



The Martz Missive

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Col. D. H. Lee Martz Camp Ten, Harrisonburg VA



Volume 16, Issue 8

August 2015

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 duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, New Orleans, 25 April 1906

Camp 10 Picnic - September 5th Regular August Meeting Is Cancelled

What: Camp 10 Annual Picnic

Where: Grand Caverns Park, Shelter No. 1, Grottoes VA

When: Saturday, September 5th, 1:00 pm

Who: Camp 10 members and families, Turner Ashby UDC members and families

Camp 10 is providing shredded pork BBQ and grilled hot dogs, buns, drinks and utensils.

Attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share and an item to donate to a silent auction.

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No Turning His Back

A propos of the debate about the Confederate battle flag, here are a few words from the late columnist, Lewis Grizzard:

"I don't go around sulking about the fact the South lost the Civil War. But I am aware that once upon a time long ago, a group of Americans saw fit to rebel against what they thought was an overbearing federal government.

"There is no record anywhere that indicates anybody in my family living in 1861 owned slaves. As a matter of fact, I come from a long line of sharecroppers, horse thieves, and used-car dealers. But a few of them fought anyway, not to keep their slaves, because they didn't have any. I guess they simply thought it was the right thing to do at the time.

"Whatever the reason, there was a citizenry that once saw fit to fight and die, and I come from all that. I look at those people as brave and gallant and a frightful force until their hearts and their lands were burnt away.

"I will never turn my back on that heritage."

Why should anyone?

*From the Daily News Record, June 2015
Submitted by Commander Way*

Adjutant's Report

The July 2015 monthly meeting of the Col. D. H. Lee Martz Camp #10, Sons of Confederate Veterans, was held on the 27th at the Rockingham County Administration Center. The Adjutant pro tem, L. W. Monger, had taken attendance as members arrived with the following present: Jake Biller, Casey Billhimer, Rod Clark, Leonard Derrer, Dan Goodson, Delaney Hopkins, Ed Karnes, Carl Marshall, Roger Miller, Tim Miller, L. W. Monger, Wayne Orebaugh, Michael Rhodes, Will Shirkey, Rev. Lloyd Sprinkle, Ellis Via, Phil Way, Robert Weatherholtz, and Tom Yeakle. One guest, Leonard Shifflett (Will Shirkey's father-in-law), was also present. Commander Way called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chaplin Lloyd Sprinkle gave the invocation. The camp gave a pledge of allegiance to the American flag and salutes were made to the Virginia flag and the Confederate flag.

Robert Weatherholtz moved to accept the June Adjutant's report as printed in the July newsletter. Dan Goodson seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer L. W. Monger read the Treasurer's report. Casey Billhimer moved to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Dan Goodson seconded and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Commanders Communications/Orders:

Commander Way announced that there would be no meeting in August due to the Camp Picnic being scheduled for September 5th.

Commander Way, in response to the media requesting a response from the camp on the Confederate Flag, presented a letter

Report - Continued

that he had composed stating the camp's position on the Flag. Copies of this letter were made available to camp members. Commander Way reported that he had contacted Steve Ritchie about what position we should take. Compatriot Ritchie said that National's position was that we could be "political" but could not endorse a candidate.

Other Officers and Committees: There were no officer reports

Programs/Publicity:

There arose a discussion about individuals who were flying the Battle Flag (some were not the true Battle Flag) on their pickups and automobiles. Some members were in favor of this practice and other members thought it was demeaning to the flag. After some discussion on this topic, it was suggested that the camp place an ad in the Daily News Record depicting the Battle Flag and stating the camp's position on the flag. It was also suggested to invite anyone who was interested in the flag to attend one of our meetings. It was further suggested to have a special meeting and invite Ben Jones, Chief of Heritage Operations, to speak for this open meeting. Rod Clark moved that the camp allocate up to \$500 for the proposed newspaper ad. Tom Yeakle seconded and the motion passed. Rod Clark, Jake Biller, Dan Goodson, and Casey Billhimer were selected as a committee to compose the ad and present it to the Executive Committee for approval.

There was more discussion about Ben Jones coming as our speaker for this special meeting that may be in October. It was

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suggested that we hold this meeting at Rev. Sprinkle's church, which he readily agreed to. Casey will contact Compatriot Jones about a speaking engagement.

Dan Goodson reported that he and Casey had installed new flags in Woodbine Cemetery. Commander Way thanked Dan and Casey for taking care of this. Casey also reported that they had been by the Coaling and the Confederate Flag was missing. It may be that it was removed because of weather deterioration. Commander Way said that the Civil War Trust had taken this over and that it would be up to them to replace it.

Dan also said that he had sent a letter to the Civil War Trust questioning them about why they had left out pictures of the Battle Flag in their publication.

Headstones, Markers & Monuments:

The installation of new stones at Woodbine will resume again when the weather is cooler. Wayne Orebaugh and Leonard Derrer will co-ordinate this.

Installation of Officers:

Commander Way performed the installation ceremony for the following officers:

Wayne Orebaugh - 1st Lieutenant
Commander

Delaney Hopkins - 2nd Lieutenant
Commander

Jake Biller - Sergeant-at-arms
(Commander Way had appointed Jake to this position)

Old Business:

Annual Picnic:

The picnic will be held at Grand Caverns Park on September 5th at shelter #5 with arrival at 1:00 p.m. and lunch at 2:00 p.m. Tim Miller will provide barbeque, hot dogs, buns, condiments, tableware, drinks and ice. Tim will be provided with \$250 to cover his expenses. Everyone is to bring a covered dish. The UDC will be invited. Camp members are encouraged to bring items for a silent auction. Anyone wishing to go on a special tour of the caverns should contact Leonard Derrer at 820-2936.

SCV National Reunion:

Will Shirkey gave a lively report on the SCV National Reunion in Richmond July 14th - 19th. He said that there were good speakers and he particularly enjoyed a man by the name of Kennedy and also Ben Jones. There was a motion to move discipline measures to the National level but it failed to pass. Will was particularly impressed that there Battle Flags "all over the hotel." It was reported that the Federals were not living up to their promises concerning Oakwood Cemetery. Will stated that there were 1,200 at the meeting.

New Business:

Casey Billhimer reported that he and Dan would replace the flags at the Coaling.

Will Shirkey moved that the meeting adjourn after the benediction. Tom Yeakle seconded and the motion passed. Chaplin Sprinkle gave the benediction and Commander Way adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Adjutant pro tem

L. W. Monger.



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Open Forum: Mike Muterspaugh

Bulldoze Confederate Graves?

What is it about the American psyche that always wants or feels compelled to find something or someone to blame when an act of evil happens? We throw back our heads and wail: if only we had passed one more law, one more regulation, had more mental health intervention, eliminated one more inert object. We figuratively rend our clothing and beat our breasts to illustrate our sorrow and anguish; surely we let the victim[s] down. Now after the horrible and senseless killings in Charleston we once again have an object to blame: the Confederate battle flag.

Does anyone really think that piece of cloth flying in Charleston caused these murders? If we had eliminated it all through the South would the killings have been averted? I think we all know the answer to that question. But now we are caught up in a rush to political correctness; a knee-jerk reaction with a "feel good" response to an evil act. And of course it has not stopped with just the flag. Playing Dixie at

sporting events is now verboten. College and high school athletic teams cannot be called "Rebels." This is nothing more than heritage cleansing.

Because this is still America, if the people of a state vote not to display the battle flag on public property, then so be it. I'm all in with democracy. Of course, we have been assured that it can be displayed in a museum or on private property; the First Amendment guarantees this right. But as we have seen recently, the understanding of the Constitution can be circumvented and redefined by nine people in black robes. A recent poll by CNN, certainly not a conservative organization, found that 57 percent of those polled viewed the Confederate flag as a symbol of Southern pride. Thirty-three percent viewed it as racist. And if another similar act of evil occurs, and unfortunately it probably will, what vestige of Southern history will we have to eliminate to salve our conscience? Will we bring in wrecking balls and destroy monuments to the southern soldier? Would the head

stones of buried Southern men be bulldozed?

I started composing this dissertation last week, and after struggling, had given it up as an act of futility. I also thought I would be disparaged as unsympathetic to others' points of view. Nothing could be further from the truth. Then I read an article that said the House of Representatives had banned private groups from decorating the graves of Southern soldiers with the Confederate Battle flag to commemorate Confederate Memorial Day in federal cemeteries. I was so dismayed, I felt compelled to try again. Will banning the flag in historic federal cemeteries stop there? How about Woodbine Cemetery, where more than 200 young Southern men are buried, many hundreds of miles from their homes? Will someone express outrage if their graves are marked with the Confederate Battle flag they fought and died under to defend their states and country?

Now, if we are going to disparage the Confederate flag because it causes angst to some people, what about

the "Stars and Stripes"? I fly this flag, with pride, at my home and hunting cabin. Yet under this flag American soldiers invaded Mexico and basically annexed California, Arizona and New Mexico. How do Mexican-Americans view it? Slave ships sailed under this flag. Under this flag, tens of thousands American Indians were displaced, starved and slaughtered; many were defenseless old men, women and children. Under this flag, the largest mass murder on American soil was committed: the Wounded Knee Massacre. Maybe this flag causes the Indian sorrow. What is the remedy for this?

There has always been evil and there will always be evil. Trying to blame an object for its existence will not eliminate evil or the horrible consequences of it. Changing history will not make us a stronger country. It will make us weaker and more divided. "The Southern Soldier died for his country. Success is not Patriotism. Defeat is not Rebellion."

Mr. Muterspaugh lives in Harrisonburg.

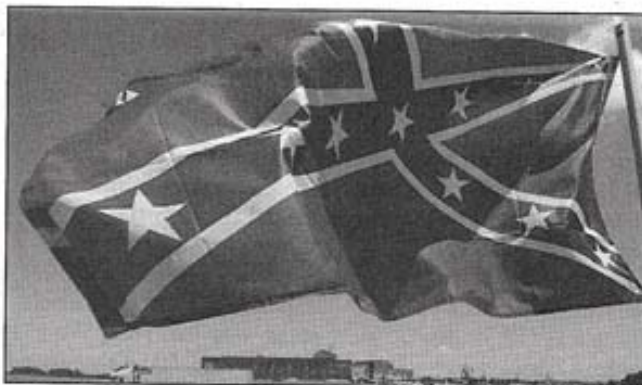
Submitted by Compatriot Dan Goodson

Flag Fight All About Power

Few now understand the complex social, economic, and political history of the American Civil War. This is understandable, because it has been almost impossible for many years in American schools and colleges to examine the history objectively. The principle reason is that the search for truth has been discarded in favor of constructing a "correct" ideology.

As economic Marxism gave way to cultural Marxism, Western culture in general became a target for "re-education." This includes Southern culture in particular, already under siege from Northern propagandists of an earlier era. We are reduced to a battle of competing slogans and myths rather than trying to come to terms with our real history, with all our strivings and failings. This battle well suits the political class, as history will remain a fertile field for sowing the social and political discord that benefits only them. How is this situation sustained?

The two keys to understanding politics are money and power. This was true in the Civil War era as it is now. Politicians look at things differently than the rest of us. Moral questions such as abortion or same-sex marriage (or slavery) are seen by politician as cleavages in society that can be exploited for votes. Politicians also need



Associated Press

It is important that we understand how passions are used by the political and corporate interests to manipulate them. Their only refuge is our cultural and personal identity and a political structure that gives expression to it.

money, which the corporate class is more than willing to provide in return for political favors. The money returns to the creators of ideology as they continue to plow the field for future harvests. Lest we forget the media, they are major players in the same game.

In his column on the Confederate battle flag, Richard Cohen perpetuates a myth based on misrepresentations of history ("Bring Down That Flag," July 15). The racial inferiority of blacks was widely subscribed to by individuals North and South, including Abraham Lincoln. Whether one's primary loyalty was supposed to be to state or nation was precisely the contested issue of the Civil War. To accuse Robert E. Lee of treachery is to commit the historical fallacy of presentism. The common German soldier in WWII was part of an invad-

ing army, whatever his beliefs regarding the rightness or wrongness of his nation. Most Southerners became members of the Confederate army only when their homeland had been invaded. Yet Cohen uses these egregiously erroneous arguments to excoriate Southerners and the South.

So what can we say about the Confederate battle flag, which was removed from the South Carolina State House grounds on July 10? As a matter of history and of morality, the Ku Klux Klan committed many atrocious crimes on racial grounds. Yet for many years the KKK attached itself to the American national flag (rulen.com/kkk) and the Christian Cross. Does any misuse of a symbol inevitably tarnish the symbol itself? Does the misuse by the KKK make the Ameri-

can flag and the Cross symbols of hate? Detractors of the Confederate battle flag, to be consistent, would have to argue that it does, though I doubt many will go that far. But this historical and moral question is immaterial to the quest for power and money that revolves around it.

It is important that we understand how passions are used by the political and corporate interests to manipulate them. Their only refuge is our cultural and personal identity and a political structure that gives expression to it. The balance of power between the states and the federal government has been foundational to the American constitutional system, and the political freedom sustained by it. The Civil War delivered a severe and perhaps fatal blow to this foundation. The display of the symbols of that conflict by a state to assert its historical role in support of this constitutional foundation is a legitimate use of them.

The real question about the flag's meaning, for all of us, is whether it empowers the entity displaying it to protect the varied interests of our citizens. Or will the continued removal of Confederate symbols further only the interests of those seeking greater power, regardless of our interests?

Mr. Goodloe lives in Luray.

Submitted by Compatriot Dan Goodson

Camp #10 Calendar

August

MEETING CANCELED DUE TO SEPTEMBER PICNIC

September

CAMP PICNIC

SATURDAY 5TH

BEGIN ~1:00 PM, DINNER ~2:00 PM

DRINKS AND MEAT PROVIDED

BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE

GRAND CAVERNS PARK, SHELTER #1

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 25TH 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

October

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 26TH 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

November

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 23RD 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

December

NO CAMP MEETING

January

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 25TH 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



Woodbine Cemetery Flag Days 2015

January 16:

Lee-Jackson Day

April 17:

Virginia's Secession from the Union

April 27:

Confederate Memorial Day

May 25:

American Memorial Day

June 6:

Death of Turner Ashby

November 11:

Veteran's Day

From The Editor

This is your newsletter. Any item of interest to the members of the Camp will be included. The right to make minor edits, if necessary, is reserved; this will obviously be kept to a minimum and only when absolutely necessary.

The deadline for submissions is ten (10) calendar days before the next monthly meeting.

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On the Web

Home Invasion over Confederate Flag Racine, WI

<http://confederatenews.net/home-invasion-over-confederate-flag-racine-wi/>

In Mississippi, defenders of state's Confederate-themed flag dig in

<https://goo.gl/LrCaHR>