

Palmetto

PARTISAN



The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

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August 2012

“Our Sacred Duty” – Jewish Soldiers of the Confederacy

By Lewis Regenstein

This once happy country is inflamed by the fury of war; a menacing enemy is arrayed against the rights, liberties, and freedom of this, our Confederacy. Here I stand now with many thousands of the sons of the sunny South, to face the foe, to drive him back, and to defend our natural rights.

O Lord, God of Israel, be with me in the hot season of the contending strife...Be unto the Army of this Confederacy, Inspire them with Patriotism. Give them when marching to meet, or overtake the enemy, the wings of the eagle...

Guide them, O Lord of battles, into the paths of victory...Grant that they may even advance to wage battle, and to battle in Thy name to win. O Lord, God, Father, be Thou with us.

“The Prayer of the C.S. Soldiers”
by Rabbi Max Michelbacher

When the War Between the States broke out, the Jews of the South, and especially South Carolina, showed the same patriotism, courage, and willingness to sacrifice as their Christian neighbors.

It is a proud yet little known aspect of American Jewish history, long ignored or misrepresented by liberal historians (including many Jewish scholars) intent on demonizing the South, idolizing the North – especially its leader, President Lincoln – and falsely portraying the War as a conflict over slavery and human rights. But the important contribution of Jews to the Confederacy cannot be denied.

Defending Their Hometown

Robert Rosen begins his classic book, “The Jewish Confederates,” by describing how at the outbreak of war, the Jews of Charleston, “proud of their history

and patriotism dating from the American Revolution, rallied to the cause.”

He recounts the consecration of the new Charleston synagogue Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (Holy Congregation House of God), on March, 19, 1841, where Rabbi Gustavus Poznanski “spoke for generations of Jewish Charlestonians when he exclaimed that ‘this synagogue is our temple, this city our Jerusalem, this happy land our Palestine. And as our fathers defended with their lives that temple, that city, and that land, so will their sons defend this temple, this city, and this land’.”

Indeed they did. In just one day, 21 June, 1862, at the Battle of Secessionville, on James island near Charleston, three Jewish Confederates were lost – Private Robert Cohen, Corporal Isaac Valentine -- and Private Gustavus Poznanski Jr., killed, as Rosen wrote, “defending his temple, his city, and his land, just as his father said he would from the pulpit ... twenty one years before.”

This Land of Milk and Honey

Hatred and persecution of Jews was widely present in the North. But in the South, Southern Jews were playing a prominent role in the Confederate government and armed forces, and “were used to being treated as equals,” as Rosen puts it, an acceptance they had enjoyed for a century-and-a-half.

Dale and Theodore Rosengarten, in “A Portion of the People: Three Hundred Years of Southern Jewish Life,” observe that in 1800, Charleston had more Jews than any city in North America, and many were respected citizens, office holders, and successful entrepreneurs. Some referred to the city as “our Jerusalem”; and Myer Moses, my maternal family patriarch, in 1806 called his hometown “...this land of milk and honey.”

Some 3,000 or more Jews fought for the South, practically every male of military age. Many carried with them to the front Rabbi Michelbacher’s widely published soldiers’ prayer (beginning with the sacred prayer, the “Shema”), comparing Southerners to “the Children of Israel crossing the Red Sea.” As Rosen observes, “Jewish Johnny Rebs went off to war for patriotism and love of country...Their chief reasons for fighting were: to do their duty, to protect their homeland, to protect Southern rights and liberty, and ... to support their comrades-in-arms.”

Many Jewish Confederates distinguished themselves by showing, along with their Christian comrades, amazing courage, dedication, and valor, while enduring incredible hardships against overwhelming and often hopeless odds.

Notable Confederate Jews

The best known Southern leader of Jewish ancestry was Judah P. Benjamin, often called “the brains of the Confederacy”, who served President Jefferson Davis successively in three key positions: Attorney General, Secretary of War and Secretary of State of the Confederacy.



Judah P. Benjamin

See [Duty](#), on page 7

REDISCOVERED AND BROUGHT HOME TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Battle Flag of the 19th South Carolina Infantry

By Dennis Earl Todd – Historian and Flag Committee Member, South Carolina Division Sons of Confederate Veterans

On June 29, 2010 Randy Burbage asked me to put together a list of all known South Carolina related War Between the States Flags. He knew of my interest in SC Flags and we were both on the South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCSCV) Flag Committee, Burbage being the Chairman.

The first part of July 2010, while reading an old auction catalogue about flags, I came across a small line about a SC flag of the 19th SC Infantry in a small museum in East Tennessee: “and a flag of the same pattern, identified to the 19th South Carolina, is in a small museum in Oak Ridge, Tn.” For the next two weeks I emailed and called SCV Camps and museums in that area. Then, on July 20, 2010, I called the Children’s Museum in Oak Ridge, TN. I talked with Ms. Margaret Allard, asking about the flag, and she stated, “Yes, we have it”. She further told me that it was not on display, that it did not fit in with their museum and their focus was on the Manhattan Project and WWII, but it had been on display once before in the past. She told me that it was donated to them in 1979 by a Dr. Henry Ruley and that he must have gotten it from Mrs. Fred Randall of Oak Ridge, the granddaughter of Private George W. Wise, of Company B, 19th SC Infantry, CSA. The museum had a copy of the “Oak Ridger” newspaper from March 14, 1955 of her holding the flag. The newspaper went on to state that Private Wise was a Color Bearer of the 19th SC, carrying the flag during the War Between The States. Wise lost his left arm below the elbow in the war. The granddaughter also told the newspaper in 1955 that the

flag was used at the premier of Gone With The Wind at the Grand Theater in Atlanta.

On July 20, 2010 Mrs. Allard emailed me pictures of the flag, front and back. It was sewn onto a piece of linen cloth and mounted on a wooden frame. Then, on March 11, 2011, my wife, Ernestine, and I visited the Children’s Museum to see the flag. Ms. Allard took us into a back room where she had laid out the flag for us. She allowed us to take all the pictures we wanted of the flag, close ups and with us with the flag. This was the first time there was talk about the flag coming back to SC. However, it was about them loaning the flag to the Confederate Relic Room Museum in SC. I gave her information on the Relic Room and Allen Roberson, Director of the Museum.

After returning home to South Carolina, I told Burbage about the meeting and seeing the

flag. He later called me and asked me about talking with the Children’s Museum, to see if they might be



A flag of the 19th South Carolina Infantry May 5, 2012 at the SC Confederate Relic Room Museum, Columbia, SC, and the Division Flag Committee.

See [Flag](#), on page 4

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Military communications are defined as involving all forms of conveying information to and from its armed forces. Historically, the first communications involved the use of signals which later developed into what we know as the "Signal Corps". However, modern day military communications have become much more advanced with the development of satellite systems and other high tech equipment often referred to as Network Centric warfare. Nevertheless, we have come a long way in development of communication systems since the early days of flags, signal lamps and even Morse code.

Although not a true "military" organization, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a nonprofit corporation, is set up with

various levels of command structure likened to a military society. When information and communiques are sent from our National Commander-in-Chief, the subordinate groups, Departments, Divisions and Camps, must be able to receive and act in accordance with those policies and directives and often in a very timely manner. In the past, our communication system here in South Carolina was about as good and effective as the use of signal flags, at least if anyone was paying attention.

That brings us to now and an update on our new communication initiative. The days of using the old and ineffective approach to sharing information are now past; today we change the culture and mindset of our membership and we finally move into the 21st century.

As instructed by the Commander-in-Chief, all South Carolina Division Camps have been assigned a Division created and owned email address, unique to their individual Camp. Additionally, all Division officers and staff likewise have unique email addresses that will pass to future officers. Camp Commanders or their communication officers, Division officers and staff are required to review and check email communications at a minimum of twice a day. Now having the ability to share "on line" documents and distribute information in a more timely and efficient fashion enables faster response by our membership when matters of urgency occur. Therefore it is essentially vital that each Camp have its own method of transferring the communication down to the heart of the SCV – the individual member. We are only as effective to the "charge" as our ability to respond when the need arises.

Quarterly reporting systems are now on line and shared among Division staff and will provide a closer look into the life and workings of the Camp thus providing a better picture of the success and failures on that level. And so that everyone clearly understands, the new communication initiative is not meant to be burdensome; in fact, it is quite simple and is intended to unify our efforts in South Carolina to become more effective in the day to day operations of a healthy and vibrant business and fraternal order.

By the time this article is published, all Camps have been brought up to speed on the new system and the Division Policy and Procedures Manual has likewise been shared for important and necessary information.

Finally, this new approach to communicating is not optional; all Division officers, staff and Camps are required to comply and to do so in accordance with the deadline established by the Division Commander and his staff. We are, as were our Confederate fathers, volunteers. Nonetheless, they received and followed their orders with the same great sense of duty that we today, even as modern South Carolinians are compelled to do.

Remember, in South Carolina, all compatriots serve on the "front line", "carry a rifle", and follow orders and the directives that come through the chain of command; and that includes the Division Commander who serves alongside each of you. Stay with me brothers, and let's make every day an opportunity to defend and preserve Dixie and our way of life.

**Mark A. Simpson, Commander
South Carolina Division**

South Carolina's Last Real Son Passes

Andrew David Roberts, Sr. of Georgetown, South Carolina was the last known Real Son of a Confederate Veteran living in South Carolina. He was an honored member of Battery White Camp #1568 and the SC Division of the SCV. Andrew, 86, widower of Edrie Tisdale Roberts, died Monday morning, June 18, 2012 at his residence. Born January 9, 1926, Andrew was the son of the late J. W. Roberts and Victoria Altman Roberts. He worked at International Paper Company where he retired as Superintendent of Finishing and Shipping in 1980. He was buried at the Mt. Olive Cemetery in Georgetown on June 20.



Andrew David Roberts, Sr.

Andrew's father, James Walter Roberts, was born in Horry County, South Carolina on April 15, 1846. Having just turned eighteen years of age, he was conscripted and reported to Battery Beauregard on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina on April 28, 1864. He served in Company A, 1st South Carolina Infantry. His company was sent to Fort Sumter where they served until September 14, 1864, having been under heavy fire a great portion of the time. He was paroled at the C.S.A. General Hospital at Greensboro, North Carolina on May 1, 1865.

J. W. Roberts had three children by his first wife Elizabeth who died in 1916. He then married Victoria Altman on Valentine's Day, 1917. She was seventeen and he was seventy-one years of age. Andrew was the second of their three children. J. W. Roberts died on, January 8, 1931, at the age of eighty-six. Andrew was five years old when his father died.

Andrew, like his father, served in the military. He was a veteran of the 86th Blackhawk Infantry Division that served in the Ruhr Valley of Germany where they fought their way into Austria in WWII.

Information supplied by Commander Vernon Parker of Battery White Camp #1568

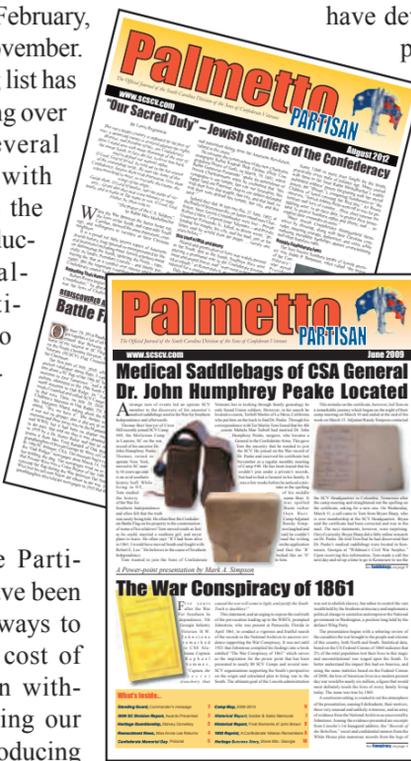


Palmetto Partisan Makes Some Changes

To this point we have been producing and mailing two eight page issues and one ten page issue annually with mailings in February, June and November. Our mailing list has been growing over the past several years and with this growth the cost of producing the Palmetto Partisan has also increased. As a result Commander Simpson and I, as well as the Partisan staff, have been discussing ways to reduce the cost of the Partisan without sacrificing our goals of producing the finest Division newsletter in the Confederation and

providing our message to other organizations that need to hear the truth regarding Confederate Heritage. Therefore we have developed a new plan to annually produce two main issues, one eight page and one ten page, that will go out to all members and to a more selective list of outside organizations. The two main issues will now come out in March and August with a small holiday issue of reduced format and pages, sent to members only at year's end. This plan will reduce our cost and still provide three issues a year to members and bi-annual coverage to the most important outside organizations on our mailing list. This new schedule starts with this issue of the Palmetto Partisan. These changes are being made in order to help keep the South Carolina Division the best and strongest in the Confederation.

**Bill Norris,
Editor, Palmetto Partisan**



Palmetto PARTISAN

The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Bill Norris - Editor-In-Chief + **Cindy Socia - Art Director/Designer**
Paul C. Graham - Associate Editor + **Gene Hogan - Associate Editor**
Bill Bushall - Communications Editor
Raphael Waldburg-Zeil - European Associate Editor

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Palmetto Partisan, Attn: Division Adjutant, 201 Winding Way, Columbia, SC 29212.

The articles, photographs, or content of the Palmetto Partisan may not be reproduced without the consent of the Division Commander. The opinions expressed by the authors of signed articles reflect personal views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of SCV policy. All articles and photos must be submitted to the Editor-In-Chief.

Commercial advertising may be purchased with the expressed approval of the Division Commander. Advertising rates are as follows: 1/4 page \$300, 1/2 page \$200, business card \$100. All artwork and copy must be complete, the correct size and ready for print sent in high resolution file format to SCVGrfx@gmail.com. Remit to Palmetto Partisan address above.

"Camp Classified" ads are for the exclusive use of the Division Camps. Ads are 1 column width by 3" depth in size and must be submitted 30 days in advance of the next publication date. An artwork & design fee of \$65 is required prior to press date sent to Palmetto Partisan address above.

Services or products advertised do not carry SCV endorsement unless otherwise specified.

So you'd like to make a submission to the PPJ? Acceptable formats for copy and pictures.

- 1. Article copy:** Microsoft Word only (.doc or .rtf)
Do not type article in email
Do not format
Do not place pictures in articles
- 2. Photos:** Photos should be .jpg, .jpeg or .tif
Do send as slideshows
Do not place photos in articles
- 3. Exceptions:** Contact the Editor-In-Chief or Art Director for any exceptions.

Dear Brothers,

I hope this finds you all doing well and that you will all have a safe and memorable summer with your family and friends. I pray that the following column will speak to you in some way that will bring you closer to your Lord.

In my Christian life I have experienced much joy, hope, peace, comfort and all the many wonderful feelings that come from knowing Christ. But, I have also at some time or another experienced the opposite side of this. Life is filled with a number of wonderful experiences that bring contentment and joy, as well as many set-backs that bring disappointments and sorrow. When the storms of life encircle us and we find ourselves engulfed in disappointment, sorrow or uncertainty, we sometimes lose focus of those things that matter most in life. The reason for our losing focus is that we will resort to worrying about certain events whose outcome we simply cannot control which will often lead us to lose hope.

Serving as a Deacon in my Church and as your Division Chaplain, I have visited many hospitals and nursing homes and I guess one of the saddest things I have ever experienced is when Christians in their last days start to fear the unknown. I hope the following true story will help you to have peace in this area.

FEAR NOT THE LIGHT IS ON

A little boy named John Todd, born in 1800 up in Rutland, Vermont was left an orphan when at six years old his parents died. His parents had moved to Killingsworth shortly after his birth. This is the touching story concerning this young boy, now a man and his adoptive mother.

The children in the home had to be parceled out among the relatives, and a kind-hearted aunt who lived in North Killingsworth agreed to take John and give him a home. With her he lived until some fifteen years later when he went away to study for the ministry. When he was in middle life, his aunt fell desperately ill and realized that death could not be far off. In great distress she wrote her nephew a pitiful letter- what would death be like? Would it mean the end of everything or would there be, beyond death, a chance to continue living, growing, loving? Here is the letter John Todd sent in reply:

It is now thirty-five years since I, a little boy of six, was left quite alone in the world. You sent me word you would give me a home and be a kind mother to me. I have never forgotten the day when I made the long



journey of ten miles to your house in North Killingsworth. I can still recall my disappointment when, instead of coming for me yourself, you sent your colored servant, Caesar, to fetch me. I well remember my tears and my anxiety as, perched high on your horse and clinging tight to Caesar, I rode off to my new home. Night fell before we finished the journey and as it grew dark, I became lonely and afraid.

Do you think she'll go to bed before I get there?" I asked Caesar anxiously. "Oh no," he said reassuringly. "She'll sure stay up for you. When we get out of these woods you'll see her candle shining in the window." Presently we did ride out in the clearing and there, sure enough, was your candle. I remember you were waiting at the door, that you put your arms close about me and that you lifted - a tired and bewildered little boy - down from the horse. You had a big fire burning on the hearth, a hot supper waiting for me on the stove. After supper, you took me to my new room, you heard me say my prayers and then you sat beside me until I fell asleep.

You probably realize why I am recalling all this to your memory. Some day soon, God will send for you, to take you to a new home. Don't fear the summons - the strange journey - or the dark messenger of death. God can be trusted to do as much for you, as you were kind enough to do for me so many years ago. At the end of the road you will find love and a welcome waiting, and you will be safe in God's care. I shall watch you and pray for you until you are out of sight, and then wait for the day when I shall make the journey myself and find you waiting at the end of the road to greet me.

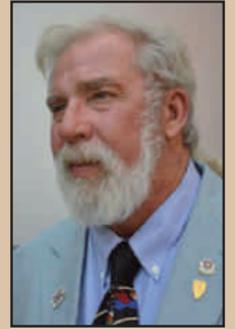
Likewise you and I do not have a thing to fear simply because we are growing older. If our faith is firmly fixed in the Savior, we can count on Him to be waiting at the end of the road to greet us. In fact, He'll be waiting up for us. Our room is all ready. The light is on. We are expected. He will welcome us home.

(John 14:1-3)

(1) Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. (2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

**Your Friend and Chaplain,
Ken Temples**

As your new Lt. Commander, I would like to thank you for putting your trust in me to help lead the S.C. Division these next 2 years. I am truly humbled to have been chosen as your Lt. Commander. I will be readily available to all Compatriots, and you can call or email me at any time. If you do not get me directly, leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.



We are now entering a new and exciting time in S.C. With the implementation of the google docs and gmail communications. I urge you to get familiar with this system. I have placed a spreadsheet on google.docs, POTENTIAL MEMBERS. I am asking that all Brigade Lt. Commanders, Camp Commanders and Camp Lt Commanders check this spreadsheet at least once or twice a week.

I will be adding information about potential new members, as I receive it from National Hdqts. This will give you instant information to contact these new potential members and a way for us to track if they join the SCV. This is one way to continue growth in the Division. Each member needs to be recruiting new members each day as they interact with family, friends and the public.

Retain and reclaim: As SCV members, we need to make new members more welcome at Camp Activities. Give your new members a job in the Camp, if possible, but don't shun them. Greet them each time you see them and get them involved in the Camp activities. We all know that right now is a bad time economically, and it is time for our dues again. If you have members that have fallen on hard times, encourage them to stay active with the Camp and let them pay their dues in installments (like a car or house payment). Check your old rosters and contact past members that have dropped out. Ask them to consider coming back to the SCV and your camps.

As Jack Marlar has stated thousands of times "We are the BEST kept Secret around". Get the word out in your communities that your Camp is there. Almost all newspapers have free listing in their Community Calendar section for groups to list their meeting times and places. Start advertising your meetings to the public this way. Sign up for any festivals in your area, most don't charge non-profits or charge a small fee. Once in a festival, you can set up a recruiting/fund raising tent.

Let's all work together to grow the SC Division by 300 members by next year's reunion. That equates to 4 members per Camp. I am willing are you? I am available to assist or answer any questions anytime. Just call or email me. I am here to work for you and the Division.

**Keeping the Flag unfurled
Ken Thrasher
Lt. Commander, SC Division**

diligent in defending our heritage. There will be times to stand and watch before acting. Knowing what our detractors are doing, and in some cases letting them do it, may very well benefit our cause. Being prepared is the key. Knowing your history of the South and the Confederacy, which is your heritage, will put you in the driver's seat. To defend your heritage, you must first know it.

**They Shall Not Be Forgotten,
Jamie Graham, Chairman
Heritage Defense Committee
South Carolina Division**

HERITAGE DEFENSE REPORT

Jamie Graham
Chairman, Heritage Defense Committee



It was indeed an Honor to be asked to Chair the Heritage Defense Committee this past March. I am very humbled by this appointment. I certainly have some "big shoes" to fill. Past Chair John Sutton certainly served his post faithfully and honorably.

From my conversations with Past Chair Sutton it seemed that he didn't have a functioning committee. That unquestionably put a large burden on him, which he proudly took on.

Over the past few months we have been putting our new committee together and are ready to assist you in protecting our heritage. It is my hope and desire to have the Heritage Committee becomes more proactive, rather than reactive in issues faced in South Carolina.

The past few months have been filled with Confederate Memorial Day services across the state, and Confederacy. From my understanding there have been minimal heritage concerns with-in the division, however we must keep our eyes open. If you feel that a viola-

tion of our heritage has been committed, contact your brigade representative or you can contact me directly at scheritagechair@gmail.com. I check my emails daily and will get back to you as soon as possible.

I am sure that you all are aware of the Resolution adopted unanimously by the GEC

March 26, 2012. These being the facts: The Museum of the Confederacy has long been on a path to downplay its role in commemorating the Confederacy. It is opening a new facility in Appomattox where it refuses to display a Confederate flag on a pole outside the building. Thus be it resolved: The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans does call upon the Museum of the Confederacy to display a Confederate Flag on a pole on the outside of the Appomattox facility. That such a display is both historically accurate and morally necessary. Be it also resolved: The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans does strongly urge its Compatriots not to be participants in the opening ceremony of said facility. To do so lends credence to the claims of those refusing to display the Confederate flag in its proper station.

Our heritage, our Southern way of life has been under constant attack for entirely too long. We all must stay



SESQUICENTENNIAL – All ABOARD!

Celebrating 150 Years of Southern Pride

Jeff Antley
Chairman, Sesquicentennial
Committee



Coming Around the Bend

As we approach the mid-point of the Sesquicentennial of the Cause for Southern Independence, two items on our immediate agenda come before you. First is the Monument Rededication Program. Several months ago Brigade Commanders assigned all of the Confederate Monuments in the state to each Camp to plan and execute a rededication service to remember the units and soldiers from our great state. I ask ALL Camps in the South Carolina Division to set a date and begin publicizing your events. This will give all of our citizens plenty of time to plan to attend. It will surely be a great recruiting opportunity, help build Camp unity and above all give much needed community exposure. Let's not miss this once in a

life time opportunity to do all we can to pay honor to our Confederate dead.

Second on our list is the CSA Commemorative Coin Collection. Your Sesquicentennial Committee has embarked, with your support, on the most aggressive and rewarding fundraising project in SCV history. Your Division is now offering these handsome proofs (coins) each coin represents each of the original thirteen Confederate States. The artwork for these coins is original and unique, every image was hand drawn by renowned commercial artist Richard Portner. All are minted in the USA and are made of .999 pure silver, **NOT an overlay or plating**, but solid silver. Each coin is specifically numbered and is one of a kind. Coins will arrive in

a protective capsule in a beautiful velvet box with a certificate of authenticity. We offer these as a single coin purchase, you can buy as many of each state as you wish or we also offer the Collectors Set (a set of all thirteen with the same number).

These coins are destined to be the premier Sesquicentennial collector's items in the years to come. Currently they are the only coins of this kind available on the market today. They are sure to increase in value, not only due to their uniqueness, but also due to their solid silver content. All coins are sold on a first come first serve basis. By ordering or reserving your coins early you ensure that you will receive the lowest possible number available.

IN STOCK NOW!
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csacoins.com
Can you hear it?
"It's coming around the bend"

Flag, cont. from page 1

interested in donating the flag to the State of South Carolina (SC Confederate Relic Room Museum) and the SCSCV - Flag Committee would make a large monetary donation to the Children's Museum. Then, over the next three or four months, I talked with Ms. Allard three times answering questions and ensuring her that the flag would be going to the state and not the SCV, and answering what questions I could on the Relic Room. The Flag Committee was informed about the flag at their May 2011 committee meeting. I told them that I believed the museum would transfer the flag if it went to a state museum, but they (Children's Museum) wanted to attempt to contact the family of the donor and that more money would be needed.

On October 29, 2011, at the flag committee meeting, it was voted on to increase the amount that the SCSCV Flag Committee would donate. Allen Roberson stated that the Relic Room would match it. It was here that it was decided to turn over the talks with the Children's Museum to Allen Roberson. The Children's Museum was asking about the Relic Room, and now the Relic Room had money involved, so it was decided that Roberson, the director of the museum, should take over the talks. Also, during this time period, a private collector, with connections to a museum in middle Tennessee, attempted to buy the flag for a lot more than we were offering.

On February 24, 2012 Burbage called to tell me that the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge, TN had voted to sell the flag to the SC Confederate Relic Room Museum, but the price would be \$50,000.00 with the Relic Room putting up half the money and the Flag Committee putting up half. On February

29, he emailed the committee about the agreement. A teleconference was also set for the committee for March 5, 2012 to vote on it and talk about fund raising so we would not use up what monies we had for other flags to be conserved. I made the motion to give the money and it was seconded by Donnie Rabourn. IT PASSED-UNANIMOUSLY. Roberson with the Relic Room worked out the details and a date was set for April 13th to pick up the flag. In the mean time we would be raising monies. Recognition has to go to Randy Burbage for personally raising more than half the money through his contacts (SCV part). At the SC Division Reunion on March 24, 2012 at Myrtle Beach, Burbage announced to the convention that the flag was to come home. We passed a hat to raise money towards the flag. Burbage passed the hat the FIRST time netting \$755.00. We were hoping for a thousand so I passed the hat a second time and the members came through with another \$495.00, a total of \$1,250.00.

A few days before Roberson was to pick up the flag, the Children's Museum had to delay the meeting due to a medical issue with their director, Ms. Mary Ann Damos. A new date was set for May 1st and 2nd. Allen Roberson and Rachel Cockrell, both of the SC Confederate Relic Room Museum, drove to Oak Ridge on the 1st and picked up and brought the Flag of the 19th SC Infantry home to South Carolina on the 2nd day of May 2012.



Work on the Signers Monument continues.
For more info go to scsignersmonument.com

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**CIVIL WAR
IN
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If there had been no 2nd Amendment in 1861, the South could not have raised an army to defend itself against the invading Northern forces.

JOIN THE

NRA

THE SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION REUNION 2012

by Robert Slimp

The South Carolina Division Convention for 2012 was held at the beautiful Ocean Drive Hotel and Gold Resort, and attended by approximately 200 SCV members. The Convention began with the usual delightful social activities on Friday evening, March 23. These are always fun evenings and it is at these events that the Compatriots begin to exchange ideas about what to do at the convention, guess about the awards and for whom to elect as new officers.

The next morning at 8:15 a Convention Memorial Service was conducted by SC Division Chaplain Ken Temples and at 9:00 on the 24th, the Convention was officially opened by Commander Jamie Graham of Litchfield Camp #132, the host camp, by calling the meeting to order and making some welcoming remarks. He then called upon Chaplain Vernon Tompkins to give the invocation. Following the invocation came the presentation and posting of the Camp Colors. Once the Colors were posted, there

followed in quick succession, the pledge to the American flag, the pledge to the South Carolina flag and the pledge to the Confederate flag. Next Commander Graham read General Stephen Dill Lee's Charge to the Son's of Confederate Veterans. Then even as it was being announced, the delegates leaped to their feet to sing with great gusto and pride, if a little off key, our Southern National anthem "Dixie", followed by the usual rebel yells.

The meeting was quickly called back to order and Commander-in-Chief of the International Sons of Confederate Veterans Michael Givens gave greetings from the entire SCV. He was followed by the International Lt. Commander-in-Chief Kelly Barrow who gave words of support and encouragement. Next were introduced, the Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, Frank Ernest and the Army of Northern Virginia Councilman, Gene Hogan, both of whom thanked those assembled for the opportunity to serve for the past four years. Then Division Adjutant, Ricky Badger gave his report, called roll and announced that a quorum was established. At this point Commander Graham turned the gavel and the meeting over to our Division Commander, Mark Simpson. In his report, Commander Simpson asked for the adoption of Standing Rules and the motion was carried by the membership. Next came Lieutenant Commander Leland Summer's report. He announced that a new Speaker's Bureau had been established. His report on retention and recruiting was as follows: 2920 current members and 138 losses for 2011 – 2012. He established a recruiting incentive. Recruit two members and receive a Infantryman's Palmetto Patch. Recruit four members and receive a Infantryman's Palmetto Officer's Patch. Recruit 8 members and receive the Palmetto Medallion Pin. Recruit 16 members and receive the Recruiter's Medal. He requested help in recruiting "Friends of the Sons of Confederate Veterans", which is a group of supporters who do not have Confederate ancestors, as this can strengthen camp attendance.

At about 9:30 a.m. Commander Simpson called the first business session to order, giving greetings to all those who had come. Commander Simpson said he felt this annual event should be called a reunion instead of a convention and would like for this to be done from now on. Commander Simpson also explained that there would be changes coming to reduce the cost of the Palmetto Partisan dealing with mailings and the number of editions. Commander Simpson reassured attendees that the Palmetto Partisan will remain the gold standard for SCV newsletters. Next the membership voted to amend the Division By-Laws so that the Commander and Brigade Commanders are elected on opposing years. This was followed by the elections for Division Commander and Lt. Commander. The attendees then retired to the Awards Luncheon, the results of which follows this article.

After lunch it was announced that Commander Simpson, who was unopposed, was reelected Commander and Compatriot Ken Thrasher was elected as our new Lt. Commander. Commander-in-Chief Michael Givens next spoke

on the impact that the SC Division has had on the National with its willingness to come up with new ideas, many of which have been adopted by National. He gave several examples which included the MRS Billing System for dues and the Guardian Program. CIC Givens then requested our support in his reelection bid. LCIC Barrows also made an



appeal to our membership to support his reelection bid at our National Convention. ANV Commander Ernest addressed the reunion membership and asked for our support in reelecting him as Army of Northern Virginia Commander at the National Convention. Compatriot Randy Burbage also spoke and requested support for his bid to become the new ANV Councilman.

The election of Brigade Commanders followed. In order to accommodate the new By-Law change requiring that Brigade Commanders and the Division Commander not be elected in the same year these Brigade Commanders will serve only one year and the next elections will be for the normal two years.

The following Compatriots were elected: 1st Brigade, Henry Richardson, 2nd Brigade, James Forrester, 3rd Brigade, Kirk Carter, 4th Brigade George Bragdon, 5th Brigade Wayne Jones, 6th Brigade, Dean Stevens Sr., 7th Brigade, Charles McRay, 8th Brigade, Mark Humphreeville, 9th Brigade, Joe Willis and 10th Brigade Cane Griffin.

Commander Simpson announced that the H. L. Hunley JROTC Awards Chairman Greg Turner has resigned and will be replaced by Compatriot Richard Roth. It was

also announced that the 2013 SC Division Reunion will be hosted by the Sergeant Adam Bellinger Camp, #68 in Spartanburg on Saturday, March 23, 2013. A resolution to denounce the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA, was submitted by Compatriot Wade Cheney for refusing to display the Flags of the Confederacy on the Museum grounds and/or property. The motion was seconded and passed via voice vote.

Next came the swearing in of the new SC Division Executive Committee Officers. CIC Givens gave the Oath of Office and Commander Simpson gave closing remarks. The Reunion ended with the Benediction by Chaplain Ken Temples, followed by the retirement of the Colors, the singing of Dixie and adjournment. In addition to the Convention itself, there was competition from another group. Large numbers of Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity and the Tri Delta Sorority were at the same hotel in large numbers. It was spring holiday and the Kappa Alphas and Tri Deltas made sleeping difficult for many. Compatriot Charley Bray and his wife Susan got little sleep Friday night. In the morning, water was pouring from their ceiling and the staff moved them to a new room. Actually most of the SCV members and the college kids got along well with a sense of humor. At least during the day. I am certain that these young people reminded many of the older SCV Compatriots and their wives of the good times they had when they were young.



The Myth of the H.L. Hunley's Blue Lantern

By Christopher D. Rucker, MD
Gen. States Rights Gist Camp 1451

For thirty years, authors and historians have perpetuated an unsubstantiated myth that the Confederate *H.L. Hunley* submarine used a blue colored lantern to signal to shore after sinking the *USS Housatonic* off the coast of Charleston, SC on 17 February, 1864. The mythic blue lantern has been cemented in the public consciousness via books, movies, television, modern facsimiles, the claims of internet auctioneers, and the fervent arguments of its faithful devotees. Not a shred of historical evidence exists to substantiate the blue lantern myth, and a wealth of evidence refutes it.

Researchers have misinterpreted three 19th century accounts to cobble together the modern myth of the blue lantern. First: *Housatonic* lookout Robert Flemming, Jr. testified one week after the sinking that while clinging to his doomed ship's rigging, he saw a "blue light on the water" just ahead of the rescuing *USS Canandaigua* as she maneuvered at the shipwreck

site.^a Second: Lt. Col. Olin Dantzler's official CSA correspondence two days after the engagement stated that prearranged signals from the Hunley were observed at the sub's base on Sullivan's Island, and that an answering light was displayed to guide her home.^b Third: author Jacob Cardozo stated in 1866, without providing a source for his information, that the prearranged signals were "two blue lights."^c

These three accounts are cited by adherents to the "delayed demise" theory of the Hunley's fate: that she survived her torpedo's explosion, and was able to maneuver long enough to display a blue lantern to shore, before suffering an unknown calamity which led to her loss. The competing "sudden sinking" theory is that the *Hunley* was sucked into the hole her torpedo blew in the side of the *Housatonic*, or that she was otherwise immediately lost due to the force of the explosion. Clive



See [Hunley](#), on page 6

The South Carolina Division Made Possible the Restoration of Europe's Most Important Confederate Funerary Monument

By Raphael Waldburg-Zeil, European Associate Editor

South Carolina led the way in the SCV's biggest overseas project. The full restoration of CS Navy Capt. Thomas Jefferson Page's tomb in Rome, Italy. The re-dedication ceremony (scheduled Saturday, September 8) will be the most important Sesquicentennial event in Europe, leaving the funerary monument as a lasting Confederate memorial for centuries to come (because of the many important and beautiful tombs at the Non-Catholic Cemetery the Page grave site has more American visitors per year than JEB Stuart's tomb at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond).

Europe Camp #1612 members together with Jeff O'Cain of Wade Hampton Camp #273 in Columbia, determined to restore the Captain's badly-deteriorated tomb. But how to do it? Expected costs for a full repair and cleansing of the funerary monument would take \$14,000. So it was realized that one small Camp could not afford this alone and so the call went out for help. The SCV's General Executive Council was asked for matching funds. They generously agreed to cover 50% of the cost, which meant \$7000 more would still be need to raised! *Confederate Veteran* Editor Frank Powell published a full article in the May/June 2011 edition of the *Confederate Veteran* and later, a notice soliciting funds.

The European Camp started a Europe-wide funding campaign, but soon it became clear the

needed amount would not be reached. Here the South Carolina men came to the rescue! Absolutely key in this campaign was the effort by Jeff O'Cain. He traveled hundreds of miles through the state to solicit funds from the camps and South Carolina came through magnificently. A high number of Camps gave generously. The Partisan Editor-in-Chief gave space for further ads (see past issues) and Division Commander Mark Simpson totally supported the efforts. The South Carolina Division sent a generous contribution and agreed to hold the collected US funds, which was critical to co-ordinate the funding process with the European amounts. The necessary sum was obtained!

During these months the South was wracked by a number of natural disasters and many camps and organizations rightly used their funds to help others. That makes the efforts of our Compatriots so remarkable! The Palmetto State has proven once more to the whole Southland who is leading the way of defending Confederate heritage and Southern awareness!

A weekly photographic survey started in late June; one photograph taken the very day the works were going to start is reproduced here. Every Camp Commander can contact Europe Camp Adjutant Chris McLaren to request pictures so all his men can see how their money is being spent. Contact: cmclvhs@aol.com



On behalf of Commander Baensch, SCV Europe Camp #1612, I want to express my deepest appreciation for your help. You have made it possible South Carolina!

For years to come, a beautiful funerary monument and a plaque mentioning the SCV will proclaim to tens of thousands of Americans and to every other visitor that the Sons honor our Confederate Veterans – *wherever they lie!*

Editor's Note

At the recent 2012 SCV National Convention in Murfreesboro, TN, European Camp # 1612 Adjutant, Chris McLaren addressed the assembled membership and reported on the progress being made to restore Captain Thomas Jefferson Page's gravesite in Rome, Italy. He received a standing ovation from the assembled group and he thanked the South Carolina Division for our support by presenting Commander Mark Simpson with a certificate of appreciation from European Camp # 1612.

Hunley, cont. from page 5

Cussler, accorded popular credit for discovering the *Hunley* in 1995, searched for her unsuccessfully in 1980 because he laid his search grid close to shore, reasoning that a blue lantern could not be seen at distances much over a mile.^d He blamed his miscalculation on initial acceptance of what he came to believe was a dissembling report by Dantzler. However, the fault was not Dantzler's but Cussler's, by failing to realize that the "blue light" cited in the historical records signified something quite unlike a blue lantern, and could easily have been seen four miles away from the *Housatonic* site where Cussler belatedly identified the *Hunley* fifteen years later.

Period dictionaries,^e scientific texts^f and military manuals^h prove that in 1864, "blue light" was a **pyrotechnic** composition used for nighttime signaling and general illumination. It was **not** an oil-fired, wick-burning lantern with a blue lens. Such pyrotechnic blue light had been familiar to



civilians and soldiers for generations before the beginning of the War. It was a handheld **firework**, and early recipes for its composition included an ingredient which imparted a dull, bluish cast to its brilliant, white light, thus accounting for its historical moniker of "blue light." By 1864, the US government's recipes for blue light had discarded any ingredients meant to impart a blue color, but retained the old, familiar name of "blue light."^g This pyrotechnic signal was commonly used and seen by both US and CSA sailors. Civilians were familiar with blue light as used to illuminate tourist attractions such as the interior of tombs, pyramids, caverns, and natural wonders, as when two hundred blue lights were used to first illuminate Niagara Falls during the 1860 North American tour of Prince Albert.^k

By the 20th century, pyrotechnic "blue light" was obsolete and unfamiliar to *Hunley* researchers, who unfortunately failed to realize its 19th century meaning when they read the historical accounts of Flemming and Cardozo. Thus, authors substituted "blue lantern" for "blue light," blinded by their modern context and their failure to consider the evolution of technology and language. The final nail in the coffin of the blue lantern myth is that the oil-fired lantern which was recovered from the *Hunley* has a clear glass lens, not a blue one. This should make perfect sense, since a blue lantern would be the worst possible choice for signaling to shore over the four mile distance between the *Hunley* and her base. The

nascent railroad industry had researched possible signal technology well before 1864, showing that a blue lens on an oil lamp reduced its light output to a meager 14% of the original.^m The *Hunley* team didn't invest considerable monetary and human capital in their stealth weapon, only to trust Charleston's fate to the measly light from a blue lantern. While it may be forgivable that modern researchers failed to realize the 1864 meaning of "blue light," it is unconscionable to speak of a blue lantern now that the *Hunley's* lamp has been retrieved, examined, and found to have an uncolored lens.

The author has reproduced blue light composition according to the 19th century US government formulae, and has confirmed that it is easily visible over a four mile distance under weather and ambient light conditions comparable to those on 17 February, 1864. The reader can see blue light being made and used in two YouTube videos: "Making Civil War-Era Blue Light" and

"Burning Blue Light."

The history of the Confederacy is often misrepresented, and her accomplishments minimized and marginalized. The *H.L. Hunley* remains a source of pride to those who admire the ingenuity and courage of her inventors and crews. It is a disservice to her memory and to history to perpetuate the specious myth of a dim, blue lantern. If the *Hunley* crew displayed a signal to shore, it was pyrotechnic blue light, and it burned with an intensity matched by the dedication of those who served and sacrificed in history's first successful combat submarine.

This article is condensed from an original research paper published in *Civil War Navy The Magazine* Volume 1 Issue 1, Spring 2012. To obtain a copy of that research paper or to schedule a PowerPoint presentation to your group, contact the author at christopherrucker@msn.com

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Towards the end, he also acted as head of the espionage service, overseeing the establishment of spying and propaganda operations in the North and Canada, and efforts to burn strategic buildings, storehouses, and bridges in Union territory.

Davis' wife Varina called him her husband's "right arm." In 1852, he became the second Jewish senator (representing Louisiana) in U.S. history (the first being Florida's David Levy Yulee). Benjamin is credited with being the first Jew appointed to a Cabinet position in a North American government, as well as being the first to be seriously considered for nomination to the Supreme Court, which he declined.

The world renowned sculptor, Moses Jacob Ezekiel of Richmond, was a highly decorated soldier who, after a march of 80 miles with his fellow VMI cadets, fought in the Battle of New Market, and later in the trenches defending Richmond. His mother, Catherine Ezekiel, said she "would not tolerate a son who would not fight for home and country"

Ezekiel wrote in his memoirs "we were not fighting for the perpetuation of slavery, but for the principles of States Rights and Free Trade, and in defense of our homes which were being ruthlessly invaded."

Major Adolph Proskauer of Mobile, Alabama who graces the cover of Rosen's book, joined Capt. Augustus Stikes's company, the Independent Rifles of Mobile, Alabama, which became Company C, 12th Alabama. He was wounded several times, and a fellow officer once wrote of him, "I can see him now as he nobly carried himself at Gettysburg, standing coolly and calmly with a cigar in his mouth at the head of the 12th Alabama amid a perfect rain of bullets, shot and shell. He was the personification of intrepid gallantry and imperturbable courage." In North Carolina, six Cohen brothers fought in the 40th Infantry, and in my family, the five

Moses brothers from Sumter served from beginning to end.

The Moses Family

As the War drew to a close, my great grandfather, Andrew Jackson Moses, participated in a deadly dangerous mission as hopeless as it was valiant. The date was April 9, 1865, the same day that Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox. Having run away from school at sixteen to become a Confederate scout, Jack rode out as part of a hastily-formed local militia to defend his hometown of Sumter, South Carolina.

Approaching rapidly were the 2,700 men of Potter's Raiders, a unit attached to Sherman's army which had just burned Columbia and most everything else in its path, and Sumter expected similar treatment.

In his compelling account of the encounter, "Recollections of Potter's Raid," Allen Thigpen describes how Sumter's 158 or so ragtag defenders – teenagers, old men, invalids, and wounded from the local hospital – amazingly were able to hold off Potter's battle-seasoned veterans for over an hour and a half at the cost of a dozen lives.

Jack got away with a price on his head, and Sumter itself was not burned after all. But some buildings were, and there are documented instances of murder, rape, and arson by the Yankees, including the torching of our family's 196 bales of cotton.

Meanwhile, on that same day, Jack's eldest brother, Lt. Joshua Lazarus Moses, who was wounded in the War's first

major battle, First Manassas (Bull Run), was defending Mobile in the last infantry battle of the War. With his forces outnumbered 12 to one, Josh was commanding an artillery battalion that, before being overrun, fired the last shots in defense of Mobile.

Refusing to lay down his arms, he was killed in a battle at Fort Blakely a few hours after Lee, unbeknownst to the troops, surrendered—a battle in which one of Josh's brothers, Perry, had been wounded, and another brother, Horace, captured while laying land mines.

The fifth brother, Isaac Harby Moses, having served with distinction in combat in the legendary

Wade Hampton's cavalry, rode home from North Carolina after the Battle of Bentonville—the last major battle of the war—where he had commanded his company after all of the officers had been killed or wounded. His Mother Octavia proudly observed in her memoirs that he never surrendered to the enemy forces.

He was among those who fired the first shots of the War when his company of Citadel cadets opened up on the Union ship, Star of the West, which was attempting to resupply the besieged Fort Sumter in January, 1861, three months before the War officially began.

Last Order of the Lost Cause

The Moses brothers' well known uncle, Major Raphael Jacob Moses, from Columbus, Georgia, is credited with being the father of Georgia's peach industry. He was General James Longstreet's chief commissary officer and was responsible for supplying and feeding up to 50,000 men (including porters and other non-combatants).

Their commander, Robert E. Lee, had forbidden Moses from entering private homes in search of supplies during raids into Union territory, even when food and other provisions were in painfully short supply. And he always paid for what he took from farms and businesses, albeit in Confederate tender—often enduring, in good humor, harsh verbal abuse from the local women.

Moses ended up attending the last meeting of the Confederate government (on 5 May, 1865 in Washington, Georgia) and carrying out its last order. He was instructed by Jefferson Davis to deliver the remnant of the Confederate treasury (\$40,000 in gold and silver bullion) to help feed, supply and provide medical help to the defeated Confederate soldiers in hospitals and straggling home after the War—worn, hungry, often sick or wounded, shoeless, and in tattered uniforms. With the help of a small group of determined armed guards, he successfully carried out the order, despite repeated attempts by mobs to forcibly take the bullion.

Observing the Sabbath

Major Moses' three sons also served the Confederacy, one of whom, Albert Moses Luria, courageously picked up and threw a live Union artillery shell out of his fortification before it exploded, thereby saving the lives of many of his compatriots. At age nineteen, he was

shot above the right eye while leading his men in a charge over the enemy's fortifications at the decisive Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks) on 31 May, 1862. He was the first Jewish Confederate killed in the War; his cousin Josh, killed at Mobile, the last.

In "Last Order of the Lost Cause," Mel Young recounts a poignant family story: the day Albert joined the Columbus City Light Guards, of the 2nd Georgia Infantry Battalion. He was called to duty in Columbus, five miles from home, on Saturday, 20 April, 1861 on just two hours' notice. After marching from the armory to the depot, Albert writes, "we were met by an immense concourse of citizens – assembled to bid us 'God Speed.'" Among the crowd were several members of his family – aunts, uncles, and cousins – whom Albert wrote he was surprised to see, since observant

Jews do not ride or work their horses on the Sabbath, and so they had walked several miles into town to bid him adieu.

As he wrote in his journal, "I did not anticipate seeing them, for it was Saturday I knew they could not ride & hardly expected they would pay me the compliment of walking in." Besides Albert Luria and Josh Moses, at least seven other members of the extended family, of

the almost three dozen who fought, gave their lives in defense of the South.

Hatred of Jews in the North

While Jews were generally accepted as members of their communities in the South, in the North anti-Semitism was widespread, including the Union army, government, and leadership.

Many instances of this widespread Yankee bigotry are described in detail by Bertram W. Korn, in his classic work, "American Jewry and the Civil War (1951); by Robert Rosen, and by other historians of the era. They recount how Jews in Union-occupied areas, such as New Orleans and Memphis, were singled out by Union forces

for vicious abuse and vilification.

In New Orleans, the ruling general, Benjamin "Beast" Butler, harshly vilified Jews, and was quoted by a Jewish newspaper as saying that he could "suck the blood of every Jew, and ... will detain every Jew as long as he can." An Associated Press reporter from the North wrote that "The Jews in New Orleans and all the South ought to be exterminated. They run the blockade, and are always to be found at the bottom of every new villainy."

And the single worst act of official anti-Semitism in American history was carried out by Union Commander Ulysses S. Grant, who, on December 17, 1862, issued his infamous "General Order # 11," expelling all Jews "as a class" from his conquered territories within 24 hours.

On 4 January, 1863, President Lincoln had Grant's order rescinded, but by then, some Jewish families in the area had been expelled, humiliated, terrified, and jailed, and some stripped of their possessions.

Other anti-Jewish orders and statements were issued by generals Grant and William Sherman, and no Union official was ever fired, disciplined, or even reprimanded for their acts of bigotry and persecution.

Our Sacred Duty

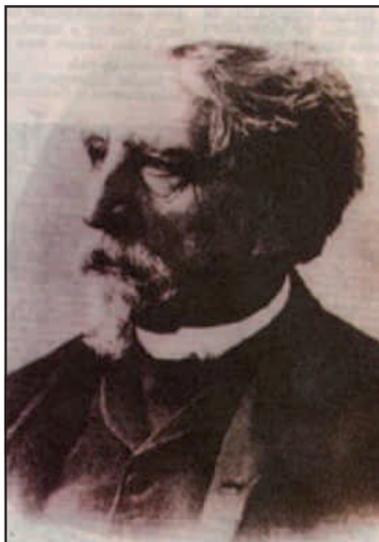
After the war, Octavia Harby Moses, the Mother of the Moses brothers (and my great great grandmother), devoted her life to memorializing "The Lost Cause". In 1869 she was unanimously elected president of the "Ladies Monumental Association" in Sumter, a forerunner of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Succeeding her in her crusade was her eldest daughter Rebecca, who wrote that "Daughters and granddaughters were all taught by her that this was a sacred duty."

Today, the heritage and honor of our ancestors are increasingly under attack. We must never cease fighting to prevent this history from being distorted or forgotten. It is our sacred duty.

Lewis Regenstein, a Native Atlantan, is a writer and author.



Moses Ezekiel



Rafael Moses



First Secession Banner

The First in Secession Camp # 1963 of Chesterfield County recently obtained the First Secession Banner.

The original banner, made by the ladies of Cheraw from their silk dresses, was hung from the Court House in Cheraw at the first Secession Meeting in South Carolina, held there on November 19, 1860. It was still hanging, though in tatters, when General Sherman came through town five years later. The current banner is a reproduction made in 1928 by ladies from Chesterfield County. This re-production was hung from the court House on November 19, 1928 at the Dedication Ceremony for the Secession Boulder that commemorates the First Secession Meeting. The banner now hangs in the Olde Court House in the camp's S.C.V. display area along with other WBTS artifacts and books. Camp # 1963's camp flag was designed after the original banner and plans are now underway for having the banner framed to preserve it.



Information provided by Commander Marcus Jule Canipe of First in Secession Camp # 1963 in Chesterfield County, SC.

One of three brothers all of whom served the Confederacy, **George Washington Richbourg** first defended his community in a local militia when the war broke out. Later in 1862, seeing his country's need, he took his horse and joined the 4th South Carolina Cavalry to fight the invading army. Not a lot is known of his individual activity during the next few years, but in the fall of 1864, after losing his horse in battle, he transferred to the 23rd South Carolina Infantry where one of his brothers, Rufus Nathaniel was serving. Surprisingly, all three brothers survived the war and came home to raise families and help rebuild the war torn South.



An original member of a local church founded in 1879, George was buried in the new little cemetery behind that church upon his death in 1886. Sadly, around 1900, the church burned. It was rebuilt several hundred yards closer to the main road for better access to the congregation and a new cemetery was started at the new location. The brother George served with in the 23rd was buried in this new cemetery in 1911. Over the years the old cemetery fell into disrepair and was eventually forgotten, even to the descendants.



Then just a little over a year ago a descendant of one of the brothers joined the South Carolina Division. This new member, who is also a member of that same little country church, soon became a Guardian over the grave of his great grandfather, Rufus Nathaniel, which he had tended for many years. He had heard of an old tiny cemetery but didn't know of its contents, nor even the existence of his great grandfather's brother who is buried there. When told of the grave of this newly discovered ancestor and the

condition of the old cemetery, he went on quest to locate it and was appalled at what he found. Waist high vegetation had completely covered the old cemetery and most of the ten or so tombstones lay broken on the ground, including George's.

We ordered a VA marker and with the assistance of his sons and nephew, this fairly new SCV member cleaned the area and lovingly placed the new tombstone on the grave of his ancestor, to once more bring honor and respect for his Confederate service. Now, one of this member's sons is a Guardian Pro Tem of the grave of his great, great uncle, George Washington Richbourg and the nephew, both of whom are new SCV members, is taking another ancestor. **How many soldiers' graves have been permanently lost over the years as this one nearly was? It doesn't have to be an ancestor nor does it have to be a forgotten grave. All our South Carolina soldiers need to have a Guardian watching over them. When will you take up *The Charge* and begin fulfilling your duty in "the guardianship of his history" by protecting one of their final resting places?**



For information on becoming a Guardian visit the SC Division website at www.scsdv.com or call Steve Douglas at 803-854-2103.



"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."

The Charge is the official "Mission Statement of the Sons of Confederate Veterans"

Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee
Commander General, United Confederate Veterans Reunion at New Orleans, 1906

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