



TRAVELLER



The official publication of the General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, Tennessee

Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry

Deo Vindici

April 2012

R.E LEE CAMP MEETING

Monday April 9, 2012

Speaker: Tim Kent

**Topic: General Patrick Ronayne
Cleburne**

7:00 p.m. at the Pickering Center

Confederate Memorial Service Speech Delivered April 9, 2011 by James W. King

It is entirely fitting, proper, and appropriate that we should gather here today to pay tribute to the Confederate veterans and to the Civilian population of the South who also contributed and sacrificed so much during the years of 1861-1865 and in the Reconstruction years that followed.

Let us especially remember the women of the Old South who kept the home fires burning, the plantations and farms producing, and who cared for the children.

Let us not only remember the great Southern leaders and heroes like Jefferson Davis, Alexander Stephens, Robert E. Lee, Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, and Nathan Bedford Forrest, but let us remember the lesser known officers and enlisted men who formed the backbone of the Army in Gray.

Let us remember on this Confederate Memorial day the Unknown Confederate Soldiers who sleep in

lonely soldiers' graves. Forgotten men who fought and died for the Flag that waved across our Southern land. Even though we know not their names and remember not their faces let us remember their deeds and their fight for Southern Rights.

Let us remember the places where they fought for Constitutional Government, and Southern Independence. Places with names like Manassas, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Vicksburg, Cold Harbor, The Wilderness, Sharpsburg, Murfreesboro, and Gettysburg.

The South has long suffered the stigma placed upon us by revisionist writers and orators. Today some school books, movies, television programs and newspaper articles falsely portray Southerners as rebels and traitors who fought to preserve slavery, misleading our children and millions of Americans who are ignorant in history. As Southerners, we should consider it our duty to our Confederate ancestors to defend their honor and remember the sacrifices made by the men and women of the Confederacy in their attempt to preserve the freedoms provided by the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights, which were written primarily by Southern gentlemen from Virginia.



Political lessons, however, are only one benefit of historical memory. History recalls deep and intimate sentiments of family, community and generations past. It calls forth the shared experiences of a people and reminds them of their traditions and customs. History instructs a people of their failings and discourages false pride but also reminds them of their finer moments, and encourages a proper self respect.

Any people with contempt for their heritage have lost faith in themselves and no nation can long survive without pride in its traditions.

The Confederate Flag and the memory of the Confederate men and women and children who carried it is a fitting symbol and reminder that sacrifice and blood are often the price a people must pay to preserve limited government and self rule. Today, the Confederate flag and the memory of the sacrifices made by our Confederate ancestors speaks a certain healthy defiance against the constraining regimens of corporate life and the bureaucratic state. No constitutional guarantee will preserve liberty if the people lack the spirit of independence.

The issue of centralized power versus States Rights was at the heart of the conflict, now referred to as "The War Between the States" or "War for Southern Independence".

Northern radicals, fanatics, zealots, and socialists poured torrents of verbal and written abuse and slander upon Southerners and this, coupled with an unfair and unjust Northern tariff, froze Southern attitudes into rigid defiance against Northern aggression and tyranny. By 1861 Southerners had concluded that only two choices were available to them.

1. Accept northern tyranny and its suppression of States Rights.
2. Declare independence and dissolve Southern ties to the Union.

What followed was an epic struggle in which

Southerners outnumbered 3 to 1 fought with a heroism and a devotion rarely if ever matched in the chronicles of warfare.

The Confederate States of America fell battling under the banner of States Rights, but grand and glorious even in defeat. Duty, Honor and Patriotism called the Confederate Veteran to defend, as best he could, his home and fireside, his family, his native land, the sacred Southern soil, against the invading armies of an aggressor nation.



The Confederate veteran died the death of a hero and we the people of the South, who love those brave and noble heroes, should forever cherish the memory of Southern men who fought and died for Constitutional Government, the Supremacy of our Laws over Centralization, and our rights as guaranteed to us by the blood of our forefathers on the battlefields of the American Revolution.

The bones of our brave Southern boys lie scattered over our beloved Southland, and some, still in far off Northern graves. They fought for their country and gave their lives for the cause of Southern Independence. They chose death before dishonor.

The Confederate Soldier fought hard battles against overwhelming numbers and endured many hardships while trying to protect their homes, families, their property, and their constitution and laws. They fought for the belief that each State is a separate Sovereign Government.

The brave and gallant men who marched to the drum and fife playing Dixie and Bonnie Blue Flag have all passed away. During this month of April which is Confederate History and Heritage Month we have placed the beloved Confederate Flag on local Confederate graves and we may shed a tear in their memory; we live after them, we love their memory. We are forever grateful of the sacrifices they made.

We need never make any apologies for our brave noble Southern Heroes who fought against Northern Aggression, but we mourn the loss of so many gallant men who perished, with honor, on the field of battle.

Let us, their descendants, make them proud of us as they look down upon us from the Valhalla of Confederate Warriors.

The history and heritage of the Confederacy is like a flickering flame which must be guarded and protected. We must encourage our young people to pick up the torch and carry it forward into the future. We cannot allow prejudice and misinformation to engulf this flame. We must preserve our history and heritage for future generations.

As long as Southern Patriots live, the story of the honor, bravery and valor of the Confederate Soldier must be passed from generation to generation.

Let us always pay tribute to the Confederate Veteran. Long Live their Memory- Long Live the South- May we Never Forget.

James W. King

Commander-Sons of Confederate Veterans

Camp 141 Lt. Col. Thomas M. Nelson

Albany, Georgia



President Eisenhower on General Robert E. Lee

President Dwight Eisenhower wrote the following letter in response to one he received dated August 1, 1960, from Leon W. Scott, a dentist in New Rochelle, New York. Scott's letter reads:

"Dear Mr. President:

"At the Republican Convention I heard you mention that you have the pictures of four (4) great Americans in your office, and that included in these is a picture of Robert E. Lee.

"I do not understand how any American can include Robert E. Lee as a person to be emulated, and why the President of the United States of America should do so is certainly beyond me.

"The most outstanding thing that Robert E. Lee did was to devote his best efforts to the destruction of the United States Government, and I am sure that you do not say that a person who tries to destroy our Government is worthy of being hailed as one of our heroes.

"Will you please tell me just why you hold him in such high esteem?

Sincerely yours,

"Leon W. Scott"

Eisenhower's response, written on White House letterhead on August 9, 1960 reads as follows:

August 9, 1960

Dear Dr. Scott:

Respecting your August 1 inquiry calling attention to my often expressed admiration for General Robert E. Lee, I would say, first, that we need to understand that at the time of the War Between the States the issue of Secession had remained unresolved for more than 70 years. Men of probity, character, public standing and unquestioned loyalty, both North and South, had disagreed over this issue as a matter of principle from the day our Constitution was adopted.

General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our Nation. He believed unswervingly in the Constitutional validity of his cause which until 1865 was still an arguable question in America; he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle. Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unflinching in his belief in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man, and unsullied as I read the pages of our history.

From deep conviction I simply say this: a nation of men of Lee's caliber would be unconquerable in spirit and soul. Indeed, to the degree that present-day American youth will strive to emulate his rare qualities, including his devotion to this land as revealed in his painstaking efforts to help heal the nation's wounds once the bitter struggle was over, we, in our own time of danger in a divided world, will be strengthened and our love of freedom sustained.

Such are the reasons that I proudly display the picture of this great American on my office wall.

Sincerely,

Dwight D. Eisenhower



Confederate Silver Dollar

Coin in plastic sleeve \$65.00 ea.

Coin encased in plastic \$75.00 ea.

Add \$20.00 for shipping & handling

**Price subject to change with market fluctuation.*

Call for live quotes



The coin itself is one troy ounce of .999 fine silver. It was minted in Washington State by the Northwest Territorial Mint (NWTM).

One side of the coin features the Great Seal of the Confederacy, showing Colonial George Washington astride his horse. The other side of the coin was designed in 2002. The scripture "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" is from Psalm 33:12 and celebrates the strong Christain faith and tradition of the old South. The centerpiece is an eagle from a U.S. 1830s silver half-dollar, a coin in circulation during the war. The Breastplate or shield has the "Stars and Bars" of the battle flag with CSA (Confederate States of America) above.

Much history rests in this coin. It can be kept as a treasured keepsake or given as a gift.

YOURS FREE

With a new member brought in by yourself

Lee Camp Members Only

*See Camp Commander for more information
Tarry Beasley*

Visit our website @ www.atlanticbullionandcoin.com

Commander's Corner

Gentlemen,

PHOTOS This is your last chance to have your picture in the Camp composite. It will have everyone's picture except yours if you have not been at the last 2 meeting to have Larry Ohrberg take it. It is free. April 9th is your Last Chance.

GUEST Troop 74 attended the last meeting and including the scouts we had a total attending of 43 in attendance. The scouts lead the pledge after the opening prayer by Clark Doan. Our next generation looks good. The Scout Master Adrian Wiggins had previously won the drawing for the sword the Camp raffled off several years ago.

PROGRAM The program was presented by Dr. Brad Waters and was on the medical issues and fall out of the battle of Perryville, KY. It was one of the most impressive and informative talks that I have heard at a SCV camp meeting in the 44 years I have been in the SCV. The talk gave an insight to the battle and medicine that I have never seen researched or presented and it was well documented. Thanks to Dr. Waters.

SILVER The Confederate States Seal is yours in sterling silver upon your bringing in a new member to our Camp. It currently can be bought for 75.00 but it is yours free upon the acceptance of a new member.

SHILOH The shooting part of The War occurred again over the weekend of March 31st and April 1 near the Shiloh National battlefield. Bankhead's Battery was at the Army of Tennessee's site and the 51st will be at the other site. Hope you made the trip and enjoyed it as much as the reenactors did shooting d'yankees. (I was 17 when I found out damn and yankee were two separate words.)

HONOR GUARD Mike Daugherty and Mark Buchanan are moving forward with the Honor/Color Guard and will be presenting it to the Brigade and Camp commanders at the next Brigade meeting to see if they want to participate in the project with us. There are still positions open if you want to connect up with them call Mike or Mark.

VOLUNTEERS are still needed for Camp positions and your help is solicited to join in where ever you fell you can assist the most or desire. What do you want to do for the Camp?

CALLING COMMITTEE is still in need of more callers. Please pick up a roster at the camp meeting and get a couple of members' names to call each month. We have found out that many of the numbers on the roster are no longer working so if you are not getting a call before the meetings call me and let's check the Camps information on you.

KROGER is still willing to purchase for you a life membership is the SCV, the Tennessee Division and our Camp. We will have 5 more cards available at the April meeting so come and get one they are free.

T. Tarry Beasley II

"Flaggers" Protest Weekly In Richmond

RICHMOND, Va. – The decision of Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) in Richmond to prohibit the display of Confederate flags outside the historic Pelham Chapel has prompted an ongoing protest by Southern heritage activists in front of the museum every weekend since last October.

The property dates from the 1883 sale of a house and 36 acres to R.E. Lee Camp No. 1, Confederate Veterans, for a Confederate soldiers' camp, or home. The house and chapel are all that remain of the camp, which operated from 1885 to 1941. After the last veterans died the property was deeded to the commonwealth.

A recent five-year lease read "Confederate national flags and battle flags may be prominently displayed at all times inside the sanctuary of this War Memorial to honor the memory of the dead Confederate soldiers, sailors and marines to whom the premises is dedicated, but no such flags may be flown on the exterior of the premises." According to several people familiar with the negotiations, the VMFA presented the new lease to the SCV on a "take it or leave it" basis. The SCV signed it on May 19, 2010.

The newly formed Virginia Flaggers began "flagging" the VMFA on Oct. 1, 2011, and has done so every Saturday since then, according to spokesperson Susan Hathaway.

Flagging is when people demonstrate peacefully at a site by carrying and waving Confederate flags there.

Hathaway said flaggers talk to people who did not know about the lease provision and distribute fliers detailing the museum's discrimination against American veterans. "Several people were so angered that they turned around and did not visit the Museum as they had planned."

Our April Camp Meeting Speaker...

Tim Kent is a Civil War author and historian and a member of the William A. Johnson Camp of 898 in Tuscumbia, Alabama. He has just published his second book, *Die Like Men*, which will be available in Books a Million stores very soon and is an account of the Battle of Franklin. His second book, *Never Smile Again*, will be available in the spring of 2012 and is an account of the Battle of Shiloh. Tim is very passionate about the Civil War and enjoys speaking about it whenever possible. He has several topics ready but will speak on General Patrick Cleburne at our April 9th Camp meeting. Don't miss it!

Traveller - Now Online

Traveller, the R.E Lee Camp 1640 newsletter, has caught up with the 21st century and is now available on line. Find it monthly at:

<http://www.tennessee-scv.org/camp1640/>

SCV LIFE MEMBERS ROSTER

T. Tarry Beasley II	T. Tarry Beasley III
Winston Blackley	John Cole
James Anthony Davis	Hubert Dellinger Jr., MD
H. Clark Doan	Eugene Forrester
Robert Freeman	Donald Harrison
Frank Holeman	William P Hunter, Jr
Bobby Lessel	Jerry C. Lunsford
Frank M. McCroskey	Arthur Oliver
Charles Wendell Park	Bill Simmons
Larry J. Spiller, Sr.	Larry J. Spiller, Jr.
Osborn Turner, IV	Charles L Vernon
William C. Wilson	



Traveller is the monthly newsletter of:

The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640
Sons of Confederate Veterans
and
The Mary Custis Lee Chapter,
Order of the Confederate Rose
P.O. Box 171251
Memphis, Tennessee 38187

Steve M. McIntyre, Editor

**Next Camp Meeting ** April 9, 2012
Germantown Pickering Center, 7771 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**