

The Sentinel

October 2023



Army of
Tennessee



The Sentinel

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“Get there first with the most”

October 2023

The Sentinel
is published by the
Army of Tennessee
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

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Commander

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Councilman

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**Army of
Tennessee**

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Army of Tennessee

SONS OF CONFEDERATE
VETERANS

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the Second American Revolution. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the SCV is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes so that future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861 - 1865 period is preserved.

Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.



Army of Tennessee



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From the Army Commander

Men of the Army,

What does being a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans mean to you?

To me, it means being in an organization with the primary purpose of honoring my (and others) Confederate ancestor. I have the ability to do that on my own as an individual but being a part of a group of likeminded men with the same cause helps keep me focused on the remembrance and preservation of my southern heritage. There is only so much I can do as an individual; there is a great deal more that can be achieved as a group. Prior to joining the SCV I didn't even know that I had a Confederate ancestor. Now I know that I have many Confederate ancestors and I know more about my family than I ever did before joining. The friends and acquaintances that I have made and the knowledge of the true causes of the war that I have learned over the last 19 years is worth more than the dues I have paid.

We are still collecting dues in September even though they were due by July 31st. There were problems with MRS forms and mail outs (happens every year). Hopefully we can retain everyone by the time the dues process ends. Unfortunately, we will lose some members for a variety of reasons. Some of these reasons I fully understand, loss of job and financial limitations for example. More often than not it is for reasons that perplex me.

I hear some say we are to political while others say we are not political enough. Some say National and Division doesn't do anything but when asked if they participate in National and Division events they answer no. Some say the SCV is always asking for money but I have yet to find anyone that says the SCV sent someone to twist my arm to give them money. I have found that the majority of our members are hard workers who want our camps and the organization itself to grow. I have also found that every organization that exists has members that complain or get disgruntled and I realize you will never change their opinions. They will always be with us. We have to continue doing what we can to defend our ancestors good name and the cause for which they fought.

I do what I can, based on my own liabilities and limitations. I have held every office at camp level (sometimes until the new person could be trained), I have held numerous positions in my Division including Division Commander, I have held two National elected positions and several committee assignments. I didn't run for these positions just "to hold a title". I ran because I felt like I could make a difference. If you feel that your Camp, Division or the SCV as a whole needs a new direction then you need to get involved. Get off the sidelines, quit criticizing those that are working unless you are willing to run for that office and affect change. Unless we have new people with new ideas then we will continue down the same path. Don't ask someone else to do something that you are not willing to do yourself. I also would emphasize that we have many people holding positions that are doing great work. I personally know several Brigade Commanders that do a great job in that position and do not want to go any higher. They have found that position in the organization that they can make a difference. Not everyone is cut out to be a Camp Commander, Division Commander, Army Commander or Commander in Chief. I thank the men before me who held these offices, who gave up a part of their lives to do these jobs in the past, present and future. Our organization exists today because our ancestors fought for what they believed in and through the United Confederate Veterans they passed this legacy down to their sons who formed the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Today we are the keepers of the torch of freedom that our Confederate ancestors lit. We recite the "Charge" given to us by Lt. General Stephen D. Lee. We are not to pick and choose the parts we want to follow. We should strive to follow it in its entirety. As the "Woke" mob continues their madness, are we going to just roll over and accept it or will we do what we can to show the truth to the public. As the latest polls have pointed out, the majority of the American public is on our side. They do not want the monuments taken down, they didn't want the military bases renamed, they believe in traditional American values. National polls also show that the majority of Americans do not favor the direction that the country is heading. We can only make change if we unite our voices together and as a unified body let our opinions be known. It is not to late but every day that passes brings us closer to the end of what we hold dear in our hearts. Recruit more members, talk to your former members to get them to rejoin. There is strength in numbers and the consequences of inaction is something that will be hard to live with.

Jimmy Hill
Commander

*Army of***Tennessee****Workshop****May 4, 2024,**

9 AM to 3 PM at the conference room at Elm Springs, Columbia, Tennessee.

There are only 65 spots available for this workshop, due to room size.

Register early to guarantee your spot!

Registration is \$15 which includes lunch. Pre-register by March 15th for lunch.

After March 15th, the registration fee will be \$20 (no guaranteed lunch included).

All Divisions are welcome to attend!

Speakers include: Membership Coordinator Eric Previti (Commander / Adjutant Training), AoT Councilman Carl Jones (Becoming a Community Partner), AoT Commander Jimmy Hill (Community involvement) and others (subject to change)

The annual Pilgrimage will be going on at Elm Springs as well. We will take a break from the workshop to attend the main event at the pilgrimage and then will return to the conference center for lunch and then continue the workshop agenda. We hope to have a free tour of the museum or house as part of the registration.

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers: Home: (____) ____ - _____

Cell: (____) ____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____

SCV Camp Name & Number: _____ Division: _____

Please send this completed form, together with a check or money order in the amount of **\$15 (by March 15th for lunch)** made payable to **AoT Workshop and mail it to:**

**AoT Workshop
c/o Jimmy Hill
13476 Wendy Drive
Madison, AL 35757**

Registrations after March 15th are \$20 but without a lunch guarantee. Send them to the same address above.



The DeKalb Rifles Camp 1824, Sons of Confederate Veterans celebrated their 25th anniversary at the September meeting. Thanks to Deborah Mann for the beautiful Confederate cake. Pictured behind the cake are the officers: Harold Bouldin, Russ Hare, Gary Carlyle, Barry Pickett, Ryan Rogers, and Dale Crawford. Photo by Gwen Williams



A new camp is chartered in Calvert City, Kentucky. Picture on the left shows Kentucky Division Commander Kyle Thompson after signing the charter with the camp officers. The second picture is the members after signing the charter. The name of the new camp is the Private Eldridge Riley Camp 2347 and they will meet in Calvert City, Kentucky. The Camp Commander is Jeremy Riley.



2 Lt Joseph Morgan Camp 2012 of Perry had a clean up day at the Osteen Cemetery.



On September 16th, family friends and invited guests were on hand at Temple Hill Cemetery in Dexter, Kentucky for a memorial service for Private Andrew Jackson Woodall. Private Woodall is the ancestor of Division Commander Kyle Thompson. A Cross of Honor was also placed on the grave. Commander in Chief Jason Boshers and John Hill were the guest speakers.

2023 Henry Wirz Memorial Service

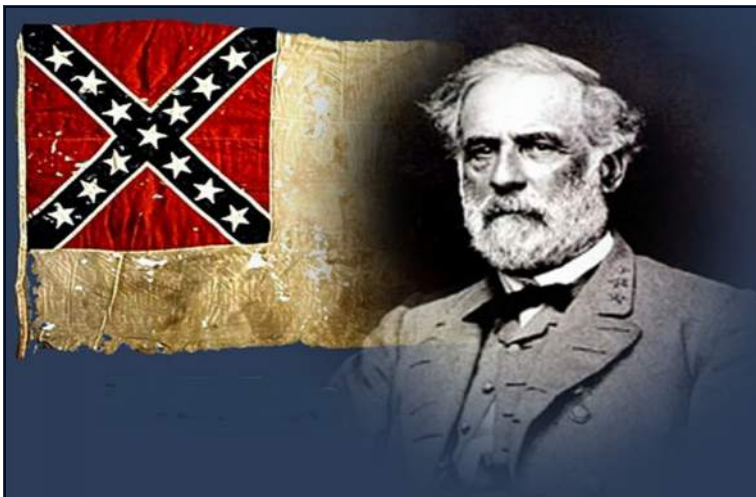
Sunday, November 12th, 2023

2 PM (EST)

Downtown,
Andersonville, Georgia

The Service is sponsored by the Alexander H. Stephens Camp 78
(Americus), Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Contact James Gaston at gaston7460@bellsouth.net or by phone or text at 229-938-9115



Alabama Division
Robert E. Lee Day

January 20th, 2024

Archives Building
624 Washington Ave.
Montgomery

Program begins at 10am



Walkways of Remembrance

Bricks and Pavers For the Walkways for the
General Headquarters for the Sons of Confederate Veterans at Elm Springs
and the
Confederate Museum at Elm Springs

Remember and honor your Confederate Ancestor, a family member or any cherished memory with the purchase of a Memorial Brick to be laid for a walkways at the General Headquarters for the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Confederate Museum at Elm Springs.

Brick sizes:

The 4" x 8" brick will allow 3 lines with 21 characters (including spaces) per line and will cost \$50.

The 8" by 8" brick will allow 6 lines with 21 characters (including spaces) per line and will cost \$100.

Layout for 4" x 8" brick with 3 lines max and 21 characters per line max (including spaces) \$50

Layout for 8" x 8" brick with 6 lines max and 21 characters per line max (including spaces) \$100

Make checks payable to SCV and write "Bricks" in the memo line. Please fill out this form and mail to:

SCV, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

Credit card payments are available by calling 1-800-MYSOUTH and contacting Merchandising.

Please include all your contact information so we can contact you.

Name: _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____



No explanation needed!



Wayne Tate receives the SCV National Meritorious Service Medal and Superior Achievement Certificate from Division Commander Thompson and Camp #276 Commander Tom Hiter.



Lt.Cmdr Goolsby (L) and Division Commander Mike McMurry (R) met with division treasurer Larry Muse and presented him with the Alabama division Robert E. Lee award.



KY Division Adjutant Mike Knight Sr. receives the SCV National Meritorious Service Medal & Commendation Medal from Division Commander Thompson and Camp #276 Commander Tom Hiter.

*2024 National Reunion
Charleston, S.C.*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDACY FOR ARMY OF TENNESSEE COMMANDER IN 2024



Fellow Compatriots,

For those who may not know me, my name is Tom Wood, and I currently serve as the Tennessee Division Adjutant and have served in that position for the past eight years. After much thought, prayerful consideration, and discussion with my wife, I have decided to present myself as a candidate for the office of Army of Tennessee Commander in 2024. I am a 7th generation Tennessean proud of my ancestors and my honored heritage and I will always continue to fight to restore the South to its once very valued place in society.

I am a retired Air Force Reserve Officer with 20 years of service. I am also a retired construction executive with a 40 year career, retiring from Lipscomb University in Nashville as the Director of Construction and Physical Plant Operations in 2014. My wife, Nancy, is a retired school teacher of 25 years, and an active member of the Order of Confederate Rose. She serves on the Tennessee OCR state staff, as well as an OCR chapter president. My wife and I both enjoy traveling and

would welcome the opportunity and privilege to travel around and visit divisions and camps in the Army of Tennessee as your AOT Commander to provide you strong representation and direct communication to the National level.

It has been my honor to be a member of The Sons of Confederate Veterans for 25 great years. During my tenure as Tennessee Division Adjutant we have experienced a time of growth and many tremendous successes for the division with many added responsibilities to manage. I also currently serve as the commander for the General Robert H. Hatton Camp # 723 in Lebanon, Tennessee. I have served my camp in a variety of staff positions including multiple terms as commander over those 25 years of service. I was honored to be selected as the “Man of the Year” in the Tennessee Division in 2022.

During my tenure as commander our camp has grown and been extremely active in preservation of our Southern Heritage. Last April our camp received the “Outstanding Camp of the Year Award” for 2022-2023 in the Tennessee Division. The camp also received the “Outstanding Media Coverage Award” for the year. Our camp presented the “Robert E. Lee Award” for people outside the SCV for outstanding service to one state senator and a state representative who represents our district and who are strong supporters of the SCV and our heritage. They were very grateful of such an honor and are always supportive of all of our heritage efforts in the legislature.

I am a life member of both SCV National, as well as a life member of the Tennessee Division. I have been a member of Morgan’s Men Association and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars for over 20 years. I am part of the Tennessee SCV Speakers Bureau and have spoken many times to camps across Tennessee on a variety of subjects. I have authored several articles for The Sentinel Newsletter and the Tennessee Division Forrest Escort on a variety of topics.

I would now like to use my leadership skills as your representative on the General Executive Council and to be your voice as we go forward. Communications has always been a spirited conversation in our organization, and I would like to be in a position where I can work towards improving communications for our members.

Recruitment and retention are two critical and vital keys to our continued success. I have recruited several over the years and I will continue my efforts in that regard and encourage all members to reach out. Future members are out there, but we must be bold in getting our word out and inviting people to join us. My camp this past year had a 99% retention, but we had one member we could not convince to continue even though we tried hard. We must follow up with members who fall by the wayside, because for them to know they are needed and appreciated is a huge part of retention. Our camps must be active and have worthwhile meetings so our members understand they are part of something important and not just a social club that meets periodically.

This decision to be a candidate for AOT Commander has not been lightly decided but has been well considered for some time. I realize the obligation and dedication that this position needs and requires and I am willing to meet those demands. I now have the time and the opportunity to fulfill the requirements of this position. I am grateful for your consideration in voting for me as your AOT Commander at our next election.

Yours In Service to the South,

Tom Wood

Tennessee Division Adjutant
General Robert H. Hatton Camp # 723
Lebanon, Tennessee



Compatriots of the Army of Tennessee,

It has been my distinct honor to serve as your Army Councilman for the past three years. In that time I've fielded many phone calls and emails and visited many Camps and functions as well as taken part in the carrying out of training workshops put on around our Army. Likewise I've attended every National Reunion and every GEC meeting in addition to a number of those which were held by teleconference and/or online. I've done my best in this capacity to represent the best interests of our Divisions, our members and our esteemed organization.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is an organization with a mission that is not only near and dear to my heart, but it is a big part of who I am. I believe absolutely in the Cause that our ancestors contended for and I make every effort to spread the truth of that Cause at every opportunity that I am afforded.

Over the years I've done more interviews with media talking heads than I can count and have stood face to face in head-on debate with a well-known group that is highly and militantly adversarial towards our organization and our Heritage. I have long held the belief that it is my mission in life to know the truth of the history of our Southland and to relay that truth.

Having joined the Sons of Confederate Veterans in 2004 I have served in just about every office at the Camp level in addition to many Division Offices to include Chief of Staff, Brigade Commander, 2nd Lt Commander from 2012 to 2016, 1st Lt Commander from 2016 to 2018 and Alabama Division Commander from 2018 to 2020. I've served as Chief of Heritage Operations for the Army of Tennessee from 2010 to 2012, National Chief of Heritage Operations from 2016 to 2018, National Deputy Chief of Heritage Defense from 2018 to 2020 and AoT Councilman from 2020 until the present.

As Commander of the Alabama Division I undertook the mission of "building the SCV by building the Camps" and worked across Division lines with the Tennessee Division to erect a monument on our property at the Forrest Boyhood Home. I've been instrumental in putting on education conferences that were designed to bring nationally known speakers to our members at an affordable price in an effort to educate us on our history. I believe fervently that the Camps are the backbone of this organization and that by training Camps in areas that will help them to grow and run more efficiently we will likewise benefit the overall health of our entire organization. I stand by that assertion and belief.

The health of our organization is crucial, not only to the perpetuation of "The Charge" given to us by General Stephen D. Lee, but to our entire Southland. The enemies aligned against us are not merely trying to destroy monuments and change the names of schools and streets- They are trying to erase US as a people. The Southern tradition is a threat to the ultra-left and their radical agenda and we must fight back against this with everything we can intellectually muster. The SCV is the premier entity in this fight and at times it seems we are the only entity! We must be as determined as our adversaries and we must work in a manner that is smart and effective to curtail their efforts. We must train and equip our Camps to be our voice and a formidable influence in the local community, and we must attract the general public to take up our Cause. The polls are clear that the public is on our side, but we must harness that support and put it to active use for our purpose and our mission.

While the Camp is the backbone of this organization, to formulate a coherent and cohesive message that will resonate throughout our Army, Divisions, Brigades and Camps we must have strong representation at every level of the SCV, including on the General Executive Council. We must have people with experience and who can bring new ideas to the table, as well as who can work with the others in elected positions. Gentlemen, I believe I have the ideas and that experience and, after much thought and prayer, it is with great reverence for you and all that you are doing for our Cause that I announce my candidacy for the position of Commander of the Army of Tennessee and humbly ask for your support. I am,

Yours in the Cause,

Carl Jones

Councilman

Army of Tennessee

Sons of Confederate Veterans



**ROY P. HUDSON
FOR ARMY OF TENNESSEE COUNCILMAN
2024**

COMPATRIOTS,

MY NAME IS ROY HUDSON AND I AM SEEKING YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE OFFICE OF AOT COUNCILMAN. I HAVE COME TO THIS DECISION AFTER A LOT OF SOUL SEARCHING, PRAYER, AND DISCUSSION WITH FAMILY AND FELLOW COMPATRIOTS.

I HAVE BEEN A SCV MEMBER SINCE 1991. I AM A LIFE MEMBER OF THE SCV. AT THE CAMP LEVEL I HAVE HELD ALMOST EVERY OFFICE INCLUDING COMMANDER, HAVING CHARTERED THE NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST CAMP #1595.

MY CURRENT DUTIES INCLUDE FIRST LT. COMMANDER OF THE CAPTAIN J.J. DICKISON CAMP #1387 IN MELBOURNE, FL., SERGEANT OF THE THIRD BATTALION COMPANY D, OF THE MECHANIZED CAVALRY, DIVISION LT. COMMANDER OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA AND SERVE AS THE INSPECTOR IN CHIEF ON THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE SCV.

OVER THE YEARS I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN MANY SCV EVENTS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND GIVEN MANY HISTORICAL LECTURES. I CURRENTLY AM ON THE FLORIDA DIVISION'S SPEAKERS BUREAU.

IN MY WORKING LIFE I SPENT 49 YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVING IN ALL POSITIONS FROM DEPUTY TO CHIEF. I HAVE MANAGED HUNDREDS OF PERSONNEL AND OVERSAW A 50 MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET.

WHEN I RETIRED 2 YEARS AGO, I MADE THE COMMITMENT THAT THE SCV WOULD BE MY NEW FULL TIME CAREER. I KNOW THAT MY BACKGROUND, LIFE EXPERIENCE AND UNWAVERING LOVE FOR THE SCV , WILL ASSURE THAT I HAVE THE ABILITY AND PASSION TO DO THE JOB .

IN TRAVELLING AROUND THE COUNTRY, WE CONTINUE TO HEAR ABOUT RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION. WE DO NEED TO WORK ESPECIALLY ON RETENTION. ANOTHER ISSUE THAT I HEAR CONSTANTLY IS THE AVERAGE COMPATRIOT FEELS THEIR VOICE IS NOT HEARD AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. I DO COMMIT TO MAKING MYSELF A CONDUIT FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE AOT TO GET THEIR IDEAS AND CONCERNS TO THE GEC.

I HOPE TO SEE AS MANY OF YOU AS POSSIBLE IN THE NEXT YEAR TO MEET AND DISCUSS YOUR PRIORITIES FOR OUR SCV.

DEO VINDICE

ROY P. HUDSON

Members of Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Sons of Confederate Veterans, came to the Sam Houston Schoolhouse in Blount County in August to demonstrate camp life during the War Between the States for home school students.





National Confederate Museum Saturday Open Dates

November 11-Free to Vets

December 2– Maury Co. Home Tours



Harold Ray Clay was called up to join the forces of Generals Lee and Jackson on May 30, 2023. He was a member of Quantrill Raiders Camp and SCV Mechanized Cavalry Company K of the Ohio Division



Admiral Raphael Semmes Camp #1321 (Dearborn, MI) is sad to report the passing of Camp Judge-Advocate & Compatriot, Rev. ROBERT E. ESLER, who "crossed over the river" this past Saturday morning (July 29th).

The Powerful Social Elite in the Mid 1800's in America

The Lincoln Cult of admirers even to this day continue to sell our nation a series of lies and distortions about the life of the true Mr. Lincoln. Hopefully, this article will reveal at least some of the truth about him that we can use in our arsenal of information against this strong cult of Lincoln lovers. Lincoln's real political and economic successes began with the Whig Party with his election to the Illinois State House in 1834.

Henry Clay of Kentucky is often times credited with the founding of the Whig Party in 1833. The party consisted of some very prominent men of the day including John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Zachary Taylor, General Winfield Scott and many other leading liberal and nationalistic big government thinkers of the day. You recognize many of these names as they went on to eventually be President or Presidential contenders and men who were very prominent in our nation's history. This Whig political party included Lincoln, and was in large part the avenue through which Lincoln's political career had its beginnings and much of his success with the elite of the Northern society of the day. The Whig Party was one of the two major parties in the nation from 1833 until 1856 along with the Democrat Party. The Whig Party grew out of the old previous Republican Party. The Whig party had its peak years when it had dominant control of the government from 1841-1843 when it controlled both the House and Senate. The Whig Party was later dissolved in 1856 and once again became the Republican Party from which Lincoln was elected President in 1860. The Whig Party consisted of what today we call Progressives or Liberals and were nationalistic in their thinking. Lincoln's philosophy of government was the perfect fit for the party. The primary Whig base of support came from the elite of society. All of its leaders and followers were centered among entrepreneurs, professionals, planters, social reformers and the upper middle class of society at the time. The Whig Party was always the party of the moneyed elite in our nation.

Lincoln was a Whig much longer than he was ever a Republican. As a member of the Illinois State Legislature, he led his delegation in a successful Whig effort to appropriate some \$12 million taxpayer dollars to subsidize road, canal, and railroad corporations in Illinois. Unfortunately for the Illinois taxpayer these subsidies led to a huge financial debacle, with literally no projects being completed and all the money being wasted or stolen. The state taxpayers could directly thank Mr. Lincoln and the Progressives for that debacle. Obviously, nothing has changed in our governmental excessive spending programs since the 1830s as we continue today with these wild excessive programs which continue to result in waste and fraud. Unfortunately, this was a disaster for the Illinois state taxpayers, but it was a boon to Lincoln's political career as it catapulted him into a position as one of the top railroad industry lobbyists even before the word lobbyist existed.

Thanks to the assistance of Mr. Lincoln, the Illinois Central Railroad became one of the largest corporations in the world. Lincoln served as one of the primary attorneys for the railroad until he was elected President. He traveled across the Midwest in a private railcar with a free pass everywhere, and was also accompanied by a private entourage of railroad executives in most of his travels across the country. This was the real Mr. Lincoln in action that so many in our country have deified. His real lifestyle was a far cry from the image we have been sold of old honest Abe, the poor, humble, backwoods rail splitter that has been pictured to generations of school children across our nation for many decades. In one single litigation case Lincoln successfully defended the railroad and Lincoln presented a bill to the railroad for \$5,000 which was an incredible sum in the 1850s. He presented his bill to no other than the vice president of the railroad George B. McClellan who would eventually become the commanding officer of the Union Army under Lincoln. The company was outraged at Lincoln's terribly excessive bill, but after some legal wrangling and urging from McClellan the bill was paid. This was not the only time that Lincoln took financial advantage of his position and his influential elite contacts. By the mid 1850's Lincoln had close relationships with powerful industrial interests and leaders who were always important to him and present in his political counsel.

Lincoln had smartly invested in a large section of property in Council Bluffs, Iowa, but why Council Bluffs? The reason was that a political and railroad industry insider told Lincoln the Transcontinental Railroad would have its starting point in Council Bluffs. That renowned railroad industry engineer who gave Lincoln the insider information was none other than the eventual infamous General Granville Dodge of the Union Army. When Lincoln became President, he called a special session of Congress in July 1861. The primary purpose of the session was to approve a taxpayer-subsidized Union Pacific Railroad. The bill was passed in 1862 and gave the President total power to appoint all directors and commissioners and to give him the power to determine the point of commencement of the railroad. Not surprisingly, Lincoln chose Council Bluffs, Iowa as the eastern terminus where he had just purchased a large tract of land with this very purpose in mind. Coincidentally, Granville Dodge was promoted to chief engineer

of the railroad because of his sharing insider information with Lincoln. This Transcontinental Railroad bill was a gigantic payoff to the Northern business interests that supported Lincoln's political career and the Republican Party.

This Northern clique of slick political operators and businessmen aroused suspicions in the Southland, and the South questioned all these huge sums of taxpayer dollars being paid for in part with Southern taxes, but yet allocated by Congress for the building of a Transcontinental Railroad. This railroad system strictly crossed the Northern states and to the North's full economic advantage, but the South helped pay for it. Another example of political corruptness in the Lincoln administration involved John C. Freemont, who would also become a general under Lincoln. He was a wealthy Northern California engineer who conducted an extensive survey to insure that the railroad would end up in Northern California where he had large real estate holdings. Congressman Thaddeus Stevens received a block of stock in the new railroad in exchange for his vote on the railroad bill. As part of his deal Stevens also demanded all iron for the railroad be manufactured in America where he owned an iron factory in Pennsylvania. There were many other favors and corrupt actions involving Congressmen for their approval to vote for the bills passage. Obviously, nothing has changed in Washington in the last 160 years regarding political corruption and cronyism.

It is probably not an exaggeration to say that the primary reason for the re-establishment of the new Republican Party of 1856 was to establish the largest patronage program in the history of our government. This was always the dream of the old Whigs like Lincoln who understood such a system could cement them in power for generations to come. Their dream was achieved beginning with the government subsidized Transcontinental Railroad. No one was more influential in achieving this dream than "Ole Honest Abe Himself" the original railroad industry lobbyist who had made a fortune through his elitist friends.

Of course, Lincoln continued to carry and spread this system of cronyism and corruption as we saw above into the War Between the States by his appointment of his old friends in very high civilian and military positions. Lincoln and the party's vision of a strong and controlling nationalistic government and constant use of Constitutional abuses continued to grow under Lincoln's administration throughout the war years. I think we can all thank "Ole Abe" who is known as the father of "Big Government" who set in motion all of the precedents for future Presidents to continue that growth and all the Constitutional abuses we see in Washington today.

I believe the old adage goes something like this:

The More Things ChangeThe More They Stay The Same

This is what we see in our government throughout history.

Tom Wood

Tennessee Division Adjutant

Commander, General Robert H. Hatton Camp # 723





Bill Gibson is presented with the SCV Leadership Certificate from Division Commander Thompson and Camp #276 Commander Tom Hiter.



Jeremy Thompson (pictured with daughter and camp "mascot" Norah) received the SCV Commendation Medal during a special lunch in Draffenville, KY from Division Commander Thompson & Camp #276 Commander Tom Hiter.

What a fantastic day at Camp Rad. 36 bikes, 6 cars and about 50 people total. We raised \$9000.00 for kids with Muscular Dystrophy to attend camp this week. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT MADE THIS HAPPEN AND SHOWED UP TODAY FOR THE RIDE!!! God bless you all. *Billy Bryant, Rankin Grays, MS Division*



Sons of Confederate Veterans, Inc.
Reconciliation Memorial
Arlington National Cemetery

On January 12th, the General Executive Council Sons of Confederate Veterans voted to enter into a lawsuit to fight the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial located in the Confederate Section of Arlington National Cemetery. SCV National has been working with an attorney and actions will be forthcoming.

The lawsuit will take funding. To contribute to help the SCV fight this travesty, please send your donations to:

Online: <https://scv.org/paypal-donations/> and click on the Donate button under Heritage Operations (Defense).

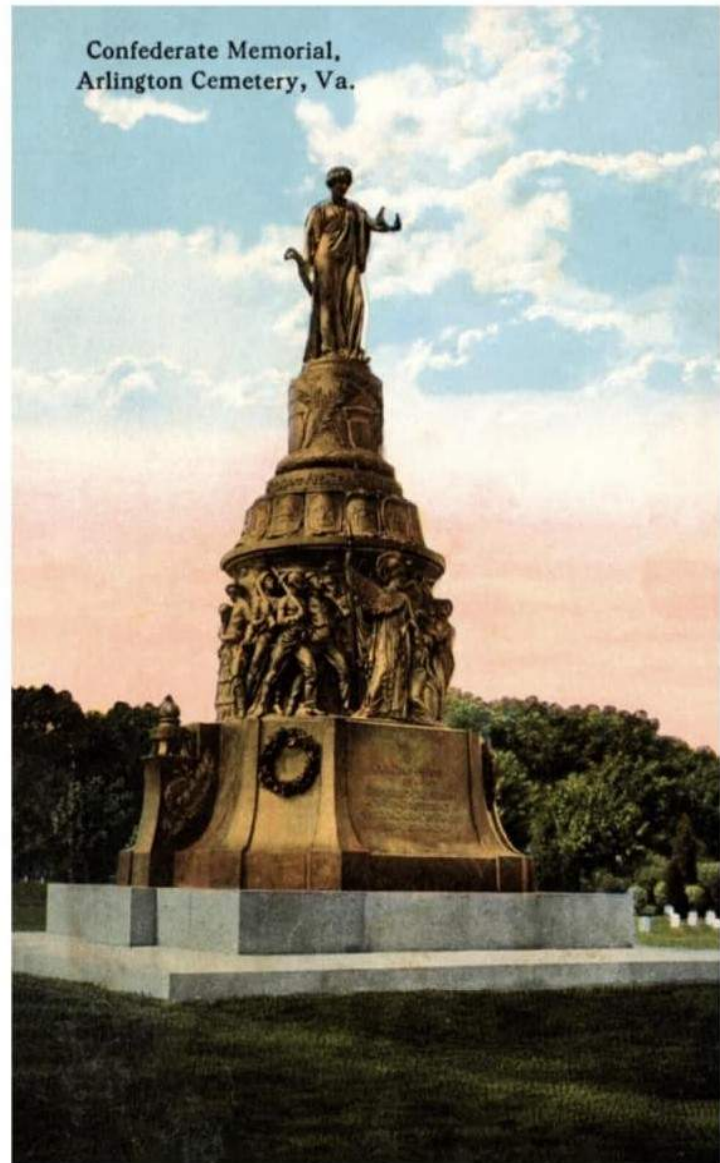
Phone: call [931-380-1844](tel:931-380-1844), ext. [209](tel:931-380-1844)

Check: Make the check payable to SCV National, write Arlington in the subject line and mail to:

SCV
P. O. Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402

R. S. Jason Boshers
Commander-in-Chief

Walter Donald Kennedy
Lt. Commander-in-Chief



Nathan Bedford Forrest Revisited

by John Taylor

In the October 2022 Alabama Gazette I covered part of the legacy of Nathan Bedford Forrest (<https://www.alabamagazette.com/story/2022/10/01/opinion/the-false-demonization-of-nathan-bedford-forrest/2434.html>). If anyone has been a victim of “the winners write the history,” it is Forrest. From his humble Tennessee roots, Forrest was the quintessential self-made man, a masterful military leader, and the antithesis of most of his critics.

After his father died, sixteen-year-old Forrest became the sole supporter of his family. He eventually met Mary Ann Montgomery. Mary Ann had also lost her father and she became a ward of her foster father and uncle, Rev. Samuel N. Cowan, a Cumberland Presbyterian parson. In 1845 Mary Ann married Nathan Bedford Forrest despite Cowan’s disapproval, much of which arose from Forrest’s “cussing and gambling.”

Possessing a great work ethic and sharp mind, Forrest engaging in farming, horse-trading, real estate brokerage, and slave trading. By the war’s outset, he was worth a million and a half dollars. He enlisted as a private in the 7th Tennessee Cavalry, and used his own money to raise and equip a battalion of mounted troops. In a short time, Forrest’s military prowess became obvious—it was admirably recognized by Robert E. Lee and somewhat begrudgingly acknowledged by U.S. Grant, William T. Sherman, and other Union commanders.

Although some modern residents of Selma, Alabama, lack appreciation for Forrest, he deserves credit for doing everything in his power to keep Selma from being totally destroyed by the invaders. Forrest led roughly 4,000 defenders (perhaps half were actually soldiers) as they attempted to stop approximately 9,000 well-armed Union soldiers. The overwhelming odds did not allow for Selma to avoid destruction.

On July 27, 1871, Forrest testified before a Congressional Committee for over four hours. Facing charges of being a founder and early Grand Wizard of the Klan and being part of the Knights of the White Camelia, Forrest vehemently denied the accusations. The Klan was actually started in Pulaski, Tennessee, by six individuals (four were lawyers), with the original intention of being a social club. The term “Klan” was thought to be a variation of “Clan” based on the prevalence of the “founders” Scottish and Scots-Irish lineage. The original Klan also had a social welfare and aid angle to help those who had been harmed by Reconstruction. According to writer Lochlainn Seabrook, the original Klan had Black members and it undoubtedly had Jewish members. The Klan that sprang up in the early 1900s was totally different.

During the Committee’s interrogation, Forrest stated: “I said to 45 colored fellows on my plantation that I was going into the army; and that if they would go with me, if we got whipped they would be free anyhow... Eighteen months before the war closed I was satisfied that we were going to be defeated, and I gave those 45, or 44 of them, their free papers for fear I might be called...It is clear from the end of 1863 to the close of the war these 44 black men served as free men under the flags of the Confederacy.” A few Blacks who served with Forrest included: Thornton Forrest, Ben Davis, Nim Wilkes, Polk Arnold, Jones Greer, Frank Russell, Preston Roberts, Alfred Duke, George Hanna, Ned Gregory, Robert Bruce Patton, Marshall Thompson, Hardin Starnes, John Terrill, Wright Whitlow, Lewis Muzzell, Alex Porter, James Jefferson, and John Sharp. All received Confederate pensions. Wilkes asserted, “I was in every battle General Forrest fought after leaving Columbia...” Duke stated, “At the beginning of the war I was with General Forrest’s regiment...I was in Confederate service almost the entire period of the war.” Nelson Winbush, a descendant of Louis Napoleon Nelson, of Forrest’s 7th Tennessee Cavalry, referenced loyal Black Confederates: “You won’t see this in the history books because the history books are written by Yankees. They aren’t about to put in there that they had some black dudes shooting at their asses for keeps.” Winbush is correct. Modern court historians would never acknowledge such a deviation from the “government-approved” narrative.

Post-war, Forrest was heavily involved with the railroad industry. He felt all Southerners should be given a chance to work and support themselves and their families and he worked tirelessly to achieve that reality. Indeed, after becoming a Christian, many considered Forrest to be a social liberal.

For over twenty years, Butch and Pat Godwin have celebrated the birthday of Nathan Bedford Forrest at Fort Dixie, near Selma. Sadly, due to health concerns, this year’s event had to be canceled. The Godwins are

amongst the few who know the true history of Nathan Bedford Forrest and have the temerity to display it. As Pat stated: "Perhaps this year 2023 will be called the HICKUP YEAR and next year will be the 25th Anniversary of Ole Bedford's Birthday Celebration!"

Sources: "In Defense of General Forrest," by Nathan Mote, at: <https://heritagepost.org/american-civil-war/in-defense-of-general-forrest/>; Forrest's testimony to that 1871 hearing can be found under "The reports of Committees, House of Representatives, second session, forty-second congress," P. 7-449. Information sourced from Lochlainn Seabrooks' "Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Battle Of Fort Pillow: The True Story" and "Forrest! 99 Reason To Love Nathan Bedford Forrest"; Sons of the South, by Clayton Rand; "Black Southerners in Nathan Bedford Forrest's Command," by Thomas Y. Cartwright (from Black Southerners in Gray); "Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Death of Heroes," by J.O. Tate (from So Good A Cause); The Coming of the Glory, by John S. Tilley; and "Rebel Yell Puts Multiculturalism to the Test," by Karl Spence. On July 10, 1905, The Tennessean, Nashville, TN, ran an article about the six individuals who started the Klan.



Three pictures of the Members of Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, Sons of Confederate Veterans, came together for their annual camp picnic at Confederate Memorial Hall (Bleak House) in Knoxville in August.



Many thanks to the Alabama Division Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Cherokee County Battlefield Park Trust for the newly installed Confederate Monument Located at the Battlefield Park in Cherokee County Alabama. The Monument is on the actual property where Col. Able Streight Surrendered to General Nathan Bedford Forrest 1863 near Cedar Bluff Alabama. Dedication of the Monument will be Saturday, October 14th 2023.

The Col. Charles T. Zachry Camp 108, Georgia Division and Order of Confederate Rose worked in the Old Concord Cemetery today for the Confederate Guardian Program to clean and maintain the graves of our Confederate Heroes. Our Camp has been clearing and maintaining this cemetery now for a few years and has been an undertaking we truly enjoy. Many thanks to Compatriots Bob Gandy and Tim Johnson as well as OCR Kristin Molina.



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MAKE SURE TO VISIT
THE TOMB OF THE
UNKNOWN
CONFEDERATE
SOLDIER



The Buckhead-Fort Lawton Brigade, Camp No. 2102, Georgia Division, recently sponsored a "Patriotic Quilt" raffle to raise funds for the Camp's planned 2024 Lee-Jackson Banquet. The Camp's highly successful 2023 banquet was attended by Compatriots and family members from seven Camps and the local United Daughters of the Confederacy Chapter. Ms. Yvonne Scott, wife of the Camp's Judge Advocate, generously donated the quilting supplies and numerous hours of her personal time to hand make the quilt and matching pillows, all at no expense to the Camp. The raffle raised almost \$3000 toward the 2024 banquet's venue, catering, and other costs, which will allow the Camp to keep individual ticket prices to a minimum, while still providing a quality event in honor of two of the South's greatest generals. Pictured with the quilt and one of the matching pillows (from left) is 5th Brigade Commander Carl Thomas Miller, Jr. and Camp Commander Dale Thompson.



Camp Winston Stephens, Florida Division welcomes new member Oakley Whitman to their ranks at a recent camp meeting.



Washington Invincibles camp 1541, Florida Division welcomes new member Rusty Blair into the camp



Robert Jewellson and Lee Hattabaugh of the Capt. Thomas H. Hobbs camp in Athens works the recruiting table at the Old Piney Grove festival in Limestone County, Alabama.



Historic Cemetery Preservation of North Florida, Inc.

Kelly V. Crocker, President

Southern Friends,

The Historic Cemetery Preservation of North Florida, Inc, based in Tallahassee, is a non-profit, tax exempt organization registered with the State of Florida and the Internal Revenue Service. It is our goal to Restore, Preserve, and Maintain the final resting place of Confederate Veterans and their spouses. We also include all U. S. Veterans and their spouses.

Our mission includes cleaning headstones using established and approved methods, repairing damaged and broken headstones, and obtaining and installing headstones for those soldiers who have never had a headstone.

We will acquire as many new headstones from the Veterans Administration (VA) as possible, at no charge. However, headstones for some Veterans will be purchased, in cases where the VA will not accept our "proof of burial". Also, there will be expenses for cleaning and repair materials. This will not be an easy task, BUT will be a worthy cause.

Our first major project is The Confederate Section of Old City Cemetery Tallahassee, Florida, where old records indicate there are 186 Confederates buried. However, only 62 markers currently exist. We have identified an additional 80 unmarked Veterans, who are believed to be there. (22 from Georgia units and 58 from Florida units) Four Soldiers died of wounds from Battle of Olustee and three from Battle of Natural Bridge. The VA has rejected some of our requests for markers, already. It seems that "died in Tallahassee Hospital" is not good enough. We will continue to fight the VA, but will ultimately have to purchase some stones. We believe that every Veteran deserves a marker. A list of the unmarked Veterans will be provided upon request.

We need your help! Every donation received will go toward this project until it is finished. Receipt of your tax-deductible donation will be provided upon request. Our immediate goal is to raise \$10,000 for this project. Any amount donated is appreciated.

Donations may be sent to:

HCPNF

2089 Padlock Place

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Or use PayPal link. [PayPal.Me/HCPNFL](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.paypal.com%2Fdonor%2Fcharity-submit%3Fbusinessid=HCPNFL)

Or e-mail us at HCPNFL@gmail.com

Thank you in advance.

Kelly V Crocker *Kelly*

850-339-3051

HCPNFL@gmail.com



Help Georgia Fight For Their Monuments

The Georgia Division is involved in multiple legal cases trying to preserve the monuments where they are currently located or to return them to their original location. The monument takedown effort in Georgia is stronger than any other place except Virginia. If you as an individual, a Camp or a Division can help financially it would be greatly appreciated. Some of the cases they are involved in will set precedents that can be used by other states when applicable. They have spent more than \$150,000 of Division funds plus other monies donated to stop the desecration by the local or county municipalities. All donations sent regardless of size is appreciated. Send to Georgia Division SCV

PO Box 1081

Macon, GA 31202

Write Heritage Defense fund in the memo line of your check. Donations are tax deductible. If you want to donate using a credit card go the Georgia Division website georgiascv.org, click on donate, click on Heritage defense. It will open a Paypal box and you can donate there.

Jimmy Hill

AoT Commander





Streight's Raid Civil War Reenactment

Sponsored by: Cherokee Battlefield Preservation Corporation

October 14-15, 2023

Battlepark at 135 SR-35, Cedar Bluff, AL 35959
(Google Maps Coordinates: 34.2376423, -85.5383545)
**** Re-enactment held on actual surrender site ****

~ Saturday, October 14, 2023 ~

2:00 PM CT -- Reenactment Battle
7:00 PM CT - 10:00 PM CT -- Reenactor Ball

~ Sunday, October 15, 2023 ~
10:00 AM CT -- Reenactor Church Service
2:00 PM CT -- Reenactment Battle

**** Sutlers and Food Trucks will be present ****
**** Porta-potties and water supply available on-site ****
For questions: cherokeebattlefield@hotmail.com **

**** Like us on Facebook: Cherokee Battlefield Preservation Corporation ****



The Buckhead-Fort Lawton Brigade, Camp No. 2102, Georgia Division, recently awarded the SCV Ladies Appreciation Medal to three very deserving ladies at the Camp's "Family Night" dinner. The Ladies Appreciation Medal is an SCV non-member special recognition award created to show appreciation to those ladies who have greatly assisted the SCV in carrying out its missions. The color of the medal's ribbon represents the color designated for the Army in which the recipient resides, in this case yellow, for the Army of Tennessee. All three ladies provided outstanding support for Camp activities and community outreach efforts throughout the years and are the first to receive the medal in the Camp's 17 year history. From left, Commander Dale Thompson, Ms. Evie Wiggins, Ms. Janel Thompson, Ms. Yvonne Scott, and Historian Steve Rathbun.



NEC Brigade Commander Jimmy Martin, on behalf of the Alabama Division, presents a check to Matthew Cleveland, in support of the West Morgan High School fishing team. They are known as the West Morgan Rebels!



On behalf of the SCV Mechanized Cavalry of TN, I was honored to present the Lt Robert J. Tipton Camp of Elizabethton, a check for \$1000 towards the monument fund for Confederate senator Landon Carter Haynes.



The Stiles Akin camp 670 Cassville, Georgia signed the Confederate memorial Day proclamation in Bartow county on March 16th with Commander Dale black Timothy Bryson Stephen Prewett and commissioner Steve Taylor.

General Forrest 200 Society



On July 13, 1821 Nathan Bedford Forrest was born in Chapel Hill Tennessee. Forrest would become one of the greatest self made men in the South, plantation owner, businessman and most importantly one of the most feared Generals during the War Between the States. His legacy to this day is larger than any other Tennessean in all the history of the state of Tennessee. There are more monuments, memorials, streets named and historical markers for General Forrest than any other Tennessean. Honorable William A. Collier, Commander Forrest's Calvary Corps wrote on December 19th 1927: "Every Confederate soldier who did his duty measured up to the highest standard of a man. But no body of soldiers in all history possessed more patriotism or exhibited more courage and determination to do or die for their country than the followers of Nathan Bedford Forrest."

To this day Forrest is still honored and remembered around the world because of his "Charge em' Both Ways" and "Be there First with the Most" tactics. A natural born warrior and leader Ole Bedford was known for many battles including his famous Murfreesboro raid on July 13, 1862 which was his 41st birthday, where he defeated the Yankees and liberated the town from Union occupation. His warning was: "I must demand an unconditional surrender of your force as prisoners of war, or I will have every man put to the sword".

This year is the 200th birthday of General Forrest and the SCV Tennessee Division is offering a limited number of memberships in the General Forrest 200 Society which is for those that revere the great General Forrest. Each member will receive a limited edition Challenge coin, patch, lapel pin (which is pictured above), membership certificate and recognition in the Forrest's Escort magazine. Money raised will go to the Forrest Boyhood Home fund for the events building. Individual, Camp and group memberships are welcomed. Join the General Forrest 200 Society today and ride with Forrest!

Membership \$200 _____ Voluntary Donation \$ _____ Total: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone # : _____ Email: _____

Send payment and application to: SCV Tennessee Division P.O. Box 782, Lebanon, TN 37088

For questions call: 931-315-9065 or email: scvproud@gmail.com

The Pledge of Allegiance

Its History and Principles

by John H. Land

The founding fathers of this country fought for the independence of their country from a faraway government that sought to control their lives. They were also wise enough about the nature of human beings to realize that some are so certain of their ideas that they believe they are entitled to direct the lives of their fellow citizens. Therefore, the founding fathers sought to create a central government with limited, specific powers that would not intrude on the personal liberty of the citizens. But as St. Augustine said, *libido dominandi* (the lust to dominate) exists in human hearts and must be continually resisted.

The Pledge of Allegiance illustrates the ongoing efforts, years after the War for Southern Independence, to perpetuate the falsehood that the states that voluntarily joined the union could not also voluntarily leave that union.

Many organizations, schools, civic clubs, etc., begin their activities in a display of patriotism by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag. But how many have actually considered the history behind the Pledge and the principles that the Pledge promotes?

The History

Most people are not aware that the Pledge was composed by Francis Bellamy, a Baptist minister from Boston, who identified as a Christian Socialist and who preached from his pulpit that Jesus was a socialist. Bellamy was removed from the ministry for this preaching and eventually stopped attending services altogether.

Francis Bellamy was the cousin of Edward Bellamy, who, in 1888, wrote an extremely popular socialist utopian fantasy, *Looking Backward, 2000-1887*. In this novel, the main character falls asleep in 1887 and awakens 113 years later, in the year 2000, when the socialist utopia has been achieved. The major themes include problems associated with capitalism, a proposed socialist solution by the nationalization of all industry, and the use of a conscripted army to organize production and distribution. Everyone is an employee of the state, conscripted at age 21 and retired at age 45, and everyone earns the same income. Although a retirement age of 45 may sound

appealing, in 1888, when the novel was written, the average lifespan of a person was about 47 years, resulting in a retirement length of about 2 years.

Edward Bellamy's book captured the public imagination and by the end of the 19th century, had sold more copies than any other book published in the U.S. except for *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, by Harriet Beecher Stowe and *Ben Hur: A Tale of the Christ* by Lew Wallace. The book gained an extensive readership in the United Kingdom as well.

In *Looking Backward*, the American economy and society have evolved. Private property has been abolished in favor of state ownership and the elimination of social classes and therefore the wrongs of society, which Bellamy thought flowed from them. There is no longer war, poverty, crime, prostitution, corruption, money or taxes. There is no use for politicians, lawyers, merchants, or soldiers. Work is simple, aided by machine production, working hours short and vacation time long. The new economic basis of society has remade human nature itself in Bellamy's vision, with greed, malice, lying, and insanity eliminated.

Bellamy's book inspired hundreds of readers to establish Nationalist Clubs. His vision of a country relieved of its social problems proved appealing to a generation of intellectuals. By 1892, it was reported that at least 162 Nationalist Clubs were in existence.

Edward Bellamy's use of the term 'Nationalism' rather than socialism as a description of his vision of government was deliberate, as he did not want to limit sales of his novel, or the potential influence of its political ideas. In an 1888 letter to a literary critic, Bellamy wrote:

Every sensible man will admit there is a big deal in a name, especially in making first impressions. In the radicalness of the opinions I have expressed, I may seem to out-socialize the socialists, yet the word socialist is one I could

never stomach. In the first place it is a foreign word itself, and equally foreign in all its suggestions. It smells to the average American of petroleum, suggests the red flag, and with all manner of sexual novelties, and an abusive tone about God and religion, which in this country we at least treat with respect Whatever German and French reformers may choose to call themselves, socialist is not a good name for a party to succeed with in America. No such party can or ought to succeed that is not wholly and enthusiastically American and patriotic in spirit and suggestions.

Today the word Progressive is used instead of Socialist, but there is little difference in their visions of society and the economy.

On publication, *Looking Backward* was praised by both the American Federation of Labor and the Knights of Labor. Many of the Knights joined Bellamy's Nationalist Clubs. *Looking Backward* was also praised by the socialist writer Upton Sinclair, author of *The Jungle*. The book influenced activists in Britain; scientist Alfred Russel Wallace credits *Looking Backward* for his conversion to socialism. Politician Alfred Salter cited *Looking Backward* as an influence on his political thought.

In the U.S., Eugene V. Debs was influenced by Bellamy's book to turn in a more socialist direction. Debs soon helped form the American Railway Union. With supporters from the Knights of Labor, he created the Pullman Strike when workers from the Pullman Car Company went on strike in June 1894. Debs was a founder of the Socialist Party of America and its candidate for President in 1908, 1912, and 1920.

In the 1930s, there was a revival of interest in *Looking Backward*. Several groups were formed to promote the ideas of the book. The largest was the Edward Bellamy Association of New York; its members included educator John Dewey and sportswriter Heywood Hale Broun. Arthur Ernest Morgan, Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) admired the book and wrote the first biography of Bellamy.

Edward Bellamy later produced a sequel to *Looking Backward* titled *Equality*, attempting to deal with the ideal society in greater detail. In this final work, he addressed the question of feminism, dealing with the subject of abortion rights in a

future America. Other subjects were animal rights and wilderness preservation.

Francis Bellamy said one purpose of the Pledge of Allegiance was to help accomplish his lifelong goal of making his cousin's socialist fantasy a reality in America. He further stated that the "true allegiance to the Flag" was to indoctrinate American school children in the history of the founding that was first espoused by Daniel Webster and, later, by Abraham Lincoln.

Lincoln claimed that the states were never sovereign and that the union created the states, not the other way around. But the idea that the union is older than the states makes as much sense as the idea that a marriage can be older than either spouse. It is impossible for a union of two or more elements to be older than any of the elements.

The historical fact is that in all the founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution, the states are referred to as "free and independent." The Treaty of Paris that ended the War for American Independence was a treaty with the individual, free and independent states, not 'the whole people' of the U.S.

The states and their citizens understood they were sovereign over the federal government, not its subjects. The sovereign states delegated 18 specified, enumerated powers (Article I, Section 8, U.S. Constitution) to the central government as their agent, while maintaining sovereignty for themselves.

Despite Lincoln's effort, by waging total war on the South, to destroy the system of federalism and states' rights that were championed by Jefferson and other founders, as of the 1880s many Americans still believed in the Jeffersonian ideal.

Francis Bellamy found this concerning, for he understood perfectly well that the first step to his socialist utopia was a consolidated, unitary state, just like the one Bismarck had created in Germany, and the one Abraham Lincoln sought to bring about in the U.S. An all-powerful central government was a necessary first step on the road to socialism. The Jeffersonian philosophy of federalism and states' rights must be destroyed. In Bellamy's own words:

The true reason for allegiance to the Flag is the 'republic for which it stands.' . . . and what does that vast thing, the Republic mean? It is the concise

political word for the Nation – the One Nation which the Civil War was fought to prove. To make that One Nation idea clear, we must specify that it is indivisible, as Webster and Lincoln used to repeat in their great speeches.

Bellamy intended the Pledge of Allegiance to be a vow of loyalty to the state. He said he got the idea from the ‘loyalty oaths’ that were imposed on Southerners during Lincoln’s invasion of the Southern states, and the military occupation afterward (referred to as Reconstruction). During the war, adult male civilians in the South were compelled to take a loyalty oath to the federal government or be shot. During the military occupation after the war, almost all Southern white adult males were not allowed to vote unless they took an oath that they had not been a part of the Confederate military or government.

Francis Bellamy first published the Pledge of Allegiance in *The Youth’s Companion* on September 8, 1892, which has been described as the *Readers’ Digest* of its day. He was the vice president in charge of education for the Society of Christian Socialists, a national organization that advocated income taxation, central banking, nationalized education, nationalization of industry, and other features of socialism.

The Bellamy cousins decided that American youth needed to be taught ‘loyalty to the state’ because they realized that the individualism and love of liberty of the founding fathers would always stand in the way of achieving the socialist utopia described in *Looking Backward*. The U.S. suffered from too much liberty and not enough equality, said the author of the Pledge of Allegiance. The “one nation indivisible” wording was especially important to the Bellamy cousins, for if secession was considered legitimate, their dream of socialism through a consolidated, all-powerful central government could not be achieved.

The public schools must be used to teach obedience to the state, the Bellamys thought, and the National Education Association helped them in this goal. They planned a ‘National Public School Celebration’ on October 21, 1892, which was the first national propaganda campaign on behalf of the Pledge of Allegiance. It was a massive campaign that involved government schools and

politicians throughout the country. The government-run public schools were promoted, along with the Pledge, while private schools, especially parochial ones, were criticized.

The Pledge itself is an oath of allegiance to the central state. From the perspective of Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, or James Madison, nothing could be more un-American. They and their contemporaries had fought a long and bloody war of secession to end their forced allegiance, complete with loyalty oaths, to another overbearing and tyrannical state, the British Empire.

In its original form the Pledge read.

I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The recital was accompanied with a salute to the flag known as the Bellamy salute. It began with a military salute, and after reciting the words ‘my Flag’ the arm was extended, palm up, toward the flag.

In 1923, the words ‘the Flag of the United States of America’ were added. It now read:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The salute to the flag was changed to, first, the right hand over the heart, then, after reciting the words ‘the Flag’, the arm was extended, at shoulder height, palm down, toward the flag. However during the 1940s this resembled the salute of the National Socialist German Workers (Nazi) Party, so the extension of the arm toward the flag was discontinued.

In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the time, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words ‘under God,’ creating the Pledge we say today. Bellamy’s daughter objected to this alteration. Today it reads:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The Principles

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America,

and to the republic for which it stands,

The United States is not a republic. A republic is a state in which the people are sovereign and choose their representatives through free and open elections. The states are republics, and the United States is a federation (a group of states with a central government but independent in their internal affairs), which is why the central government is called the federal government. The states, not the whole population, choose their Representatives, Senators, and the President of the federal government.

one nation under God,

A nation is a state with a population which has common ancestry whereas the people of the U.S. come from many ancestries. The U.S. is not a nation but a federation.

Some think the phrase, ‘under God’ is meant to imply the central government has the approval of God.

indivisible,

The states which entered the union did so voluntarily and can voluntarily leave the union. The states of New York, Virginia and Rhode Island, in their ratification documents, specifically reserved the right to leave the union if they felt their rights were violated. Since they were accepted on this basis, and all states are to be equal in the union, this right applies to all the states.

with liberty and justice for all.

Bellamy considered this phrase to be an Americanized version of the slogan of the French Revolution: ‘Liberty, Equality, Fraternity’. The French revolutionaries believed that mass killing by the state was always justified for the grand purpose of achieving ‘equality.’ It must not be forgotten that the French Revolution produced the Reign of Terror, and ultimately the dictatorship of Napoleon. In an 1876 commencement speech Francis Bellamy praised the French Revolution as “the poetry of human brotherhood.”

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Edward Bellamy



Francis Bellamy

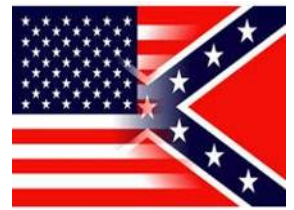


The “Bellamy Salute”

Changed from the original to just the hand over the heart in 1942 because it resembled the salute of the Nazi party.



2023



Battle of Skirum Creek 4701 County Road 104, Crossville, Alabama November 3rd – 5th, 2023

(Hosted by the Captain John Rayburn SCV Camp 452 and the 1st Alabama Division of Re-enactors)

(Infantry, Mounted and Dismounted Cavalry and Artillery Welcome)



Civil War Reenactment

Period Sutlers

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Food / Entertainment

Ladies Tea

And Much More!

\$5.00 Re-enactor Registration Fee / \$10.00 W/Meal

**Event Contact: SCV Camp 452
Commander Robby Mays (256) 505-1805**

**Re-enactor Contact:
Jeremy Boothe (205) 732-2288**



Members of the Cullman camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (Thomas Jefferson Denney Camp #1442) presented 2 checks to Steven Sutter, the Director of Cullman Caring for Kids. The camp won a Community Service Award at the SCV's Division Reunion earlier this year. As a result of that award, the Alabama Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans donated \$500 in the name of the Thomas Jefferson Denney Camp #1442 to Cullman Caring for Kids. The camp then added an additional \$300 check from the funds their members have raised for a combined total of \$800.



Women of the DeKalb County Chapter 1456 United Daughters of the Confederacy and Men of the DeKalb Rifles Camp 1824 are photographed at the Confederate statue in Fort Payne, Alabama.
Photo by Dale Crawford



Friends of The Confederate Museum at Elm Springs Annual Membership Application

All memberships are tax-deductible and include the E-Newsletter.

_____ Yes, I want to join the Friends of The Confederate Museum at Elm Springs

_____ Is this a Corporate Membership?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Membership Levels & Benefits

Longstreet Level: \$25

- Membership for one
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Judah P. Benjamin Level: \$50

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs

Patrick Cleburne Level: \$100

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- 10% Gift Shop Discount

N. B. Forrest Level: \$250

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 10% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat or T-Shirt

Robert E. Lee Level: \$500

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 15% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat and T-Shirt

Jefferson Davis Level: \$1000

- Family Membership
- Unlimited Tours of Elm Springs
- Unlimited Tours of The Confederate Museum
- 20% Gift Shop Discount
- Free Elm Springs Hat, T-Shirt and Polo

Please check the following membership level:

_____ Longstreet Level

_____ Judah P. Benjamin Level

_____ Patrick Cleburne Level

_____ N. B. Forrest Level

_____ Robert E. Lee Level

_____ Jefferson Davis Level

Please make checks payable to Sons of Confederate Veterans and mail to:

Sons of Confederate Veterans, P. O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402

If paying by credit card, please call (931) 380-1844 or email at exedir@scv.org



C.A.P. Cadet Groder receives Hunley Award from COL Egbert Jones Camp 357, Huntsville, Alabama . Presenting the award was Lt. Col. Ed Kennedy.



Work continues on the installation of a new monument at Cedar Bluff, Alabama.



Members of Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp 87, SCV , has a work day in August at Confederate Memorial Hall (Bleak House) in Knoxville in support of UDC Chapter 89..



Longstreet-Zollicoffer Camp welcomed a new transfer member in its ranks at its August meeting held at Confederate Memorial Hall in Knoxville, Pictured is new member Joshua L. Farris and Adjutant John Hitt.



Forrest Hall Visitors Center

The Tennessee Division has taken on the responsibility to have a visitor's center with a staff so the Forrest Home and property can be open 5 or 6 days a week on a regular basis and hopefully someday can pay for the upkeep of the home, visitors center and the grounds.

The Tennessee Division is completing work on this project as funds are available, before any work is started. The concrete slab is poured, plumbing and electrical conduits stubbed off, insulation and concrete board in place and dirt pushed up against the slab to drain water away from the building. Every bit of the work is paid for. There is not one penny of debt outstanding on the work seen in these photographs.

If anyone would like to help donate to the Forrest Hall Visitor's Center they may send a contribution to: Tennessee Division / Forrest Hall Construction, PO Box 782, Lebanon, TN 37088

If you need further information about the project, please contact me at 615-806-4571 or genecsmc@gmail.com



We had an engineering crew dig 10 or 12 core samples to make sure we were not building on top of a cave or sinkhole. We didn't want another Corvette museum. Clay was removed down, three feet and replaced with compaction material.



Footings are measured, dug out and rebar placed in the footings.



The footings are poured.



With the footings poured, you can see the N.B. Forrest home in the background. The two story cedar log cabin was built by the Mayfields in 1825 and the William Forrest family with their son Nathan B. lived there from 1830-1833 before moving to Mississippi.



Concrete forms in place, plumbing stubbed off for restrooms and a small kitchen for a caterer. The gravel was poured and compacted to lay the sub grade.



The pumping truck arrived on time at 6:30 a.m. but got stuck in the muddy ground at 6:32. Sixty-two thousand pound vehicle but without 4 wheel drive. It took one of those giant semi-tractor trailer hauling wreckers to pull him out and we finally got the pumping truck in place but three and a half hours late. Finished smoothing the concrete at 11:30 that night, inside one of our two pickups, motor running, lights on, heater on and listening to the Nashville Predators and St. Louis Blues hockey game. (The Preds lost one - zip in overtime)

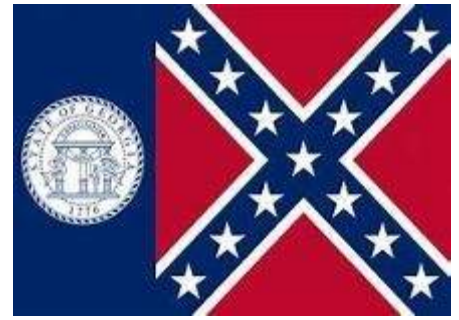


THE BIG DAY! Pumping the concrete over the building site. It took nine ready mix trucks hauling 10 cubic yards each to pour the slab and the turn down area to connect the slab to the footings.



The concrete slab with the insulation foam. The long area in the distance will be a meeting room with glass sides for wedding receptions, family reunions or a perfect place for Army of Tennessee meetings! The entrance will be in the foreground and the extension to the right will be a display area. We are not building a museum. This area will be housing sixteen 3 foot by 3 foot display cases with contour maps showing 16 of the battles and campaigns that Forrest and his men fought in during our War for Southern Independence.





Army of Tennessee