



GEN. JOE'S DISPATCH



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Coming Events

September 8, 2015 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

October 13, 2015 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

November 10, 2015 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

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SCV Response to Gov. Deal's Removal of Confederate Memorial Day from the State Cal-

News Release from the Georgia Division



ATLANTA – August 7, 2015) "Sensitivity" has become the camouflage for censorship in modern America. Current Governor Nathan Deal has moved to strip the reasons for two of Georgia's most significant holidays without explanation. But the reason can certainly be inferred: it is the mistaken belief that as an expression of sympathy, Georgia's history must be scrubbed in response to a criminal act in another state.

The Governor's act is wrong on every level.

In April, 1861 Abraham Lincoln mobilized the largest army in American history up to that time to invade the South. The State of Georgia called forth her men of military age to resist the oncoming invasion. During the course of the War for Southern Independence, approximately 130,000 Georgians joined Georgia military units, fought valiantly and did their duty. An estimated 33,000 Georgia Veterans made the ultimate sacrifice and died,

along with a countless number of Georgia civilians. A far greater number were wounded and maimed for life.

In the spring of 1866, the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia passed a resolution to set aside one day annually to memorialize the Confederate dead. The date for the holiday was April 26, the first anniversary of Confederate General Johnston's surrender to Federal General Sherman at Bennett Place, North Carolina. For many in the South, particularly in the east, that marked the official end of the War. In 1874, the Georgia General Assembly approved legislation adding as a new public holiday "The 26th day of April in each year – Confederate Memorial Day."

The disgraceful action taken by Governor Deal to remove the name of a State holiday that honors Georgia's veterans is repugnant to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Under current U.S. Federal Code, U.S. Public Law

85-425: Sec. 410 Confederate veterans are deemed equivalent to all other American veterans. Georgia citizens and veterans should be outraged of this blatant act of disrespect to veterans who served their State and Country honorably and with valor.

We view this as a part of the ongoing process of the political correct to "rename and/or remove" our Country's historical and Christian Holidays. Even now throughout Georgia and our Country's schools Christmas is referred to as winter break and George Washington's birthday is now called "Presidents' Day".

We would encourage the citizens of Georgia to contact Governor Nathan Deal's office and their State Representatives and Senators to express their concerns over of this act of dishonor against Georgia's veterans and ask that this decision be reversed and laws be created to protect the holidays, monuments and symbols that honor Georgia's veterans.

"Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set." Proverbs 22:28

For more information about the Sons of Confederate Veterans or any of this year's planned events to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the War, contact the Georgia SCV at 404-271-8473 or online at www.GeorgiaSCV.org



Our Commanders' Comments



By: Commander John Maxey



Southern Gentlemen,

In 1991 the late Mel Bradford wrote an essay titled "The Theology of Secession". In it he said "Southerners had, by the time they

left the Union, serious doubts about what kind of country the United States was about to become. It was not only what the Yankees were attempting to do to the South but, even more important, what they were doing to themselves which made the moral and intellectual leaders of our region doubt whether they wished to leave their children in any political or moral connection with the modern power state emerging above the Old Surveyors'

Line."

Those of us in the SCV know all too well the sentiments have changed very little in the last one hundred and fifty years. With the daily onslaught of our news media having story after story about the Confederate Battle Flag being focused on as a symbol of Hatred and Indifference, it is small wonder that the general public has a rather negative opinion of us.

This is where you and I step up to the plate and do our part. Every one of you has a working knowledge of the War for Southern Independence that is head-and-shoulders above our opposition on the Left side. Please do not get into a shouting match with them, but kindly correct them as the Southern Gentlemen that you are. Remember that Truth is on your side.

Our August meeting was well attended, we swore in two new members and also had an excellent Mini-Program by our own Past Commander Joe Underwood. Thanks again Joe.

We got to hear from the Commander of the Stone Mountain Camp, Mr. Richard Straut, about the fast approaching 2016 National Convention here at the Horse Park. I really feel that this event will be one of the best ever.

Our next meeting is going to be on September 8th here in Old Town Conyers. Please make plans to attend and bring a friend. I'm looking forward to shaking your hand.

Until then, have a "Dixie" day,

John L. Maxey, Cmdr.



Tomb Guard to visit Camp 863



By: J. H. Underwood, Editor

Serving at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a defining period in the lives of Tomb Guards. Although Tomb Guards come from every state in the United States of America and every walk of life, they are forever bonded through their shared experience of service at the Tomb. A strong bond is formed through an extremely de-

manding and humbling experience.

Tomb Guards are handpicked and rigorously trained. The duty at the Tomb is not for everyone, with the majority of soldiers who begin Tomb Guard training failing. Tomb Guards describe their service as a privilege and an honor, and are undeniably proud of their service. They are part of an unbroken

chain of soldiers dating back to 1926. The ideals of the Tomb becomes the Guidepost for their lives, as well as a motivating factor and measuring stick for future endeavors.

Tomb Guard #70 will be the guest speaker at our November 10th meeting. Watch for more information in next months issue of this newsletter and don't miss the November meeting.



Abbeville Institute to hold Conference at Stone Mountain



News Release from the Georgia Division

Dear Friends of the Abbeville Institute:

Fleming

The Abbeville Institute will hold a conference Saturday October 17, 2015 at Stone Mountain Park in Atlanta on the topic "Confederate Heritage and the Fracturing of American Identity."

"The Confederate Rule of Law: An American Patrimony Worth Fighting for Then and Now," Prof. Marshall De Rosa.

"The Old South and the New South," Prof. Brion McClanahan.

ate Symbols," Prof. Carey Roberts.

"Are Confederate Symbols Anti-American?" Prof. Donald Livingston

TOPICS:

"The Southern Genocide," Dr. Thomas

"The Changing Meaning of Confeder-

PLACE: Evergreen Marriott Hotel in Stone Mountain Park, Stone Mountain, Georgia in view of the monumental Confederate Memorial. Room cost at conference rate is \$159.

Continued on page 3.



Abbeville Institute to hold Conference at Stone Mountain



CONFERENCE FEE: The lectures are on Saturday, October 17 from 9 am to 5 pm. Conference fee is \$150 which includes entrance to the park, tuition, breakfast, lunch, and a rich selection of continuous refreshments throughout the meeting.

Please join us to gain a better understanding of the culture war raging in America today. If you think you might attend, let us know as soon as possible. That will help determine how many rooms should be reserved.

Sincerely,

Donald Livingston, President
Abbeville Institute

The Southern novelist, Walker Percy, argued that the very form of the mind of an historic people is found in its most basic symbols. Less than a year after the unconstitutional and brutal invasion of the South by Lincoln's forces the Confederacy knew by heritage and history that it must fly the St. Andrews Cross, the diagonal cross which through the centuries and in many nations has commanded "resistance to tyrants." President Eisenhower kept a portrait of Robert E. Lee to the right of his desk in the Oval office for two terms. For over a century Confederate monuments and symbols were commemorated as part of a complex American national identity. Recent efforts by political and cultural elites to remove those symbols are shameful and ignorant actions which demonstrate that these leaders and their supporters envision an America bereft of its hon-

News Release from the Georgia Division

or, character, and founding principles. Join us for a thoughtful discussion of what Confederate symbols mean and why they are under attack.

Donald W. Livingston, President, The Abbeville Institute

Professor of Philosophy, Emory University, Emeritus
Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh



Slain Marine was Park Cannoneer



By: Joe Kirby, August issue of "Civil War News"



KENNESAW, GA. — Marine Lance Cpl. Squire "Skip" Wells of Marietta, Ga., age 21, one of four Marines and a sailor killed July 16 in attacks at military recruiting centers in Chattanooga, Tenn., was an avid and eager volunteer member of the cannon crew at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Wells "enlisted" in the gun crew after seeing the artillery in action while visiting the park one weekend.

"He talked to us afterward and was hooked," recalled fellow crewmember Andy Cole, who has volunteered as a living historian at the park for decades when not practicing his "day job" as a local high school history teacher. "If he wasn't shooting cannons with the Marines, he was shooting one here with us," Cole said.

Wells loved working out at the park as well. "I'd have gotten tired of driving up the mountain as many times as he ran up and down that thing," Cole recalled.

Wells had just finished Marine Artillery School at Fort Sill, Okla., mastering the 105 mm howitzer. At Kennesaw, he was a cannoneer on a 3-Inch Ordnance Rifle "He knew all the jobs and could perform them all," Cole said.

On Memorial Day weekend, Wells wore his Marine gear and took part in a park program comparing and contrasting modern artillery to its Civil War counterparts. Cole said, "He knew two centuries worth of cannons, and he was knowledgeable and proficient at both."

Like the other Kennesaw crewmen, Wells wore both Union and Confederate uniforms for the demonstrations. "One time, he had just come off of training in the desert with the Marines, and within 48 or 72 hours of getting back here he was out shooting cannons with us this summer in a wool uniform. That's dedication. And he loved doing it," Cole said. "There's no replacement for him. America is a lesser place today."

Wells was a 2012 graduate of Sprayberry High School where he was in the Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and played in the band. He attended Georgia Southern University for a year before following three generations of his family into military service. He became a Marine last year.

When he died he was texting his girl friend about her planned visit and his last message was "active shooter."

Seventy or so of Wells's friends and others hiked the 1.25-mile road up Kennesaw Mountain from the park visitor center on July 19 to honor his memory. And a salute for all five of the fallen men was fired by cannon crew at Stones River National Battlefield Park that weekend as well.

**MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH WHEELER CAMP #863,
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We're on the Web!

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New Members Inducted at Last Meeting



By: Editor J. H. Underwood



They are Mr. Donald F. Meyer (left in photo) and Mr. Barry Joe James (right).

Mr. Meyer joins the SCV and our camp through his ancestor, Private Imsley Kinsaul of Company A of the 5th North Carolina Regiment.

Mr. James joins us through his great great grandfather, Private James Wiley Thompson of Company B of the 1st Tennessee Cavalry.

Please join Commander Maxey and I in welcoming Don and Barry to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Georgia Division and Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp 863. We are pleased they have chosen our camp to honor their Confederate ancestors.

At our next meeting, September 8, 2015, we plan to increase our ranks even more. Mr. Edward Lansing Correll and his son, Michael Shane Correll have applied for membership in the SCV and our camp. Their paperwork should be completed and returned from headquarters by then and they will be sworn in at the September meeting. They will be entering the SCV through their ancestor, Private Phillip Alexander Correll, a member of Company A, of the 20th North Carolina Infantry Regiment.

Hope ya'll will be at the September meeting to meet Barry and Don and welcome the Correll's to the SCV and to Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp 863.

Compatriots; Those of you who were not at our August 11th meeting missed the induction of our newest members.