

Captain Andrew T. Harllee's



Dispatch



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The Columns 2007

The Columns event at Florence held on the 9th, 10th and 11th of March was most successful. Our Camp had voted to use this event as a fundraiser so that we might be able to do some of the things to benefit the Cause, which we might not be able to do otherwise. It goes without saying that much labor was put into this fundraiser and the Camp owes a big 'thank you' to those who went out and gave their time and labor. A large number of our members spent the weekend at the Columns and many others showed up during the day to help. We are most fortunate that we have members, but also non-members, who are very loyal to our cause, who donated many items we used in this event as well. There is no way we could have been so successful without their help. To everyone who had a part in making this a successful endeavor...THANK YOU!

'Artist' John Sims Floats to the Top Again

Back in March of 2005 the "Dispatch" told you of a fellow named John Sims who proclaimed himself to be an artist. He had his 'artistic' display at the Museum of Gettysburg back in 2004 and caused quite a stir in that community. Well, he has floated to the top again and surfaced in Tallahassee, Florida. The Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science has now on display, the artwork of Sims titled, "The Proper Way to Hang a Confederate Flag." This exhibit will be on display through June 3rd of this year. The display depicts a Confederate flag being lynched from a noose on a 13-foot wooden gallows.



The museum claims that they will allow the display because they wish to inspire dialogue. Robert Hurst, Commander of the Tallahassee Sons of Confederate Veterans has expressed his displeasure and objections to Ms. Chucha Barber, the museum's executive director. He states, concerning this exhibit, "I found it objectionable, I found it tasteless, and I found it offensive. I don't really call it art." Hurst also says that this expression of art is unlawful. He states that a Florida statute says it is unlawful to "deface, defile or contemptuously abuse" the Confederate flag, but says it is also illegal to prevent the display of the flag "for decorative or patriotic purposes." Ms. Barber took the issue to the state attorney's office for advice and was told that the section of the law allowing the flag to be used for any 'decorative' purpose allowed its use in this exhibit. Sims said he is interested in making

powerful statements about powerful issues. "I own some stock too in Southern Heritage and wish to make a statement about the sort of logos and symbols that are associated with it." "The Civil War is over," Sims said. "The Confederate flag was a symbol of treason connected with the maintenance of slavery." And on top of that, he added,



"These people [The Sons of Confederate Veterans] completely sabotaged my last show." His reasons for claiming sabotage, is because when the Museum of Gettysburg was approached with this same criticism of Sims work, they received some 10,000 letters protesting his exhibit. His exhibit was supposed to be shown on the outside because of the height of his gallows. Because of some threatening letters, the exhibit had to be moved inside. Because of the 13 feet tall gallows, he had to 're-create' his exhibit to fit inside the building. Sims became angry and 'boycotted' his own exhibit. After all the protest of Commander Hurst and the local Sons of Confederate Veterans, the museum will continue to display this exhibit. Reported by the ABC News, as for now, the Confederacy has lost again.

[Editor] An update since this article was originally written. An e-mail was sent out by Bob Hurst, Commander of Camp 1314, who is also 2nd Lt. Commander of the Florida Division and Public Affairs Officer, Florida Division. He says that the avalanche of correspondence she has received regarding the John Sims exhibit has stunned Chucha Barber, Director at the Brogan Museum. Vast amounts have been critical of The Brogan for even displaying this "art." Apparently more than a thousand emails, phone calls, letters, etc. have been received by the museum. A significant majority of those contacts have been negative toward The Brogan. All of these contacts, along with an AOL poll where only 30% of a quarter million people responding, had any 'negative' attitude about the flag, became an eye opener for Ms. Barber and the Museum. Ms. Barber has contacted Bob Hurst to let him know that effective April 1, the museum will open a new display that will present a very favorable impression of our flag. She also has asked Mr. Hurst to serve as a consultant and advisor to the development and design of this display—maybe the Confederacy has not lost again!

QUOTE

"I did only what my duty demanded. I could have taken no other course without dishonor"—Robert E. Lee

Last Month's Meeting

Last month's meeting turned out to be pretty good considering that the Camp Commander wasn't able to attend, the speaker spoke on a WWII hero instead of a Confederate hero, and Compatriot Larry Jones and company fed the Camp with leftovers from the Columns. Really, it did turn out pretty good. Although we missed Commander Artie Quick, Lt. Commander David McDaniel did a marvelous job. The speaker, Dr. John Griffin, did a good job of the heroes of Doolittle's Raiders. It turned out to be a most interesting presentation, even if it was WWII instead of War Between the States. Actually, a big part of the meal was food left over from the Columns event; I think most everyone agreed, though, that it was at least eatable. Oh, speaking of the Columns, the Camp raised a good amount of money selling BBQ, drinks, pork skins and raffles. There was a lot of hard work done by a lot of our Compatriots and those fellows deserve a 'thank you' from the Camp. Everyone involved seemed to have had a good time, even though they were working pretty hard. The Harlee Guard set up a living history section by pitching their tents and displaying their muskets and other accouterments for the public to view. There were good many folks who went through the camp and took the opportunity to have pictures made with this as a background. Over all, this was a real good event.

No Confederate Memorial Month for SC



Sen. Kevin L. Bryant

Under threat of tying up the Senate for much of the remainder of the session, a committee voted March 27, to essentially kill a bill seeking to establish a Confederate Memorial Month. Sen. Kevin Bryant, R-Anderson, asked the Senate Judiciary Committee for a vote on the 'controversial' issue, which the committee had put off for weeks. Then



Sen. Darrell Jackson

Sen. Darrell Jackson, D-Richland, told the committee he was prepared to offer an amendment asking the state for an apology for slavery if Bryant's bill was approved. After this had become public and the Internet was filled with this news, several people had sent comments reflecting their views concerning the issue. One writer said, "I will offer an apology. I am sorry we ever brought black people to

America from Africa. They always want something for free." Another wrote, "Denying most South Carolinians' respect for their heritage only hurts the race issue, instead of helping anything. A guy named Robert said, "Another sad day for Race relations in SC. If the blacks ever want things to get better then they need to learn it's not all about them. I let them honor their heritage now let me honor MINE!!!!" Then Ashley Sutton wrote: "There is no heritage about people, who believed in enslavement, only embarrassment!!! I refuse to go into deep discussion with any of your comments, because they are all of IGNORANCE, and once again you are left looking IGNORANT and STUPID!" It is hard to believe that a fellow

named Bubba would write, "Small wonder South Carolina is last in everything good, and first in about everything bad. They're still fighting over something that happened almost 150 years ago. I guess it could be worse: Muslims are still fighting each other over issues from centuries ago." This one has to be read, "Confederate month? Force women to view ultrasound? Are you kidding me? What the hell is going on in the state house? These elected officials are moronic and so are the people that vote for them. There is already a confederate holiday and that is more than enough. The confederacy lost, now move on. Why should we celebrate something that was extremely unethical? You don't see the Nazi's celebrating their history. This state will continue to lag." [Editor] Now that we have read some of the comments written about Confederate History Month, it is obvious that there are opinions from those who love their heritage and from those who deny that this is heritage at all. Of course, you understand that your editor is one of those who love Confederate history and heritage. It is easy for us to defend our ancestors because we feel that we have learned the truth concerning those things. All of these responses from the public is only more proof that we need a Confederate History Month. This would at least allow the citizens of this state, and most importantly, the students of our public schools to learn the truth about the causes of that war and the sacrifices of our Southern people. It will give them an opportunity to learn about some of the evil and cruel acts committed against not only Southern soldiers, but their families as well. It would allow an opportunity for people to judge for themselves, after having receiving further knowledge, whether this was a just cause. More than ever, we need Confederate History Month in the State of South Carolina.

April's Meeting

April's meeting will be on the 19th. As usual, the meeting will be held at the American Legion building on Hwy 9 East. Come prepared for a real good meeting. Supper will be served about 6:30 PM with Compatriot "Heavy" Price as the chief cook. I am sure he will recruit a couple of good helpers to help him bring us another fantastic meal. He has a reputation to keep. Our speaker this month is Dr. Harley from Florence. He always has a good topic and a great presentation. This topic will be on the Citadel during the war period. This is an exceptional speaker that you must hear. If it is anything like several of the other presentations he has given, you will not find him to be boring at all. If you miss this meeting, you will miss a good one. So, come on out and bring a friend, both of you will be glad you did. Show your pride in being a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans; tell someone about it and invite them to visit and become a member as well. We are kind of like the Marines—"We need a few good men!"

Another Quote

George Santayana defines HISTORY—"A pack of lies told by people who weren't there."

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL SERVICES

The annual Confederate Memorial Services for the Dillon and Marion Camps will be held on April 28th. The Marion Service will be held at the Confederate statue on Main Street in Marion. The service will be held at 11:00 AM. Commander Mike Sansbury extends an invitation to all, SCV members and non-members alike to come out and join the Marion Camp to honor the Confederate veterans from that area. Remember, the Confederate statue in Marion was dedicated to those veterans of the Dillon area as well, because Dillon was a part of the Old Marion District at that time. Zimmerman's Battery, Artillery will be there along with Dillon's Harlee Guard. This should be a good service, well worth the time you may sacrifice. Then at 3:00 PM, the Capt. Andrew T. Harlee Camp will hold our Confederate Memorial Service. This year the service will be held again at the Harlee Cemetery on the Harlee's Bridge Road. The speaker for both of these services will be Past South Carolina Division Commander Michael Givens. Those of you, who know him, can certainly verify that he is a great speaker. Do the community a favor and talk this memorial service up. Invite everyone you come in contact with and let them know what an opportunity this is to see such a service. You are simply asked to support the SCV and most especially, to take the time to commemorate the lives of those Confederate veterans who surely deserve to be honored.

The Corwin Amendment

On February 28, 1861, the United States House of Representatives approved the resolution by a vote of 133 – 65. On March 2, 1861, it was adopted by the United States Senate with a vote of 24 – 12. Since the proposed constitutional amendments require a two-thirds majority, 132 votes were required in the House and 24 in the Senate. Outgoing President James Buchanan also endorsed the amendment. Consideration of this amendment then shifted to the state legislatures, pursuant of Article V of the United States Constitution. In Lincoln's first inaugural address, he made



flip flop
Lincoln



Thomas Corwin

reference to the Corwin amendment, declaring his support for the proposal: "Holding such a provision to now be implied constitutional law, I have no objection to its being made express and irrevocable. The initial ratification of the Corwin Amendment was from the Ohio General Assembly; the second state to ratify the amendment was Maryland, then Illinois. The amendment was considered in Connecticut, Kentucky and New York, but was not approved by legislators in those states. Technically this amendment is still pending before America's state lawmakers. The Corwin Amendment was, and remains, a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution. Ohio Republican Congressman Thomas Corwin offered the amendment during the closing days of the 2nd Session of the 36th Congress in the form of House (Joint) Resolution No. 80. The proposed amendment would forbid any attempt to subsequently amend the Constitution to empower the Federal government to "abolish or interfere" with the "domestic

institutions" of the states (a reference to slavery). In particular, the Corwin Amendment was intended to prohibit Congress from banning slavery in those states whose laws permitted it.

Escape From Point Lookout Prison

[Luther B. Lake]

Point Lookout, Maryland, was a military prison, situated at the mouth of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. The river is



Point Lookout Prison

fifteen miles wide at the mouth and the bay about one hundred miles wide. There were several thousand Confederate Prisoners there. On the third night of September, 1863, five determined spirits made up their minds that they would endeavor to make their escape. The five spirits

were Johnsie Tongue, Sloane, Wiley, T. W. Lake, and L. B. Lake. After roll call, we crept as near the dead line as possible, and as the sentinels on their beat met and separated, we made a dash for freedom. Freedom, did I say? Not yet, for there was the river and the bay, and a bridge across it was heavily guarded with infantry, also the inlet from the river to the bay; and outside of all was a cavalry patrol two and half miles from the prison. All of this we managed to find out before we made the attempt to make our escape, so we took the bay point about two hundred and fifty yards from the beach. There is a sand shoal, which was about the only chance for us. We waded to the shoal, the water on which was about five feet deep; the tide was out, and we knew it would rise about twelve o'clock. It was dark as Erebus, but we managed to keep on the shoal where the inlet made in from the river. It became deeper and deeper until at last my brother, a boy of sixteen, began to strangle; so Tongue and I lifted him up and carried him one-half mile through the deepest part, and then we came to shallow water again. After wading for two and one-half miles in the bay, which took us five hours, we came to land outside of the cavalry pickets. We took off our old ragged, dirty uniforms and wrung the water out of them. Now for a forced march to get as far from the prison as possible before daybreak. We had not gone far before we came to a large stream, which we waded and made our way through jungles and forest to another stream much larger and deeper than the other. We held a consultation and determined that we would not try to cross it. We could not tell where we were, and we traveled up and down the bank of the stream until we came to an old Colonial residence. We woke the proprietor, who came to the balcony and asked what we wanted. We told him we wanted to cross the river. "Where are you going?" "Don't know." "Who are you?" "Don't know." "Where did you come from?" "Don't know." "How many are you?" "Don't know," etc.

(This first hand account to be continued next month)

Deo Vindice