



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)

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Winter Quarter

January – March 2016

Oklahoma Division Convention – May 7

Commander's Comments

Allen Harrison, Division Commander

The last several months have been difficult for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Sinister forces have been at work for years attempting to erase the true history of the War Between the States. These last months have been the most intense months for the SCV following the Charleston, SC murders and lowering the Battle Flag over the confederate monument at the State capitol.

If we are to survive as an organization pledged to uphold the "Charge" given by Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, we must attempt to educate the public as well as our families on the truth of the South's failed goal of independence from a tyrannical central government.

The Oklahoma Division took a positive step this month in joining with the National Battle Flag Rally put forth by Commander-in-Chief Kelly Barrow. Division Flag Rally Coordinator, Rex Cash, along with many volunteers executed a two-hour event that was educational and entertaining. The media, from what I saw and read, were very truthful in their reporting. Good reporting on our events enhances the SCV's image. So, anytime a camp, brigade or our division has an event you must invite the local media to get the maximum exposure.

Our division elections are approaching fast. We have an outstanding group of candidates standing for office, and we should participate in the voting process. The ballots have been distributed to the camp adjutants, who in turn must distribute them to the camp membership. Time is of the essence in returning your individual ballot to your camp adjutant. They must be returned at least 30 days (April 7) before the convention. The camp adjutants then tally the camp votes and immediately pass the results on to the division adjutant.

Our convention will have as featured speaker our International Commander in Chief, Charles Kelly Barrow. Paul Gramling, Councilman for the Army of the Trans-Mississippi, will also attend. Please make a special effort to attend and support your division.

The Oklahoma Division, SCV Convention and Reunion will be Saturday, May 7, 2016, in Reunion Hall South on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Campus, located at 1702 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK.

Coffee and donuts will be available at 9:00. Brigades will meet at 9:30. The Convention will begin at 9:45.

Our special guest will be National SCV Commander, Kelly Barrow. Every Oklahoma member should make a special effort to attend the Convention and meet Commander Barrow.

Let's give the National Commander something positive to remember about the Oklahoma Division. Let him leave us praising our energy, steadfastness and total commitment to our Cause.

SCV National Reunion

The 4th Brigade of the Texas Division will host the 2016 Reunion of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, July 13-16, at the Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel, located at 900 East Lookout Drive, Richardson, TX. The hotel has placed itself solely at the disposal of the members and guests of this reunion and will be off limits to all others.

The Reunion is within easy driving distance, which will hopefully enable many Oklahoma Division compatriots to attend. For more information, go to the official Reunion website at <http://scv2016.org>.

Dues Proration Period

We are now in the period of the national SCV's fiscal year when a member can be enrolled for a prorated membership fee for the remainder of the 2015-2016 year. Proration is based on the new member paying membership through July 2017. For example, a half-year's prorated fee of \$15, plus the full \$30 fee for the 2015-16 year will pay a new member through July 2017. That's a savings of \$15. This can be an important recruiting tool, and it will commit a new member through July 2017.

Rose Hill Memorial Bricks Available

If you haven't purchased a memorial brick to place at the Division's Confederate Monument at Rose Hill Cemetery – Ardmore, you can still do so. Honor your Confederate soldier ancestor with an investment of just \$100. Net proceeds, after the purchase of the brick and engraving, go to the Division's Project Fund. For more information, contact Compatriot Terry Pierce at terrypierce41@yahoo.com.

This reminder is important for compatriots who have joined the SCV since the monument was erected, as they may not be aware of it. Camp commanders, please make your newer members aware of this opportunity to memorialize their Confederate ancestors.

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Oklahoma Division Website

National SCV Website

SCV Heritage Defense Website

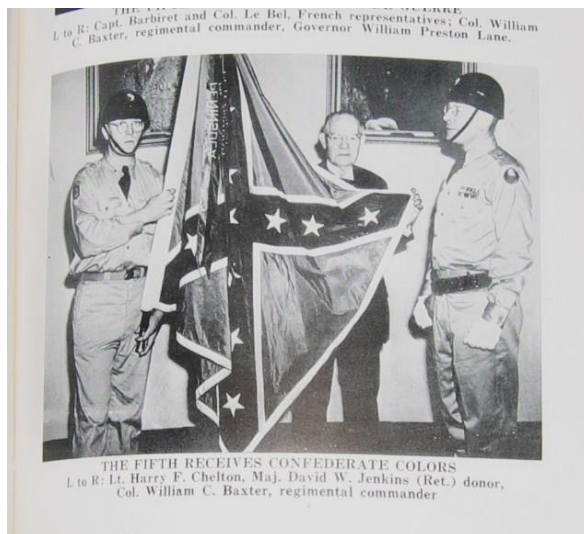
OK Division Chief of Heritage
Operations

SCV National HQ mailing address: PO Box 59, Columbia, TN
38405-0059

Oklahoma Division Website

Please regularly visit the Oklahoma Division website for updates and other contact information on division officers, brigade commanders, camp officers, camps, camp meetings and much more. For membership information, click on the "How to Join" tab on the Home Page. Prospective members may contact Bob Woodall, Jr. at boba2j@aol.com or 918-704-

8782. Also, remember the Division Facebook page, and visit it regularly.



175th Infantry Regiment "5th Maryland", Maryland National Guard receives Confederate colors at the 5th Regiment Armory, Baltimore, 1953. Can anyone imagine such a thing today? The 175th Infantry is descended from, among other regiments, the 1st Maryland Infantry (CSA). See January-March 2015 issue of the *Southern Advocate* for a history of the lineage of the 175th.



(Contributed by Charlie Wilson)

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|------------|------------------------------------------|
| May 7 | – Oklahoma Division Convention – Shawnee |
| May 30 | – National Memorial Day |
| June 14 | – National Flag Day |
| July 4 | – Independence Day |
| July 13-16 | – SCV National Reunion – Richardson, TX |

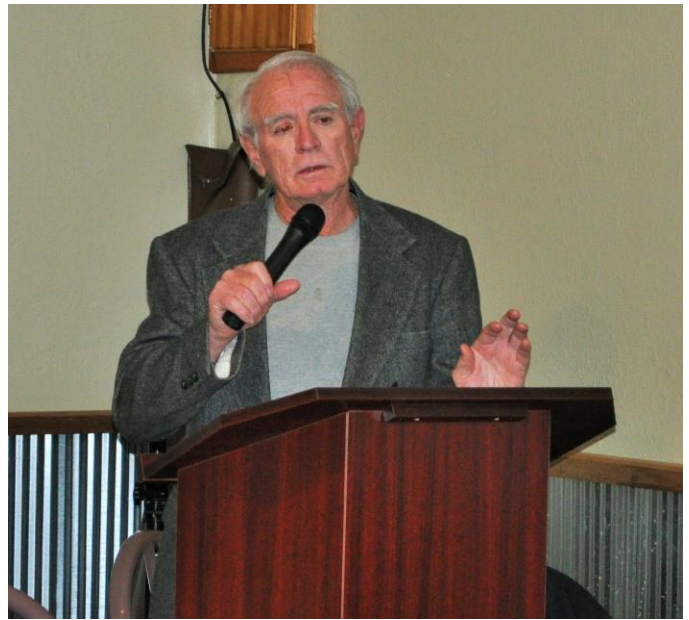
Winter DEC Meeting

The Oklahoma Division's winter DEC meeting was held at the Cowboy Corner Restaurant in Henryetta on Saturday, February 6. We had about an average turnout of DEC members, but with a sufficient number for a quorum. Several compatriot non-members of the DEC were also in attendance. After opening ceremonies – invocation, pledge of allegiance to the American flag, salute to the Confederate flag and reading of the Charge – members got down to the business of the meeting.

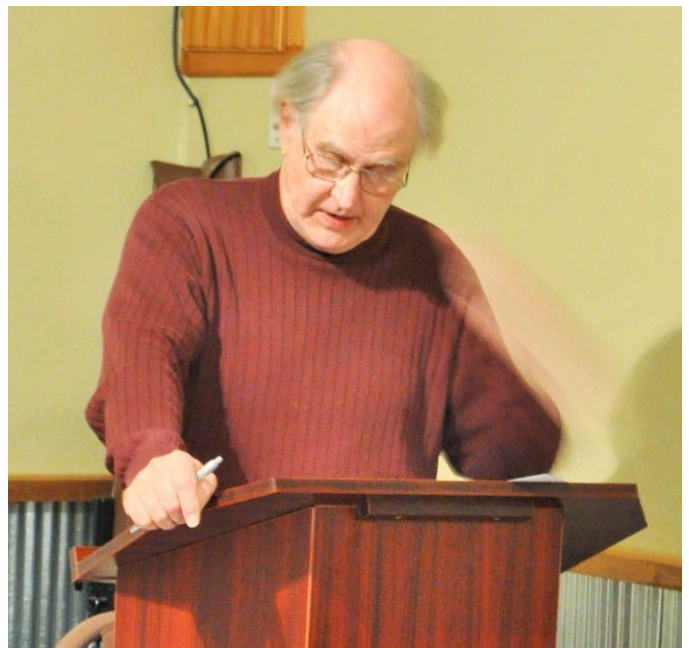
Camp McIntosh Commander, Bruce Bishop, informed the meeting of the Civil War Preservation Trust's current fund-raising efforts to raise \$268,000 to acquire 1,180 acres next to ten battlefields across the South. Among the battlefields on the list are Honey Springs in Oklahoma and Prairie Grove and Elkins Ferry in Arkansas. Judge Advocate James Catron presented his proposal for a new Division constitution. Several attendees asked questions about it. Compatriot Ken Cook and Past-Division Commander, Larry Logan, presented detailed presentations in opposition to the proposed constitution. Chief of Heritage Operations, Bryce Hill, updated the attendees on the progress of the proposed monument protection legislation before the Oklahoma legislature. The Chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee is sponsoring the proposed legislation, S-990. (Since then, it has been passed out of the Senate committee.) Past-Commander Logan updated the attendees on the status of the Confederate Flag Day Rally to be held at the state capitol on March 5, including actions being taken to get maximum news media coverage. Compatriot Ken Cook presented the 2016 Strategic Plan, which the DEC unanimously approved. Commander Harrison announced that he is donating the recently purchased sound system and lectern to the Division. Chaplain Robert Carroll gave the benediction, and the meeting adjourned at 3:00. Altogether, it was a productive meeting.



Commander Allen Harrison addressing the DEC meeting (Photo by Editor)



Judge Advocate James Catron presenting his proposed Constitution. (Photo by Carl Fallen)



Compatriot Ken Cook speaking in opposition to the proposed constitution. (Photo by Carl Fallen)



SCV Telegraph

Compatriots of the SCV,

One hundred and twenty years ago, our Confederate Veteran ancestors were faced with the realization that the true history of the South and the cause for which they fought and died would be falsely portrayed. They knew there would come a time when someone they could trust, would take a stand against the eradication of all things Confederate. Their sons and grandsons were the men the Confederate Veterans put their trust in – that's US and that time is NOW! Our current state of affairs is the exact reason the SCV was established. We must stand together and make our ancestors proud!

Never before, during the history of our organization, is it more imperative for the Sons, and ALL Southerners, to uphold the Charge given to us by Gen. Stephen D. Lee. Now, more than ever, the SCV needs strong and decisive leadership to guide us through these perilous times. At our National Reunion in Dallas, Texas this July, I will be standing for the position of Lt. Commander-In-Chief.

Within the past year, men have applied for SCV membership like we've never seen. Although we have Confederate descendants "knocking down our door" to join, there are present members walking out that same door. One of my foremost goals is to work with Camps, Brigades, and Divisions to increase our retention percentage. There are numerous Southern supporters that would give anything to qualify for membership in the SCV. We must instill in our members, who are thinking about walking out that door in which they joined, that they have done the work and are fortunate to have the blood of Confederates running through their veins. Now, more than ever, the South needs all of her sons.

As Lt. Commander-In-Chief, I WILL stand with you, just as I have in the past, to insure the defeat of those intent on the eradication of everything we hold dear.

Your support is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me by phone: 318-294-1563, email: paul1863@cs.com, visit my Face Book page or you can visit my website: gramling-scv.net. In The Bonds of the South Fighting Phase 2 of Reconstruction.

Paul Gramling, Jr.

Editor: Paul Gramling, Jr. is currently Northwestern Brigade Commander, Louisiana Division, SCV.



SCV Telegraph

Compatriots,

Let me begin by saying that serving as your Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief for the last 18 months has been one of the most gratifying experiences of my SCV career. We have really enjoyed having the opportunity to travel around the Confederation and speak at many events and meetings. The last few months of attacks have made me and many others realize that this isn't our grandfathers Sons of Confederate Veterans any longer. The "pc" instilled mindset has infected many in academia, the media and the general public and we must become more "proactive" in the future to meet the attacks on our Heritage. We cannot and will not sit idly by while there are people out there that want to take our history away from us on an almost daily basis.

This being said, I would like to ask you for your support in July in Dallas, Texas as I am officially announcing my candidacy for Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Please follow me on my Lt Commander in Chief Facebook page and I will be updating my travel schedule. I also look forward to seeing many of you over the next few months and we are looking forward to seeing y'all in Dallas, Texas. If you have any questions please feel free to message me, email me or drop me a line on the phone.

Thomas V. Strain Jr
Lt. Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans
ltcic@scv.org
[Facebook Page](#)



Confederacy's First National Flag flies over North Carolina Capitol in honor of Confederate Flag Day – March 5

Washington Artillery of New Orleans

Ken Cook, Division Historian

In 1726, a lieutenant of the French army named Etienne de Perier de Cenier was appointed governor of the colony of Louisiana. During his tenure, which lasted into 1733, Perier organized the *Compagnie de Milice de la Louisiane* (Louisiana Militia Company). France ceded Louisiana to Spain after the close of the Seven Years War in 1763. Seven years later, the Spanish governor incorporated the old French militia into his militia. The battalion included a company of artillery called *Compania Artilleria* (Artillery Company). The militia underwent several other incarnations until 1803, when Napoleon sold the colony to the United States. During the War of 1812, members of the old company offered their services to the United States and served in Andrew Jackson's army during the Battle of New Orleans as part of the Battalion of New Orleans Volunteer Militia. Sometime between 1814 and 1819, one of the artillery companies changed its name to Washington Artillery. By 1838, the Washington Artillery had been expanded to a battalion, and the name was officially recognized that year. It served under the command of General Zachary Taylor in Mexico.



Members of the Washington Artillery, 1861

The Washington Artillery was mustered into the Confederate Army in May 1861. The first four companies (batteries), under the command of Colonel James B. Walton, immediately went to Virginia and took part in the First Battle of Manassas. From that time on, these four batteries of the Washington Artillery remained with the Army of Northern Virginia throughout all its major campaigns. The battalion especially distinguished itself in the defense of Marye's Heights during the Battle of Fredericksburg and at Chancellorsville. A fifth company (battery) served in the Army of Tennessee. The Washington Artillery was the only unit in Confederate service to serve concurrently in two armies. Units of the Washington Artillery participated in over sixty battles, among them First

and Second Manassas, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, the battles of the 1864 Overland Campaign, Pittsburg Landing (Shiloh), Murfreesboro, Atlanta, Franklin and Nashville.

In 1866, the Washington Artillery reorganized as a Benevolent Association, which exists today as the Washington Artillery Association. It cares for its veterans, and their widows and orphans. The battalion was allowed to reorganize as a militia battalion in 1875 – Louisiana Volunteer Field Artillery. After the Spanish-American War, it served a short period with the occupation army in Cuba. In 1916, it was mobilized to serve on the Mexican border. In 1917, the Washington Artillery was expanded to a regiment and designated the 141st Field Artillery. It was sent to France, but didn't see action during the war, as it was still in training when the Armistice was signed.

During World War II, the Washington Artillery saw action in North Africa, Sicily, Anzio, Naples, Rome, Southern France and the Colmar Pocket, for which it received a Presidential Unit Citation. It served during the first Gulf War and most recently in Iraq. The Washington Artillery's regimental flag carries forty-two battle streamers from the Mexican War to Iraq, with twenty-four from the War of Southern Independence alone. Today, it's one of the premiere field artillery units of the American armed forces, where it serves as the fire support element of the 256th Infantry Brigade.



1st Battalion, 141st Field Artillery "Washington Artillery" Regiment, 256th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Louisiana National Guard



The Washington Artillery on the parade field at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans

Camp News and Activities



Continuing their annual tradition of placing Christmas wreaths on the graves of Confederate veterans, compatriots of **Camp Shelby's Iron Men** of Duncan placed Christmas wreaths on the graves of several Confederate veterans in the Duncan area. One such grave was that of Pvt. James Joseph McKinley, Co. A. 5th Kentucky Mounted Infantry, buried in Rush Springs Cemetery. James McKinley was born in Webster County, KY on August 3, 1837, and died at Rush Springs, OK on July 31, 1913. Shelby's Iron Men placed Christmas wreaths on the graves of several Confederate veterans in the area.



Past-Commander, Ken Cook, **Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh** of Tulsa, administers the oath of office to the Camp's 2016 officers at the camp's January meeting – (l to r) Commander Bruce Bishop, Lt. Commander Mark Keith and Adjutant Robert Woodall, Jr. (Photo courtesy of Carl Fallen)



At the January meeting, **Camp Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** of Moore, Commander Jerry Patrick, presents newest member, J. R. Hopper, with his SCV Membership Certificate. Lt. Commander, Rocky Waddell, is on the right. (Photo contributed by Larry Logan)

Camp Captain James J. McAlester of McAlester, held its monthly meeting at the Western Sizzlin' Restaurant on Saturday, January 16. Following the invocation, salute to the Confederate flag and reading of the "Charge", Commander Couch read the names of five new camp members. This brings the camp membership to fifteen.

Camp elections were held with a unanimous vote for Commander Couch to remain as commander. Two men were nominated for Lt. Commander. One man declined to run and the other, Chaplain Bob Pattison, was unanimously elected Lt. Commander. He will also remain camp Chaplain. Camp Adjutant Allen Harrison was reappointed to that position.

Ms. Nona Wood, a Friend of the SCV and volunteer at the McAlester Genealogy Library, gave the program. Ms. Wood spoke of her Confederate ancestors, one of whom was a badly treated POW. Chaplain Pattison gave the invocation, and the meeting adjourned. (Contributed by Allen Harrison)

Camp Captain Clem Vann Rogers of Oklahoma City held its annual Lee-Jackson-Rogers Dinner on Saturday, January 23. The event was held at Sooner Legends Restaurant in Norman. Almost sixty persons attended. Camp Commander Erik McBroom presented SCV Membership Certificates to two new camp members during the program portion of the event.

The guest speaker was Professor Steven Byas of Hillsdale Free Will Bible College in Moore. Professor Byas spoke on Camp Douglas, a Union POW camp at Chicago.

Congratulations to Commander McBroom and his entire camp for another outstanding Lee-Jackson-Rogers Dinner. (Contributed by Erik McBroom)



L to R: Commander Erik McBroom, J. R. Lister III, J. R. Lister IV, Chaplain Tim Lasyone and Caden Lasyone – J. R. Lister IV, and Caden Lasyone became the camp's youngest and newest members when they received membership certificates Saturday night.



Commander Erik McBroom presenting Compatriot Caden Lasyone, age twelve, with his SCV Membership Certificate. J. R. Lister, IV is behind them.



Professor Steven Byas, of Hillsdale College and author of several titles, gave a great program on Camp Douglas, an infamous Union POW camp. Commander Jerry Patrick of Camp Lt. Colonel Jackson F. McCurtain is facing the camera.



Members of **Camp Captain Benjamin F. Smallwood** of Coalgate stand beside the monument at Captain Smallwood's gravesite, following the planting of the Confederate flag – (l. to r.) Chaplain Billy Weir, Adjutant Alvin W. Johnson, Compatriots Donnie English and Dalton Woods. (Coalgate Record-Register)





Two new members were presented Certificates of Membership at the February meeting of **Camp Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain** of Moore – (l. to r.) Commander Jerry Patrick, new members Edward Granger and L. D. Ferguson, Lt. Commander Rocky Waddell.



Commander Jerry Patrick and Adjutant Larry Logan present Lt. Commander Rocky Waddell with his SCV Life Member Certificate at the February camp meeting. (Photos contributed by Larry Logan)



Commander Charley Wilson (second from right) of Camp Pvt. Drury Warren, and three new camp members, Winston Ernest, Michael Moore and Michael Schatz.

On Saturday, February 27, **Camp Pvt. Drury Warren** of Ponca City held its monthly meeting. The meeting was opened with Chaplain Vernon Lindbloom giving the invocation, followed by the recitation of the Charge and the reading of the first paragraph of the Declaration of Independence by new compatriot, Winston Ernest. Commander Wilson presented SCV Membership Certificates and lapel pins to three new members, shown in the above photograph.

Special guest, Oklahoma Division Commander Allen Harrison, talked about the upcoming Confederate Flag Rally set for March 5th at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Commander Harrison also gave a presentation entitled “Arguing the Case for Southern Secession”, which was well received by all present. There was much discussion in support of our Confederate ancestors and the true history of the South. (Contributed by Charley Wilson)



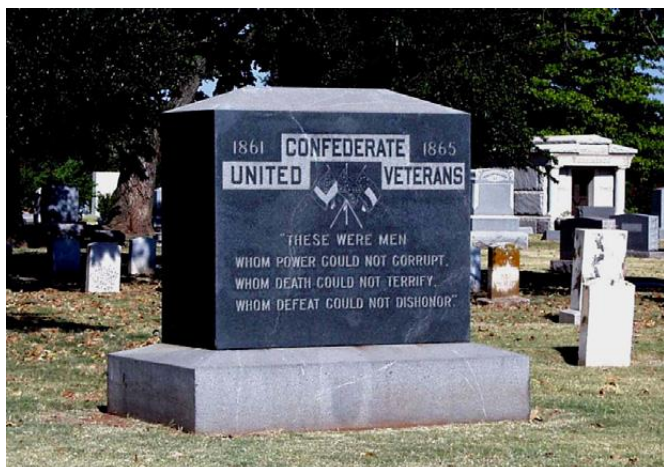
Camp Commander, Charley Wilson



Camp Col. Daniel N. McIntosh of Tulsa, along with the UDC's Sarah Watie Chapter of Tulsa, will hold its annual Confederate Memorial Day service on Saturday, May 21. The Service will be at the site of our Monument to the Confederate Soldiers of Indian Territory in Tulsa's Rose Hill Memorial Park (above photo), 4161 E. Admiral PL. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. and last about an hour. We invite all SCV and UDC members to join us in honoring our Confederate ancestors on their Memorial Day. Please contact Commander Bruce Bishop at [littledixieworks@att.net](mailto:littleedixieworks@att.net), for more information about the service. (Please bring a chair, if you want to sit.)



Camp Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore will hold a Confederate Memorial Day service on Saturday, May 28 at Naples Cemetery in rural Grady County. The camp will dedicate a Cross of Honor for Pvt. John Crain of the 16th North Carolina Infantry. Directions: Go west from the intersection of State Highways 76 and 39 south of Blanchard, then go east from Chickasha. Most are dirt roads when you get off Highway 39. All SCV and UDC members are invited.



Camp Lt. Col. Jackson F. McCurtain of Moore and **Camp Captain Clem Vann Rogers** of Oklahoma City, along with UDC Chapter Robert E. Lee of Oklahoma City will hold a Confederate Memorial Day service at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 25 at the site of the UCV Monument in Fairlawn Cemetery in Oklahoma City. The principal speaker will be Compatriot Noble Stanfield of Camp McCurtain. **Camps Shelby's Iron Men** of Duncan and **Pvt. W. D. Chain** of Cooperton will provide the color guard. All SCV and UDC members are invited.

After the Memorial Day service, participants are invited to a spaghetti supper hosted by Camp McCurtain at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church located at 3730 N. Porter Ave., Norman. The principal speaker at the dinner will be Lt. Col. Jeffrey F. Addicott, US Army (Ret). He teaches at St. Mary's Law School of San Antonio. He is also Director of the Terrorism Institute at St. Mary's. And, he is also member of The Sons of Confederate Veterans. He will speak on "The Cause".

Oklahoma Division Lt. Commander (elect), Rex Cash, will speak on his Confederate ancestor. For additional information on the Fairlawn and the Naples Cemetery services, please contact Camp Adjutant Larry Logan at larry_logan@hotmail.com. (Camp McCurtain Confederate Memorial Day activities contributed by Larry Logan)



Camp Brigadier General Stand Watie, Ardmore/Madill; **Camp Shelby's Iron Men**, Duncan; and **Camp Captain Clem Vann Rogers**, Oklahoma City, will conduct a Confederate Memorial Day Service at the Confederate Section of Rosehill Cemetery (shown above) in Ardmore at 9:30 a.m., May 30.

The public is invited to attend and participate. For more information about the service, please contact Commander James Catron at James.catron.us@member.mensa.org. (Contributed by James Catron)



Heritage News

“Confederate Cleansing” – Lawmaker Vows to Stop “Cultural Terrorism” in Georgia

Sarah Larimer – sashingtonpost.com

A Republican lawmaker who says he’s grown weary of what he calls “Confederate cleansing” is working to preserve the famous carving of Robert E. Lee and other Confederate leaders on Georgia’s Stone Mountain.

“I’m tired of the anti-Confederate rhetoric toward Stone Mountain and any other Confederate monument that’s out there,” state Rep. Tommy Benton told the Morris News Service. “We’re entitled to our heritage just like other people are entitled to theirs, and there seems to be an attempt to do Confederate cleansing.” He continued, “I refer to that more as cultural terrorism than anything. They’re attacking us for no reason at all. We’ve not done anything to provoke them or anything else. They’re very similar to what’s going on in the Middle East with ISIS that’s destroying all those mosques and temples and everything because they don’t agree with that history over there, so they’re just destroying it and doing away with it.”

Benton, a retired history teacher, is sponsoring a resolution that proposes an amendment to Georgia’s constitution, one that would force the state to “maintain an appropriate and suitable memorial for the Confederacy at and on Stone Mountain.”

“In addition, the memorial to the heroes of the Confederate States of America graven upon the face of Stone Mountain shall never be altered, removed, concealed, or obscured in any fashion and shall be preserved and protected for all time as a tribute to the bravery and heroism of the citizens of this state who suffered and died in their cause,” House Resolution 1179 states. What’s more, Benton is also sponsoring a bill that would formally recognize Confederate Memorial Day and Robert E. Lee’s birthday as state holidays.

The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reported that Benton’s bills “are a direct response to Senate Bill 294, which would forbid the state from formally recognizing holidays in honor of the Confederacy or its leaders.” According to the newspaper, Benton described the bill’s sponsor, Senator Vincent Fort, as “a fanatic” and the bill’s intent as “cultural terrorism.”

Confederate symbols and monuments like Stone Mountain, which depicts Lee, Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson and Jefferson Davis, became the subject of intense debate last year, following the slaying of nine black parishioners by a white man at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC.

The Confederate flag on the South Carolina statehouse grounds was removed in July, and officials in New Orleans voted to remove four monuments in the city.

Bill Stephens, chief executive officer for the Stone Mountain Memorial Association, told *The Post* in October that offi-

cials want to add a tribute to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at the site, although that plan still needed to be formally approved.

“I feel very strongly about this,” Benton told the *Journal-Constitution*. “I think it has gone far enough. There is some idea out there that certain parts of history out there don’t matter anymore and that’s a bunch of bunk.”

Senator Kimpson Files Bill to Remove Confederate Flag from Citadel Chapel

Sam Tyson – abcnews4.com

COLUMBIA, S.C. (WCIV) — State Sen. Marlon Kimpson is making a new push to remove the Confederate Flag from Summerall Chapel at The Citadel. The flag is currently protected by the state’s Heritage Act, a law that gives sole power of removing artifacts around the state to state lawmakers. But Kimpson’s bill would grant that authority to board of directors at any public university.

The call for the flag’s removal was renewed late last year when photos of cadets wearing white pillowcases on their heads, an image that many likened to KKK hoods. An ensuing investigation into the incident led to more than a dozen cadets being punished and members of the National Action Network calling for the removal of the Confederate Flag and the school’s president, Lt. General John Rosa.

After conversations about the changes that would be made at The Citadel, National Action Network leaders backed off the calls for Rosa’s job but said they still wanted to see the flag removed from Summerall Chapel. Rosa said after the mass shooting at Emanuel AME Church that he would like to see the flag removed as well, but did not have the authority to remove it. The shooting at Emanuel AME also led to calls for removal of the Confederate Flag on Statehouse grounds, a fight that was successful last July.

Now lawmakers are looking at plans to display that flag in a remodeled Relic Room, but estimates for the changes to the museum are more than \$3.6 million.



Governor Phil Bryant signs an Executive Order proclaiming April Confederate History Month in Mississippi.

Momentum to Remove Confederate Symbols Slows

Alan Blinder, *The New York Times*

MONTGOMERY, AL — After a white supremacist was accused of killing nine black churchgoers in South Carolina last summer, Gov. Robert Bentley of Alabama acted decisively. Within a week, and without public debate, he ordered the removal of four Confederate flags outside the State Capitol here. But that was last year.

Now, not even nine months after the massacre at Charleston's historic Emanuel AME Church, the momentum to force Confederate symbols from official display has often been slowed or stopped. In some states this year, including Alabama, lawmakers have been considering new ways to protect demonstrations of Confederate pride.

"The pendulum has gone the other direction, where it's no longer about trying to take away the emblems," said Dane Waters, a political consultant who worked on a failed effort this year to remove the battle flag from Mississippi's state flag. "It's now about protecting them and insulating them from future efforts, even after another Charleston-type shooting." That attack produced widespread outrage about the battle flag's prominence and helped lead to its removal July 10 from a monument at South Carolina's State House. Plans are to display the flag at the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum in Columbia.

A handful of Mississippi cities refused to fly the state's flag, the only one in the country with the disputed emblem, and the speaker of the State House of Representatives urged a redesign. Confederate symbols were removed from public view. Retailers like Walmart stopped selling battle flag merchandise.

This year, legislators in at least twelve states have considered measures about how the Confederacy should be recognized. In some of those states, lawmakers sought to curb reminders of Confederate history, but there also have been bills, like proposals that advanced in Alabama and Tennessee, to offer new safeguards for controversial monuments and memorials.

"When the governor did what he did, it just punctuated the fact that we can't erase history; we can't whitewash it or push it under the carpet like it never happened," said Sen. Gerald Allen of Alabama, whose bill would prohibit many monuments from being "relocated, removed, altered, renamed or otherwise disturbed" without a legislative committee's approval. Allen, a Republican, said, "It's important that we tell the story of what has happened in this country because that's what shaped and molded us as a nation."

Recognition of the Confederacy is widespread. The Southern Poverty Law Center will conclude in a forthcoming report that there are at least 1,170 publicly funded Confederate symbols nationwide.

Although critics of Confederate symbols were encouraged by their victories last year, people on both sides of the debate said few other significant changes appeared imminent. They said that political pressure in favor of traditional Southern imagery had outlasted the shock associated with the Charleston killings. "I don't think it was a false momentum," said South Carolina Rep. Justin T. Bamberg, D-Bamberg. "You had an awakening of society in 2015, but an awakening in and of itself doesn't mean action."

The actions that did materialize, though, emboldened defenders of Confederate heritage displays. "The rush to get rid of all Southern stuff in a day or a month or a week or whatever it was, it was sobering for a lot of people," said Greg Stewart, the executive director of Beauvoir, Jefferson Davis's last home, and a supporter of keeping the battle emblem on the Mississippi flag. "Our strength right now is the result of their overreach."

Stewart said many Southerners were reluctant to allow state officials to decide how to commemorate the region's history. "We knew in Mississippi that the trick always is to keep the decision in the hands of the public," said Stewart, whose state voted overwhelmingly in 2001 to leave the battle emblem on the state flag.

This year, Mississippi lawmakers did not pass any of the dozen bills that could have led to a changed flag. The debate recently entered the courts when a Mississippi lawyer argued in a lawsuit against Gov. Phil Bryant that the flag "is tantamount to hateful government speech" and "encourages or incites private citizens to commit acts of racial violence." Bryant has called for another referendum on the flag. In an email, a spokesman described the lawsuit as a "frivolous attempt to use the federal court system to usurp the will of the people."

Although courts have sometimes intervened in matters about the Confederate flag, clashes about Southern heritage are mostly expected to play out in the legislatures and in local government meetings. Much of the pressure is on governors and legislative leaders, who have sometimes balked at scheduling hearings or votes on bills relating to the Confederacy. Not all the results favor Confederate symbols.

Last week, Gov. Terry McAuliffe of Virginia vetoed a bill that would have made it illegal for local officials "to disturb or interfere" with military memorials. On the same day, Gov. Rick Scott of Florida approved a plan to begin the long process of replacing a statue of a Confederate general that the state had added to the United States Capitol's art collection. But, there is sharp division in Louisiana, where New Orleans officials decided to remove four Confederate monuments and spurred an uproar that led to legal challenges and a bill in the Legislature. (In Mississippi, one lawmaker cited the Legislature's interest in "material that promotes the historical integrity of Mississippi and its most revered Confederate icons" and filed a resolution urging New Orleans to transfer the statues to Beauvoir.)

What will happen in Alabama is uncertain. Despite bipartisan concerns about Allen's bill seizing local power, the Senate easily approved the proposal. But lawmakers and lobbyists said the measure appeared to be in jeopardy in the House.

Allen often notes that his legislation would offer equally rigid protections for monuments that draw little opposition these days, like one of Jesse Owens, the revered Olympian from Alabama who was black. But black lawmakers say that argument masks the intentions of the bill, which is similar to one that Tennessee lawmakers passed this month.

Bill Filed to Create State Commission, Prevent Removal of Confederate Monuments

Juan Sanchez, *WDSU.com* (New Orleans)

NEW ORLEANS —While one group continues to fight for the future of four Confederate monuments in New Orleans, a state lawmaker filed a bill on Friday that would block the removal of similar monuments without the permission of a state commission.

Senate Bill 276 would create the Louisiana Heritage Protection Commission. It was filed by Senator Beth Mizell, R-Franklinton, and will be taken up during the regular session beginning March 14. The bill and the proposed commission would create certain protections for Confederate monuments and statues that highlight historic events or figures. It outlines what kinds of commemorative landmarks are protected based on qualifications set forth by the commission, including any war in which citizens of the U.S., state or territory have participated in: "No memorial regarding a historic conflict, historic entity, historic figure, or historic organization that is, or is located on, public property, may be removed, renamed, relocated, altered, rededicated, or otherwise disturbed or altered," the bill states.

If passed, the bill would require local jurisdictions to petition the Louisiana Heritage Protection Commission for a waiver to remove a landmark. Before filing a petition, the local jurisdiction would have to make public its plans on its website and among local and state news organizations. The Louisiana Heritage Protection Commission would be made up of the secretary of the state's Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and appointees by the president of the Senate and the House speaker.

Mizell's bill comes as the Monumental Task Committee continues efforts to stop the removal of the Robert E. Lee monument, at Lee Circle, the Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard statue, at City Park, the Jefferson Davis monument in Mid-City and the Liberty Monument in the CBD. The group has sought to halt the removal by filing appeals in courts after the City Council voted to approve the removal of the monuments in December. The council voted 6-1 in favor of removing the landmarks. But, the group and its efforts have proven unsuccessful as a federal judge and a civil district court judge denied requests for an injunction. Both judges have told the

group the city took the appropriate measures for removing the monuments.

The Monumental Task Committee maintains the monuments and has said the city failed to comply with federal laws protecting the sites, which the judges have struck down. The group is set to appeal the decision to the 4th Circuit. MTC issued a statement in regards to Mizell's bill. The group said it is pleased with the effort to help protect historical monuments. "The MTC has been advocating for over twenty-five years for the protection and preservation of our culture and heritage through maintaining, preserving and restoring the monuments that represent the historical events, figures and organizations which have shaped Louisiana," the group said in its statement.

While the city's Confederate monuments would be protected under the new commission, it may still be too late as the bids for removal are due on April 22, and the commission would meet on or before September 15. There have also been a few roadblocks for the city during the removal process. In January, city officials said that the initial contractor had backed out after its owner received death threats. The owner later found his Lamborghini burned at his business.



Members of the Father A.J. Ryan, Camp #302, of San Diego, present CiC Kelley Barrow with a \$5000 check for the Heritage Defense Fund at the Saturday (March 12) night banquet of the California Division Reunion. (Contributed by Charley Wilson)

Editor – The foregoing articles demonstrate conclusively that we are not standing still in the face of attempts to destroy our Confederate heritage, but are actually gaining some political support and winning some battles. Still, it will be a long war.



Oklahoma Division Confederate Flag Day Rally

The Oklahoma Division, SCV held a Confederate Flag Day Rally at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Saturday, March 5. The Rally was a complete success. The Capitol South Plaza is large and the attendees were spread across the Plaza, making it difficult to estimate the number in attendance. Various estimates range from 150 to near 300 enthusiastic Southern patriots. All Division compatriots extend a profound “thank you” to Commander Rex Cash and his corps of volunteers for the exemplary job they did in organizing and executing this event. Their dedication and hard work made the Rally a huge success. The following is Commander Cash’s opening statement at the Rally:

You’ve seen the news. Political correctness has declared war on everything Confederate. Former allies have caved in to political cowardice. Confederate flags are coming down and statues of Confederate heroes are disappearing across the land. We don’t oppose this hate filled, lie laden, politically motivated attack simply because we don’t like it. We oppose it because it’s wrong in every sense.

First, you can’t change the past. You can’t re-write history. You can’t sanitize or censor it which is exactly what they’re trying to do. It’s intellectually dishonest and unethical to even try. It’s a fool’s errand and those engaged in this crusade of censorship should carefully consider how poorly history remembers those that have tried.

Second, their accusations and talking points dissolve on first contact with the facts, logic and justice. They claim this flag is a symbol of slavery and therefore must come down. Look behind me. Those fourteen flag poles used to fly the many flags throughout history that flew over the land we now call Oklahoma, including the Confederate Battle Flag. All but the two Oklahoma flags have a history of slavery. So, why was the Confederate Battle Flag the only one removed? Why was that the only pole with no flag for fifteen years? They even removed the name plaque but left all the others to this very day. That is what political correctness calls justice, equality and fairness.

They also claim this flag is a symbol of the KKK and therefore must come down. The truth is the heyday of the Klan was not in the 1950s or ‘60s and certainly not today but in the 1920s. In the ‘20s, Klan membership was a 1000 times greater than it is today. According to the Tuskegee Institute, there were twenty-four times more lynchings in just the ‘20s than in the ‘50s and ‘60s combined. By the way, modern historical imbecility tries to portray the Klan as an exclusively southern phenomenon. But according to Dr. James Madison of the University of Indiana, in the ‘20s, eighty-four per cent of Klan membership was in Northern States. In fact, the largest Klan rally in history, 200,000 strong, was held on July 4, 1923, in Kokomo Indiana. Now, I don’t know about you, but I’ve never considered Indiana a Southern State.

THE flag of this larger, meaner Klan of the ‘20s was not the Confederate Flag. It was the U.S. flag. Look up their recruiting literature on the internet. It’s emblazoned with the U.S. flag and Christian Cross. The Confederate flag won’t be seen. Checkout photos of their rallies, like the one in Washington DC in 1925, attended by 60,000 Klansmen. They’re all carrying flags but none of them are Confederate. If the Christian Cross and U.S. flag, both of which have been misappropriated and abused by the Klan to a much greater extent than the Confederate flag, can be absolved for this unwilling association, why then is the Confederate flag subjected to this prejudicial and discriminatory purge?

These uncontested historical perspectives prove beyond any doubt that the attacks on this flag are motivated by something other than an association with the slavery or the Klan. They prove beyond any doubt that the sense of justice and fairness of those behind these attacks is even more shallow than their knowledge of history.

They also claim this is a flag of violence. If you’ve been watching the news, then you know the ones with the Confederate flags are the ones being attacked. Case in point: less than a year ago, Camp McCurtain from Moore, Oklahoma held a march down 23rd Street, right on the other side of the Capitol, to commemorate the end of Civil War hostilities. Along comes one of those zealots of political correctness. At the sight of the marchers and their Confederate flags, she brought her vehicle to a screeching halt right in the middle of 23rd Street, stormed out of her car, eyes filled with hate, screaming profanities in combinations I’ve never heard before and threatened the leader of the march with physical violence. All within just a few hundred feet from where we stand now. Literally in the shadow of the State Capitol. The leader of the march was the legendary H. K. Edgerton, one of the most peaceful, tolerant and loving souls on the planet. That just goes to show how depraved this politically correct inquisition is when it attacks someone like H. K. Edgerton.

You know what H. K.’s response was to having his life threatened? He extended his hand and very kindly said “Come here sister. Take my hand, walk with me and learn something.” That is the charitable spirit and simple message political correctness is trying to silence. Today, that is also our message to those that blindly hate and attack this flag. Join us. Let us show you this proud and key piece of history you’ve been missing. We welcome the opportunity.





Members of the Oklahoma Division at the 2016 Confederate Flag Day Rally



Roger Quarles Mills Brigade Commander and Confederate Flag Day Rally organizer, Rex Cash



Mechanized Cavalry passing in review



UDC and SCV information tables



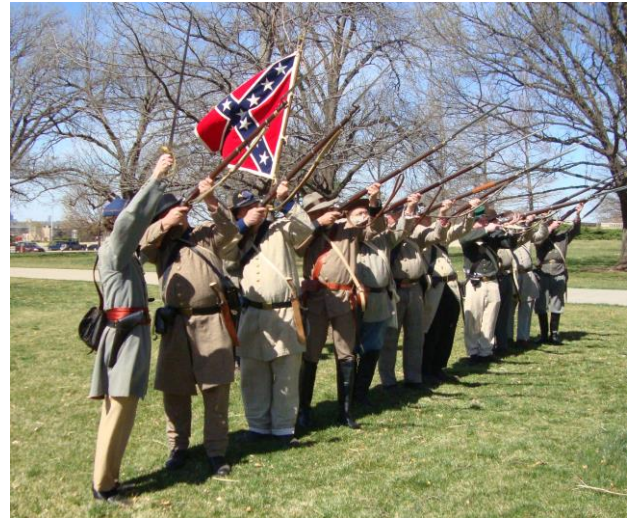
Attendees in the Capitol South Plaza



Color Guard, Shelby's Iron Men of Oklahoma,
posting the colors



ATM Councilman Paul Gramling, Jr. of Louisiana



16th Arkansas Infantry reenactors commanded by
"Captain" Erik McBroom, practicing before the Rally



16th Arkansas Infantry firing a salute – closing the Rally

(The group photo of Oklahoma Division members is by Debbie Logan. The photo of the information tables is by Tim Lasyone. All other photos are by the Editor.)



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