

The Gray Line News



High Bridge



High Bridge Camp #1581

January 2024

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Camp Commander: Whit Morris

1st LT. Commander: Chris Burks

2nd LT Commander: Don Reynolds

3rd LT. Commander: Zach Morris

Treasurer: Shane Newcombe

Adjutant: Russell Easter

Chaplain: Ned May

Judge Advocate: Kenny Barnard

Quartermaster / Historian: Tom Haake

Sargent at Arms: Trey Capps

Surgeon: Gene Kirkman

Camp Sutler: Greg Finn



“DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR SOUTHERN HERITAGE”



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

COMMANDERS CORNER:

Happy New Year Compatriots,

Can you believe it is 2024! I'm still shocked how fast the past year went. I hope each of you had a wonderful Christmas, were able to spend time with your families and hopefully get recharged for the coming year. I was fortunate enough to take some time off from work and during that time I was able to reflect on my blessings and thank God for the precious gift He gave us and pray for His guidance in the new year.

I am not on social media, but someone recently showed me a post with the caption “Now that the statues have been removed and the military bases have been renamed, tell me how your life has improved...Take your time, I'll wait?”.

I wonder if anyone seriously thought about that question??

Apparently not, because the next day I saw the war of northern aggression was getting some attention on the national stage when a presidential candidate was asked, “what caused the Civil War?”.

When the expected answer wasn't given, the expected outrage began!

Compatriots, we must continue to honor and remember our ancestors and give voice to our heritage because no one else will. One of the best ways to do that, is to stay active in our camp and support other SCV

activities. I hope everyone can make it to Lexington this month to show that we know the truth and have not forgotten!

I look forward to an exciting and active 2024!

Deo Vin dice
Whit Morris

“All the South has ever desired was that the Union, as established by our forefathers, should be preserved, and that the government as originally organized should be administered in purity and truth.”
Robert E. Lee

Battles in January 1863

Jan. 1 st	TEX	Battle of Galveston (2 nd)	Jan. 9-11 th	MO	Battle of Hartville
Jan. 8 th	MO	Battle of Springfield (2 nd)	Jan. 29 th	ID	Battle of Bear River Massacre
Jan. 9 th	ARK	Battle of Arkansas Post			

Amelia County Christmas Parade

On Saturday December 2nd, our camp participated in the Amelia County Christmas Parade. We had less participants this year than in years past, however our reception was overwhelmingly positive with many cheers and Thank Yous! Candy was given out to the children along the parade route as we have done in past years. The weather started out a bit “iffy”, but we had no rain and again this year it was a perfect weather day, perhaps a bit on the warm side! We had fun and earned 2nd place in the Horse entry with our riders. Sadly, the gentleman that was planning on bringing The General Lee had his father rushed into intensive care, so prayers to him and his family as he was not able to participate.





Wreath's Across America

Our Camp was a sponsor of this event which took place on Saturday December 16th at noon, at Trinity Memorial Cemetery located in Rice, Virginia. I attended the ceremony and was impressed and proud that our camp was a sponsor. It was a moving ceremony, with short speeches and each branch of the armed forces honored and remembered. The ceremony ended with the playing of taps from a distant location which was a nice touch. I thanked several veterans for their service entering and exiting the ceremony. After the ceremony, volunteers placed wreaths on each veteran's grave, speaking their name and thanking/saluting them for their service.



Cumberland Co. JROTC Color Guard



Memorial Wreath Saluted for US Army



Bagpipers Play Amazing Grace



Wreaths Placed on all Veterans Graves

Lee Jackson Day in Lexington Virginia

On Saturday January 13th we will again attend the Lee Jackson celebration in Lexington, Virginia. With everything that is going on, it would be nice to have great numbers at this event and to march representing our camp in the Parade. It is not only a fun day, but the luncheon is good, with good presentations, and good fellowships with folks from all over the Southland. It is a two-day celebration; however we will only be attending the second day, which is the service at Stonewall Jackson's grave, the parade, and the Luncheon. Final Details will come out via the camp email..... I hope to see you there!

U.S. Army Destroys North/South Reconciliation

“Actions speaks louder than words.” The recent action of destroying the North/South Reconciliation monument in Arlington National Cemetery by the U.S. Army and the U.S. Congress demonstrates this ancient truth. The Arlington Reconciliation monument was endorsed by Presidents McKinley and Wilson because it demonstrated the South's loyalty to the United States after the disastrous bloodletting of the “Civil War.” The South's patriotic zeal during the Spanish-American War (1898) was recognized by Northerners. The Albany Journal of New York acknowledged the patriotic contribution made by Southerners. The Journal observed that, “...the honors of the war are being carried away by the sons of the South.... Sons of the South are showing the same acts of heroism that they have always shown in time of war, and, unless the sons of the North bestir themselves the honors of this conflict may go to the Southland.” The South's dedication to the U.S.A. has been demonstrated in every war since the South's surrender at Appomattox. Today, sons and daughters of the South represent a large percentage of our volunteer military—much greater than the South's proportion of the population. Yet, our reward is to be stigmatized as racists and traitors by people who hate the conservative, Constitution-loving South. Why would the Woke U.S. government destroy a beautiful monument that was honored by presidents of the past?

Authoritarian rulers hate ancient monuments that remind people of heroic traditions that free people should emulate. It is a constant public reminder of the cost of freedom and the sacrifice that people are often called upon to make in defense of freedom. When the Soviet Communists occupied the Baltic States they removed ancient monuments, prohibited the display of national flags, and removed the money then in circulation containing images of ancient heroes. When the Taliban took over Afghanistan, they destroyed ancient Buddhist monuments. Authoritarians detest anything that might cause people to question authoritarian rule. The recent attack against monuments across the South is carried on by individuals, groups, and politicians who detest the conservative South. They have the backing of monied individuals, the media, postmodern academia, and the ruling political class. The South has no spokesmen to give a counter-argument. The South is convicted in the court of public opinion without being allowed to present its defense—a court system fitting for authoritarian regimes.

Why are Southerners who love their heritage, honor their ancestors who served honorably during the “Civil War,” and who can trace their lineage back to “Civil War” and Colonial days, why are we branded as traitors and racists? President Eisenhower did not think we were traitors. He kept a photo of General Lee in his office while president and defended his action by noting that General Lee was an honorable man. President Kennedy spoke highly of the sons of the South and recognized the national kinship between the North and South. Yet, today we are branded as traitors and racists. We are not allowed to have a monument in the public square! Why? Because Southerners are the only American group who are not allowed to define who we are, what our ancestors fought for and what we stand for today. In Woke America, Southerners who love their heritage are defined by those who hate us. It would be like allowing neo-Nazis to define what Jewish culture is and whether its symbols and monuments should be allowed in the public square or allowing white-supremacists to define

what Black culture is and whether its monuments should be allowed in the public square. “With liberty and justice for all?” Not if you are a traditional conservative Southerner.

What does the destruction of Arlington’s Reconciliation monument mean? It means that the healing (reconciliation) never occurred as far as America’s Woke political and military class are concerned. After Appomattox the South tacitly agreed to never again raise the call for Southern independence, to forgo centuries of conflict like the way the Irish responded to English invasion and occupation of their homeland. The secessionists’ South became the patriotic South that provided the nation’s military with unnumbered troops and officers. Presidents since the Spanish-American War have recognized the outpouring of Southern blood in defense of our mutual country. They even annually placed a wreath at the Reconciliation monument but no more. It has become apparent that the only way the conservative, Constitution-loving, South will be accepted in Woke America is if we renounce our conservative political and moral principles and embrace leftist Woke ideology—this we will not do!

The North/South reconciliation bargain is now broken. We, the Constitution loving South did not break the bargain, but a bargain broken by one party is broken completely. Since traditional Southerners are no longer wanted in the military, and since America’s political class demands our removal—perhaps it is time for conservative Southerners to rethink the North/South bargain.

Walter Donnie Kennedy

Lt. Commander-in Chief

Sons of Confederate Veterans

James Ronald Kennedy

Chief of Heritage Promotions

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Robert E. Lee Quote of the Month

I fear our soldiers have not realized the necessity for the endurance and labor they are called upon to undergo, and that it is better to sacrifice themselves than our cause.

— Robert E. Lee, February 23rd, 1862, in a letter to his wife, Mary Custis Lee

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

January 13th Lee Jackson Day, Lexington, VA..... Details to follow via email.

January 25th 7:00 pm @ Charley’s Café: Camp Meeting & Election of Officers

February 22nd 7:00 pm @ Charley’s Café: Camp Meeting

March 28th 7:00 pm @ Charley’s Café: Camp Meeting

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