

Sons of Confederate Veterans Roswell Mills Camp No. 1547 MILL TALK

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE: <http://www.scv1547.org/>

Commander's Comments

All of us in the Roswell Mills Camp should be very proud of Past Commander Jerry Maddox for his successful efforts in getting a new grave marker installed at the grave of Pvt. Charles Kelpin of Company C, Roswell Battalion, Georgia Volunteer Cavalry.

Past Commander Maddox showed great initiative in identifying the need and great perseverance in coping with the uncooperative bureaucrats in accomplishing the very worthwhile goal of honoring Pvt. Kelpin, who went to war at age 14 and died of battle wounds at age 17.

You probably saw the well-deserved publicity given to Past Commander Maddox in the December 2009 issue of *The Georgia Confederate*, copies of which were distributed at our January camp meeting. We all appreciate the honor that Jerry has brought upon himself and upon our Camp.

Howard Bryant
Commander

January 2010 Meeting

It was one of those nights when things just didn't go right. First, Roswell Mills Camp changed meeting dates to accommodate Alabama fans (there was at least one.)

Compatriots gathered at the Harp Irish Pub on Tuesday night January 12 to find our meeting room was taken by a retirement party. We moved to the room next door. Fortunately, the only noise came from the retirement party.



Tim
Pilgrim,
12th
Brigade
Commander
with
Howard
Bryant,
Camp
Commander

Afterward, the meeting went smooth and 12th Brigade Commander Tim Pilgrim us about the projects approved by Division. The Confederate

Chimney in Augusta, completion of the Leonidas Polk memorial with a marker and the erection of flag poles flying the Stars and Bars on well traveled highways in Georgia.

Pilgrim also told us that three individuals who have genealogy experience have volunteered as Recruitment/Genealogy officers. They are Hu Daughtry (email: sidada11@yahoo.com), Howard Jones (email: howardjones49@charter.net and Mike Ricks (email: ricks@mchis.com)

The new officers will be responsible for helping potential recruits find their Confederate ancestors.

Brigade Commander Pilgrim has volunteered to be editor of the Georgia Confederate. It is published bi-monthly. For deadline dates see the *Georgia Confederate*.

Robert E. Lee **January 19, 1807 - October 7, 1870**

Most of us remember General Lee as Commander of the Army of North Virginia, but there is much more to his history.

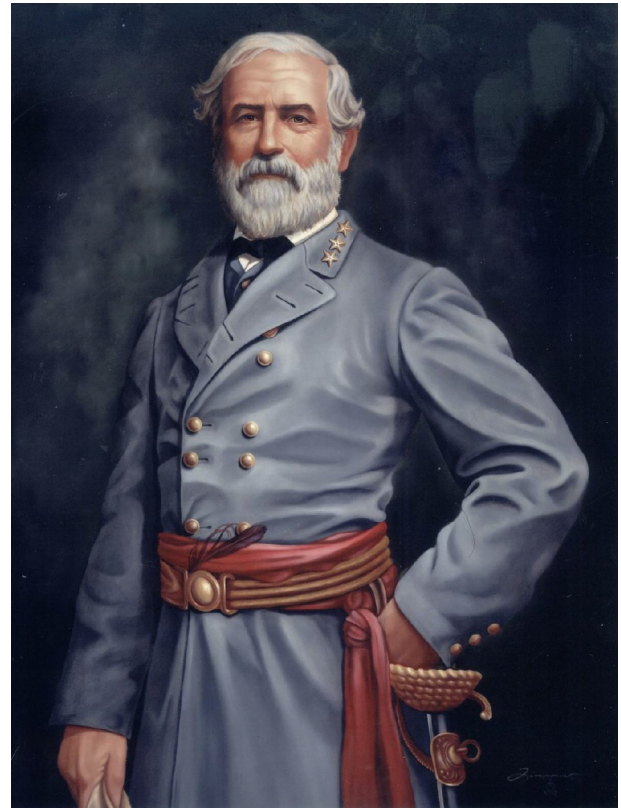
Let's go back to the War with Mexico in 1846... Captain Robert E. Lee was with General John Wool. In the beginning of the Mexican war, and at the special request of General Scott he was assigned to the personal staff of that commander.

When Scott landed 12,000 men south of Vera Cruz, Captain Lee established the batteries which were so effective it compelled the surrender of the City.

The advance which followed met with serious resistance from Santa Anna at Cerro Gordo. Here Captain Lee made reconnaissance and in three days' time placed batteries in positions which Santa Anna

had judged inaccessible, enabling Scott to carry the heights and rout the enemy.

In his report Scott wrote: "I am compelled to make special mention of Captain R. E. Lee," and the brevet as major was accorded the skillful artilleryman.



General Robert E. Lee, CSA

The valley of Mexico was the scene of the next military operations, and here Lee continued to serve with singular ability and personal bravery.

One act of daring General Scott afterward referred to as "the greatest feat of physical and moral courage performed by any individual in my knowledge pending the campaign." Having participated in the daylight assault which carried the entrenchments of Contreras, shortly afterward Captain Lee was engaged in the battles of Churubusco and Molino del Rey, gaining promotion to brevet lieutenant-colonel.

In the storming at Chapultepec, one of the most brilliant affairs of the war, he was severely wounded, and won from General Scott, in his official report, appreciative mention as being as "the distinguished for execution as for science and daring."



Storming the Heights of Churubusco

In February 1848 the war ended with the taking of Mexico City.

General Winfield Scott attributed largely to Robert E. Lee the U.S. Army's success in winning the war with Mexico.

Scott said, "Lee is the greatest military genius in America."

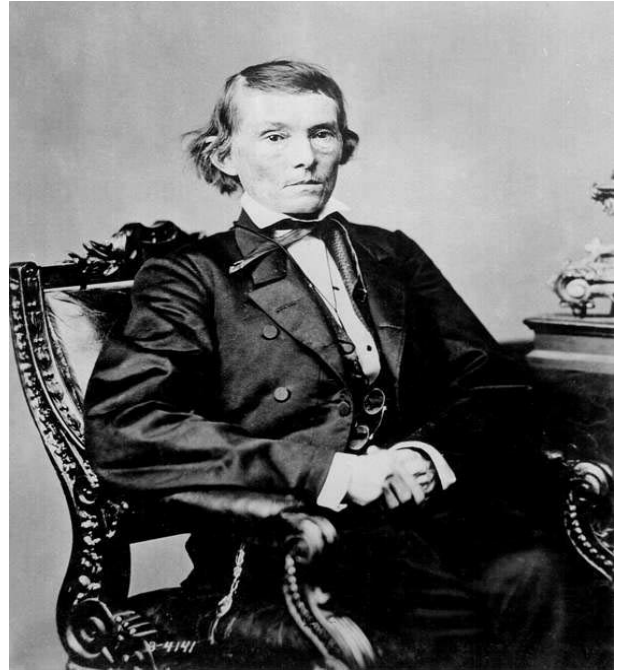
Alexander H. Stephens Birthday

On February 11 we celebrate the 198th birthday of Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens, an eminent politician and loyal Georgian.

He served in the Georgia legislature first as a representative and then a senator. In 1843 Georgia voters sent him to the U.S. Congress where he served for 16 years.

Stephens tried to hold Georgia in the Union by

proposing to fight the Republicans inside the Federal government. However, when he was elected Vice President by the Provisional government of the Confederacy, he accepted. After the Confederate Constitution was ratified, Stephens believed it to be much better than the U.S. Constitution.



Alexander Hamilton Stephens

"The whole document utterly negatives the idea which so many have been active in endeavoring to put in the enduring form of history, that the convention at Montgomery was nothing but a set of 'conspirators' whose object was the overthrow of the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and the erection of a great 'slave oligarchy' instead of the free institutions thereby secured and guaranteed. This work of the Montgomery convention, with that of the Constitution for a provisional government, will ever remain not only as a monument of the wisdom, foresight and statesmanship of the men who constituted it, but an everlasting refutation of the charges which have been brought against them," Stephens said.

He may have been small and frail physically but a giant inhabited his mind.

MOS&B Holds Stephens Celebration

The birthday celebration will begin at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 6th at the group shelter near the ranger's office inside the Alexander H. Stephens Park at Crawfordville.

BBQ lunch will be served at 11:00...\$7 for adults and \$5 for children.



Stephens monument and Liberty Hall

Immediately following lunch and speaker, there will be a Memorial Service at Stephens' grave site by the **Old Guard** of the Gate City Guard. This is an excellent opportunity for a Camp field trip.

Cobb's Corner

Susqui Notes

By John Cobb



As the 150th anniversary approaches, you will hear more and more of plans for active promotion of our heritage during this four-year event. The Georgia Confederate (Dec. 2009) reports that \$15K will be spent to produce radio and TV spots, an indication of

the importance of this opportunity. But it is up to every local camp to bring this home to the people of their communities, and now is the time for planning how we will do this.

This is the last major commemoration that will occur during many of our lifetimes. Some of us are old enough to remember the Centennial. There was a US. postage stamp issued each year, featuring a pivotal battle. Probably the biggest thing to happen around here was April 12, 1962, when the refurbished Western & Atlantic locomotive General ran the rails again, over the original route of the Andrews raid (a.k.a. Great Locomotive Chase). At that time, the State of Georgia and companies like the L&NRR were unashamed to promote Confederate history and heritage. Today, we won't get much support from either government or industry because of the cancer of political correctness. More than ever, the flag is in our hands.

Next Meeting-Thursday, February 4

Place: Harp Irish Pub

Dinner: 6:00

Program: 7:00

Harp is located at 1424 Market Blvd, off Old Alabama Road.

Howard Knight will speak to us about Milton County in the War. Mr. Knight is an experienced genealogist and Milton County historian.

Let's support our Camp. Come out for fun, food, SCV fellowship and an excellent program on the history of Milton County.
