

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

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Commander's Comments

Our July meeting will involve Show and Tell by camp members, a practice we have followed for the past two years for the July meeting.

So, please start thinking now about the information and artifacts relating to your Confederate ancestors that you can present to your compatriots.

We have had some very interesting anecdotes and personal histories in the previous years and hope to have the same again at our July 1st meeting at the Harp Irish Pub.

Howard Bryant
Commander

Roswell Mill Workers Memorial Service

Rain chased the small gathering of SCV members and their wives into the Roswell Convention and Visitors Center to remember the Roswell mill workers and our ancestors who gave a good part of

their lives in defending a new nation.

Michael Hitt, Roswell policeman and historian, told the story of the 400 women, children and a few men who were charged with treason and sent North.



Michael Hitt

Author Hitt put a great deal of time and hard research into his book, *Journey of the Roswell Mill Employees*.

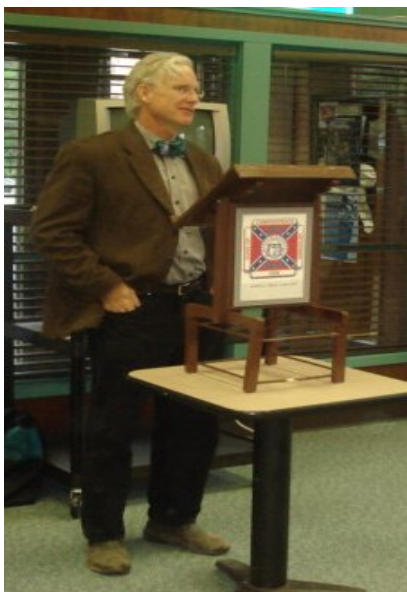
Although the plight of the mill workers has been covered by other books, Mr. Hitt's effort brings new prospective to the sad event.

Journey of the Roswell Mill Employees may be purchased at the Roswell Convention and Visitors Center.

The following photographs by Photographer Doug Allen shows some of those who participated in Confederate Memorial Day activities.



**Ray Berry,
Chaplain,
remembers
Phillip
Cochran
with a
special
poem.**



**Roswell
Mayor Jere
Wood
honors
Roswell
Mills Camp
by attending
Memorial**



**Marie Glover, Howard Bryant, Becky Leake,
Madelyn Hitt, Michael Hitt and Ross Glover.**

Dr. Mark Waters Presentation at Meeting

An assassination attempt on Jeff Davis and other Confederate officials? You be the judge.

At our May meeting we were privileged to see and hear Dr. Mark Waters' presentation on the Kilpatrick/Dahlgren Raid on Richmond.



**Commander Howard Bryant presenting gift to
Dr. Mark Waters**

In 1864 Union cavalry Gen. Judson Kilpatrick plotted a daring raid on Richmond with the mission to release the large number of POW's held there.

Skipping over the normal chain of command, friends of the General brought the scheme to Lincoln's attention. He gave his blessings, and on February 28 Kilpatrick led about 4,000 troopers set out toward Ely Ford on the Rapidan River.

The plans were to approach Richmond in two different directions. Gen. Kilpatrick from the north and Col. Ulric Dahlgren, his second in command, with a detachment of 500 from the south. Dahlgren mission was to cross the James River and dash into Richmond...

After riding all night the raiding party reached Spotsylvania Court House where they separated. Both advance parties advanced relatively on schedule

the 29th despite heavy rain that turned into sleet toward nightfall. A small force of 300 Confederate cavalry discovered Kilpatrick's men and gave chase but well behind the Union raiders.

On March 1st, Kilpatrick reached Richmond's intermediate defense line defended by about 500 Confederates. Despite the small defensive force, Kilpatrick hesitated and then retreated some distance where he contemplated a night attack.

The pursuing Confederate cavalry caught up with the Kilpatrick and launched an attack on his camps. The Federals fought off the attack and Kilpatrick decided to withdraw down the peninsula to friendly lines.



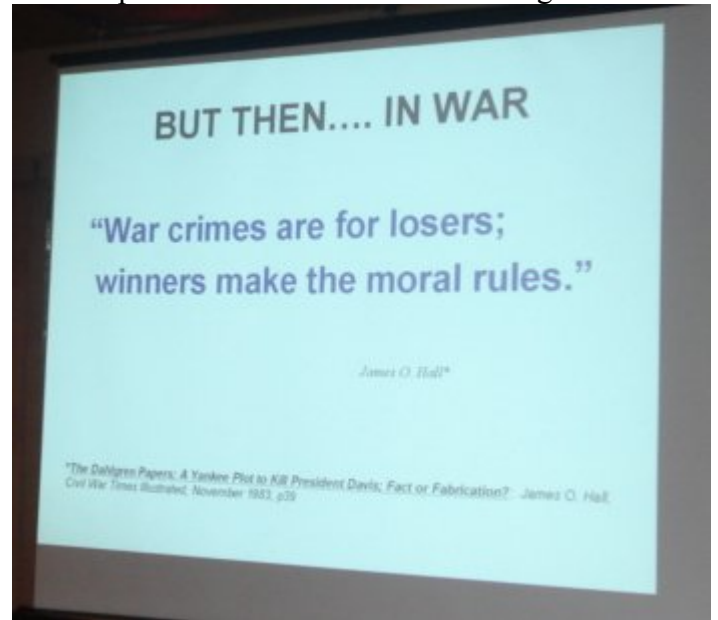
Guests Mark Waters, Johnny Gresham, Lynda Gresham and Emilie Waters.

Meanwhile, Dahlgren was having difficulties with high water on the James, preventing his detachment from crossing. As a result he approached Richmond from the west instead of the south.

On the afternoon of March 1st his troopers were repulsed on the outskirts of the city by the home guards. During the confusion Dahlgren and about 100 men were separated from the rest of the force. Most of the troop circled north of Richmond and finally found Kilpatrick. Dahlgren's smaller body took a wider arc, and on the night of the 2nd rode into an ambush in King and Queen County. Dahlgren was killed and most of the raiders were

taken captive.

Public opinion in the South was inflaming when



Part of Dr. Waters' presentation papers containing instructions to burn Richmond and assassinate Confederate leaders were found on Dahlgren's body. It was never determined if Lincoln sanctioned the attempted assassination.



Second Lieutenant Commander Rick Leake gives report during business meeting.

Chap-Line

Make it a point to allow nothing to disturb your inner peace, your heart calm.

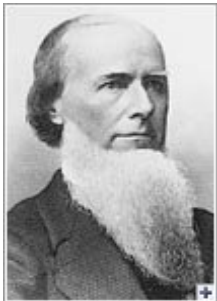
**Ray Barry
Chaplain**

Did They Work?

Joseph E. Brown, Governor of Georgia during the WBTS, gave the Confederate government fits, because he was a proponent of States Rights and believed any central government had no right to interfere with state business. He refused to turn units of the Georgia militia over to the Confederate army, manufactured and stored great quantities of clothing and ammunition, strictly for use within the state.

The Civil War Governor was best known for his unique weapon to army Georgia militia. At the beginning of the war Confederate official scrambled for arms of any kind and requisitioned from civilians double barreled shotguns, squirrel rifles or anything

that could shoot. There were just not enough weapons to arm Georgia's militia. Governor Joe Brown came up with the idea of arming his soldiers with pikes.



The pike was sort of a bayonet on a six foot staff. Georgia Chief of Ordinance ordered

Gov. Joseph E. Brown 10,000 pikes with these specifications: Heads of pike to be made of steel, well tempered, the staff made of ash, white oak or hickory well seasoned...to be straight stuff, not crossgrained. For every pike that passed inspection the manufacturer will be paid \$5. An 18-inch knife was made to accompany the pike.

The head of the pike came in two styles...a clover patterned with a 10 inch middle blade and two leaf-shaped side blades. The second head was made with

spring-loaded retractable blade. Probably didn't work because Confederate armories couldn't make the springs strong enough. From March to September 1862 seven thousand ninety-nine pikes were received at the arsenal in Milledgeville.

The pikes were made by blacksmiths all around the state and were not necessarily standard.

Brown gave written instructions on how the pike were to be used against the enemy. Many units of the Georgia militia were content to parade with the pikes, when it came to a showdown with Union forces, they preferred a rifle. We can give Joe Brown an 'A' for effort.

In 1862 if his pikes were any indication of the dormitory name for him at the University of Georgia, I'm glad I wasn't around to carry one.

Ross Glover

Next Meeting-Thursday, June 4

Place: Harp Irish Pub

Dinner: 6:00

Program: 7:00

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

Dr. Lee S. Harford, Director/Chief of Military History (US Army Reserves), will speak about the Atlanta campaign. He is Commander of McPherson Camp #1 in Atlanta of the Sons of Union Veterans Civil War. He is a board member of the National Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee and the Georgia Civil War Commission.

He also living history, portraying General Joseph Hooker, as a member of the Confederation of Union Generals headquartered at Gettysburg

Let's support our Camp. Come out for fun, food, SCV fellowship.