

The Martz Missive

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



Volume 17, Issue 9

October 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

All Camp 10 members please come prepared to pay your 2016 membership dues at the October meeting. Apparently, there is an issue with the printer's software where several lower Camp numbers were not printed and mailed and this error went unnoticed. We will attempt to resolve this and get our renewals paid as quickly as possible.

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<u>October 2016 Program</u> The Plight of Confederate POW's at the Point Lookout Federal Military Prison in Saint Mary's County, Maryland

David Michael Virts is presently the 5th Brigade Commander of the Virginia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). Previously, he has served as the Virginia Division Chaplain. Michael Virts has served as the Commander, Lt. Commander, Adjutant, and Chaplain of his SCV Camp in the 5th Brigade, Major General Fitzhugh Lee Camp # 1805. Prior to that, he served as Chaplain in Franklin Stringfellow Camp # 822 in Fairfax. Virginia. Michael was born in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia, and grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland. He graduated with a degree in History from Mars Hill University in Madison County, North Carolina. Michael Virts retired from government service in the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. Michael Virts now lives in Falmouth in Stafford County, Virginia. Commander Virts through the years has spoken to both SCV Camps and Chapters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy all over Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

Adjutant's Report

The Col. D. H. Lee Martz Camp 10 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans held their September 2016 meeting on the 26th at the Rockingham County Administration Center.

The Adjutant had taken attendance as members arrived with the following present: Gary Armstrong, Todd Biller, Edward 'Casey' Billhimer, David Cash, Donald Caul, Rod Clark, Leonard Derrer, Dan Goodson, Matthew Miller, Roger Miller, William Miller, Lloyd Monger, Wayne Orebaugh, Steven Owen, Michael Rhodes, Willard Shirkey, Lloyd Sprinkle, Timothy Turner, Philip Way, Robert Weatherholtz, Walter Wilson and Thomas Yeakle.

Also in attendance were guests Tony Cave, Gary Whitmer and David Kipps who was instrumental in the modern reorganization of Camp 10 in 1998.

Commander Philip Way called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Lloyd Sprinkle seconded to accept the August Adjutant's report as printed in the September newsletter. The motion passed.

Treasurer Lloyd Monger read his September report. Bill Miller moved and Tom Yeakle seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Commanders Communications/Orders:

Commander Way reminded Camp members to make plans for the UDC Lee-Jackson-Maury day in January. Details forthcoming as they finalize details.

Officers: Adjutant Tim Turner read an email from 5th Brigade Commander Michael Virts with his speaking information. After discussion the Camp decided for the "Plight for POW's" topic for the October 24th meeting. Unanimous recommendation for lodging is The Village Inn. Rod Clark moved that the Camp provide a \$100 honorarium for Mr. Virts to speak at the October meeting. Motion was seconded by Lloyd Sprinkle and passed.

Adjutant Turner reported he will be out of town for most of October and asked that someone print and mail the hardcopy newsletter. Dan Goodson volunteered for the task.

Adjutant Turner also reported no news on Virginia membership renewals.

Committee reports:

Membership Report: Bill Miller reported having submitted one application and another person in the process of applying.

Heritage, History and Research: Commander Way announced there is a program scheduled for next month.

Ashby Monument: Rod Clark reported that someone had cut a live locust, which is sprouting everywhere and now requires clipping and spraying. Rod said he had

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Report - Continued

sprayed the grass strips once but they also require spraying again.

Headstones, Markers and Monuments: Rod Clark stated no news from Rinker and Frye. They are working as time allows.

CW Trust/SVBF:

Dan has contacted the CW Trust and is expecting to hear from them. Rod moved that the Camp buy First National and period US flags if the CW Trust does not. Motion seconded by Roger Miller and passed. Casey will purchase the flags if necessary and receive reimbursement later.

UDC: Commander Way stated the Lee-Maury-Jackson day with the UDC ladies is January 7th at the Rockingham Museum in Dayton. More details are coming,

Old Business: Michael Rhodes reported on the Rockingham Recreation Department bus trip to the C.W. Museum in Harrisburg PA. The museum is affiliated with the Smithsonian and the content is presented very fairly and he recommends the trip to anyone interested. *New Business:*

Matthew Miller spoke on an issue at the Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond. The Oakwood Cemetery Committee is planning to build a fence in the cemetery. Joe Wright of the Edmund Ruffin Camp believes the proposed fence location is over likely Confederate grave locations and wants the area surveyed with ground penetrating radar before any fence is started. Matt will send further information for the newsletter. Commander Way asked members to consider participation in the Veteran's Day and be ready to discuss at the next meeting.

The Commander read a letter from a Children of the Confederacy group fundraising to preserve a period doll.

He also said that he has a book, *America's Providential History*, to loan out that includes a nice chapter on Christianity and the Confederacy.

Lastly he read an article from C.W. Trust's magazine about the Sheridan's Veterans Association and the tributes they made to Confederate unknown dead at Woodbine Cemetery in 1883 and 1885.

Will Shirkey said that he was gathering Veteran's Day parade details for the meeting next month and that he was hoping to get Turner Ashby H. S. student participation.

Todd Biller said that he had found and purchase a 1926 issue of Confederate Veteran magazine.

Matthew Miller reported on a Jefferson Davis display at the White House of the Confederacy in Richmond. It had nothing good to say about President Davis and did not even mention his adoption of a orphaned mulatto boy.

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

Respectfully submitted by Adjutant Tim Turner.



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Oakwood Cemetery Fence

The Oakwood Committee has a plan, that is to keep taking money from the DHR (State Funds, your tax dollars) and the membership (MRS) as they have done for the past 10 years. They have stated they will place gates on the pillars that have recently moved for the city (at a cost of \$22,000). They have also stated the will build a fence down East Richmond road (1320 feet) at a cost of \$174,000, that we have shown in August of 2014 with a limited GPR survey, would impact human remains.

The Virginia Division membership is not organized and has not spoken with a unified voice. As the Division controls the information going to the members, most do not know what is taking place. We need to communicate our concerns with the leadership of the Virginia Division and support the Department of Historic Resources proposal. If the DHR appoints a group to oversee the project, you can be assured it will be done to their standards and not the Oakwood Restoration Committee's. I have asked since April of 2012 for a detailed plan for Oakwood without results. I have asked for them on several occasions to post on their Oakwood Restoration website the list of "Confirmed Names" they will use to supply to the Veterans Administration to obtain headstones, they have refused, they don't have a list.

A vote will take place at the upcoming October 29 Division Executive Council meeting. How will your Brigade Commander Vote? Ask. Why would the ORC committee and DEC members vote against a proposal that would accurately locate Confederate graves so that they can be marked and at the same time supply \$53,000 for the project? Politics. Do they plan to place headstones?

Matt, this weekend I will be at the Virginia Division UDC Convention in Lynchburg. If you or a representative from you camp would like to talk on the subject, let me know. I can bring my binder of photos, emails and letters on the subject.

If you have a specific question, I will try to answer it. Best Regards, Joe Wright

Camp #10 Calendar

October

PROGRAM AND CAMP MEETING THE PLIGHT OF CONFEDERATE POW'S AT THE POINT LOOKOUT FEDERAL MILITARY PRISON IN SAINT MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PRESENTED BY: MR. MICHAEL VIRTS, 5TH BRIG, CMDR. MONDAY 24TH 7:00 PM ROCKINGHAM COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

November

CAMP MEETING Monday 27th 7:00 pm <u>Rockingham County Administration Building</u>

December

NO CAMP MEETING MERRY CHRISTMAS!

January

LEE-JACKSON-MAURY LUNCHEON WITH UDC THE HERITAGE MUSEUM, DAYTON VA. JANUARY 7th, 12 NOON CATERED LUNCH PRICE AND SPEAKER TBA

LEE JACKSON DAY FRIDAY 13th, Events 1-8 PM Saturday 14th, Events 10:30am -until Lexington, VA Sponsor: SCV Stonewall Brigade Camp 1269 Details: <u>Leejacksonday.webs.com</u>

CAMP MEETING Monday 23rd - 7:00 pm <u>Rockingham County Administration Building</u>

February Camp Meeting Monday 27th 7:00 pm <u>Rockingham County Administration Building</u>

March

CAMP MEETING Monday 27th 7:00 pm <u>Rockingham County Administration Building</u> 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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