

Captain A. T. Harllee's



Dispatch



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WHAT'S A REBEL?

Many times we have heard of our ancestors being referred to as rebels and traitors. Have you ever wondered why our ancestors resisted those descriptions of themselves? Obviously it is immediately understood that they didn't want to be remembered as a traitor, but the word rebel has been somewhat accepted over the years. This is a term used by the Yankees to describe their Southern opponents. Often times the Southern soldier was called "Johnny Reb" by the "Blue Bellies". The Southern soldier was often angered at post war references to him as a rebel. Why? It could be that those Southerners who many times have also been depicted as ignorant and backward actually knew more and was much more educated than the Yankee writers wish us to know. Looking at the Webster's New World College Dictionary, Mr. Webster says that a rebel is, "one who engages in armed resistance against the established government of one's country." "A person who resists any authority or controls." "A name for a Confederate soldier in the Civil War: term used chiefly by Northerners." Now it is more apparent why our Confederate ancestors did not like to be called rebels and in fact, they were not rebels. The Confederate soldier did not rise up and engage in armed resistance against his own established government because the South had already seceded from the Union and established a government more of its liking, the Confederate States of America. This was the government of the Confederate soldier. It is also apparent that the Southern soldier did not fit the other definition of a rebel. He did not resist authority or controls. From the farms, the blacksmith shops, the dry good stores, the tailor shops, even the lawyer's offices and every profession all over the South land, this citizen soldier gave up his livelihood in order to protect his home from an invading army. He followed orders and became the best soldier of his time—resist authority or controls? I don't think so. These were not rebels—they were Confederate soldiers—they are our proud ancestors!

Something is Wrong with this Picture

[Editor]

As I imagine our Andrew T. Harllee Camp, I see a picture of some of the best guys in this part of the country, which also makes them some of the best fellows in the world. I see a group of men who care about each other. I see a group of men who are proud of their Southern—Confederate heritage. I see men who care enough to clean the cemeteries where some of the old Confederate soldiers and their families are lying in their final resting places. I see men who are dedicated enough to go the extra mile to see to it that when our Camp meets, that there is

food prepared to help unite us with good tasting fellowship. I see dedication from some of the leadership that there is usually a good speaker present to give us food for thought. I see a group of our Camp who has sacrificed extra time and personal finances to suit up and call themselves the Harllee Guard to represent the Andrew T. Harllee Camp at memorial services and parades. I am sure there are other good things that can be said about our local Camp. However, as I paint this wonderful picture of who and what we are, I see something missing from this picture. The reality of this picture is that everyone is not represented in the picture. Ask yourself the question, "Where do I belong in this picture?" Every member of this and every other Camp has taken an oath to loyally support the activities of the Camp and the Sons of Confederate Veterans. We have promised to cultivate, perpetuate and sanctify the memory of the Confederacy. We have pledged to honor our Confederate ancestor. Every member has something to offer to help this Camp perform its duties in honoring our Confederate heritage. Your ancestor gave everything he had, or offered up everything he had in order to take a solid stand in what he believed in. There are many accounts where our forefathers had to wear shoes from dead men's feet. Stories of how the snow had been stained by the bare, bleeding feet of our soldiers. How about the dreaded diseases suffered by our men—diseases that killed and crippled many—not to mention near starvation. So many of them were ridiculed and punished excessively while imprisoned by heartless men of the Federal government. Most of us when we took that oath to join the SCV were extremely proud at that moment to recognize our ancestor and claim close kinship to him. What about now? Do we still have that same feeling today? Have we become ashamed of them? Or, have we just forgotten them? Maybe neither of these, maybe we just don't think that they are important any more. What about you? What is your reason for neglecting your Confederate Grandfather? Do you think he would be proud of your attitude toward his sacrifice? Do you care? The Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans states that we are to defend the Confederate soldiers good name, we are the guardians of his history. It also states that we are to emulate his virtues and perpetuate those principals he loved. Somehow, I feel that we are failing to effectually carry out this charge. Men, it is all left up to you and I to see that the Confederate soldiers good name is not tarnished. If not the Sons of Confederate Veterans—who? We should be honored that we are descended from one of those brave and honorable men. We are his fruit and as we learn more about the history he made, and we learn more about each Confederate soldier's story, we should be proud to say, "I am a

hero's Grandchild." Remember this when you decide that attending a meeting is just too much trouble. Remember this as you hesitate to pay your dues to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Remember that the veterans themselves created this organization and hoped that one day YOU would become a part of his legacy. Let's not disappoint them.



Postage Stamp Celebrating MUSLIM Holiday!

This postage stamp was released first on September 1, 2001. How ironic that on the 11th of September of the same year, those celebrated Muslims killed thousands of Americans by flying planes into the Twin Towers in New York; had a plane to crash in Pennsylvania and crashed another plane in Washington, D. C. If that wasn't ironic enough, the United States Postal Service re-issued that same stamp in October of 2002. When the Postal Service announced its re-issue of the stamp, this is what they stated. "This is a proud moment for the Postal Service, the Muslim community, and Americans in general as we re-issue a postage stamp to honor and commemorate two important Islamic celebrations. The Eid stamp helps us highlight the business, educational and social contributions of the estimated six to seven million Muslims in this country whose cultural heritage has become an integral part of the fabric of this nation." The Postal service boasted that the Eid stamp would join the Hanukkah and Kwanzaa stamps. Understanding that opinions can dictate what each person will think about these stamps, somehow, it is hard to believe that most Americans can find anything much to celebrate with the Muslims and when understanding that Kwanzaa is a make believe holiday made up by communist in the 1960's, there is a lot to be desired there also. The Jewish holiday, Hanukkah is the only represented holiday on these stamps that have any real value. The comments above indicate that we as Americans have accepted the contributions and cultural heritage of Muslims and that they are now an integral part of our fabric. How can this be? We have a particular part of the population of this country that comes from some of the founding fathers of this nation. They are descended from some of the most honorable men ever to grace the land of America, men who helped to mould the Constitution, yet they are not considered to have a culture good enough to be an integral part of the fabric of this country. Of course, this would be the Southern American. It seems uncanny that cultures and heritages from far off places could be more acceptable in this country than those that had their birth in the heart of this place we call the United States of America. Don't hold your breath until the Postal Service presents a stamp to commemorate the South for its social contributions and cultural heritage that has become and integral part of the fabric of this nation.

Lt. Duncan Campbell Stafford

On Saturday, November 4th at 1:00 P.M. in Richmond Virginia, the Virginia Sons of Confederate Veterans honored Lt. Stafford. His gravesite was the first of 17,000 to be restored in Oakwood Cemetery. His grave had been vandalized and the metal iron works around his grave had been stolen.



As seen on the left, the men of Virginia did a great job of restoring this gravesite. The old border had been completely removed, a new foundation put in place and this beautiful new border replaced the old one. They had completely rebuilt the iron works as close as possible to the original. The service was quite long, but at times was very moving. One of those times was when our compatriots Billy Norton and Heavy Price began to scatter soil on Lt. Stafford's grave that they had gotten from his Father's, Mother's and Brother's graves in Little Rock. Billy told us after the service that some little old wrinkled lady came up to him after the service, wrapped her arms around him and said, "Son, you made me cry!" There are several pictures that show how much the Andrew T. Harllee Camp and the Harllee Guard helped to make this a successful memorial service.



To the left is the Harllee Guard as they are marching toward the gravesite of Lt. Stafford. Also noted are the ladies of the Black Rose. On the left are compatriots Heavy Price and Billy Norton as they approach Lt. Stafford's grave to scatter his native South Carolina soil on his grave. Lt Stafford was serving under Captain Andrew T. Harllee in Company I of the South Carolina 8th Infantry when he was killed in Petersburg by a Yankee sniper.



On the left is the Harllee Guard as they fire a salute in honor of Lieutenant Duncan C. Stafford of Little Rock, S. C.

Camp 2010 Meets on November 16

Members of the Andrew T. Harllee Camp 2010 will meet on November 16th at 6:30 for the evening meal prepared by Compatriot Howard Arnette. Then at 7:00 come prepared for another feast as our guest speaker is Davis McClam. Everyone should know Davis by now and should also know that he is a great communicator. He is going to talk about a fellow by the name of Robert Barnwell (Smith) Rhett. Mr. Rhett was a man with extreme Pro-Southern views. He was known as one of those fire-eaters of the South. Don't miss this meeting. I am sure Davis has something of great value to pass on to us. We

are extremely fortunate to have him come speak to us. Come and make him welcome. Bring a guest with you, both of you will be glad you did. We will also have discussions and elections at this meeting. Please come and get involved.

It Was a Time in the Land

Several of the members of the Andrew T. Harllee Camp went to Richmond for the service at Oakwood Cemetery for Lt. D. C. Stafford. Besides the service, we went on a quick tour of the Oakwood and the Hollywood Cemeteries. It was very moving to visit these two cemeteries for several different reasons. One of the main reasons was the fact that at Oakwood, there are more than 17,000 Confederate soldiers buried there. Then there is the Hollywood Cemetery where there are 18,000 Confederates buried—that is over 35,000 Southern bodies in two cemeteries! Believe me, that was a mover. As the grave markers move up and down hills at Hollywood Cemetery, at times stretching as far as the eye can see, there are names that are familiar to our home and there are names that are not. It was amazing to see the different States where these soldiers were from. A particular marker would catch the eye and it would bear the name of a fallen soldier from as far away as Texas. The marker next to him would be from N. C. or Florida, or from Georgia, or from S. C., or from Alabama, or from Tennessee, or from Arkansas, or from Virginia, or from Louisiana, or Missouri, or Mississippi, Kentucky, Maryland, or some other State. It was more than the mind could comprehend at times to think that men from all these States had come together to defend their home and country and died trying. All of these men spoken of here died in defense of their country. None of these 35,000 survived the war. It was also moving to visit the burial places of some of the leaders of our former CSA such as President Jefferson Davis, J.E.B. Stuart, and Gen. Pickett. We were also privileged to take a tour of the Museum of the Confederacy and the Confederate White House. We were able to see artifacts that had belonged to President Davis, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and J.E. B. Stuart. There was a flag that represented a N. C. regiment who lost almost every soldier who served under it in two battles. At the White House we saw the chairs where Lee, Jackson and Davis sat around a table to discuss the war. We saw the bed that Davis slept in. We stood in the room where one of his children was born. We saw his desk where he worked. We even saw some of the toys his children played with and heard stories of the Davis family that some of us had never known. Every room of the house had it's own story. We were able to visit the Petersburg battlefields where we saw some of the same cannon and mortars used in those battles. One of the most moving places there was the Crater. To stand at the entrance of the tunnel where the Yankee soldiers went underground to set off tons of black powder to blow up the Confederate forces was another mover. To see the actual Crater and to know that many a South Carolinian was standing or sitting in that exact spot when the charge was set off was also a mover.



To the left is a picture of the entrance of the tunnel the Yankees used to take the



black powder charge underneath the Confederates.

This is a picture of the Crater as it is today. All of this is an

experience every SCV member should have. When it is all taken in, it will cause a person to think about the sacrifices made by his ancestors. It makes one's perception toward that era a bit more solid and his dedication a bit more concrete. It was truly a time in the land.

The Chaplain's Corner

Dear Sons of the Confederacy,
Each time I write the above, I find myself humbled to be counted among those great and honorable men and women who sacrificed the ALL to a cause which they believed to be righteous and true. I am counted because I do not make a halfhearted commitment. There are some things worth dying for and my Southern heritage and faith is one of them. Also, there should be no debate that the cause of the South was ingrained in the beliefs of God, country and family and the love thereof. We all know that our beloved battle flag was designed on the basis of the Christian cross of St. Andrew. Today, as well as then, Christian values and principles are under severe attack from the evil corners of the world. This does not translate that all northerners are evil; indeed there are many that believe as we do. The forces of good and evil date as far back as the beginning of time. As long as we believe in Jesus Christ, we will always be under attack. Therefore, logic dictates that this is one reason why our flag is and always will be held with such disdain by the unbelieving world. How can we relate? First, we must not cower to the evil that manifests itself around us. Second, we must remain steadfast in our beliefs and make no apologies. Next, we must do as Christ taught us in the Gospel of St. Matthew, "to love one another as He loves us." Christ also taught us, as difficult as it may be for some of us, to love our enemies. For in loving our enemies Christ's love will shine through us that others may seek Him and glorify our Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16). Finally remain vigilant and be alert. Polish up on the facts that when confronted you will know the truth but never engage a fool or you will be made one as well. Remember it is more than our heritage. We represent Love (God), Liberty and Freedom. Certainly, these three values the evil one yearns to destroy. Sons, like our ancestors and heroes, stay completely committed to your faith and in all you do, do for the glory of God. The consequences are bleak "because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:14) general's Jackson and Lee found the narrow gate. God has mercy that we too may find the entrance.

Your humble servant, In Christ's name, I am

Donald R. Hayes, Chaplain

SCV Camp 2010

4th Brigade Chaplain, SC SCV ANV

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