



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 9, Number 4

Fall Quarter

October-December 2019



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



2020 SCV National Reunion

Sons of Confederate Veterans 125th National Reunion will be July 15-18, 2020, at Renaissance Resort at World Golf Village, 500 S. Legacy Park, St. Augustine, Florida. Convention registration is now available online at

<https://scv2020reunion.com/product/2020-sons-of-confederate-veterans-reunion-registration/>.

For hotel reservations, call 800-468-3571 or online at <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1556038813310&key=GRP&app=resvlink>. Please use the group call-in code: SCVSCVA.

St. Augustine is the oldest continuously occupied town in the continental United States. There are a lot of good historical things to see. It will take a full day to see everything if one takes a walking tour.

Confederate

"If you are true Southerners, reach back to your Southern roots for enough fortitude to stand up. Our heritage cannot be saved if they see us as weaklings. During Lincoln's War the South had 104,000 deserters. Think before you join them." – Elijah Coleman – Lee-Jackson Day 2012, Lexington, Virginia



Soldier of Faith by Mort Kuntzler

Calendar of Events

TBA – DEC Winter Meeting – McLoud
April 25 – Oklahoma Division Convention – Shawnee
July 15-18 – SCV National Reunion – St. Augustine, Florida



Commander's Comments

Membership

We have had a great recruiting year, bringing in new members and increasing our membership renewals. Accordingly, we are now back to over 400 members, (402). Many thanks to Commander Charlie Wilson and his efforts for the above. We have also added three new camps: Camp William F Quantrill, Mech-Cav. (Tecumseh), Camp Captain James F. Factor Seminole Riders Mech-Cav. (Marlow) and Camp Men in Gray (Lawton). Additionally, there are three more camps under consideration.

Education

Various presentations have been created and will be documented on the Division website. These may be copied and presented by anyone, or requests may be made to have the original author give the presentation to your camp.

Activities

Lately, we have received requests, many from out of state, for their ancestor(s) who are buried in Oklahoma cemeteries to have a Confederate monument installed. There were so many requests that it seemed appropriate that we, as a Division, look into creating a group for that specific purpose. Accordingly, the Camp Seminole Riders, Mech-Cav., with the help of Camp Pvt. W. D. Chain (Cooperton), Camp Shelby's Oklahoma Iron Men (Duncan), Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain (Moore) and Camp Pvts. Grayson and Brewer (Altus) organized a "walk through" ceremony to learn and practice funeral rituals that were used for veterans after the war. Commander Jerry Patrick of the Lawton camp is, and has been, decorating Confederate graves using personal funds for some time. He consulted with the group named above and asked that they install three markers that he personally furnished at the Francis Cemetery in Humphries, just south of Altus. The group agreed to install the markers and then to practice the rituals. They also invited Rocky Sprot of Camp Sidney Sherman of Stratford, Texas, an expert on ritual and ceremony, to come and instruct the group. Monuments were installed and "walk through" ceremonies, in uniform, were conducted on October 19. It was a very successful afternoon, and the group will continue to train in the various services conducted for Confederate veterans and be available to anyone desiring that service. Many thanks to Rocky Sprot for his time and assistance.

Fighting back

For the last several years, we have been on the receiving end of some of the most vicious attacks, designed to destroy us or at least to change our way of life. As I have mentioned several times, we can start fighting back by first, standing our ground and living our lives as we can, without being bullied by the pc crowd and second, starting to aggressively push back. The McAlister camp has taken a first step in that direction. One of their members has donated land on the Indian Nations Turnpike to raise a battle flag. The Camp is asking for donations to complete the project. The amount required for the pole, flag and installation is roughly \$14,000. The Camp has also asked that I, as Division Commander, open a bank account to receive donated funds. This was done as an adjunct to the Division bank account and is now available for donations. I ask that if you can donate, please put Division activities first on your list. Please send to SCV Flag and Monument Fund, PO BOX 30022, Edmond, OK 73003.

Changing of the Guard

Past Commander Cook has informed me that this will be the last issue of the Division newsletter that he will edit and produce. In his words, he states "I have been producing the Division newsletter for eight years. It has come time for me to pass the baton to someone else". It will be difficult to find a replacement who has Commander Cook's knowledge of history and dedication, capable of producing the high-quality document that our newsletter has become. He will certainly be missed in this position; however, he remains totally committed to the Division and willing to lend his knowledge and experience to us all. Anyone willing to step in and try to fill Commander Cook's shoes as editor of the newsletter please contact me at dovecote@cox.net.

All in all, it has been a very good year, and I look forward to the possibilities that the new year brings.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
And in the words of Tiny Tim,
"God Bless Us Every One"

Jim Orebaugh, Commander
Oklahoma Division, SCV

Camp Activities and Events

At the September meeting of **Camp Captain James J. McAlester** (McAlester), compatriots got a chance to shop for Confederate merchandise that was purchased from Alvin Johnson of the Coalgate Camp. Proceeds from the merchandise, along with Compatriot Skelton's collection of framed Confederate regimental flag photos, will be donated toward the giant flag pole fund. Shawnee Camp Commander Allen Harrison gave a presentation about the sadistic Yankee atrocities that were commonplace as they marched into the Southland.

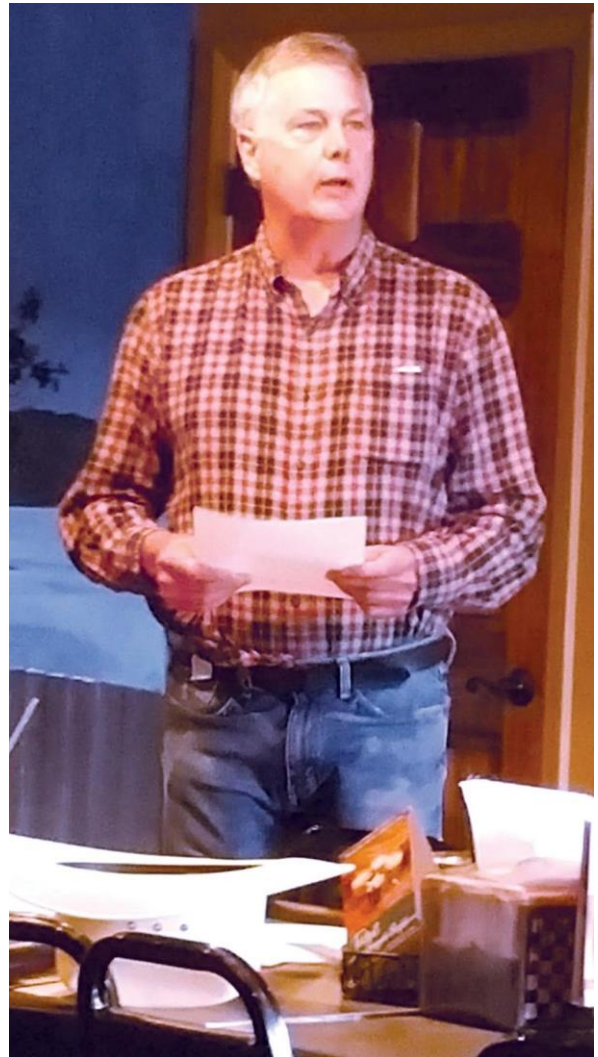
At the October meeting of **Camp Captain James J. McAlester**, a report was given on Camp's SCV Recruiting and Education Station at the October 5 gun show at the SE Expo Building in McAlester. By the end of the day, fourteen men were interested in the SCV and wrote down as much as they knew about their family lineage.



Recruiting and Education Station is pictured during a lull at the October 5 gun show in McAlester. The table was staffed by Camp members David Nix (seated), Bret Hinds, Bob Pattison, and Steve Ward. (Photo by Steve Ward)



Another reason why southeast Oklahoma is called Little Dixie at the October 5 gun show



Past Oklahoma Division Commander, Rex Cash of the Oklahoma City Camp gave a presentation on the true history of the Pledge of Allegiance at the October meeting. Compatriot Cash was also recognized for his "That Is What This Flag Stands For!" article that was published in the Sept.-Oct. 2019 Confederate Veteran magazine. (Photo by Steve Ward)



After the meeting, Camp members gathered for a photo after spending time picking up litter from the area that was once used as picnic grounds for the McAlester UCV Jeff-Lee Camp No. 68. (Photo by Kathy Ward)

Compatriots from the camps mentioned in Commander Orebaugh's Comments gathered at Francis Cemetery at Humphries in Jackson County on October 19 to install markers on the graves of three Confederate soldiers.



At the October meeting of **Camp Col. Tandy Walker** (Shawnee), Lt. Commander Ron Gwynn presented new member John F. Conley with his SCV Certificate of Membership. Commander Allen Harrison gave an update on the "Cross of Honor" donation. He also gave the program from chapter 14 of Understanding the WBTS, "Uncle Tom's Cabin, the Anti-Slavery Movement in the Northern States and the Necessity of Understanding the Divergent Passions for Exclusionism, Deportationism, and Abolitionism", by Howard Ray White.



Lt. Commander Gwynn presenting John Conley with his SCV Certificate of Membership through his ancestor, 1LT Robert Conley, Thomas's Legion (North Carolina).

At the November meeting of **Camp Captain James J. McAlester**, Lt. Commander Patrick Self chaired the meeting in the absence of Commander Bently Couch, who was ill. The highlight of the meeting was the announcement of new SCV member John Wade, thanks to the recruiting skills of relative Andrea Skelton, wife of Compatriot James Skelton. Although Mr. Wade lives too far to attend our Camp meetings, he will be a valued member of our Camp.



Lt. Commander Self (right) presents John Wade's SCV Membership Certificate to James and Andrea Skelton who accepted it on his behalf.
(Photo by Steve Ward)



After the general business meeting and dinner, members of the Camp traveled to McAlester's Oak Hill Cemetery for the placing of Confederate memorial wreaths. Several members continued on to the North Town (Old Town) Cemetery where new wreaths were placed on twelve Confederate graves. This was the first year this cemetery has been adorned with Confederate wreaths.



Camp Col. Jackson F. McCurtain held its annual Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year get together on Veterans Day at Johnnie's Hamburgers in Moore. Ed Granger and Jimmy Carter presented Commander Rocky Waddell a flask with the Confederate Battle Flag on it in recognition of his four years of service to the camp. The camp elected officers for the next two years



Left to right: Ed Granger, Rocky Waddell and Jimmy Carter

The December meeting of **Camp Pvt. Drury Warren** (Ponca City) was held at Blaze's BBQ in Enid. Three new members were welcomed to the Camp: Billy Ray Burt of Marland, John Estill of Enid and Ashley Jackson of Arkansas City, Kansas. Billy is a transfer from the Chalmers Camp in Memphis, Tennessee. John and Ashley are new SCV members.



Left to Right: Billy Ray Burt, John Estill, Ashley Jackson

26th Annual

Lee-Jackson Dinner and auction

Hosted by
Camp Captain Clem Van Rogers
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Saturday January 25, 2020
New Hope Baptist Church
37496 New Hope Rd.
Tecumseh, Oklahoma 74873

Registration 6:00-6:30

Guest speaker – John Bryan
Heritage Operations Chair, Arkansas Division
Past Commander and Adjutant of
Camp Colonel Allen R. Witt, Conway, AR
Member – Confederate Legion

Program:
Unsung Warrior: Col. Allen Rufus Witt

RSVP to terrypierce41@yahoo.com

\$25.00 per.

Make checks payable to “Camp 481”

Bring to camp meeting, or mail to

Terry Pierce

P O Box 82366

Oklahoma City, OK 73148

We need quality auction items, books, art,
food items, etc.



Members of **Indian Nations/Red River Brigade** placed Christmas wreathes on Confederate graves in Sterling Cemetery (Comanche County) on December 7.



Because of the Christmas Holiday, **Camp Col. Tandy Walker** held its December meeting a week earlier than their regular schedule. Chaplain Warren Boles gave the invocation followed by Adjutant Haught giving the Salute to the St Andrews Cross Battle Flag and reading the "Charge". Commander Harrison gave the customary reading from "When the Yankees Come" from the *Slave Narratives* by Paul C. Graham. Camp members discussed the placement of Confederate Christmas Wreaths at Fairview Cemetery in Shawnee. The wreaths were subsequently placed by Commander Harrison and Lt. Commander Gwynn. Volunteers were recruited for December 21-22 gun show. Commander Harrison also presented Chapter 16 of *Understanding the WBTS*, "The Rise of Political Sectionalism in the Northern States". Camp Music Director, Don Clark, led the membership in "Dixie" and Chaplain Warren Boles gave the benediction.



Chaplain Bowles wearing his new Confederate vest, which he purchased at a Springfield, Missouri, Confederate shop.

judge's ruling striking down the law and ordered the judge to fine the city \$25,000.

The Jefferson County Circuit Court judge had decided in January that the Alabama law outlawing relocating, removing, changing or renaming buildings, streets and memorials that have been standing for more than forty years violated free speech rights.

A spokesman for the city said in a statement that they are "strongly disappointed" with the decision and are discussing next steps. This ruling appears to be less about the rule of law and more about politics," Rick Journey, Director of Communications in Birmingham's office of public information said in a statement obtained by *The Hill*.

Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall, who had called for the repeal of the circuit judge's decision, said the state supreme court made the "correct conclusion."

"The Supreme Court's ruling is a victory for the Alabama law which seeks to protect historical monuments," Marshall said in a statement. "The City of Birmingham acted unlawfully when it erected barriers to obstruct the view of the 114-year-old Confederate Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Linn Park."



Confederate Soldiers and Sailors Monument

Heritage News

Alabama Supreme Court Upholds Law Protecting Confederate Monuments

thehill.com

The Alabama Supreme Court upheld a state law protecting Confederate monuments on Wednesday (November 27), ordering the city of Birmingham to remove panels it had placed in front of one.

The all-Republican court ruled in favor of the state, which had sued the majority-black city for placing plywood panels that blocked the inscriptions on a 52-foot tall obelisk for Confederate veterans, ABC News reported. The justices reversed a circuit



Removed Statues of Forrest, Davis Given to Confederate Group

Adrian Sainz — Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A Tennessee nonprofit group has handed over statues of Confederate leaders Nathan Bedford Forrest and Jefferson Davis to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, two years after they were removed from public parks in Memphis, officials said Tuesday. The statues of Forrest and Davis have been given to Forrest's descendants and the Sons of Confederate Veterans "to display them as they wish," City of Memphis legal officer Bruce McMullen said.

The statues' location was not disclosed, but they could be re-erected at some point. However, as part of the agreement to hand over the monuments, the veterans' group is not allowed to put the statues back up in Memphis or Shelby County, said Van Turner, president of Greenspace, Inc., the private nonprofit that helped bring down the statues. Private donations helped pay for transfer of the heavy statues on large trucks at a remote location, Turner said. "We're talking several tons," Turner said. "So, it was an operation."

Memphis and the Confederate veterans' group have battled in court over the statues' removal from two city parks. Forrest's equestrian statue, which stood over the grave of the Confederate general and his wife, and the monument of Davis, the Confederate president, were taken down under the cover of night on Dec. 20, 2017. At the time, Tennessee law limited the removal or changing of historical memorials on public property. Memphis used a loophole in the historical preservation law by selling the public parks to Greenspace, the private nonprofit. Greenspace removed the monuments, which were then stored at an undisclosed location. However, the remains of Forrest and his wife are still buried at the park where his statue stood for decades.

Davidson County Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle has ruled that the removals did not violate state law because the statues were on private property when removed. The state Supreme Court ruled in October that it would not hear an appeal by the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The General Assembly has passed a bill making it harder for cities to get around the law. They approved a measure barring cities from selling or transferring property that has historic memorials without permission from the Tennessee Historical Society — or a court. Forrest was a slave trader in Memphis before leading a cavalry unit in the Confederate army. He became a leader of the early Ku Klux Klan after the Civil War. Davis was a U.S. senator from Mississippi who became Confederate president during the war.

H. Edward Phillips, a lawyer for Forrest's family and the Confederate veterans' group, said Forrest's descendants were glad to have closure on the statues. Forrest's relatives have sued the city over the buried remains, which could be moved. Turner said that issue is currently being addressed. Turner also acknowledged that the Forrest statue's removal helped ease concerns from potential investors in Memphis' growing medical district, where Forrest Park had been located. It is now named Health Sciences Park. "We are a Southern city, but it does not mean we have to live in the past," said Turner, a former county commissioner and current head of the NAACP in

Memphis. "But for those things which are not as appealing to everyone, we need to move beyond those things," Turner said. "I think this was the right time to do it."



Confederate Flags Were Stolen from a Virginia Graveyard. The Search Continues for the Person Who Did It

Joe Heim — Washington Post

A month has passed and officials in Harrisonburg, Va., still have no idea who stole about 200 Confederate battle flags from a cemetery and dumped many of them in a porta-potty across town.

The flags were removed from Woodbine Cemetery on Veterans Day, November 11, just hours after members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans local chapter placed them at graves of soldiers who fought for the South in the Civil War.

Harrisonburg police opened an investigation, but no suspects have been identified, according to a department spokesman. Virginia law prohibits "the willful or malicious destruction, mutilation, injury or removal of flowers, wreaths, vases or other ornaments in a church, on church property, on a grave or in a cemetery." A \$1,500 reward has been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for stealing the flags.

The Daily News-Record in Harrisonburg first reported the theft. Philip Way, commander of the local Sons of Confederate Veterans chapter, the Col. D.H. Lee Martz Camp 10, said he is not confident the reward will lead to an arrest, but he wants to bring attention to the act.

"We don't feel we'll ever find the cowards, but we want the information out there," Way said in a phone interview. "We are not intimidated. We honor our Confederate veterans because we consider it part of our heritage. We're not militant, but we will not be deterred."

For the past twelve years, members of the Confederate heritage group have placed flags on graves in the cemetery without

incident on Confederate Memorial Day, Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The members then remove the flags at the end of the day. The 18-acre cemetery in historic Harrisonburg includes a section dedicated to Confederate soldiers. The city was home to a Confederate hospital during the Civil War and many of the soldiers who died there are buried at Woodbine.

Way, whose great-grandfather fought for the Confederacy, said he doesn't know why anyone would remove the flags from the graves and discard them the way they did. "We just want to respect our ancestors, and we want to be left alone," he said. "We are Southern gentlemen."

But, the Confederate flag has long been viewed as a divisive and racist symbol by many who see it as a banner for white supremacy and support for the legacy of the slaveholding South. In the past century, it was carried by Ku Klux Klan members in massive rallies and waved by opponents of the civil rights movement and desegregation.

Even as some Southern heritage organizations have tried to hold on to the flag as simply an honorable relic of America's deadliest war, it continues in the 21st century to be displayed in menacing forms.

Karen L. Cox, a history professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and author of *Dixie's Daughters: The United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Preservation of Confederate Culture* said placing Confederate battle flags in cemeteries is much different than flying them at protests or rallies.

"To me, a cemetery is the most legitimate place for the Sons to be doing whatever they do," Cox said in a phone interview. "It's not like they're putting flags on the courthouse lawn. It's not the same as the guys who show up with their battle flags at the removal of a Confederate monument ready to get into fist-cuffs."

For black Americans, particularly in the South, the Confederate flag can connote sinister intent, Isaac Bailey, an author and journalism professor at Davidson College, said in an email. "Many black people look at that flag the way Jewish people look at the Nazi flag," Bailey wrote. "The odd thing is that here in the South, we are called radical or uncivil by our white neighbors and friends for making such a connection that is clear as day to us, but those white neighbors and friends would never openly talk about the 'valor' and 'courage' of Nazi soldiers the way they talk about Confederate ones."

But among some black Southerners, Bailey said, there's resignation about the flag remaining a part of the Southern landscape. "We usually put up with the presence of that flag, though, because we have to pick our fights, because that flag is everywhere," he wrote. "That view is never going to change."

Way has heard that sort of criticism before but rejects the assertion that paying tribute to Confederate veterans with the flag is an endorsement of racism. Instead, he said, the men should be honored for "defending their land from an invasion" by the North. "The South wanted to be left alone," he said. "I'm not for being that way now, but our point is the South had the right to secede."

Roanoke Man Was Last Real Son of a Confederate Veteran

Ralph Berrier, Jr. — www.roanoke.com



Calvin Crane at his home in Roanoke with a portrait of his father, Confederate veteran James Anthony Crane. Calvin Crane served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He was awarded two Bronze Stars for valor as he fought in North Africa and Europe.

(Richmond Times-Dispatch)

Calvin Crane, a Roanoke man, who died Sunday at 102, was believed to have been the last living son of a Confederate veteran in the United States — and by that, we mean a *real* son of a Confederate veteran.

Crane's father, James Antony Crane, was a Confederate soldier from Pittsylvania County, Virginia, who served during the Civil War with Ringgold Battery, Company B of the 13th Battalion, Virginia Light Artillery. He served through the end of the war in 1865, married twice, fathered twenty-one children and died around 1918, when Calvin was barely a year old. Calvin never knew much about the man, except that he liked to hunt and that he was old when Calvin was born.

James Crane fathered sixteen children with his first wife, who died around the turn of the 20th century. He was in his 50s when he married Annie Eanes, an 18-year-old woman who had grown up as an orphan and lived on a farm near Danville. Calvin, born on February 27, 1917, was the youngest of James and Annie's five children.

Gerald Via, a member of the Fincastle Rifles Camp 1326 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, confirmed that Crane was the last known living son of a Confederate soldier.

"He joined the Sons of the Confederate Veterans in 1993 and attended monthly meetings for more than twenty years", said Via. "The SCV's national headquarters in Columbia, Tennessee, confirmed that Crane was the last living known son of a Confederate veteran", Via said. The United Daughters of the Confederacy says that five living daughters of Confederate veterans are known, none of them in Virginia.

Thanksgiving in America

Bently Couch, Division Historian



First Thanksgiving by Sidney King

Each Thanksgiving, Americans traditionally overeat roasted turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, and pumpkin pie. Elementary school children are taught that the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, celebrated the first Thanksgiving. Even popular culture promotes the myth that the pilgrims in the Plymouth colony celebrated the "first Thanksgiving" in America.

While New Englanders boast that they are responsible for the first Thanksgiving, facts show that Thanksgiving was celebrated in Virginia more than a year before the Pilgrims first stepped foot on Plymouth Rock.

On September 16, 1619, the ship *Margaret* departed Bristol, England, bound for Berkeley Plantation in the Virginia colony. Aboard the 35-foot-long ship were thirty-five settlers, a crew, five "captain's assistants", a pilot, four "gentlemen." One of the principal supporters of the venture was Richard Berkeley, for whom the plantation was named.

The Berkeley Plantation is about halfway between Richmond and Jamestown in Virginia. It was only one of a number of plantations granted to private companies by the Virginia Company of London.

The mission of those on-board *Margaret* was to settle 8,000 acres of land along the James River that had been granted to them by the London-based Berkeley Company. They were allowed to build farms, storehouses, homes and a community on company land. In exchange, they were contracted as employees, working the land and handing over crops and profits to the company.

Prior to leaving England, Captain Woodleefe received "*Ordinances Direcons and Instructions*" from the Virginia company of London:

"The day of our ships arrivall at the place assigned for plantacon in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God."

This instruction was an official requirement that those who settled and lived at Berkeley should annually give thanks to God. There are no records indicating how long the order was carried out. If it was, it was to be a religious observance. None of the customs associated with the modern holiday were present. The purpose was strictly religious.

After a rough two-and-a-half months trip across the Atlantic Ocean, the ship entered the Chesapeake Bay on November 28, 1619. *Margaret* arrived at Jamestown, then proceeded up the James River about thirty miles to settle a parcel of land at Berkeley Plantation near what is now Charles City. It took another week to navigate the stormy bay, but they arrived at their destination, Berkeley Hundred, later called Berkeley Plantation, on December 4. After they arrived on the shores of the James River, the settlers got on their knees and gave thanks to God for their safe passage. There was no traditional meal, no turkey. Historians think there was nothing but ship's rations to eat. It was more of a religious event than a culinary food fest.

In 2007, President George W. Bush also noted the history while visiting Berkeley Plantation, commenting that, "The good folks here say that the founders of Berkeley held their celebration before the Pilgrims had even left port. As you can imagine, this version of events is not very popular up north."

On November 3, 2019, the Berkeley Plantation celebrated the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving in English speaking America, where hundreds of people attended the Thanksgiving Festival.



Berkeley (pronounced Barkley) as it appears today. The existing Berkeley plantation house was built in 1726 in the current Georgian style. It is the birthplace of Benjamin Harrison V, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and governor of Virginia. It was also the birthplace of William Henry Harrison, the ninth president and the ancestral home of his grandson, Benjamin Harrison, the twenty-third president. At the time of the War for Southern Independence, Berkeley plantation was called Harrison's Landing. It was occupied by General George McClellan's Union army. While at Berkeley, General Daniel Butterfield composed the tune "Taps" first played by his bugler, O. W. Norton.

“Lest We Forget”



Confederate Christmas by Mort Kuntzler



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