



# TRAVELLER

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



**January 8, 2018**

## CAMP MEETING

**January 8, 2018**

**Speaker: Noted Local Historian**

**Topic: Barksdale's Brigade in the Battle of  
Gettysburg**

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

**Don't miss our next meeting!**

**NOTE: The date of Lee-Jackson-Chalmers  
Banquet posted in this issue is incorrect. The  
correct date of the banquet is January 27.**

### **Editorial: Making Sense of the Tragedy of the Statues and the Message of the Tyrants**

For all practical purposes it accomplished less than nothing. I wish I could say it was all nothing more than a meaningless gesture. But the truth is that, as a gesture, it was a measured and profoundly meaningful gesture. After all, a gesture is an action that communicates an idea or thought. That is what they meant to do and they did it. They did it as effectively as a thing can be done. While we know why it is a disturbing thing for us, and it was meant to be, it is important that we do not misunderstand the thought or idea they ultimately meant to communicate.

In order to properly put the meaning of the gesture into perspective, so that there is no confusion about what precisely is at stake, we must first define who "they" are.

We are supposed to assume that "they" are the mob. The talking heads call them "activists". The mob is whom we saw on TV gloating as the wrecking crew wrapped a noose around the Forrest statue. Don't be fooled. The mob is a diversion. The activists are pawns in a larger

scheme; they always have been and they always will be. Part of the scheme requires resentment and hatred be stirred up between "them" and "us". It is a very old strategy and it is used because it *always* works. Gen. Forrest, the consummate strategist, understood this implicitly and, to his credit, worked diligently after the war to counter it. Instead of resentment and hatred, we owe the activists our pity. The activists have no power except what is allowed them and they are allowed power only to the extent to which they are useful. And if slavery is wrong for using men unjustly as a means to achieve other men's ends, then the freedmen and their decedents have been used just as wrongfully.

The evidence that the activists are mere patsies in the scheme is plain. The removal of the statues benefited them in no material way. Poverty was not diminished, jobs were not created, ignorance continues uninformed, venereal disease remains a scourge, illegal drug trafficking and abuse did not end, and violent crime rages on unabated. So what practical purpose did removing statues serve beyond giving an angry mob a reason to gloat?

To answer that question, it is necessary to identify the power behind the scheme, the power that created the angry mob. We often refer to that power as "they", as if we subscribe to some vague and ludicrous conspiracy theory. We call them "they" because we can't point to any single despot or dictator. But to argue that "they" are bugbears who don't exist is to imply that tyranny doesn't exist, and tyranny has always existed. What we refer to is a systematic tyranny made up of thousands of tyrants and their minions. It is a tyranny that manipulates government, education, the news media, entertainment, business, finance, and even religious institutions. The tyrants, individually, carry various labels meant to mislead and divide us: liberal/conservative, democrat/republican, socialist/capitalist, but however they label themselves the tyrants benefit from a symbiotic relationship, co-reliant in their quest to seize and maintain power, and they are united and guided by a common ideology.

It is no mere play on words to say that a statue stands because it stands for something. I think we can all agree a statue stands, fundamentally, for things that ought to be remembered, even if the memory is of something you don't like. But a statue removed is a reminder of a war the tyrants would have us consider lost. It is a reminder of what the war is really about. The United States of America, after all, was established upon a war against tyranny. America won the Revolution against Great Britain. But the tyrants would have us know that, from an ideological standpoint, America lost the French Revolution and, more particularly, America is losing the Bolshevik Revolution. What is called the "American Civil War" was simply a last stand of a people who were still willing to actually fight and die over a certain philosophy of government. It was an experiment in government really that reasoned if you are going to overthrow tyranny it does no good to replace it with another form of tyranny. That experiment was already failing before the "Civil War" began.

This is why the tyrants always shout down the truth about the War for Southern Independence. And the truth the tyrants will not allow is this: that while there is an injustice that would make some men slaves, there is also a tyranny that makes all men subjects. The Unionists chose tyranny and, as a consequence, made freeing slaves a pretense to subjugate, not just the South but, all Americans. Essentially, the "war was about slavery" argument, forces the tyrant to maintain a paradoxical and logically untenable position: tyranny, or subjugation, which is by definition injustice, is justifiable if it is used to eradicate an injustice. That is just another way of saying "might makes right" which is hardly the principle upon which America was supposed to have been founded. So while Lincoln, in his Gettysburg Address, was paying lip service to "government for and by the people" his armies were proving the high ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence are, for all practical purposes, a sham on all points. A people who by force of arms are not allowed to "dissolve the political bonds which have connected them", are subjects. And subjects cannot be considered free much less equal to the tyrants who have subjugated them.

Which brings us to the tragedy of the statues. The meaning anyone attributes to Confederate statues

depends on their particular position on politics or history. But regardless of what they want us to think the Confederate heroes of the type of Forrest and Davis did, or said, before during or after the war, what Forrest and Davis unquestionably did after the war was actively promote, and represent, the reconciliation of a bitter and defeated South with the Nation. They saw to it that the South became American again because they held out hope that America could still be a Constitutional Republic again. They did it in spite of the relentless antagonism of the tyrants called "reconstruction". No one now gives a second thought to what might have been if men like Forrest and Davis, men who had real influence over the people of the South had opted, as some were inclined, to promote resistance by guerilla warfare after the surrender of the Confederate armies. No one today considers the endless hatred and violent retribution such a policy would have engendered. The reason we never consider it is because Forrest and Davis, and leaders like them of both North and South, were miraculously successful in healing a devastated and broken America.



And so, America and Memphis has every reason to thank and remember Forrest and Davis. For a while, in the spirit of reconciliation, the South was allowed some latitude to honor its Confederate veterans and war heroes. As a result, the South became "American" in a way no other region of the country can compare in patriotism and devotion. The South's devotion to country has been proved time and again, not only in the War for Southern Independence, but in every subsequent war in which Americans have fought. The decedents of Confederate veterans have volunteered and served America's military and died in numbers far in excess of the South's relative population compared to other regions of the country. Southerners fought and died in America's wars, because their Confederate ancestors were American patriots. And there is nothing a tyrant hates more than a Patriot, because Patriots stand against tyranny. That is why it is more than infuriating, it is heartbreaking, when we realize *this* is what the patriots of the South ultimately fought for: that tyranny would prevail and our heroes, our veterans, our brothers, fathers, and grandfathers would be vilified.

The lie sold to the mob is that the statues of Forrest and Davis were erected because somehow the South used to

**Lt. General Nathan Bedford Forrest**  
**Farewell Address to His Troops**  
**Headquarters, Forrest's Cavalry Corps**  
**Gainsville, Alabama**  
**May 9, 1865**

be “on top”. It is a transparent myth. The South was never on top. The unlimited resources available to the tyrants, the machine that ground down the people of the Confederate States, of Davis and the armies of Lee and Forrest, are the same Federal armies, finance and industry, and propaganda that made the Civil Rights Movement possible (dare I say, made it necessary) as a strategy to stamp out all remaining resistance to tyranny. The tyrants allow the activists the pretense of gloating over “their” victories but that is all they will get. Because the tyrants are absolutely certain about one thing: the obsequious activists are incapable of ever posing a threat to the tyrants.

The Confederate South stood, and still stands, against tyranny. It is important for the tyrants to make of us an example to *anyone* in America or, for that matter, the world who might oppose them. And that, dear compatriots, is the message the tyrants communicated when they removed the statues.

We talk of what we will do in response to this tyranny. Of course, what we mean by response is action that can be taken civilly and legally. We like to believe America is supposed to work that way. Resistance for us is voting, writing letters, and filing lawsuits. But tyrants, as we have seen clearly demonstrated, have no regard for civility and the law. After all, that is why honest men resist tyranny.

I wish I could conclude on a positive note but, the truth is, no one wins but the tyrants. Employing monumental acts of lawlessness and cowardice, the tyrants brought down bronze statues of heroes, truly great men, long dead and incapable of defending themselves. But the tyrants leave a monument, of sorts. As a result of decades of systematic tyranny, Memphis stands as a monument to poverty, crime, and violence; all built upon the moral, spiritual and physical decay tyranny engenders.

We are discouraged by the actions of the tyrants on December 20. But what we can't be is surprised. Or if we are surprised it can only be in that it took the tyrants as long as it did to accomplish the thing they set out to inevitably do. It took over 150 years but the tyrants have made it appear that the last holdouts of the resistance have been crushed as they gloat in exultation, “We got you!” To which we respond with a simple gesture of our own, pointing to the blighted disgrace the tyrants have reduced this city and its pitiable subjects, and we reply sardonically, “No, you got *that*. And it's a hell of a get you got.”

- The Editor

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The following text is from General Forrest's farewell address to his troops. It is a particularly interesting prelude to the experiences the South had during Reconstruction. Imagine that you are one of Forrest's troops on the receiving end of this proclamation. It is at the same time, very sobering and inspiring.

**SOLDIERS:**

By an agreement made between Lieut.-Gen. Taylor, commanding the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana, and Major-Gen. Canby, commanding United States forces, the troops of this department have been surrendered.

I do not think it proper or necessary at this time to refer to causes which have reduced us to this extremity; nor is it now a matter of material consequence to us how such results were brought about. That we are BEATEN is a self-evident fact, and any further resistance on our part would justly be regarded as the very height of folly and rashness.

The armies of Generals LEE and JOHNSON having surrendered. You are the last of all the troops of the Confederate States Army east of the Mississippi River to lay down your arms.

The Cause for which you have so long and so manfully struggled, and for which you have braved dangers, endured privations, and sufferings, and made so many sacrifices, is today hopeless. The government which we sought to establish and perpetuate, is at an end. Reason dictates and humanity demands that no more blood be shed. Fully realizing and feeling that such is the case, it is your duty and mine to lay down our arms -- submit to the “powers that be” -- and to aid in restoring peace and establishing law and order throughout the land.

The terms upon which you were surrendered are favorable, and should be satisfactory and acceptable to all. They manifest a spirit of magnanimity and liberality, on the part of the Federal authorities, which should be met, on our part, by a faithful compliance with all the stipulations and conditions therein expressed. As your Commander, I sincerely hope that every officer and soldier of my command will cheerfully obey the orders given, and carry out in good faith all the terms of the cartel.

Those who neglect the terms and refuse to be paroled, may assuredly expect, when arrested, to be sent North and imprisoned. Let those who are absent from their

commands, from whatever cause, report at once to this place, or to Jackson, Miss.; or, if too remote from either, to the nearest United States post or garrison, for parole.

Civil war, such as you have just passed through naturally engenders feelings of animosity, hatred, and revenge. It is our duty to divest ourselves of all such feelings; and as far as it is in our power to do so, to cultivate friendly feelings towards those with whom we have so long contended, and heretofore so widely, but honestly, differed. Neighborhood feuds, personal animosities, and private differences should be blotted out; and, when you return home, a manly, straightforward course of conduct will secure the respect of your enemies. Whatever your responsibilities may be to Government, to society, or to individuals meet them like men.

The attempt made to establish a separate and independent Confederation has failed; but the consciousness of having done your duty faithfully, and to the end, will, in some measure, repay for the hardships you have undergone.

In bidding you farewell, rest assured that you carry with you my best wishes for your future welfare and happiness. Without, in any way, referring to the merits of the Cause in which we have been engaged, your courage and determination, as exhibited on many hard-fought fields, has elicited the respect and admiration of friend and foe. And I now cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the officers and men of my command whose zeal, fidelity and unflinching bravery have been the great source of my past success in arms.

I have never, on the field of battle, sent you where I was unwilling to go myself; nor would I now advise you to a course which I felt myself unwilling to pursue. You have been good soldiers, you can be good citizens. Obey the laws, preserve your honor, and the Government to which you have surrendered can afford to be, and will be, magnanimous.

N.B. Forrest, Lieut.-General  
Headquarters, Forrest's Cavalry Corps  
Gainesville, Alabama  
May 9, 1865

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### Commander's Corner

I am humbled that you have elected me the next Commander of the Robert E. Lee Camp to carry on the legacy of all the past-Commanders and knowing that all of you are more qualified to hold this position.

During these challenging times to our Southern Heritage

all I can offer is to remind everyone of Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee's charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans ... "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. Remember, it is your (OUR) duty to see that the history of the South is presented to future generations."

So, as we embark on the New Year, and with the serenity prayer in mind (God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference) let US embrace Gen. Lee's charge to the SCV and always remember to Honor our faith; Honor our family; and Honor our Heritage

Happy 2018

Gary Douglas  
Commander, Robert E Lee Camp #1640

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Go to our website:

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

Or visit our Facebook pages at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BluffCityGraysMemphis>

<http://www.facebook.com/RELeeCamp1640>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/SCV-Memphis-Brigade-Color-Guard/268457703293353>

### SCV LIFE MEMBERS ROSTER

T. Tarry Beasley II	T. Tarry Beasley III
T Tarry Beasley IV	Winston Blackley
Eugene Callaway	John Cole
W. Kent Daniel Jr.	James Anthony Davis
Hubert Dellinger Jr., MD	H. Clark Doan
Gary Douglas	Robert Freeman
Eugene Forrester	Donald Harrison
Frederick Harrison	Frank Holeman
M. Gary Hood	William P Hunter, Jr.
Bobby Lessel	Jerry C. Lunsford
C. Bruce Lynch	Frank M. McCroskey
James Lee McDowell	
Michael Christopher McDowel	
Steve McIntyre	Arthur Oliver
Charles Wendell Park	Steve Reason
Larry J. Spiller, Jr.	Larry J. Spiller, Sr.
Osborn Turner, IV	Charles L Vernon
William C. Wilson	



66<sup>th</sup> annual

# LEE-JACKSON-CHALMERS BANQUET



The Sons of Confederate Veterans

Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
6:00 P.M.

Catered Dinner  
Hillwood Hall, Davies Plantation  
3570 Daviesshire Dr, Memphis, TN 38133-0901

Guest Speaker:

SCV Executive Director

**LtCol (r) Michael Landree**

Catered Banquet Dinner, Awards Ceremony, Silent Auction,  
Ancestor Candlelight Tribute, And Music by the 52<sup>nd</sup> Regimental String Band

**Tickets are \$30.00 per person**

Tickets may be purchased from Cdr Alan Doyle (901) 454-7139, Cdr JD Lawhon (901) 573-9757,  
Cdr Sam Escue (901)359-4801, Adj Arthur Oliver (901) 754-7369

Make checks payable to Lee-Jackson-Chalmers Banquet, P.O. Box 11141, Memphis, TN 38111  
Deadline for ticket purchase and reservation is Saturday, January 13

\*\*\* Please bring your donations for the silent auction \*\*\*

All members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and Friends, Family and  
Reenactors are encouraged to attend. Dress is Coat and Tie

CITIZENS TO SAVE OUR PARKS  
AND THE  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

# Help Save Our Parks



## Fight City Hall ? We ARE !!!

The Forrest Camp 213 and the CTSOP have filed suit against the Memphis City Council for their illegal attempt to change the names of our three Confederate parks. We have been joined by all area camps & many UDC members. These parks, Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park, are our history, our Confederate heritage, and a lasting tribute to our Confederate ancestors. They must not be destroyed or taken away by mis-guided politicians.

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

**Can you, or your group donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?**

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribute through PayPal at : [www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

Please donate to our cause:      Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_      check number \_\_\_\_\_

**Parks Defense Fund**

PO Box 241875,    Memphis, TN    38124

**SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

# Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

**Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest**

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter. No membership fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : [www.citizenstosaveourparks.org](http://www.citizenstosaveourparks.org)

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ check number \_\_\_\_\_

**Forrest Park Defense Fund**

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

COLLECTOR'S

# FORREST COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Solid bronze

**\$ 10 each — All proceeds go to  
Parks Defense Fund**

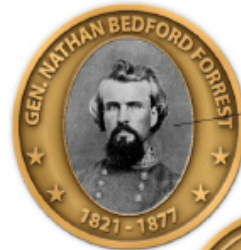
Contact: Harry Adams, Forrest Camp 215

[harryadamscsa@gmail.com](mailto:harryadamscsa@gmail.com)

\$10 each, plus \$1 each for shipping. Send your check to

Save the Parks

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124



**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 \*\* January 8, 2018**

**Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**