

The Gray Line News



High Bridge



High Bridge Camp # 1581

Sons of Confederate Veterans

"DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR SOUTHERN HERITAGE"

February 10, 2020

Dear Compatriots,

The first thing I would like to say is how deeply honored I am to be given the privilege to serve as your commander. I will do my best to serve you well in the upcoming year. The next thing I would like to say is thank you to Lance Smith for his years of service as commander and to all our other officers for their dedication to our camp.

I am really looking forward to working with all of you this year in honoring our ancestors and all of those who fought for freedom and their rights to self-government as promised in the Constitution. As you all know, there are groups out there who want to fabricate and try to change history. I am very proud to be a part of an organization that preserves the truth and honors those who are so deserving.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting. Until then, I wish you and your families happiness and good health.

Respectfully yours,
Don Reynolds, Commander

2020 Officers:

Don Reynolds, Commander
Chris Burks, 1st Lt. Commander
Shane Newcombe, Treasurer
David Easter, Adjutant
Mark Fathbruckner, Chaplin



L to R: Shane Newcombe, Chris Burks, Don Reynolds, Mark Fathbruckner, David Easter

Lee-Jackson Day events were held on the weekend of January 17th and 18th in the community of Lexington, VA. Six members represented the Camp.





New Member Compatriot Donald Williams receives his membership certificate from outgoing Commander Lance Smith

Mother Who Sacrificed All

Heroism was not just confined to the soldiers.

"At the portico of a modest, cheerful dwelling by the roadside, there stood, as we rode along, an elderly lady in deep mourning who held by the hand a fair-haired boy of about fifteen years of age, and who asked the General that she might be permitted to bless our battle-flag. Having invoked the favor of heaven upon our colors in a manner as earnest as it was unaffected, she told us that she was a widow who had already lost two sons in the war, but that she was ready to sacrifice her last child for the sacred cause of her country. The eyes of the boy brightened up, and his fist was clenched at this; and tears fell down on our beards as we turned the heads of our horses towards the passing column.

"Col. Heros von Borcke, *Memoirs Of The Confederate War For Independence*, vol. 1, 1938

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Women in Uniform

The Daily Dispatch: October 31, 1864.: [Richmond, Virginia] Local Matters.

The Central cars, on Friday night, brought down two girls, named Mary Bell and Mollie Bell, who were dressed in soldier clothes. They claim to be cousins, and state that before the war they lived with their uncle in Southwestern Virginia; but about two years since he left them and went over to the Yankees. They then attired themselves in male apparel, and were admitted into a cavalry company, attached to the Confederate service. A few months after their enlistment they encountered a force of Yankees, were defeated and captured with the rest of the company; but subsequently, General John H. Morgan, with reinforcements, overtook the Yankees who had them in charge, causing such a precipitate retreat that they were compelled to abandon their prisoners.—After three months service in the cavalry they joined the Thirty-sixth Virginia infantry, and have been with it up to the present time. On one occasion Mollie Bell killed three Yankees while on picket, and on her return to the brigade was promoted for gallantry to a corporally. The corporal has missed but one battle — that of Cedar —she having been sent off on duty at the time. Once she was slightly wounded in the arm by a piece of shell.

From the time these girls entered the service up to the day of the fight which took place between Early and Sheridan on the 19th instant, the secret of their sex was only known to the captain of the company to which they belonged. At this battle he was taken prisoner, and they then, finding it necessary to have some protector, bonded their secret to the commander of the company; but he did not keep it two days before he reported it to General Early himself, who entered them to be taken to Richmond. In the interview with the General,

which ensued in consequence of the information imparted to him by said that there were six other females in disguise in the army, but she refused to tell who or where they were.

These girls were known in the army by the names of Tom Parker and Bob Morgan, and were acknowledged by all the soldiers with whom they were associated to be valiant soldiers, having never been known to straggle or shirk duty. As they appeared in the chief-of-police office on Friday night, there was nothing in their appearance to excite suspicion that they were other; than what they appeared to be, Confederate soldiers.—They are modest in demeanor, and were always known as Quiet and orderly members of their command. , Bob Morgan, most of the talking, and displayed evident marks of education and refinement, Mary Tom Parker, was taciturn and moody, but yet not altogether uninteresting. Mollie Bell says that "Tom," as she called her cousin, was never to be a soldier; she is too modest and they were both committed to Castle Thunder to await further arrangements for their welfare.

Northern Hypocrisy

The annexed paragraph, which is extracted from an Illinois paper, shows what sort of sympathy is extended to free negroes in Mr. Lincoln's own State. If the Yankees were to free all the negroes in the South, it is probable they would signalize their philanthropy by preventing their residence in the "free" North:"

The Whiteside (Illinois) Sentinel publishes an official notice, under date of February 2, 1863, signed by C M. Child, J. P, to the effect that, whereas certain negroes named were, on the 5th and 6th ult., tried on "a charge of high misdemeanor, having come into this State and county, and remaining therein for ten days or more, with the evident intention

of residing in this State, and were found guilty by a jury, and were each severally fined in the sum of \$50," and whereas the fines and costs of suit not having been paid, the said negroes will be sold at auction, on the 19th day of February, 1863, at the Court-House of Carthage, for the payment of said fines and costs."

That's pretty racist of those moral and just "freedom fighters" from up there! General Lee...not so much. Send that to those NAAPC loons!

Doesn't anyone at the NAAPC know that Lee did not own slaves? The slaves on the Lee plantation were his wife's inheritance and Lee set their manumission (freedom) in motion in the before the war. Lee felt slavery was "In this enlightened age, there are few I believe, but what will acknowledge, that **slavery** as an institution, is a moral & political evil in any Country." Ulysses Grant did own slaves and didn't free them until the 13th Amendment forced him to.

Southern Gentlemen Kept Their Composure

Confederate John B Gordon and his troops were traveling through York Pennsylvania. The residents feared retaliation for the war crimes done on the South by the Union troops. Gordon gathered the resident women for a conference and spoke to them saying:

"Our Southern homes have been pillaged and burned. Our wives, mothers and little ones driven forth among the brutal insults of your soldiers. Is it any wonder that we fight with desperation? A natural revenge would prompt us to retaliate in kind. But we scorn to war on women and children. We are fighting for the God given rights of liberty and independence as handed down in the Constitution by our Fathers. So fear not. If a torch is applied to a single dwelling or an

insult offered to a single female of your town
by a soldier of my command, point me out
that man."

***I found the following poem on one of the
Southern Heritage Facebook pages. I greatly
appreciate the sentiment of the author, but I as
a former teacher felt compelled to correct
several punctuation errors and a couple of
spelling errors. I left the capitalization alone
chalking it up to "artistic license". *Editor****

The Flag I Fly

by David Tatum Jr.

Some call it a "Flag of Hate"
Blue X across the Red
The Flag i Fly , in southern sky
Is a Flag of Truth instead.

A Truth about the Heroes
Whose Hearts fought for This Land
A Truth about a way of life
That some won't understand.

A way of life that's not for sale!
A cannon's "Thunder" and "Rebel Yell"
A Glass of Tea, Wisteria's Bloom
My heart is in DIXIE, She Has the Room!

The flag I fly is not of "Hate"
For All are Welcome Within my gates
Excepting They who tell the Lie,
It's a flag of Hate that's in the sky

The Flag Explains my way of life,
Not wearing Sheets or Carrying Knives
Not burning a Cross in someone's yard,
But Living "Free" and working hard.

It tells of Hospitality,
And love of a family true!
The Flag I fly, is a different kind.
I pray you Fly yours too.

Next Meeting

February 27, 2020

Future Meetings

March 26, 2020

April 23, 2020

May 28, 2020

June 25, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 27, 2020

September 24, 2020

Camp Events

March/April ?, 2020 Saylor's Creek Cleanup

May 2, 2020 Heart of Virginia

May 25, 2020 Memorial Day

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A. M. Evans, Newsletter Editor