

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

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank the members of our camp's Executive Committee for the assistance that they have given me in my first eight months as camp commander.

The Executive Committee is composed of me, our Adjutant, Second Lieutenant Commander, the most recent two Past Commander and our Membership Chairman. Their experience and wisdom has made my job easier and a number of good suggestions have come from this group.

We are always interested in feedback from our members on any aspect of camp activity and any suggestions or comments can be passed to any member of the Executive Committee.

We have a number of good programs arranged for 2010 and we look forward to the presence of all of our members at our monthly meetings. In the meantime, we wish a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our compatriots and their families.

Howard Bryant
Commander

December Meeting Notes

Rev. Jim Cabanbiss spoke to compatriots about Christianity during the War.

He pointed out that major revivals broke out in both armies. In the Union Army, between 100,000 and 200,000 soldiers were converted. Among Confederate forces, approximately 150,000 troops converted to Christ. It is estimated that 10 percent of all Civil War soldiers experienced conversions during the conflict.

Many Civil War generals stood so committed to observing the Sabbath that it influenced their military operations. Stonewall Jackson would fight only "more ordinary battles" on Sunday, and William Rosecrans refused to pursue a fleeing enemy force on a Sabbath day. Other generals attributed defeats to the fact they had violated the Sabbath by fighting on that day.

Before the Civil War, it was rare to find chaplains in American armies. During the war, they earned a lasting place by ministering to the spirit and the body. Many chaplains worked alongside doctors in field hospitals.

The Confederate Army had more Christian ministers in uniform than the Union Army. One outfit in Texas was made up of all preachers. Many preachers, especially in the North, felt that

through war the final glorious reign of God would begin. Both sides thought the war would be over in three months. After two years of war soldiers from both sides began to come to God.



Rev. Jim Cabanbiss and Commander Bryant

It is interesting that Abraham Lincoln was never baptized and was the only U.S. president to never join a church.

The Constitution of the Confederate States of America specifically invoked “Almighty God”, unlike the U.S Constitution, and the Confederate Constitution prohibited the foreign slave trade.



Lt. Gen. Leonidas Polk

Probably the most famous of the fighting ministers was Leonidas Polk. He was a graduate of West Point and an Episcopal Bishop. General Polk met his end on Pine Mountain in Georgia during the fight for Atlanta.

One of the most religious

generals on either side of the War was General Robert E. Lee. It was said of the General that “He was one of the small company of great men in whom there is no inconsistency to be explained, no enigma to be solved. What he seemed, he was—a wholly human gentleman, the essential elements of whose positive character were two and only two, simplicity and spirituality.”

Following the Confederates' defeat, Lee said, "I have fought against the people of the North because I believed they were seeking to wrest from the South its dearest rights. But I have never cherished toward them bitter or vindictive feelings, and I have never seen the day when I did not pray for them." Lee applied for restoration of his U.S. citizenship, But the application was mislaid. Astoundingly, it was not found and granted until the 1970s.

Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson is famous for his solid religious beliefs. It was said of Jackson that both in faith and battle he would not be moved.

Another writer described him: “He lives by the New Testament and fights by the Old.

Jackson believed that slavery was ordained of God. Strict but kind with his own slaves, he asked his wife to teach two slave boys to read. He even organized a Sabbath school for African-Americans in Lexington and taught a class for five or six years. "My Heavenly Father has condescended to use me as an instrument in getting up a large Sabbath school for the negroes here," he wrote. "He has greatly blessed it."

After the War south and north churches split and were not united until the twentieth century and some continue their separate ways.

It is a fact that Confederate veterans came back home to found or support churches of various denominations, and perhaps because of the horrors of war many were called to the ministry.

Camp Food Drive Successful

Compatriots were asked to bring food items or donate money to the North Fulton Community Charities at the December meeting. The result was three carts of food stuff for the NFCC.



Commander Bryant, Karen Rupp, volunteer Coordinator for the NFCC and Second Lieutenant Rick Leake

Scenes from the December Meeting



Four of the 14 members and friends come out to hear a great speaker.

Display of Camp awards and books written by Rev. Jim Cabanbiss. Contact the Rev. Jim to order the books.



John Cobb explains what the Sons of Confederate Veterans will do during the Sesquicentennial to make the general public aware of the five years of struggle to establish a free and independent southern nation.

There Was a Small Bit of Humor in War

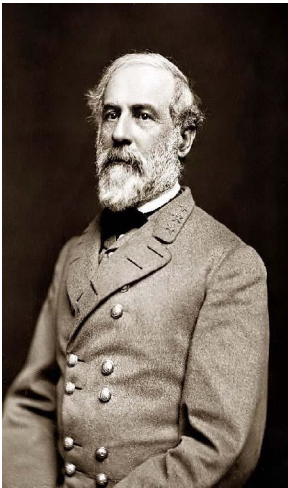
Confederate General D.H. Hill tells the story of a family in Virginia.

“A six-gun battery was shelling the woods furiously near which stood a humble hut. As we rode by, the shells were fortunately too high to strike the dwelling, but this might occur any moment by lowering the angle or the shortening the fire. The husband was away, probably far-off in the army, but the good housewife was busy at the wash-tub, regardless of all the roar and crash of shells and falling timber. Our surprise at her coolness was lost in greater amazement at observing her three children, the oldest not more than ten, on top of a fence,

watching with great interest the flight of the shells. Our curiosity was so much excited by the extraordinary spectacle, that we could not refrain from stopping and asking the children if they were not afraid. 'Oh, no,' they replied. 'the Yankees ain't shooting at us; they are shooting at the soldiers.'"

Celebrate Lee's Birthday in Milledgeville

The Robert E. Lee Birthday Celebration will be on Saturday, January 23, 2010 in Milledgeville. We will assemble at the old Governor's mansion from 10:00 A.M. until 10:45 A.M. for our march to the Capitol. Promptly at 10:45 A.M. we will begin our march. The parade to the Capitol will probably last around 15 min. The Capitol will be open at 10:00 for those unable to make the short march. Despite the rain, we had over 150 attendees last year. Everyone appeared to love the new location, the accommodations, and the history.



"The commanding general considers that no greater disgrace could befall the army, and through it our whole people, than the perpetration of the barbarous outrages upon the unarmed and defenseless and the wanton destruction of private property, that have marked the course of the enemy in our own country...."

General Robert E. Lee

NOTE: ON ROBERT E. LEE'S BIRTHDAY IN 1861, THE ARTICLES OF SECESSION WERE APPROVED IN THE VERY CHAMBERS WHERE WE WILL MEET.

I have asked for accommodations for 250 people this

year. If everyone knew what a great event this is, that would not be enough. One member told me that he had such a great time last year that he was bringing his family this time.

This is clearly the greatest Division gathering other than the Convention. There is room for all. Place this on your calendars.

**DAN COLEMAN
DIVISION JUDGE ADVOCATE**

Next Meeting-Thursday, January 5

Place: Harp Irish Pub

Dinner: 6:00

Program: 6:30

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

Tim Pilgrim, 12th Brigade Commander, will tell us what is going on at Division and Brigade.

This meeting will end promptly at 7:30 so football fans may be home in time to see Alabama beat Texas.

Let's support our Camp. Come out for fun, food, SCV fellowship and a dadgum excellent program.

John Brewer

1915 - 2009

We were saddened by the passing of John Brewer, father of Robert Brewer and one of the founder members of Roswell Mills SCV Camp. John was a World War Two veteran, one of the first draftees from Atlanta.