

TRAVELLER

A Publication of the General Robert E. Lee Camp, #1640 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, TN Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry DEO VINDICE!

June, 2014



CAMP MEETING June 9, 2014

Speaker: Ken Chrestman

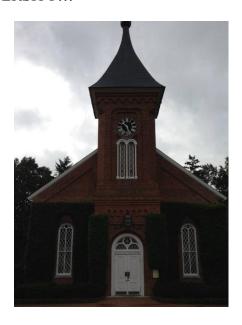
Topic: Confederate Valor and Firepower

7:00 p.m. at the Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center

Don't miss our next camp meeting.

HERITAGE ATTACK ALERTS

UPDATE ON WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY...



(See the back story at:

http://washington.cbslocal.com/2014/04/18/washington-and-lee-university-law-students-demand-school-banish-confederate-flag-from-campus/)

Bottom line, a handful of students felt like all Confederate symbols at Washington and Lee should be removed, among other things.

The administration at Washington and Lee is

reporting that they are receiving a "significant" amount of correspondence regarding the demands of "The Committee". MANY thanks to each one of you have taken the time to express your concerns to W&L leadership. We have received copies of many outstanding letters and appreciate those who have taken the time to do so.

As of this writing, one meeting between W&L leadership and "The Committee" has taken place, and, thankfully, none of the "demands" were met. We are encouraged, but feel we need to remain vigilant, and ask that the letter/email campaign continue. If you have not done so already, please take a moment to share your thoughts.

University contact information available here: http://vaflaggers.blogspot.com/2014/04/va-flaggers-call-to-action-defend-honor.html

Grayson Jennings, VA Flaggers Sandston VA <u>info@vaflaggers.com</u>

And here's another dandy...from the station that's "on your side" in Virginia Beach: http://wavy.com/2014/05/12/va-beach-student-forced-to-stop-flying-confederate-flag/

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (WAVY) – A Virginia Beach high school student said administrators are suppressing his first amendment rights.

The Tallwood High School student and a handful of friends flew three flags in the back of the pick-up trucks they park on school property: the American flag, the POW flag and the Confederate battle flag. But Junior Randy Styron III said an assistant principal told him to take the POW and Confederate flags down.

"We are flying these at school and the administration told us we have to take down the POW and Virginia battle flag because it was not on the school flagpole," Styron said. "They said all flags flown at school had to be approved by the governor."

Styron said he called the governor's office and received an email with a statute, saying the school has to fly the American flag and the state flag. But the statute doesn't address other flags on school property. So Styron called his delegate.

"When I contacted Scott Taylor's office, his secretary contacted the school board, and the school board told her that the principal has the right to govern their school in that aspect," Styron said. "To me, they practically just said the principal can make up rules as they go."



Virginia Beach City Public School policy does not have any specifics about flags. In the free speech section, the rules say speech cannot disrupt the educational process. Styron argues the flags are not in the classroom — they're in the parking lot.

Lauren Wicks, a spokesperson for Virginia Beach public schools, sent WAVY.com the following statement:

The assistant principal concluded the conduct had the potential to cause a disruption to the educational environment and took the appropriate action to avoid that disruption, which is well within the authority of school administration. As a point of clarification, the student was not asked to remove the POW flag from his vehicle.

Styron insists he was asked to take the POW flag down. He understands why some people are offended by the Confederate flag, but he believes he has the right to fly it.

"I had family who fought for the Confederacy, so for me, it's just southern pride and heritage," Styron said. "I don't see any problem with that."

Styron started a petition to fly his flags. He collected 235 signatures, but the school wouldn't accept it because of a formality. Styron said the petition did not include the proper scripting and language to be considered.

10 On Your Side tried to contact the attorney for the school board, but she was out of the office Monday. Representatives from the governor's office and Scott Taylor's office did not respond to 10 On Your Side's inquiries.

<u>HERITAGE COUNTERATTACK OF THE</u> <u>MONTH:</u>

This one in response to Washington and Lee:

I'll Take My Stand

By Paul Lagarde

Several weeks ago, a few law students, identifying themselves only as "The Committee," sent a letter to President Ruscio and the Board of Trustees demanding that actions be taken to improve the climate on campus for students of color. The Committee issued the following demands:

- 1. That the University fully recognize Martin Luther King Jr. Day on the undergraduate campus.
- 2. That the University stop allowing neo-Confederates to march on campus with Confederate flags on Lee-Jackson Day and to stop allowing these groups to hold programs in Lee Chapel.
- 3. That the University immediately remove all Confederate flags from its property, including those flags located within Lee Chapel.
- 4. That the University issue an official apology for the University's participation in chattel slavery and a denunciation of Robert E. Lee's participation in slavery.

Threatening civil disobedience if these demands were not met by September 1, The Committee turned to the national media almost immediately after contacting Ruscio and the Board, perhaps not allowing ample time for any kind of thorough response on the school's part.

Before addressing the content and method of the Committee's demands, let me state up front that I support the right of these law students to bring up this topic for discussion. Our University community should encourage discourse and debate, not quash it. As President Ruscio said in his email to the student body on April 16th, "the students have raised important questions that relate to ongoing discussions at the University."W&L can only grow from such discussions.

With that being said, it does not appear that The Committee's purpose is to foster meaningful discussion, at least on the community level. Rather, in turning so quickly to the national media, which can reliably be expected to get the facts as wrong as it takes to get a sensational headline, The Committee instead revealed its intention to accomplish its goals through external pressure, rather than seeking to foster mutual understanding by means of an honest discussion. Instead of seeking a civil conversation on sensitive issues that involve race, The Committee decided to take an adversarial tone, and, according to multiple news outlets, even threatened to publicly disobey University authority, all before the school even had a chance to respond. These actions, particularly the threat of disobedience, contradict the defining principles of Washington and Lee and the

idea of an institution dedicated to fostering a community of trust, civility, and honor.

of Because these circumstances, the discussion has grown more complicated than it should have. Nevertheless, I will address seek to The Committee's concerns, beginning with the issue of classes on Martin Luther King Day. As President

Ruscio stated in a follow-up email on April 21st, "the question of canceling undergraduate classes on Martin Luther King Jr. Day is about how to honor Dr. King's legacy, not whether to honor it." Indeed, it would be hard for anyone to argue that the University does not thoroughly observe and celebrate MLK Day. Traditionally, the school has honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s memory with a concert by the outstanding University Singers, a birthday party for local children, a day of service, faculty panels, a guest speaker, and a commemorative dinner. Indeed, it even seems that the January MLK events overshadow Robert E. Lee's own concurrent birthday celebration, so it is puzzling why the law students on Committee would insist on canceling undergraduate classes on top of all this. Furthermore, as alum Nathan Jensen noted in an op-ed in the Roanoke Times, undergraduates also attend classes on Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, and President's Day—all federal holidays. Therefore, it is ridiculous to suggest that by not canceling classes on MLK Day, the University is promoting some kind of prejudiced attitude as the result of underlying racism. We simply

have class on King's Birthday because that is our standard practice. As an educational institution, might we not more effectively carry out our mission anyway by continuing to celebrate King through the current proactive measures rather than simply providing students with a longer weekend and the extra day of drinking that a canceled day of classes would undoubtedly encourage? This writer thinks so.

The Committee also demanded that the University remove all Confederate flags from its property, including the flags in Lee Chapel. The vague wording of this demand is troubling to say the least. Does this group want the school to march through Graham-Lees, police-style, and strip all rebel flags from students' walls? Such an invasion would not only violate the Constitutional guarantee to freedom of speech, but it would also undermine the traditions of

student autonomy and selfgovernance that have been hallmarks of this University since, well, the days of Robert E. Lee's presidency. Even if The Committee is not salivating at the prospect of Orwellian totalitarianism on this campus, their call for the removal of Confederate flags from Lee Chapel remains worrisome by itself. It would be ludicrous to assume that the University's display of

Confederate flags in Lee Chapel indicates institutional support for slavery or racism.

This sensitivity by many to the Confederate flag is certainly not new, but the assumption that the flag itself as well as all who would fly it are racist is simply not accurate. Though Lee was certainly a man of many facets, to completely deny his role in the Confederacy by removing the flags from a building named after him would seem a bit odd. In his second message to the student body. President Ruscio wrote that W&L is an educational institution, "not a museum and not a historical curiosity." However, this statement perhaps creates an unnecessary juxtaposition between a university and a museum, and in doing so, it does not really paint the full picture of Washington and Lee. Though W&L is primarily an educational institution, Lee Chapel, however, does, in fact, include a museum on the lower level and is designated as a National Historical Landmark. There are no classes in Lee Chapel, and it has a distinct, reverential aura about it, due to the fact that it serves most importantly as the final resting



place for the Lee family. As W&L continues to have this discussion, to lump Lee Chapel in with the other buildings on campus like Leyburn Library oversimplifies things and does the chapel and the family buried there a disservice. The building bears enormous historical significance, and removing the flags from Lee Chapel due to a few protestors would signal an intentional attempt to deny history. There are other, better ways to demonstrate good will than to deny the past, even if the past is not pretty.

If the University were to cave to The Committee's final demand and issue a denunciation of Robert E. Lee for his "participation in slavery", by the same logic it must also issue a denunciation of George Washington as well, for Washington owned slaves. Many believe that Lee was ahead of his time on the issue of slavery and his sense of duty, honor, and his Christian faith (the reasons for which he is still admired by many today) informed his belief that slavery was evil. If we accept The Committee's logic on this matter, we might as well start referring to our school as "And University."

This point aside, the legacy of Lee at W&L has never really been about his role in the Civil War. Rather, we primarily celebrate his years afterward, in which he came to Washington College to help save a hurting school and heal a broken nation. He not only improved and expanded the school, probably saving it from extinction, but he also promoted the culture of honor and civility that exists today. We honor Lee because he was a great man who loved this place, and we recognize that his ideals played a key role in shaping it. He was a gentleman in every sense, and that is why our school should be proud to bear his name today.

Here at Washington and Lee, we hold ourselves to a high standard. The members of The Committee feel that W&L is not a welcoming community, and we should take their concerns seriously. But we should not give in to bully tactics. Instead, we should renew our commitment to honor and gentlemanly behavior by learning from Lee's example, and by doing so, we can ensure that our university will be a place for all here to truly call home. The great irony in all of this is that Robert E. Lee singlehandedly did more than any other individual to promote a culture of civility and decency at this school. Now more than ever, we should cling to these ideals and honor the man who lived them out, not denounce him.

(Wikimedia Commons)

BLUFF CITY GRAYS UPDATE

LINDEN, TENNESSEE - AFTER ACTION REPORT

The Grays found themselves involved in an altercation yesterday in the small town of Linden, TN.



Having stopped in for supplies and hopefully a decent meal, we were minding our own business when we were alerted to the imminent arrival of a large Yankee contingency and linked up with the 48th Tennessee to bolster their defenses.

Our orders were to stand by for orders to come in on the Yankee right and flank them but word to move out never came so we had to guess on the timing and missed our opportunity. We ended up on the right of the 48th fighting off a second line of Yankees that had moved in from behind the courthouse. We laid down a loud and blistering volley of fire on them and made them pay greatly but soon were forced to fall back into a V line as we were now being fired upon from both sides. This eventually led to our falling back, along with the 48th. After much back and forth and a few casualties, some of us moved inside the courthouse to defend it but those who did were



eventually killed or captured, including myself but I and several others managed to escape due to a lazy bluebelly guard.

In the end, we were forced to

retreat, the town was taken and the Yankees burned the courthouse and confiscated our flag.

Sent with my compliments,

1st Sergeant Mike Daugherty 154th Tennessee Sr. Infantry Regt., Co. B.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

General Robert E. Lee to his wife Mary, early in the war prior to becoming Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia:

"The Confederate States have now but one great object in view, the successful issue of their war for independence. Everything worth their possessing depends on that. Everything should yield to its accomplishment.

"Among the calamities of war, the hardest to bear, perhaps is the separation of families and friends. Yet all must be endured to accomplish our independence, and maintains our self government. Your old home [Arlington], if not destroyed by our enemies, has been so desecrated that I cannot bear to think of it. I should have preferred it to have been wiped from the earth, its beautiful hill sunk and its sacred trees buried, rather than to have been degraded by the presence of those who revel in the ill they do for their own selfish purposes. You see what a poor sinner I am, and how unworthy to possess what has been given me; for that reason it has been taken away. I pray for a better spirit, and that the hearts of our enemies may be changed."

Lee was the executor of the estate and could not take possession of the property, and Custis Lee inherited Arlington. The U.S. Supreme court ruled after the war that the property be returned to the Lee estate. Custis, magnanimously, did not want to disinter all the Yankees buried there, and agreed to be paid for the property.

Mark Buchanan



<u>THIS MONTH IN CONFEDERATE</u> HISTORY

June 1 1862 - Robert E. Lee was appointed Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia

June 1 1864 - Battle of Cold Harbor (through June 3) June 3 1808 - Jefferson Davis, President, CSA, born

June 6 1862 - Surrender of the City of Memphis to Union Forces

June 8 1861 - Tennessee formally secedes

June 9 1863 - Battle of Brandy Station

June 12 1862 - JEB Stuart's "ride around McClellan"

June 15 1864 - Petersburg Campaign begins

June 23 1865 - Last formal Confederate surrender

June 25 1862 - Seven Days Campaign begins

June 27 1864 - Battle of Kennesaw Mountain

The Confederate Calendar 2014 Event Schedule

A listing of events of interest for Southern Heritage organizations:

June 1 Memphis -- Elmwood Cemetery, CS Decoration Day, 2:30 pm

7 Collierville -- Wigfall Greys SCV Confederate Pancake Breakfast, 7am

9 Germantown, TN -- Lee Camp meeting, TnGen Center, 7pm

10 Collierville -- Wigfall Greys meeting, VFW, 247 Center St, 7pm

12 Memphis -- Tenn. Secession Day Oratorical debate, Forrest Camp meeting,

Scottish Rite Auditorium, 825 Union Ave (across from Forrest Park), 7pm

SCV LIFE MEMBERS ROSTER

T. Tarry Beasley II
Winston Blackley
John Cole
James Anthony Davis

T. Tarry Beasley III
Eugene Callaway
W. Kent Daniel Jr.
Hubert Dellinger Jr., MD

H. Clark Doan
Robert Freeman
Frederick Harrison
M. Gary Hood
Bobby Lessel
Frank M. McCroskey

Eugene Forrester
Donald Harrison
Frank Holeman
William P Hunter, Jr.
Jerry C. Lunsford
Steve McIntyre

Frank M. McCroskey
Arthur Oliver
Steve Reason
Larry J. Spiller, Sr.
Charles L Vernon

Steve McIntyre
Charles Wendell Park
Larry J. Spiller, Jr.
Osborn Turner, IV
William C. Wilson

41% of active members

C T S O P

CITIZENS TO SAVE OUR PARKS

Dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of our historic parks.

Fight City Hall? We ARE !!!

Help us to save our historic parks: Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park.

I wish to join CTSOP. Please sign me up as a member. No membership fee.

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Commander's Corner

OUR MAY MEETING was fantastic. We had a packed house and a lot of the usual suspects were not in attendance. What does this mean? It means we need a bigger space, which is a great problem to have. I'm asking every member who ever goes out of their house to notice available meeting rooms at places you may go, particularly in Germantown and preferably close to where we meet now. I don't care if it is a church, restaurant, performance venue, whatever the case may be I'll take a look at it. I will talk to the City and see if they will consider a discounted rate on Pickering Center again, but I'm not sure we'll be able to get that.

Oh yeah - that's right, meeting. First of all, I'd like to congratulate Jim and Jerry Smith, who received their membership certificates and first editions of Confederate Veteran. We also inducted John Powell as a new member, his paperwork is submitted and his lineage is verified. Pending paperwork on him. Congratulations, and welcome John.

Brad Waters again brought his A-game with a fantastic presentation on Chickamauga. We then, as always took care of business. A suggestion was made that we charter a bus to take prospective members to the 150th Brice's Crossroads Anniversary, which was a great idea but with the event date being June 15, we decided it was too short notice for most people. We will pursue undertaking a similar project at a later time, maybe the Franklin or Spring Hill 150th events in November.

The Wigfall Grays will be having their Pancake Breakfast on June 28. This will be made a bigger event this year as the City of Collierville and the Morton Museum want to tie off on that and the usual tour of Magnolia Cemetery and have a downtown Collierville Historic Event. There will be reenactors in the square and in the museum, speakers discussing various aspects of life during the war, other demonstrations throughout the area. We will step up to help out in this undertaking - the Color Guard, 51st and Bluff City Grays already have. There will be other places help out. Please contact Donna (nabors d@msn.com) and copy me if you are able to help with any of this, especially the Pancake Breakfast. The Wigfall Grays could use and will appreciate your help. And don't forget to SELL TICKETS if you have them. I have more if needed.

Speaking of upcoming events, we voted YES to having a tent at the Germantown Festival this year, the weekend after Labor Day. We will try to get space next to TenGen, who is very well located in the site, and will take a

different approach this year as opposed to years past. We will need volunteers to man the tent, and thank you to those who already have. Prepare your "elevator pitches" for talking about the SCV with the public. More on that to come. Before that, we have the annual Brigade Picnic which will be combined this year with the dedication of the Cannon at Fort Germantown. That will be on June 21, time to be announced by the Brigade. Other events upcoming include:

Memorial Day at the Trench - Shiloh, Tour Stop #13, May 26 at 11:00 AM

Pleasant Hill Cemetery Memorial Service - Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Bartlett, May 31 at 10:00 AM

Confederate Decoration Day - Elmwood Cemetery, June 1 at 2:00 PM

Gentlemen, we all have talents and skills we can share, and no shortage of places where we can apply them to help the cause. The Camp, and the larger SCV needs you to apply those. Our detractors are working hard to try to take all remnants of our heritage from us and our descendants, and some spineless weasels in leadership positions across this country are allowing it to happen. By the activity around Jeremy's video above, by the response to the Washington and Lee debacle, by the ACLU of all people taking BATTLE FLAG cases - WE KNOW that there are other people out there who are fed up with this PC nonsense, who feel like we do about our Confederate Heritage, who want to stand up and fight back - and we just need to approach this the right way in order to give them a good channel to do so. So bring a friend for our next meeting. See you all there!!

Your Obedient Servant,

Mike Daugherty, Commander Robert E. Lee Camp, SCV DEO VINDICE!!



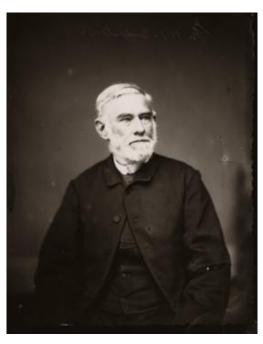
DID YOUK NOW?

by Beecher Smith

Confederate Brigadier General William Nelson Pendleton

The First Rockbridge Artillery was organized on April 29, 1861, by Lexington, VA, Episcopal Rector and West Point Graduate William Nelson Pendleton (1809-1883), who served as Chief of Artillery for the Army of Northern Virginia (and continued to preach), throughout the duration of the American Civil War. Its first shots fired in combat were at the First Battle of Manassas on July 21, 1861, and it fought continuously until Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. The battery quickly became famous for its daring and firmness under fire as part of the Stonewall Brigade. With typical ecclesiastical panache, Pendleton named the first four tubes of the battery "Matthew," "Mark," "Luke," and "John." The theory was the guns sent the Yankees to God and then He would sort them out.

Source: *Encyclopedia Virginia*, Matt Atkinson (Virginia Foundation for the Humanities)



Brigadier General William Nelson Pendleton

BULLETIN BOARD

Confederate Decoration Day Video

Our own Jeremy Elkins, of Bankhead's Battery and the Lee Camp, has produced a video that was posted on our Camp Facebook page. This is nothing less than an astounding piece of work, and in the first 24 hours after having been posted had been viewed over 3400 times!! That number has since grown to well over 5000, and we've posted it again since this weekend is Confederate Decoration Day - that means more people hitting our Facebook site and getting our message. I doubt that that is any kind of record, but it's a darn impressive number. Our "likes" went up significantly, and hits on the page in general spiked big time. Outstanding work, Jeremy!! If you haven't seen it yet, you can view it at:

https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=6681838032367 02&set=vb.535931113128639&type=2&theater

Confederate Heritage rally 2014

Please <u>put this on your calendars</u> and plan to attend, this should be a HUGE event marking 150 years of Confederate Heritage. It is to be held in Franklin, which is an easy day trip.

See the link at:

http://confederate150.com/2014.html.

I would like to see all of us attend, and I'd also like to see carpools to help people with transportation issues to get there. We'll talk about this more as we get closer but please make plans to attend now.

