featured speaker was Choctaw Nation Historian, Ryan Spring, who spoke on Choctaw Nation history as well as current tribal initiatives. (Contributed by Division Commander Allen Harrison).



Choctaw Nation Historian, Ryan Spring

**Camp BG Stand Watie** of Ardmore/Madill inducted two new members at the Camp meeting on July 11. Lt. Commander Robert Carroll presented membership certificates to Jonathan Klenke (top photo) and Joe Mull, Jr. (bottom photo).





(Contributed by Robert Carroll)

**Camp Lt. Colonel Jackson F. McCurtain** of Moore, along with **Camp Captain Clem Vann Rogers** of Oklahoma City and General Robert E. Lee Chapter of the UDC of Oklahoma City, held a Confederate Memorial Day service at Fairlawn Cemetery in Oklahoma City on June 20. Members of **Camp Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men** of Duncan and **Camp Pvt. W. D. Chain** of Cooperton assisted by providing the Color Guard.

The special guest and featured speaker for the service was Mr. H. K. Edgerton, who travels the country in his unabashed support of the SCV and the Confederate Battle Flag. Toward the end of his presentation, he gave an emotional recitation of the poem, "I Am Their Flag".



Members of the Color Guard posing with H. K. Edgerton at Fairlawn Cemetery.

Dr. Michael F. Darrow, Commander of **Camp Capt. James J. McAlester** of McAlester, has resigned his office. Commander Darrow feels his work schedule is such that it doesn't allow him the time necessary to effectively lead the camp. It's certain his camp and the Oklahoma Division will miss his leadership.

Commander Harrison has appointed Compatriot James Bently Couch as acting commander to serve until camp elections are held in January 2016. Commander Couch was born and raised in the Dallas area. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Physics from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1976. He received a Masters Degree in Nuclear Engineering from Catholic University of America.

In 1986, he joined Camp Captain Vincent Camalier in Leonardtown, MD. He served as commander for eight years, lieutenant commander for two years, adjutant for two years, newsletter editor for ten years, treasurer for four years and chaplain for four years. He also served in the Maryland Division as judge advocate for two years, and division historian for two years. At the department level, Compatriot Couch served as the Army of Northern Virginia adjutant for four years and chief of staff for two years.

Upon his retirement after thirty-five years in the Engineering Department of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, he retired in June 2014 and moved to Moyers, Oklahoma where he plans to live the rest of his life.

Congratulations and best wishes to Commander Couch.

(Contributed by Division Commander Allen Harrison)



Confederate Memorial Day participants, led by H. K. Edgerton carrying the Battle Flag, entering Fairlawn Cemetery.

**Camp Capt. Clem Van Rogers** of Oklahoma City had a recruiting station at the R. K. Gun Show at the Oklahoma City Fairgrounds on August 1-2. The camp picked up at least thirteen prospective members and received \$70 in donations to help defend the Mississippi state flag.



Camp Commander, Eric McBroom, and Reenactor/Compatriot Barry Field at the Oklahoma City gun show. (Contributed by Eric McBroom)



Commander Bruce Bishop, at the Camp McIntosh Awards Luncheon, holding the Camp McIntosh Charter, dated August 2, 1980.

**Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh** of Tulsa held its annual Awards Luncheon on Saturday, August 15. Northeastern State University Professor of History, Dr. Brad Agnew, presented the program – “The Life of Captain Clem Vann Rogers”. Camp Historian, Ken Cook, gave a short presentation on the history of Camp McIntosh and the SCV in Tulsa, in recognition of the Camp’s thirty-fifth anniversary (August 2).



Commander Bruce Bishop presenting Past-Commander Carl Fallen with a 25-year membership pin. Carl is the second longest serving member of Camp McIntosh, with twenty-seven years of service.

### Gravestone and Cross of Honor Dedication

At 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 26, **Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh** and the Oklahoma Division of the UDC will conduct a footstone and Cross of Honor dedication at the grave of Lt. Pleasant Porter, 1<sup>st</sup> Creek Mounted Rifles (Chief of the Creek Nation 1899-1907). Mr. Justin Giles, Director of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Center and Archives, will be the principal speaker. The Creek Nation Color Guard will also participate in the ceremony.

Porter’s grave is in a small family cemetery on private land east of Bixby. Directions to the gravesite: From south Bixby, go east on Highway 64 to South 145<sup>th</sup> East Avenue, turn north on South 145<sup>th</sup> East Avenue, and between East 161<sup>st</sup> Street South and East 151<sup>st</sup> Street South, take the first right onto a gravel road and follow it to the end. The cemetery is at the rear of the house. The ceremony will be about an hour. Attendees should bring chairs if they wish to sit.

Camp McIntosh cordially invites all Oklahoma SCV and UDC members to participate in this important, patriotic event.

Members of **Camp Capt. Clem Vann Rogers** of Oklahoma City and **Camp 1<sup>st</sup> Cherokee Mounted Volunteers** of Edmond held a Confederate flag rally at the Oklahoma state capitol on Saturday, August 29. Commanders Jim Orebaugh of Edmond and Eric McBroom of Oklahoma City gave interviews to OKC Channel 5 and the *Daily Oklahoman*, respectively. The crowd was small but enthusiastic. (Contributed by Eric McBroom)



## 2015 IRS Annual Electronic Notice Filing Requirement

ATTENTION CAMP ADJUTANTS: SCV camps with less than \$50,000 of gross receipts a year are required to submit an annual electronic notice to the IRS by December 15. Instructions for filling can be found online at <http://epostcard.form990.org>.

For additional information go to Page 55 of the September-October issue of *Confederate Veteran*.



Camp James City Cavalry of Williamsburg, VA held its 2015 Confederate Memorial Day service at Peach Creek Cemetery, Toano, VA, on May 23.

James Harvey Allen was born in James City County, VA on January 19, 1829. He enlisted at Williamsburg on June 14, 1861, and was elected captain. He was reelected on May 1, 1862. He was at Williamsport, Maryland on July 9, 1863, at Fredericksburg, late July and August, and at Brandy Station in October 1863. His record indicates that he was at Orange Courthouse in January and at Ashland in March and April. He was wounded in action at Cold Harbor on June 1, 1864. He was promoted to major on June 16, to lieutenant colonel on July 20<sup>th</sup> and was in Clarke County in August 1864. He was present at New Bridge on February 28, 1865, commanding the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry. He was paroled and took the oath at Williamsburg on April 29, 1865.

Col. Allen died at Peach Park, VA on April 28, 1898.

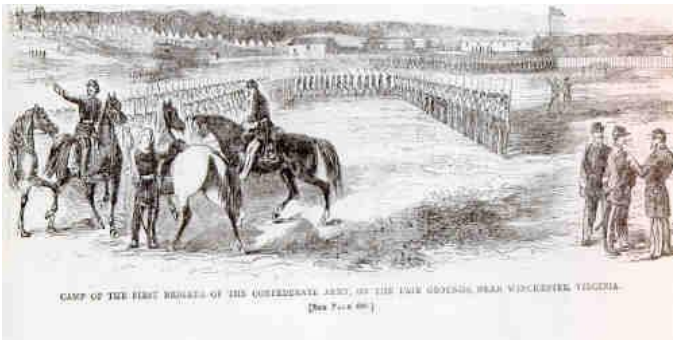
(Contributed by Commander Jeff Toalson, Camp James City Cavalry)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry

Ken Cook, Division Historian

The regiment can trace its lineage to March 1836 with the creation of the Regiment Alabama Militia, commanded by Colonel William Chisholm. It was mustered into Federal service in February-March 1836 at Mobile. It was mustered out of Federal service two months later. Elements of the regiment continued as independent volunteer militia companies.

Several of those companies were organized as the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama Volunteer Infantry Regiment at Dalton, Georgia, on May 2, 1861. After organization, the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama was sent immediately to Virginia, where it was mustered into Confederate service for twelve months at Lynchburg on May 7 and then was ordered to Harper's Ferry for training. It was later transferred to Winchester where it became a part of Brig. General Barnard E. Bee's Third Brigade, of which the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Mississippi, 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee and 6<sup>th</sup> North Carolina were the other regiments. The brigade was moved forward and participated in the First Battle of Manassas where the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama took a prominent part. General Bee was killed in the battle and was succeeded in command by Brig. General W. H. C. Whiting.



Camp of the Third Brigade near Winchester, Virginia 1861  
(From "Harper's Weekly", August 3, 1861)\*

The 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama spent the winter at Dumfries, VA and re-enlisted for three years in January 1862. It was reorganized in April and moved to the vicinity of Norfolk. It was later sent to the Shenandoah Valley to join Stonewall Jackson's Valley Army. The regiment was engaged both days of the Battle of Seven Pines during the Seven Days' Battles. Two weeks later, the brigade was sent against the Union flank of General John Pope's army at the Second Battle of Manassas.

During the Maryland Campaign, the regiment participated in the Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam). After the Maryland Campaign, Brig. General Evander McIver Law was assigned to command of the Alabama Brigade, which was organized with the 4<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 44<sup>th</sup>, 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Alabama regiments as its complement. It was placed together with the Texas Brigade and assigned to the division commanded by Major General John Bell Hood in Longstreet's Corps.

The 4<sup>th</sup> was engaged at Fredericksburg and was detached with the rest of Hood's Division to southeast Virginia in the

spring of 1863. After returning to the Army of Northern Virginia in May, it soon joined the line of march to Pennsylvania where it was engaged on the second day of Gettysburg.

In the fall of 1863, the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama moved with Longstreet's Corps via railroad and took part in the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia. It moved with the Corps into east Tennessee, and participated in the attack on Knoxville. In May 1864, the 4<sup>th</sup> was hotly engaged at The Wilderness and Spotsylvania Courthouse.

The 4<sup>th</sup> participated in all the Army of Northern Virginia's operations from the Wilderness to Cold Harbor. Then, for nearly ten months, the men of the 4<sup>th</sup> lay behind the defenses of Petersburg, taking part in various movements and assaults. The Alabama Brigade surrendered twenty-one officers and 202 enlisted men at Appomattox, Brig. General William F. Perry having been in command for nearly a year. Of 1,422 men on the rolls of the Alabama Brigade, about 240 died in battle, nearly 100 died of disease, and 408 were discharged or transferred.

On July 15, 1911, the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama was officially designated part of the Alabama National Guard. In 1916, the regiment was federalized and served on the Mexican border. During World War I, it was re-designated the U. S. 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and was assigned to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry "Rainbow" Division and saw combat in France. Following the war, the old name of Fourth Alabama was briefly restored, but on December 16, 1921, the regiment was re-designated the 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, which designation it still bears. "4<sup>th</sup> Alabama" remains the authorized nickname of the regiment.

The 167<sup>th</sup> was inducted into Federal service November 25, 1940. In 1944, it was deployed to the Southwest Pacific as a unit of the 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division. Its largest combat operations were on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines.

Part of the regiment served in Iraq, 2006-2007. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 167<sup>th</sup> was deployed to Afghanistan in 2012.



167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Mechanized) "4th Alabama",  
31<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team, Alabama National Guard

The regiment's motto is, *Signa Inferemus*, We Shall Drive Forward. The men and women of the 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry, a mechanized infantry regiment, continue the tradition of dedication and service exemplified by their Confederate ancestors.

*\* Even though the illustration appeared in "Harpers Weekly" on August 3, it would have been composed before the brigade deployed to Manassas Junction in July as the brigade didn't return to Winchester after the battle.*



## 'Seeing Eye Dogs' Help Navy Divers Recover Civil War Vessel in Murky River

Phil Gast and Matthew Gannon, CNN

Savannah, Georgia (CNN) Imagine working in a world the color of Irish coffee, where you cannot see much beyond your hand. Where a constant force pushes you away from your task and upends you if you stay too long. And walking? Jagged pieces of iron and piles of debris await at every turn.

That is the office environment of a U.S. Navy team this summer as it salvages a Civil War ironclad vessel in the Savannah River. The team battles back against the underwater challenges, using years of experience and training. The goal: to retrieve artifacts and larger pieces while getting men out of the water before, as diver Cody Bumpass said, they are "literally flying in the current." "If you don't know what you are doing, it could be a little scary," said Bumpass, a Navy diver 1st class.

For Virginia-based Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2, the recovery of the CSS *Georgia*, scuttled by its Confederate crew in December 1864, requires a mixture of old-school techniques and the latest in technology.

Reminiscent of intrepid divers in Jules Verne's 1870 classic *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, the divers wear large helmets, full body suits and are attached to tethers, called "umbilicals," that carry vital air and communication from the mother ship in this case a salvage barge about 40-45 feet above. When they make a discovery, divers run their gloved fingers around an item and give a description that is relayed to archaeologists assisting in the recovery.

The CSS *Georgia* is not really a shipwreck, per se. That's because previous salvage operations, including one shortly after the Civil War's end, removed much of the ironclad. Dredging operations in the late 1960s further scattered the vessel, and the chain anchoring a red channel marker, or buoy, constantly shifts items. That means there can be surprises. A part of the vessel may not be where archaeologists expect it to be, and jumbles of iron complicate the search.

Chief Warrant Officer 3, Jason Potts, the Navy's on-scene commander, said the salvage work can be exhausting. Divers drop items into baskets or rig them to a crane that lifts them onto the barge, which floats a few miles east of downtown Savannah, near Old Fort Jackson.

Communication, through a wire bundled in the "umbilicals," is vital. "We are listening to their respiratory pattern. We may hear a little gurgling in their diving apparatus, indicating water intrusion in their helmet," said Potts. "We know each other well. We are listening to the tone of their voice – the words they are saying. We are listening to their opinions; we are listening to the factual information. We are listening to every single word they say and every breath they take to make sure they are safe on the bottom."

The \$15 million removal of the CSS *Georgia*, under the direction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the first visible sign of a long-anticipated state and federal harbor project. The aim is to deepen the channel to a uniform forty-seven feet so

massive cargo ships can reach Savannah's port from the Atlantic Ocean without relying on the tide.

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2, brought in after six months of archaeological dives by Army Corps contractors, has been in the water since the end of June and should wrap up its work in about three weeks. The divers in March returned from a six-month combat support deployment that was based in Bahrain. Divers performed ship husbandry and conducted salvage and harbor clearance operations. Its previous salvage operations include the space shuttles Challenger and Columbia, the Minneapolis bridge collapse, USS *Cole*, Swissair Flight 111 and TWA Flight 800.

Work can be dangerous: Two members of Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2 died in February 2013 while training at a pond in Maryland. Divers are trained to learn the effects of pressure, especially in deeper depths, and have equipment topside to deal with any emergencies, such as arterial gas embolism. At its home in Virginia, the unit trained extensively for the CSS *Georgia* project.

Working with an explosive ordnance disposal, or EOD, team from the Navy's Kings Bay base near St. Marys, Georgia, Navy divers were tasked with salvaging the ship's four remaining cannons, artillery rounds, the propeller, engine and other components and the casemate, which is the sloped, armor-coated structure that housed the CSS *Georgia*'s guns. The cannons, which include a massive 9-inch Dahlgren and two Brooke rifles, were lifted last month and are undergoing conservation at Texas A&M University. Dive teams often use scuba gear, meaning they have fins, air tanks and can move pretty nimbly around vessels that are being maintained or salvaged. That's impossible here, given the heavy current and little to no visibility.

"Everyone was excited to see the cannons," said Senior Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician Richard Bledsoe of Kings Bay's EOD Mobile Unit 6. "Everyone was stoked to be a part of something that's been stuck in the water for 150 years. One day, they will be at a museum they can take their families to see and tell them the story they were part of." The team took advantage of the USBL, an underwater acoustic positioning system that has helped divers find items.

EOD divers have retrieved more than 130 artillery shells and explosive bolts. The length of time the guns and shells have been in the water has increased the likelihood that water penetrated fuses and saturated black gunpowder. Still, the EOD and salvage divers treated the cannons as if they might have a round jammed into the barrel to prevent future use and injure those who tried to fire the gun. Archaeologists are not yet certain whether that occurred.

Physical training comes in handy when it comes to lifting artillery projectiles that weigh between sixty-five and ninety pounds. Divers found about sixty rounds for the Dahlgren gun, but they were considered less potentially hazardous because a flame is required to light the fuse. The Brooke rounds, shaped like a bullet, were more problematic because they are "impact sensitive." In other words: Don't drop them. "They knew to carry them in a nose-up attitude," said Bledsoe.

Every sunken vessel has a story, and that of the *CSS Georgia* includes some mysteries. Researchers have no blueprints or proven photos of the Confederate ironclad, and they aren't sure how it was put together or even its size. The ironclad was underpowered and not able to engage in maneuvers against enemy warships. So, it became part of the city's formidable defenses, which included obstructions and torpedoes, or floating mines. The *CSS Georgia*, in essence, was a stationary, floating gun battery, with as many as ten large guns. It never, however, had an opportunity to fire in anger. It was sunk by its own crew so it would not fall into the hands of Union troops that would soon take Savannah. There was no loss of life. "There are no Confederate ghosts with us," quipped Lt. Liza Dougherty, public affairs officer for Virginia-based Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group Two. Dougherty's duties have included posting real-time social media updates on the project.

Jim Jobling, a project manager with Texas A&M University's Conservation Research Laboratory, said the absence of fastener bolts and other components in some artifacts is evidence of salvaging. Officials do know that a businessman, shortly after the Civil War, contracted with the U.S. government to salvage the wreck as part of an effort to clear the shipping channel. Records indicate that the businessman, apparently in a dispute with the government over his work and payment, may have dumped portions of the wreck back into the river.

Gordon Watts, a longtime diver and owner of Tidewater Atlantic Research, said experts are hampered because so much of the *CSS Georgia* was taken in previous salvage operations. Watts is assisting the Army Corps of Engineers on the archaeological side of the operation and sits next to the Navy communications operator on the barge, helping provide direction and feedback to divers. Watts co-wrote an archaeological evaluation that provides the framework used by all the gee-whiz technology on the barge. Technicians use a map that shows where parts of the *CSS Georgia* are believed to rest. More than 1,500 artifacts were retrieved by contract divers before the Navy team began lifting the heavier items.

The barge features air-conditioned pods, where contractors and Navy personnel constantly monitor the sonar, GPS and other equipment. The sonar system provides a 3-D, real-time image of what the divers are doing. Moving dots on some computer screens show the location of the divers and the I-beam used to lift some items. One of the divers carries a tracking beacon, and crew members can follow the divers with an image of the plume made by their bubbles.

Divers are entirely dependent on the directions sent from the barge. "Face your umbilical and back up to your left," may be one command. "We tell them, 'You are almost on it,'" said Watts. Watts, who first dived the *CSS Georgia* in the 1980s, said this is the first time all the available technology and electronic mapping have been combined in such a way. Watts, 70, with experience at the *USS Monitor* and the *CSS Alabama* wreck sites, said the *CSS Georgia* had inadequate power, a limited hull design and a top-heavy casemate made of 24-foot long pieces of railroad iron, rather than preferred rolled plate. "That

produced a much higher and heavier casemate," said Watts. The local builders and Confederate navy wanted to get the vessel into the water as quickly as possible and cutting the railroad iron would have been time-consuming.

Jobling said they are confident there is enough casemate left to show a sloped side, corner and gun port for museum display. It takes time and patience to find all the pieces that remain.

Archaeologists and the Navy were surprised so much timber remained with the iron rails making up the casemate. They tried a couple of approaches before fashioning a device resembling a guillotine to cut through the armor and wood. Sections weighing about 10,000 pounds are then lifted to the surface.



A gun tube raised from *CSS Georgia* wreck site

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## Report of Summer DEC Meeting

Allen Harrison, Division Commander

The DEC meeting convened shortly after 11:00 a.m. in Henryetta at the Cowboy Corner Restaurant. Chaplain Robert Carroll gave the opening prayer/blessing of the food before we commenced lunch. After lunch, Jerry Patrick led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag. Rex Cash led the Salute to the Confederate Flag, and Ron Burton read the "Charge". Adjutant Jim Orebaugh called the Roll of Camps and determined a quorum was present. He also read the minutes which were approved with no objection. Adjutant Orebaugh gave the financial report.

Commander Harrison led a discussion on division dues. After much discussion the return to \$5.00 per member dues (taxes) was approved. Commander Harrison encouraged camp commanders to collect the taxes as soon as possible before the May 7, 2016, Division Convention to avoid the flurry of last minute tax payments which puts a burden on the Adjutant and delays the election results.

Commander Harrison proposed the purchase of a public address system with lectern for use at conventions, DEC meetings and other events sponsored by the Oklahoma Division and its camps. The DEC authorized him to search various retail

stores for prices and specifications and report back to the DEC membership in the near future. A \$500 limit was set for the acquisition.

Judge Advocate Catron proposed purchasing stickers with the Battle Flag inscribed with "Resist Tyranny". The cost for each sticker is 33 cents (\$330/thousand). This was followed by a lively discussion on the pros and cons of the project. The DEC approved the sticker purchase with a recommendation to add verbiage to clarify the tyranny we are addressing.

Adjutant Orebaugh gave a brief, spirited talk on the need to educate our membership on the truth of the War Between the States. Membership was encouraged to educate their children, grandchildren and other parties about the cause of the war and how President Lincoln and his armies prosecuted the war on the South, including civilians. His remarks sparked several positive comments from men who were in agreement.

Chief of Heritage Operations Bryce Hill reported on the Supreme Court denial of the Texas SCV for a battle flag license plate. This ruling stopped our pursuit of an SCV plate in Oklahoma, at least for the time being. Compatriot Hill also discussed introducing a "Monument Protection" bill in next year's Oklahoma legislative session. The proposed bill would protect all memorials dedicated to veterans of all wars from the Revolution to the most recent wars. Tennessee has such a law. Compatriot Hill will use the Tennessee law as a template. The DEC membership was in full agreement.

Ken Cook, along with Bryce Hill and John Priddy, constituted a committee to review the Division Constitution and make any recommendations for revision. Committee Chairman Cook presented the committee's report to the membership present. After several minutes of discussion, the report was presented to Commander Harrison who thanked the committee for their diligent work. Commander Harrison, pursuant to Article VI, Sec. 5, referred the proposed revision of the division constitution to Judge Advocate Catron for his interpretation. The revision will be voted on at convention May 7, 2016.

Commander Harrison presented the National SCV awards to those recipients present at the meeting. The meeting closed with a rousing rendition of Dixie and the benediction by Chaplain Carroll.

The election of Division Commander, Lt. Commander and four Brigade Commanders will take place at the convention in Shawnee on May 7, 2016.

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## Chaplain's Message

Robert Carroll, Division Chaplain

### Why Our Monuments and Memorials Are So Important

Today we find ourselves in the midst of cultural extermination of an entire segment of society. Since the tragic shooting in Charleston, South Carolina there has been an almost rabid

lust to destroy or remove everything related to the Confederacy. It has gotten to the point that the city of Memphis is trying to dig up and relocate Gen. Forrest's and his wife's bones from their (final) resting place. The media and politicians have cheered on these ungodly attacks. They have removed flags, defaced statues, and desecrated soldiers' graves by knocking over and breaking headstones and dumping paint on them. There are even some politicians in the North calling for the extermination of the Southern people. This kind of behavior is shocking to the majority of Americans.

This is genocide, pure and simple. Just why are these statues, and monuments so very important? According to Bishop Richard Wilmer in his book, *The Recent Past: From a Southern Standpoint*, written in 1887, the importance "is to keep sacred in the memory of the rising generation the traditions of their fathers." The statues and monuments to the brave soldiers of the Confederacy help us remember the real reasons for the War for Southern Independence and the sacrifices made by both the Confederate soldiers and the Southern people. Not everyone in the North was effected by the war, but everyone in the South whether rich or poor, slave or free, was devastated. There was nothing left, no food, no crops, no livestock. Whole cities were burned. One of Bishop Wilmer's greatest fears was that as the generations passed, they would forget the sacrifices, hardships, honor and courage of the Southern people, and the Cause for which they fought. That fear has come true. Today, the only thing taught in public schools, colleges and universities concerning the "Civil War" is that it was fought solely over slavery. That is why they are so driven about removing everything. They don't want the truth to come out.

*"That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in the time to come, saying, 'what mean ye by these stones?' Then ye shall answer them ... and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children ... forever ... . And he spake unto the children ... saying, when your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What mean these stones?' then ye shall let your children know ... . That all the people of earth might know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty: that ye might fear the Lord your God forever."* Joshua 4:6, 7, 21, 22, 24

Some may say they are just statues of a lost cause that have no place in public today, but they are in fact sacred memorials of a people and their struggle to survive. If our enemies are successful and the flags, statues and monuments are taken away, what will be left to speak of to the generations to come? We cannot sit back, we cannot falter, and we cannot lose this time. It's time for us to take a stand.

Chaplain Carroll has a new telephone phone number – 580-564-5266. He stands ready to help anyone in need of a chaplain.





## Confederate flag rally at the Oklahoma state capitol, August 29

(Contributed by Eric McBroom)



*The Southern Advocate* is the voice of the Oklahoma Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a non-profit organization of patriotic, historical, sectional and genealogical orientation, as a service to its Compatriots and their friends. Opinions reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the Division, SCV or their policies. Contents may be reproduced only when in the best interest of the SCV. Comments and articles to the newsletter are solicited. Please direct articles, photos, comments, suggestions, etc. to the Editor at [khcook@cox.net](mailto:khcook@cox.net).