



# The Martz Missive

Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Col. D. H. Lee Martz Camp 10, Harrisonburg VA



Volume 17, Issue 10

November 2016

*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*

## Membership Renewals 2016

Due to the printing and other mix ups this year we have an extension until the end of

November to renew without paying a reinstatement fee. The renewals must be postmarked to the Virginia adjutant by November 30<sup>th</sup> so the November meeting must be the wrap up date to give our treasurer time to complete his paperwork.

[MRS Replacement Form](#)

## New Members

Mr. Hunter Patterson (R) is welcomed by Commander Way



Mr. Gary Whitmer (L) is welcomed by Commander Way



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## **Adjutant's Report**

The Col. D. H. Lee Martz Camp 10 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans held their October 2016 meeting on the 24th at the Rockingham County Administration Center.

The Adjutant had taken attendance as members arrived with the following present: Edward 'Casey' Billhimer, David Cash, Donald Caul, Rod Clark, Leonard Derrer, William Fix, Jerry Giles, Dan Goodson, Delaney Hopkins, Carl Marshall, Matthew Miller, Roger, William Miller, Lloyd Monger, Steven Owen, Hunter Patterson, Michael Rhodes, Willard Shirkey, Lloyd Sprinkle, Timothy Turner, Jason VanHyning, Philip Way, Robert Weatherholtz, Gary Whitmer, Walter Wilson and Thomas Yeakle.

Commander Philip Way called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Chaplain Lloyd Sprinkle gave the invocation. Camp members gave the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and salutes to the Virginia and Confederate flags. David Cash moved and Robert Weatherholtz seconded to accept the September Adjutant's report as printed in the October newsletter. The motion passed.

After opening the floor for questions and receiving none, Commander Way suspended reading of the Treasurer's report for the October meeting.

### **Officer Reports:**

#### **Commanders Communications/Orders:**

**Officers:** Commander Way announced the regular meeting will be very brief in order

to allow the Virginia 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander Michael Virts time for his talk and questions.

Cmdr. Way reported that Camp member Ed Karnes, who had been putting out the flags at Woodbine cemetery, has moved to Arizona and someone is needed to accept the responsibility of putting the flags out. Willard Shirkey volunteered to put the flags up.

Adjutant Turner reported on the status of the membership renewals and that even after the problem of finding a new printer for the MRS forms several of the low numbered Virginia camp forms were still not put in the mail due to a printer error. Virginia members have until November 30<sup>th</sup> to complete renewals and everyone's assistance in completing the renewal process quickly is appreciated.

### **New Business:**

Will Shirkey said the Camp is registered for twenty participants in the Harrisonburg Veteran's Day parade. Carson Via has a friend who will bring a wagon and team of horses. The parade is on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Participants should be at the county offices by 1pm and period dress is encouraged.

Cmdr. Way inducted two new members into Camp 10, Mr. Hunter David Patterson and Mr. Gary Louis Whitmer.

He then reported being contacted by a Ms. Lamb interested in the Camp's support in starting a local chapter of the Order of Confederate Rose. For more information see <http://www.confederateroses.org>.

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Report - Continued

Commander Way introduced 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander Mr. Michael Virts. Mr. Virts spoke on the Plight of Confederate POW's at the Point Lookout Federal Military Prison in Saint Mary's County, Maryland. After the talk, he spoke briefly about the 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade and entertained questions on both topics.

Roger Miller moved that the meeting adjourn. Motion seconded by Casey Billhimer and passed. Chaplain Sprinkle gave the benediction and the Commander declared the meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Adjutant Tim Turner.



Commander Philip Way (L) thanks  
5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander  
Mr. Michael Virts (R) for his  
presentation to the Camp.



## Oakwood Cemetery

*(The Oakwood Cemetery letter in the October Martz Missive attracted attention and a response from the current Virginia Heritage Defense Coordinator Mr. B. Frank Earnest which is printed here in its entirety with his permission. Both the previous and this letter are printed as submissions and neither may be taken as representative of the official opinion of Camp 10. Ed.)*

Every word that Joe Wright says is absolutely true. That is to say, as true as every word from the mouth of Hillary Clinton, her campaign workers, and the DNC in general.

Everything that you sent me and then some are based on half truths, twisted facts, and downright lies. At one time, Joe Wright was on the SCV Oakwood Committee.

This makes it even worse because he can not use the excuse of being uninformed or not knowing the truth of the situation.

It has been almost 20 years since the deplorable condition of Oakwood came to the attention of the Virginia Division. I was there. The Oakwood Trust, a committee, was formed to deal with this situation. As only you can understand, I am quite proud of the fact that I was the one dissenting voice, and vote against forming this committee. It was made up of SCV, UDC, and persons not connected with either organization. From the start, I stated that the VA Division would not be able to get the necessary cooperation from this melting pot. I further stated that it would some day become a monster that we could not kill. My predictions have all come true.

To answer the rest of this, let me do so with numbered statements.

1. The state of Virginia grants just over \$11,000.00 a year to the recognized organization caring for the cemetery.

What this money is spent on, is very restricted, must not be held from year to year, and a report must be submitted to the Department of Historical Resources with a complete accounting of where this money is spent.

It was the old Oakwood Trust that was not following these guidelines and possibly even committing criminal acts. Senate Bill 409 took Oakwood Cemetery out of their hands and returned it to the VA Division SCV

Somehow, in total disregard of the law, the old Trust had a mast \$53,000.00. This should never have happened, and was a direct result of no oversight by the DHR. Even so, this money should have been turned over to the SCV the moment the bill was passed.... putting the VA Division in charge of Oakwood. Instead members of the Old Trust have held on to this money for 7 or 8 years dangling it in front of the Division like a carrot.

The DHR has not done their duty to recover this money. In fact, they are now, negotiating with the Old Trust rather than the lawfully appointed committee. Their plan is to squander the entire \$53,000.00 on an unnecessary ground radar project.

2. The issue of the fence keeps arising. The only fence currently installed is a short run along Richmond Road put in by the Old Trust. Some of the very people who are now complaining about a fence that they put in. There is need of a fence but this will not be installed until quite some time in the future. The current fence is a cheap tubular fence described by one of our committee members as a "Sears

Roebuck" fence. It is better than nothing for now but at some time will have to be completely removed before a proper period fence can be installed.

3. The columns for the gates have been repaired, slightly moved and straightened. One column was moved not more than 6 inches and the center 2 columns were moved closer together. This was done to allow for modern traffic, including city trucks that have already struck these columns. The lie was spread that the columns now rest on top of graves. The nearest grave is at least 15 feet away. There is a plan to replace the gates themselves, but that is also a future project. The cost of the columns was a joint project with the City of Richmond. It is nothing less than amazing, giving the city's attitude, the amount of cooperation and trust that has been gained between Richmond and the VA Division SCV. When the idea of repairing the gates was proposed, then committee member Joe Wright made the motion to expend \$5,000.00 to do so. In addition, a granite marker with a beautifully worded bronze plaque has been placed just outside these gates honoring the soldiers inside. Robert E Lee Krick helped with the wording and other aspects of this monument.

4. The current committee has maintained the lawn greener than any other section of the cemetery. In fact, city employees jokingly said that we were making them look bad by comparison. The gazebo has been completely restored. The soldier's monument has been repaired and a missing fence has been replaced that goes around it. New granite section markers have been put in. The city replaced missing street signs using the original Confederate names provided by us. There are other improvements too numerous to mention.

5. The only remaining stumbling block is the markers themselves. This is being held up by the Veterans Administration. We have been working through an attorney for quite some time (years) and he tells us that a victory looms near in the future. Meanwhile thanks to private donations by family members and others perhaps as many as 50 stones have been placed or repaired.

I hope this helps you to understand so that you will be able to explain it to your camp. Please feel free to call me with any further questions.

Your compatriot and friend B. Frank Earnest, Southern Patriot



## Camp #10 Calendar

### **November**

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

### **December**

NO CAMP MEETING

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

### **January**

LEE-JACKSON-MAURY LUNCHEON WITH UDC

THE HERITAGE MUSEUM, DAYTON VA.

JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 12 NOON

CATERED LUNCH

PRICE AND SPEAKER TBA

LEE JACKSON DAY

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>, THROUGH SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

LEXINGTON, VA

SPONSOR: SCV STONEWALL BRIGADE CAMP 1269

DUE TO THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL ATTEMPTS TO

HJACK THE WEEKEND AND THWART CITIZEN

CELEBRATION OF LEXINGTON'S MOST FAMOUS

CITIZENS PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE BELOW AS

EVENTS MAY CHANGE.

DETAILS: [LEEJACKSONDAY.WEBS.COM](http://LEEJACKSONDAY.WEBS.COM)

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> - 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

### **February**

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

### **March**

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

### **April**

CAMP MEETING

MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 PM

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



## **Woodbine Cemetery Flag Days 2016**

**January 15:**

*Lee-Jackson Day*

**April 17:**

*Virginia's Secession from the Union*

**April 25:**

*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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