

THE HOWLING DAWG

JULY 2015



Ready for the Fall campaign

16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G
"The Jackson Rifles"

THE BLAME OF GETTYSBURG



Portrayals of J.E.B. Stuart and Robert E. Lee from the movie, "Gettysburg" (1993)

The bloodied and sullen Army of Northern Virginia had barely left Pennsylvania before a frenzied search began for someone to blame. The valiant General Robert E. Lee had already shouldered that burden by claiming all fault. However, the degree of reverence most of the South held for Lee would simply not allow the guilt to rest there. Someone else must be responsible. As Lee supporters inside and outside the Army began looking about for a convenient scapegoat, Lee's aides, Marshall and Taylor, quickly served up the head Major General J.E.B. Stuart on a platter. Their utter contempt for the flamboyant cavalry chief had long been an established fact, thus the criticism of Stuart, which they began, soon "exploded onto the front pages of prominent Southern newspapers, which were read by both private citizens and high-ranking members of the Confederate government

At issue was Stuart's supposed failure to provide Lee with crucial information about the enemy's troop movements in the days leading up to Gettysburg which was alleged to have caused Lee to blunder into a battle he did not seek, on ground he did not choose. It was all Stuart's fault, for going off on an ill-advised raid around the Union army when Lee needed him close at hand. (Daniel Zimmerman) " This accusation became a popular belief which has largely endured to this day, infecting our history books with erroneous tales and even putting the scurrilous claims out as established "fact" on the great silver screen of Ted Turner's 1993 epic "Gettysburg" film.



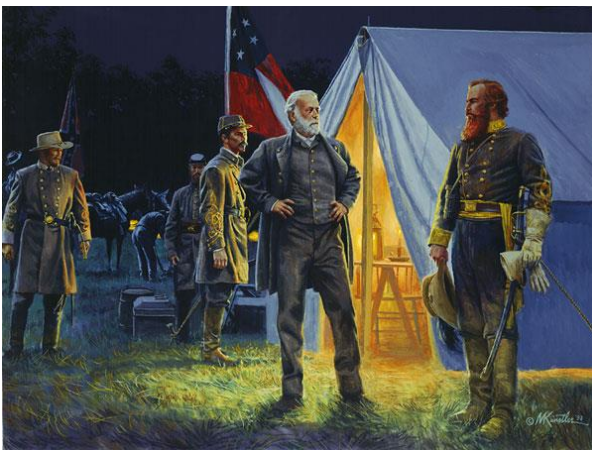
The facts support the undeniable truth that Stuart followed Lee's orders as closely as he could, if not totally. J.E.B. was innocent of most of the criticism leveled against him. He had not deprived Lee of the reconnaissance needed to keep tabs on the Yankee army, but only of himself, the cavalry leader Lee had grown to implicitly trust. General Stuart became a scapegoat by simply being at the end of a long trail of miscalculations and fortunes of war that involved just about everyone. If Stuart himself was to be blamed in any way, he had a great deal of company.

The lead elements of Lee's army had crossed into Pennsylvania three days before Stuart even began planning his raid. On June 22, 1863, Lee advised which route Stuart's horsemen should take while following the infantry into enemy territory. "If Stuart moved down the Shenandoah Valley west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, he might alert Union cavalry to Lee's carefully

screened advance. If, on the other hand, he moved east from his camp at Rector's Cross Roads (near Salem), he could cross the Potomac between Hooker's Union army and Washington, D.C. Such a move might throw the Federals into confusion and give Lee an extra advantage on his move north. (Daniel Zimmerman)"

Moreover, Lt. Gen. James Longstreet recommended: *"I think your passage of the Potomac by our rear at the present will, in a measure, disclose our plans. You had better not leave us, therefore, unless you can take the route in rear of the enemy."* Later, Lee wrote: *"If you find that Hooker is moving northward, and that two brigades can guard the Blue Ridge and take care of your rear, you can move with the other three into Maryland, and take position on Ewell's right, place yourself in communication with him, guard his flank, keep him informed of the enemy's movements, and collect all the supplies you can for the use of the Army."* Stuart was beginning to collect mixed messages from his immediate superiors. Yet, from these directions he fabricated a plan for a raid that would pass around the rear of the Union army. Clearly, he was thinking along the same lines as Lee and Longstreet on how best to use his light cavalry in the upcoming campaign. For information on the best route to take into Pennsylvania, Stuart turned to his most trusted scout, John Singleton Mosby, who, on June 23rd, 1863 advised Stuart that safe passage lay around the rear of Hooker's widely dispersed army in western Maryland. That same day Union signal stations on Maryland heights observed and reported the crossing of Lee's army into Maryland. The Federal line was then, in fact, stretched so thin that Stuart could simply ride through it based on an assumption that the Federals would simply sit still and wait for events to overtake

them. Stuart liked the plan so well that he committed it to paper and showed it to the commanders of two of his two brigades, Brigadier Generals Fitzhugh Lee and Wade Hampton before detailing his strategy to Lee and Longstreet. Evidently, there was full, high-level awareness of the proposed actions and no objections were raised. Stuart received Lee's written approval at the Berryville army headquarters. There, Stuart's adjutant, Major Henry McClellan, opened a letter (clearly marked "confidential") and displayed to Stuart what Lee had written: *"If General Hooker's army remains inactive, you can leave two brigades to watch him, and withdraw with the three others, but should he not appear to be moving northward, I think you had better withdraw this side of the mountain tomorrow night, cross at Shepherdstown next day and move to Fredericktown. You will, however, be able to judge whether you can pass around their army without hindrance, doing them all the damage you can, and cross the river east of the mountains. In either case, after crossing the river, you must move on and feel the*



right of Ewell's troops, collecting information, provisions, etc. Give instructions to the commander of the brigades left behind to watch the flank and rear of the army and (in event of the enemy leaving their front) retire from the mountains west of the Shenandoah, leaving sufficient pickets to guard the passes, and bringing everything clean along the valley, closing upon the rear of the army." Initially, Lee had told Stuart he was concerned that Hooker might *"steal a march on us and get across the Potomac before we are aware."* Besides giving

Stuart two dramatically different routes to take, Lee had softened the stipulation that the cavalry link up with Ewell and guard his flank. And his remark that Stuart should *"do as much damage as possible"* seemed to be directed more at a raiding party than a flank-guarding detail. Lee also gave Stuart the latitude to judge whether he could *"pass around their army without hindrance."* It would be up to Stuart to decide what constituted a true hindrance, as opposed to a momentary complication. (Daniel Zimmerman) Stuart, thus concluded that the commanding general had complete confidence in the cavalry leader's judgment and was giving him the go-ahead to raid the enemy rear. Stuart might have sought further clarification of the orders since he was within easy riding distance of Lee's headquarters. Even if the orders were not exactly clear, they were at least discretionary enough to allow Stuart to exercise his own judgment.

On the morning of June 24, 1863 Mosby reported that Hooker was remaining inactive, thus fulfilling the first of Lee's conditions. The second was easy; Stuart had already decided that he could move around the enemy without hindrance. The three brigades of Hampton, Fitzhugh Lee and Colonel John Chambliss were ordered to rendezvous that night at Salem. The brigades of Brigadier Generals Beverly Robertson and William E. "Grumble" Jones were ordered to remain at the mountain passes, keeping an eye on the enemy. Stuart understandably wanted his best troops with him. The two brigades left behind with Lee's army were nearly equal in size to those he took with him and sufficient to fulfill all duties that might be required of the cavalry in his absence. A more personal consideration was that Jones and Robertson were the two brigadiers Stuart liked least. Stuart considered

Robertson *"by far the most troublesome man I had to deal with,"* in large part due to the fact that Robertson had been a former beau of Stuart's wife, Flora, and an Old Army protégé of Stuart's much-detested father-in-law, Union Brigadier General Phillip St. George Cooke. Jones had more than once lived up to his nickname of "Grumble," but Stuart could justify leaving him behind since he had a widespread reputation as the "best outpost officer" in the service and therefore seemed eminently qualified to observe and report the enemy's movements. James Longstreet later charged that Stuart had purposely left him his least-favorite officers and commands and some felt they were simply not up to the task. Stuart could be blamed for their shortcomings because as overall cavalry commander and ultimately responsible for all the troops under his command. Jones and Robertson did fail to notify Lee that the Union army had broken camp and set out after Lee.

The raid, which began on June 25, 1863 encountered unexpected problems.



Yankee troops were found occupying roads that Stuart wished to use and he, of course, did not want to engage them. A message sent to Lee, advising of such delays somehow never arrived. With this early setback, Stuart made his most controversial decision. He was no longer moving north without hindrance and had to recalculate the best route rejoin the army. With more than 60 miles to South Mountain there was no way that destination could be reached before late on June 27th or even the next day. "Stuart reasoned that he still could not reach York until late on June 30 but believed he could get there on his current route just as quickly. He also expected that the information he had forwarded regarding enemy movements would cause Robertson and Jones to spring into action and rejoin Lee's army. Based on these expectations and the chance to obey at least part of Lee's initial order to wreak havoc on the Union rear, Stuart determined to continue his raid by making a slight detour around the enemy's line of march. (Daniel Zimmerman)"

How is it possible for Stuart to be with Lee on the Potomac and with Ewell on the Susquehanna at the same time? - Col. John S. Mosby

As late as June 27, 1863 Lee was telling Brigadier General Isaac Trimble, *"I have not yet heard that the enemy has crossed the Potomac, and am waiting to hear from General Stuart."* He was still waiting to hear from Stuart when the cavalry leader reached Rockville, Maryland, around noon on June 28. While

lingering in the area to destroy telegraph lines, Stuart learned that a large, heavily laden wagon train was nearby, heading for the Union army. Here, Stuart made his second controversial decision of the raid. Succumbing to temptation, but also believing that he was following Lee's orders to hurt the enemy whenever possible, Stuart attacked and captured the 8-mile-long train. However, it took him several hours to burn the wrecked wagons, parole prisoners and gather together the widely scattered brigades of Fitz Lee and Chambliss. A second message to Lee reporting Stuart's progress was somehow lost. Unaware of Lee's location, Stuart proceeded to York, then on to Carlisle, where he was informed that Lee and his men had been in Gettysburg waiting for him. He finally linked up with Lee's army late in the afternoon of July 2, 1863 (after Gettysburg fighting had begun) several days behind schedule and far too late to help with the ongoing battle.

Stuart's silence was the one true indicator Lee had that the Army of the Potomac was pursuing him into Pennsylvania.

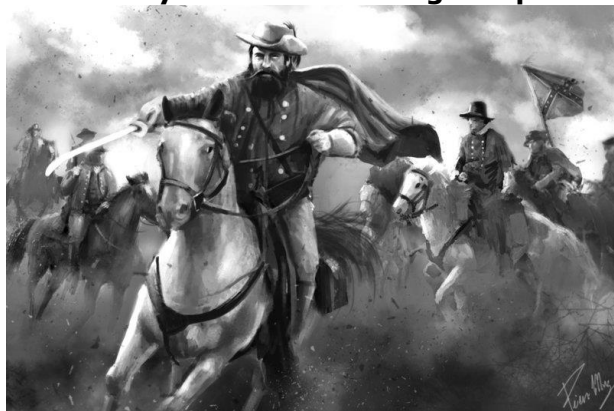
Ever since Stuart reported to Lee in person on the afternoon of the 2nd, the success or failure of his raid has been the subject of intense debate. Some say Lee himself was dissatisfied with Stuart's performance but accounts vary. Whatever Lee said, a version of it was echoed by Lee's staff officers, particularly Colonel Charles G. Marshall, who later urged Lee to court-martial Stuart for disobeying orders. Initial fault for the disaster at Gettysburg was directed, naturally enough, at Lee. His offer of resignation was refused by Jefferson Davis. Thus, critics were forced to select another high-ranking target: Jeb Stuart. Lee himself, in his mild way, complained that *"the movements of the army preceding the battle of Gettysburg had been much embarrassed by the absence of cavalry."* To this, Stuart's adjutant, Henry McClellan, responded: *"It was not the want of cavalry that General Lee bewailed, for he had enough of it had it been properly used. It*



was the absence of Stuart, himself, that he felt so keenly." John S. Mosby, whose initial scouting report had contributed much to Stuart's decision to go ahead with the raid, criticized Robertson for his failure to join Lee's army quickly enough after the Union army had begun its pursuit. *"Stuart had ridden around General Hooker while Robertson had ridden around General Lee,"* Mosby said. *"The only thing I blame Stuart for was not having Robertson shot."* The frustration of not having Stuart's counsel, and the meager results of his raid, might have been overshadowed by a great victory at Gettysburg. The shock of defeat, however, started the hunt for scapegoats. Stuart has been criticized through the years for misinterpreting Lee's orders, and this has caused him to receive more widespread unfavorable

comments than any other commander involved in the campaign. In defense, Stuart asserted that a large part of Union cavalry and the entire Union VI Corps was sent to intercept him, *"which prevented its participation in the first two days' fight at Gettysburg."* He also claimed that Meade was *"forced to detach 4,000 men from the army to protect property between Washington and Frederick."* The 8-mile

captured wagon train fed many Southern troops and provided vital transportation for wounded. But what if Stuart had not brought along his captured wagon train and had made it to Gettysburg on July 1? Could he have helped to sweep the small force of Union cavalry out of town before Maj. Gen. John Reynolds' I Corps arrived? And what if Stuart had been available on July 2? Would this have led to better reconnaissance, with Lee deciding to go along with Longstreet's suggestion of a turning movement to force Meade out of his position? To say that Stuart's late arrival left Lee with no cavalry is ridiculous. Lee had Jenkins' cavalry available at Gettysburg on July 1 and could have had Robertson's and Jones' brigades. On July 2, 250 men from Hampton's brigade were available to Lee and Longstreet for reconnaissance, but they were used instead to guard roads at Longstreet's rear. And Lee should not have been surprised, as some claim he was. He knew the Union army had been shifting troops toward Leesburg, and on June 28, 1863 he



found out that the enemy was building a pontoon bridge at Edward's Ferry. And if it is true that Lee had been forced into an early encounter at Gettysburg, it is also true that Meade was just as surprised, and the initial advantage lay with Lee. By accusing the Army of not being where he thought it would be, Stuart unwittingly questioned the soundness of Lee's strategy, thus incurring the wrath of all who thought Lee could do no wrong. We have often been told that Lee's destination was

never Gettysburg – that the great battle happened somewhat by accident, there. However, consider this account. General A.L. Long, Lee's military secretary, related the following conversation in his memoirs of Lee's life and campaigns. *"At the period mentioned, he called the writer into his tent headquarters then being near Fredericksburg. On entering I found that he had a map spread on the table before him, which he seemed to have been earnestly consulting. He advised me of his designated plan of operations, which we discussed together and commented upon the probable result. He traced on the map the proposed route of the army and its destination in Pennsylvania."* If, as Long contends, Gettysburg was the army's destination, why did Lee order Ewell to capture Harrisburg; why did he write Stuart that York was the probable point of concentration; stop his advance at Chambersburg on June 27 (one day march from Gettysburg) to gather supplies; when hearing the Army of the Potomac was in Maryland, advanced the Third Corps to Cashtown (six miles from Gettysburg); and finally, not have Early hold the town when he marched through it just days before. It may be more difficult for Mosby to prove Gettysburg was not Lee's objective, but it is hard to argue with his reasoning on why it was not. Mosby's defense of Stuart is simply hard to refute.

The ultimate responsibility for authorizing Stuart's raid lies with Lee. What is undeniable is that Lee authorized the raid. In doing so, his faith in Stuart led him merely to indicate his wishes, thus giving Stuart considerable latitude in carrying them out. His two letters were more like suggestions than orders. They provided no definite timetable for Stuart and only a vague location of where Ewell's corps would be headed. Regardless of Stuart's abilities, if orders or suggestions are conditional, then the conditions implied should be made explicitly clear. In this case, they were not. If Stuart's presence is what Lee missed, and if he had no confidence in Robertson and Jones, then he should have insisted that Stuart leave

behind a commander he could trust. The responsibility of not having the Army properly screened and aware of the Union army's movements lies with Lee, not Stuart. If Lee was surprised to find the enemy had crossed the Potomac, it seems demeaning to Lee's military acumen to be accused of such a reaction. Lee conceived the campaign to draw the Army of the Potomac from Virginia. Hooker had mirrored the Army of Northern Virginia's movement north in order to keep itself between the Lee and Washington. On June 18, 1863 Lee wrote he was aware that the Union Army was near the Potomac and in his June 22 order to Stuart, he was afraid they would beat him across the river ("steal a march" – see page 3). In a message to President Davis, Lee states the Federal forces had thrown down pontoon bridges at Edward's Ferry. Finally, Lee should have known that the Union army was headed north because he had not received word from Stuart. This silence was the key indicator that the Yanks were crossing the Potomac. Stuart, based on the directions given him, did everything that could have been



expected of him. Typically, raids on enemy communications are only a nuisance and rarely cause any real damage. Still, in carrying out the raid, Stuart followed his orders to the letter. Given no real timetable, he moved quickly, doing what damage he could, and brought in much-needed provisions for the army. In the end, there was blame enough for all. Lee and Longstreet should have given better instructions. Stuart should have left behind better officers than Jones and Roberts on, who, in turn, should have better carried out their clearly stated orders. Mosby should have given Stuart better scouting information. Ewell should have made more of an effort to find Stuart and come to his aid at Hanover.

Plenty of blame to pass around.

AFTERWORD: I have made my opinion clear. You may agree or disagree that Stuart was guilty as charged. What is your belief based on? Is it the common, "accepted" version of history that is normally passed around or have you read everything you could get your hands on and made up your mind. There are so many lies, half-truths, distortions and misrepresentations of OUR SOUTHERN HISTORY out there, we simply cannot afford to add to the heap by perpetuating them through our own willful ignorance of facts as they may be found. - jwd

SUMMER MUSTER 2015

July 24-26



During the weekend of July 24-26, 2015, the 16th Georgia Company G held its annual Summer Muster at Old Clinton, Georgia. The unit had not been together much since the May 2015 Old Clinton War Days and the occasion had the resemblance of a family reunion! The "Jackson Rifles" have always felt this was a good way to review tactics, "knock the rust off" with basic drills, instruct new recruits and gain valuable experience in a weather extreme, as we do in the Winter Muster. The drills were enthusiastic and productive – no complainers and no shirkers, but then, these are the kind of dedicated people who show up. We do realize that our number was diminished by such unavoidable circumstances of life such as vehicle problems, illness, death of loved ones, deployments, work schedules and vacations (had to look that word's meaning up), but the fact is that at Old Clinton War Days nearly fifty 16th GA riflemen stood on this same ground. Our actual Squads Roster shows the number of bonafide riflemen to be in the high thirty's. I won't say how many showed up at Summer Drill – you can count for yourself from the pictures and I will list their names because they deserve that honor. Some who could not drill or got off too late from work to actually participate, at least showed up or came by in an appreciated and acknowledged show of support. Our list duly credits their attendance. Special mention goes out to newly-elected 3rd Corporal Brick Lee Nelson and Private Ethan Bloodworth for their excellent drill of the Company – outstanding job fellows!

SUMMER MUSTER 2015

July 24-26

Gentlemen is Summer Muster or even Winter Muster, for that matter, merely a tradition or a needful Company exercise that we should continue? Some of the more faithful, yet, disconsolate of the ranks have suggested we abandon this futile exercise altogether. It does cost considerable time, energy and money. Personally, I believe that we should keep having such drills if for no other reason than the camaraderie and the benefit to new recruits (as well as Old Dawgs). I have been in the ranks of the 16th GA for over 25 years and the review was highly beneficial to me and much appreciated. My salute to all that were there in the Georgia heat and a special thanks to Mrs. Beth Colvin who provided the treat of all treats – homemade vanilla and peach ice cream and cake. The Colnel also brought rations. It was good to be with you all. I think most of us hungered for the fellowship. Sorry so many missed it. We, listed below, sure missed you. *Duke*

Honorary Colonel J.C. Nobles
1st Sgt. Alan Richards
1st Corp. Charles Whitehead
3rd Corp Brick Lee Nelson
5th Corp. Wayne Dobson
6th Corp. Earl Colvin
Corp. (Ret.) Beezer Banks
Pvt. (Ret.) Mark Thompson
Pvt. Frank Williams
Pvt. James Alexander
Pvt. Anthony Odum
Pvt. Ben Morris
Pvt. Thomas Patton
Pvt. Ethan Bloodworth
Pvt. Ethan Bockholt

Pvt. (Ret.) Gary Banks
Pvt. (Recruit) Mae Morrison
Pvt. Kellie Banks
Pvt. Rodney Morgan
Pvt. Seth McNair
Pvt. Caleb Bradley
Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr.
Mrs. Beth Colvin
Mr. Clarence Odom
Mrs. Dana Myers
Mrs. Scarlet Wells Morrison (Beth's cousin)
Mrs. Heidi Edge
(Hope I did not leave anyone out)



Many thanks to Heidi Edge & Beth Colvin for the exceptional photographs...

16TH GA Co. G, "Jackson Rifles" - Staff and Squads as of July 2015

Brigadier General Herbert Burns
Adkins, Pvt. Tom
Banks, Corp. (Ret.) "Beezer"
Banks, Pvt. (Ret.) Gary
Boyd, (1st Sgt. Ret.) James
Buchanan, Pvt. Randall
Duskin, Pvt. Bobby
Garnto, Pvt. (Ret.) Ervin

Hill, Associate Chaplain Charles
Neal, Honorary Chaplain Ronnie "Skin"
Smith, Corp. (Ret.) Ricky "Coonpossum"
Smith, Col. (Ret.) Steve "Red Bone"
Smith, Pvt. Steven "Short Fuse"
Stearns, Pvt. Camille
Thompson, Pvt. (Ret.) Mark "Watch Dog"
Young, Rev. Joey

Bradberry, Captain William "Rebel"
Sprague, 1st Lt. Noah
2nd Lt. Kevin Sark
Richards, 1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie"
Sprague, 2nd Sgt. Nathan
Dobson, Adj. (5th Corp.) John Wayne "Duke " Dobson
Colvin, (6th Corp.-Treasurer) Earl
Nobles, Honorary Colonel J. C.
Whitehead, Lead Chaplain Joel

1st SQUAD: 1st Corp. Charles "Goodtime"
Whitehead
Aspinwall, Pvt. Klay
Banks, Pvt. Jenny
Banks, Pvt. Kellie
Bloodworth, Pvt. Ethan "EB1"
Bradford, Pvt. Aaron Bradford
Lummus, Pvt. Oliver
McGalliard, Pvt. Al
McNair, Pvt. Seth "Squirrel"
Morgan, Pvt. Rodney
Patton, Pvt. Thomas

2nd SQUAD: 2nd Corporal Dan Williams
Alexander, Pvt. James
Allen, Pvt. Avery
Allen, Pvt. Landon
Burnsed, Pvt. Ty
Edge, Drew
Purdy, Pvt. Ken
Robbins, Pvt. Brian
Robbins, Pvt. Ethan
Robbins, Pvt. Austin
Shover, Pvt. Tommy
Williams, Pvt. Frank

3rd SQUAD: 3rd Corporal Brick Lee Nelson
Bockholt, Pvt. Ethan "EB2"
Butler, Pvt. Will
Curtis, Pvt. Lee "Pappy"
McCann, Pvt. Alan
Morris, Pvt. Ben
Myers, Pvt. Roy
Odum, Pvt. Anthony
Sprague, Pvt. Cody
Thompson, Pvt. Cole
Thompson, Pvt. Jacob
Thompson, Pvt. Jim

OUR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 18-20 - HURRICANE SHOALS (GA) – UNIT REGISTERED CX.S.A. ONLY
SEPTEMBER 19 - SCV SALUTE TO VETERANS IN DUBLIN – CONTACT RICKY SMITH
OCTOBER 2-4 - ANDERSONVILLE (GA)
OCTOBER 23-25 - SANDERSVILLE (GA) REGISTER ASAP ON LINE
OCTOBER 31-NOV. 1 – IRWINVILLE (GA) POC Lee Murdock 478-986-5290
NOVEMBER 14-15 NASH FARMS (GA) - Battles of Jonesboro and Nash Farm
NOVEMBER 14-15 SECESSIONVILLE (SC)
NOVEMBER 21- GRISWOLDVILLE MEMORIAL(GA) POC WAYNE DOBSON 478-731-5531.
NOVEMBER - CANNONBALL HOUSE APPARITIONS - Macon (GA)
DECEMBER - RICHLAND CHURCH (GA) CONTCAT FRANK HENDRIX
DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS AT THE CANNONBALL HOUSE - Macon (GA)

Brig. Gen. Herbert Burns - 478-668-3598

Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201

Capt. Wm."Rebel" Bradberry-404-242-7213

1 Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755

2nd Lt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796

Adjutant: 5th Corp. John Wayne "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531

Treasurer: 6th Corp. Earl Colvin – 478-214-0687

1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739

2nd Sgt. Nathan Sprague – 478-320-8748

1st Corp. Chas."Goodtime" Whitehead - 478-986-8943

2nd Corp. Dan Williams - 478-230-7189

3rd Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151

Lead Chaplain – Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798

Honorary Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal – 478-808-8848

Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878

Musician - Landon Allen - 478-294-9870

Musician - Aaron Bradford – 302-668-8029

Musician - Oliver Lummus – 302-668-8029

Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-318-7266

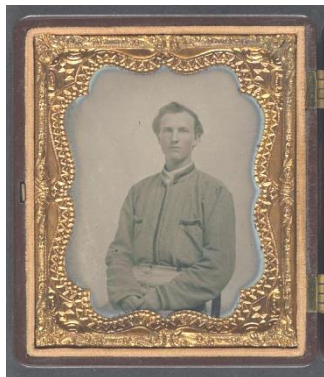
Rev. Joey Young - Honorary Life Member

ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". All issues (2011-present) of The Howling Dawg are available @ scvcamp1399.org & some @ scv2218.com, thanks to Steve Scroggins and Al McGalliard.

SYMPATHY AND BEREAVMENT POLICY - It was decided by those members present at the Olustee 2015 event that all unit sanctioned expressions of sympathy will consist of a letter to the family of the deceased advising that a \$25.00 donation has been made in honor of their loved one to the Old Methodist Church Fund. This will be in lieu of unit-purchased flowers. POC: Cpl. Colvin **16TH GA**



16TH GA Co. G. "Jackson Rifles" Staff



service there on the anniversary in August." Thanks, Mark Pentecost

The Real 16th GEORGIA

ABOUT THE PICTURE: *"Hey Wayne, I saw the (June 2015) newsletter with Lt. Horatio J. David (pictured left) . He was in Co. B with my great great grandfather. The info where he was wounded is incorrect because the 16th was never at Deep Bottom, Virginia. Lillian Henderson made a mistake when she put that in the GA roster. They were at Front Royal, Virginia on August 16, 1864. My gg grandfather was killed in action there along with 7 enlisted men and 3 officers. I have the muster rolls. The Official Records tells about the battle of Guard Hill. I installed a marker there at Prospect Hill Cemetery for my g great grandfather Sgt. Matthew Pentecost, 16th GA Co. B. I am doing a living history program / memorial*

The Camp of The Unknown Soldier



The membership in attendance at the regular monthly (July 16, 2015) meeting of Camp 2218 – THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER of Old Clinton, Jones County, GA voted to move our regular meeting place from the Gray 8 Skating Rink to Chevy's Pizza, 300 W. Clinton Street, Gray, GA 31032 – 478-986-9800 beginning on Thursday, August 20th.

This new location is probably a mile north of Gray 8 on the same road on the left in a shopping center. This is NOT the Chevy's Café that we began meeting at (Hwy. 49) three years ago. Speaking of three years ago, August will mark our Camp's 3rd anniversary.

Our meeting date of the 3rd Thursday in each month will still be in effect as well as our meeting time (eat at 6pm, meet at 7pm) at our new location. Food will not be catered but each person will have the option to order from a menu (no need to make prior attendance arrangements) that also includes salads, pasta and sandwiches, as well as pizza. If there are any questions contact a Camp officer such as Adjutant Dobson at 478-731-5531, Al McGalliard at 478-318-7266, Earl Colvin at 478-214-0687, J.C. Nobles at 478-718-3201 or Charles Whitehead at 478-986-8943

Our speaker for Thursday, August 20th, 2015 will be Laura Elliott of Alabama bringing a presentation about the 16th Georgia Infantry. In September Sherrie' Raleigh will be our speaker (Memoirs of a Confederate Soldier) and in October Joel Whitehead (War-time surgery and medicine).

October will also be the occasion of our biennial Camp officer elections, including: Commander, 1st Lt. Commander, 2nd Lt. Commander, Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Treasurer, Chaplain, Surgeon, Sergeant at Arms, Quartermaster, and Historian. If you are currently holding one of these offices and wish to run for re-election, YOU STILL MUST notify the Judge Advocate, just like a first time candidate, in writing by midnight on October 1st to allow sufficient time to prepare a written ballot, if needed.

Nominations from the floor at the October meeting will be accepted ONLY in the event that no candidate has previously expressed their intention to run for an office. I hope this is clear. If there are questions concerning this, you may contact: Judge Advocate Ethan Bloodworth at blindblood92@gmail.com or 1-478-297-1535.

The slate of announced candidates thus far includes: Charles Whitehead for Commander, Brick Lee Nelson for 1st Lt. Commander, Wayne Dobson for Adjutant, Al McGalliard for Treasurer, Joel Whitehead for Chaplain, and Ethan Bloodworth for Judge Advocate.

NOTE: We will have regular monthly meetings in August, September and October 2015 at Chevy's Pizza unless otherwise announced. Our November meeting will be held on the battlefield after the November 21, 2015 Griswoldville Battlefield Commemoration, with Rev. Joey Young as the keynote speaker. There will be no December meeting. Our January 21, 2016 meeting will be our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet. Details coming...

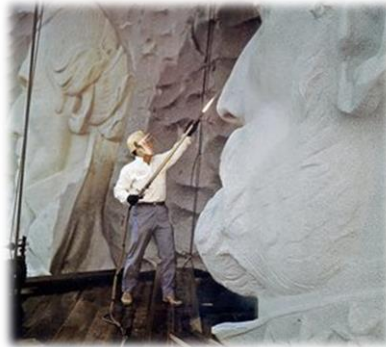
Stone Mountain's Carver - Dedicated to the Task

[tyler.estep@gwinnettdailypost.com August 5, 2013 © Copyright 2015 Gwinnett Daily Post]

Roy Faulkner has been many things. He was born in 1932 in Porterdale, a Newton County mill town, married in 1950, moved to Atlanta and worked at the Cotton Exposition Mills. Drafted into the Army, Roy joined the Marine Corps instead and fought in Korea. He moved to Covington, bought 10 acres of land, raised horses, grew plums, sired four children and was a welder, machinist and correctional officer. He



moved to Florida, tried and failed to launch a commercial fishing business, and moved back to Georgia. He opened a museum. At no point did he set aside time for an art class; he was never a sculptor. Roy Faulkner did, however, spend eight years, five months and 19 days on the side of Stone Mountain and somehow, became the man who completed Georgia's, and the South's, most famous work of art, thus, reviving the project that had barely begun some 50 years prior. Roy was hired to build the elevator and scaffolding necessary to get workers up and down the face of the mountain, but it quickly became apparent that a man hired to carve the images wasn't up to the task, so Roy Faulkner inherited the job. He brought a scientific approach, working from a scale model (1 foot of mountain = 1 inch of model). Stone Mountain's Confederate Memorial Carving was created with a specially designed torch, rigged with separate hoses shooting water, oxygen and kerosene through a long tube. The kerosene and oxygen heated the granite and carved it away; the water cooled it back down to prevent cracking. Lunches were eaten perched under the noses of Confederate heroes and the side of the mountain doubled as a bathroom. Two men died while Roy Faulkner was working on the mountain. On Aug. 1, 1966, Howard Williams fell from the scaffolding, bounced off



Stonewall Jackson's head and crashed all the way to the bottom. The whole crew, minus Roy Faulkner and George Weiblen, quit. One of the replacements, Nelson Wilborn, fell and died five years later. In between, Roy Faulkner almost joined them. On a day in '67 or '68, Roy asked a colleague to nail down a new plank but when Roy stepped on that plank, the wood flew up and he began to fall, but managed to spin around in midair. *"I grabbed the carving hose and it saved me,"* Faulkner said and when Roy got back up the mountain he slapped the crew member and fired him. When asked if he was thereafter scared

to go back to work on the mountain, Roy Faulkner replied, *"No."* Why not? Roy just grinned. It was a stupid question. In 2013, the 81-year-old Roy Faulkner was interviewed with his friends at Calvin Cove, a caregiver respite program operated three days a week out of Snellville's Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Chris Faulkner of The Camp of the Unknown Soldier #2218 writes to this publication that Roy Faulkner *"is my father's first cousin, but is nearly a generation older. He was a skilled builder like many in my family. Unfortunately, we haven't been in touch with him for many years. He hasn't been to the family reunions we used to have since I was a child, and we're all pretty spread out now. But of course, I'm proud to claim him! Most of what I know about him is from the book I have about Stone Mountain, which they surprisingly still sell on Amazon.com."*

<http://www.amazon.com/Georgias-Stone-Mountain-Cover-Confederate/dp/B002MNTBD0>

16TH GEORGIA NOTICE

Our annual dues are payable each year, to the treasurer, at Old Clinton War Days. Listed below are the names of those who are in good standing. If your name is missing, please contact Earl Colvin at 478-214-0687.


Pvt. James Alexander
Pvt. Avery Allen
Pvt. Landon Allen
Corp. (Ret.) Beezer Banks
Pvt. (Ret.) Gary Banks
Pvt. Jenny Banks
Pvt. Kellie Banks
Pvt. Ethan Bloodworth
Pvt. Ethan Bockholt
1st Sgt. (Ret.) James Boyd
Captain William Bradberry
Pvt. Caleb Bradley
Brig. Gen. Herbert Burns
Pvt. Ty Burnsed
Pvt. Will Butler
Beth Colvin
6th Corp. Earl Colvin
Pvt. Lee Curtis
5th Corp. Wayne Dobson
Pvt. Drew Edge
Pvt. Al McGalliard
1st Sgt. (Ret.) Ronnie Neal
3rd Corp. Brick Lee Nelson
Hon. Col. J.C. Nobles
B.B. Nolen
Pvt. Kennessa O'Neill

Pvt. Thomas Patton
1st Sgt. Alan Richards
Pvt. Brian Robbins
Pvt. Ethan Robbins
Pvt. Austin Robbins
2nd Lt. Kevin Sark
Pvt. Tommy Shover
Corp. (Ret.) Ricky Smith
Co. (Ret.) Steve Smith
1st Lt. Noah Sprague
Pvt. Camille Stearns
Amy Thompson
Pvt. Jacob Thompson
Pvt. Jaden Thompson
Chaplain Joel Whitehead
1st Corp Charles Whitehead
Sherie Williams
Pvt. Dan Williams
Pvt. Frank Williams
Rev. Joey Young

SORRY FOR THE DELAY - COMPUTER TROUBLES





I apologize for the delay in getting this issue of The Howling Dawg out and for articles sent in by you that may be notably missing. In early July a virus totally destroyed my computer, I lost years of files and pictures, not to mention being without this valuable communication tool, of and on, for most of the month. I know few emails got out and almost none got through with the sporadic service I endured. We appreciate your understanding. Duke



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PRAYERS REALLY NEEDED



John and Linda Tucker
 Tommy and Elaine Wallace
 Tom and Ruth Stevens
 Roy and Dana Myers
 The Williams family
 Mrs. & Mrs. Herbert Burns

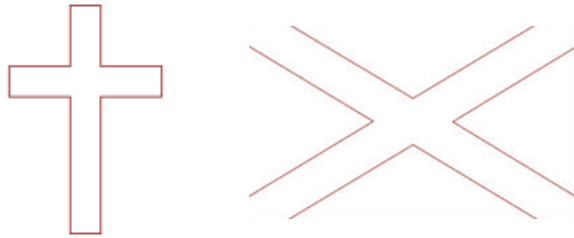
Ervin and Barbara Garnto
 Gary Banks
 Kim Beck
 Me & YOU (LET ME KNOW OF OTHERS)

A LETTER FROM AFAR: Our beloved brother, Roy Myers writes from his deployment, *"I am well. Staying busy, which makes time go by fast. We're in the midst of transition. Please pray that God will guide me as I set the direction for operation in my area. Thanks for your prayers! I know that they make a difference every day! Love in Jesus, Roy"*



IN HONORED MEMORY - Marine Lance Cpl. Squire "Skip" Wells, killed in the July 16th Chattanooga recruiting office shooting, volunteered near Atlanta as a member of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park's Living History cannon crew. I did not know the gallant man personally but I am told that he was part of the artillery crew that worked with us (16th GA) at the Ocmulgee National Monument event last July that simulated Stoneman's firing on Macon.

THE OFFENSE OF THE CROSS



What is there about a cross which angers and stirs persecution ?

The hymn writer said it so well: "***nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling.***" ("Rock of Ages"—Toplady -1763). Rightly, we think of the cross as a welcome, everlasting refuge from "***the sin which doth so easily beset us***"(Hebrews 12:1). Yet, the cross is an instrument of cruel death – **IT IS OFFENSIVE**, not just mildly disturbing or controversial - much more than our modern methods of execution. On a cross death is graphically hideous and a panorama that used to be more offensive before television and movie cameras jaded us into accepting a daily ration in our homes. Until recent years America never really experienced much of an overt hatred for the Cross. Generally, people (even non-Christians) flocked to church at Easter and Christmas, asked for prayer, said grace over food, married at the altar, their dead rested in church graveyards, and they all spent money inscribed "In God We Trust" – never a second thought about it. Even today it is common to see someone with a cross necklace. Can you imagine such jewelry with a gas chamber or an electric chair – maybe a syringe, even an axe? Some wear a crucifix that leaves the dying Lord Jesus on the cross but no one seems aghast about a representation of a tortured, deceased body hanging on a cross – so long as it is Jesus. Churches all across America contain the saved and the unsaved who are not offended at all.

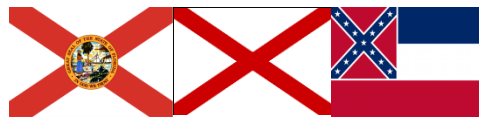
Moreover, a cross, whatever the design, is **UNCOMPROMISING**. When the Lord Jesus Christ hung on one, His body was conformed to the image of the cross. It did not conform to even Him. I will say again, the cross did not conform to even Him! His legs were down, together, and straight, his head erect, and His arms open wide. No room for compromise there. Jesus was subject to the Father's will.

We have all known people over the years who were fond of saying "***me and God have an understanding or we have it all worked out.***" I think a popular song even said as much. The fact is that the worst thing God can do to a person is to let them have their own way and "imagine that we can succeed in our plans if we keep trying, and manufacture our own gods, our own way." (10/30/2010 by [indywatchman](#)) The **ONLY** way God "works things out" is for mankind to do it His way. "***I am the way, the truth, and the life: no***

man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6). The message of ANY Cross is just as offensive and uncompromising as it ever was.

About 60 years after the crucifixion of Christ, the apostle and martyr, Saint Andrew, (brother of Saint Peter - the original *fishers of men* – Mathhew 4:19) was in Greece and ordered to be crucified with two ends of a cross fixed transversely in the ground (in the shape of an X). He boldly told his accusers that he would not have preached the glory of the cross if he had feared to die on it. Later, when they came to crucify him, he said that he coveted the cross and longed to embrace it, calling it “a most welcome sight.” He was fastened to the cross with cords instead of nails, so that his death might be prolonged, and remained on the cross for two days, preaching the greatest part of the time to the people. St. Andrew expired on the 30th of November (ironically the date of The Battle of Franklin, TN). Again, the cross was an OFFENSIVE instrument of death and it was UNCOMPROMISING

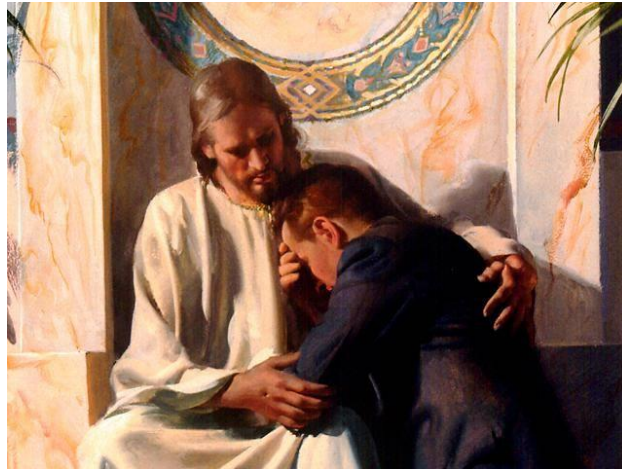
The Cross of St. Andrew is incorporated in the designs of some State and National flags: (left to right, below) Scotland, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Great Britain and the Confederate Battle Flag.



A Cross will always instigate hatred, yet, it is the emblem of deliverance captivity to freedom – not of slavery. The Cross of Christ is the emblem of freedom from sin just as some flags with Cross of St. Andrew represent freedom from tyranny(not so sure about Great Britain). “The Cross stands at the crossroads and passes sentence on the whole World. It is a separator, dividing and disuniting two worlds. It discriminates, disrupts, disregards, disqualifies, disproves and disputes. The difference between what it stands for and what it stands against is so great that the two can never be bridged. They are two totally different systems of values, standards of judging, and sets of laws that are forever antagonistic and irreconcilable. (10/30/2010 by [indywatchman](#))

“Nothing in history or in the universe cuts us down to size like the cross. All of us have inflated views of ourselves. The Cross of Christ means our self-righteousness doesn’t cut it.” (3/16/2011 by Shane Vander Hart) It crucifies the flesh. If the Gospel of it is preached with full freedom, it defeats the world, the flesh, and the Devil. These forces of evil will stop at nothing to hinder it, for they cannot destroy it. Likewise, the Cross of St. Andrew, given proper perspective, emancipates ALL men from ALL domination. In the name of political correctness the uncompromising offense is being removed from our land and we are ALL, ALL, ALL, the more desolate for it? - John Wayne Dobson

Why YOU Should Trust in the Lord Jesus?



"O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

- Psalm 34:8

In the last devotional I asked the question: "Have you trusted Jesus today?" Less than a month after writing that, came the same sex marriage decision, the battle flag fight and our brave Sailors and Marines blood (see page 15) was spilled while at a recruiting station. With all the craziness in our country it may make you wonder why you should trust in the Lord Jesus?

I will tell you, Jesus is with us every step of our journey through this world. He never leaves us nor forsakes us (Deuteronomy 31:6). He knows all of our struggles, physically, emotionally, and psychologically. He is current with all of us. He knows the number of the hairs on our heads (Luke 12:7). He knows our every woe. He comforts us in those woes (Psalm 139:3).

He is our tower and mighty fortress (Proverbs 18:10 & Psalm 18:2) ever present help in time of need (Psalm 46:1). Remember God gave us his whole armor (Ephesians 6:10-18) to be able to stand in these troubled times. We as children of God must place our trust in Him, and stand fast for the Kingdom of Heaven. Will you stand fast with the Lord Jesus Christ? Here are some verses from Colossians 1:10-12:

"That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:"

- Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr. 16th GA Co. G / SCV Camp 2218

So, what must you do to receive Christ as your Savior?

First, you must admit that you are a sinner and need to be saved.

Second, you must repent and be willing to turn from your sin.

Third, you must believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross.

Fourth, you must receive through prayer, Jesus Christ into your heart and life.

Here is a simple prayer of salvation. Right now, right where you are ...

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I know that I need you. I believe that you died on the cross for me. Forgive me of my sins. Right now, I turn from my sins and open the door of my heart and life to you. I receive you as my Savior, come into my life and save me. Thank you for what you did for me. Amen."

EDITOR'S COMMENTS ON OUR HERITAGE FIGHT

On Sunday the 2nd of August a true fighter of the Confederate Cause was laid to rest in Oxford, Mississippi. Compatriot Anthony Hervey was murdered by black militants, we are told, when his car was forced off the road after attending a flag rally. The SCV has called for a Federal investigation. They like to do hate crimes, let's see what they do with this.

Due to health reasons, "Ben Jones recently resigned as SCV Chief of Heritage Operations after serving for over a year. During his tenure, he took this position to a new level. His professionalism and his ability to deal with the media have broadened our reach as an organization. He will continue to serve the SCV as our National Press Secretary. Dean Stevens of South Carolina has accepted Ben's former position and we feel certain he will do a splendid job as well. Please pray for Ben's health and speedy recovery and as well as wisdom for Dean." (K. Barrow)

We recently I heard that Southern Baptists have "shown tremendous support for Southern Heritage - church members, not necessarily the leaders." Also "the majority of "Republicans" are OK with the Confederate Battle Flag. It's just that their party bosses and the candidates who they vote in are not, like the bush family that runs that Party. The rank and file of those who vote Republican would most likely stand up for the flag. So why do they keep voting for people who would raise the white flag when their culture is attacked? The same could be said of Democrats." I seldom talk or even think in terms of Democrats or Republicans anymore. Those labels mean nothing. If a person is a liberal or conservative tells me more, I suppose. I believe there are multitudes in this Country that embrace the truth about Southern heritage and they are willing to fight and take a stand - they just don't know how. They are sick of people telling them to write letters and call their Congressman over every issue. I realize this is better than nothing and often the only voice we have, but it is discouraging when you get no reply or some automated response. There must be more.

There has been an outbreak of rallies in support of the Confederate flag since the June 17 mass shooting of nine black churchgoers in Charleston, South Carolina. The Southern Poverty Law Center works to fight bigotry and monitors hate groups around the country. It has been keeping track of the pro-Confederate flag events in the past month and found that 132 have occurred since the Charleston shooting, with another 29 in the works, including at Stone Mountain on August 1.

Amazon.com has resumed selling Confederate items and Ebay might be next but Walmart will not budge on the issue. I know that is a "victory" but, forgive me for not cheering too much. First, I can never recall a Walmart anywhere, anytime, selling anything Confederate - maybe you have seen it, I have not. They will not even sell the current Georgia State flag here in Macon. Moreover, much of the Confederate stuff that I saw on Amazon and Ebay were headbands, t-shirts, banners, swimsuits, beach

towels, key chains and the like with the Battle flag on it. I personally do not believe the flag - that precious flag - that so many sacrificed so much for should ever be anything but a flag. Maybe that's just me but I just do not think it honors my ancestors all that much - if at all - when it is fashioned into a bikini! You may not agree with me (like that will be a first) and you can sure buy what you want and what you will, but personally I don't really care if Amazon, Ebay, Walmart or any of their ilk ever sell anything they call Confederate again. They are leech-like retailers (like Cracker Barrel) that care nothing about our heritage, so I care as little about them. Enough on that. While not solely Confederate Southern, this business (<http://www.salstshirts.com/>) does sell Confederate flags, Confederate shirts etc.

The following was sent our way by our good friend, Joe Byrd:
Confederate soldiers ,sailors, and Marines that fought in the Civil war were made U.S. Veterans by an act of Congress in in 1957, U.S. Public Law 85-425, Sec 410, Approved 23 May, 1958. This made all Confederate Army/ Navy/ Marine Veterans equal to U.S. Veterans. Additionally, under U.S. Public Law 810, Approved by the 17th Congress on 26 Feb 1929 the War Department was directed to erect headstones and recognize Confederate grave sites as U.S. War dead grave sites. Just for the record the last Confederate veteran died in 1958. So, in essence, when you remove a Confederate statue, monument or headstone, you are in fact, removing a statue, monument or head stone of a U.S. VETERAN.

And finally: In the wake of recent and unwarranted attempts to completely eradicate our noble and precious Southern Heritage, I held my peace - at least out the range of the scurrilous media - and have but few words now.

Psalm 126: *"When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them. The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad. Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."*

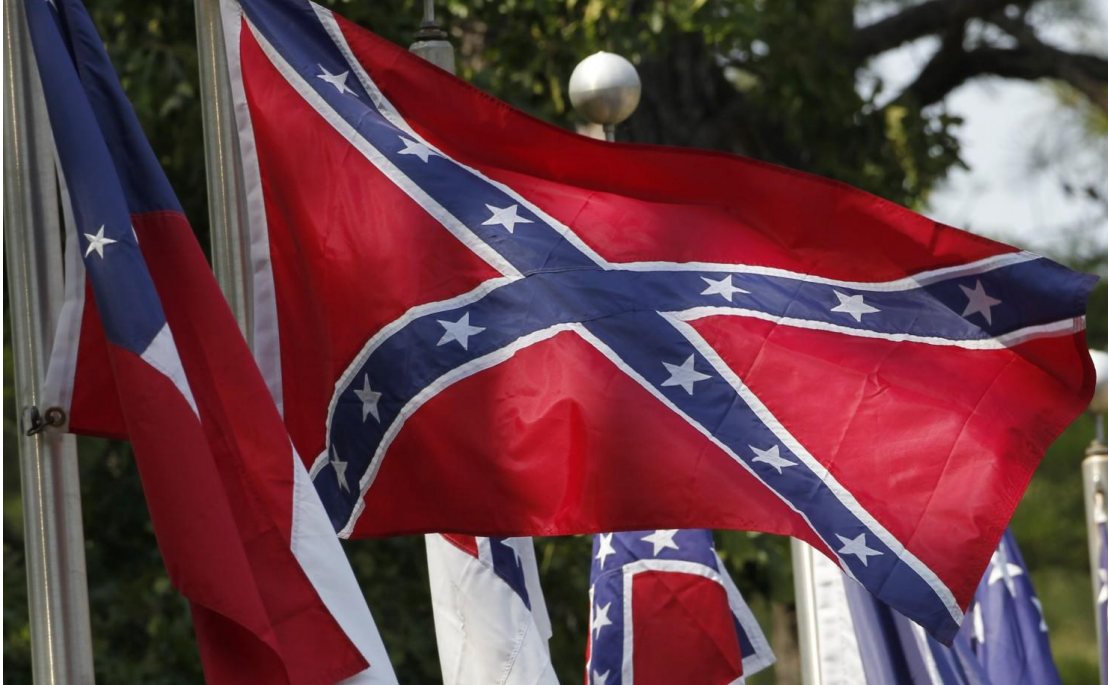
Stand strong, my Southern brothers and sisters. Hold your heads high and weather the storm of this assault. Our beloved ancestors faced far worse so there is no excuse for us to feebly wish for a free pass. Diplomats, pacifists and cowards will not be needed.

Clearly, all the great swelling words about tolerance, civil rights and equality were blatant lies. Yet, our quarrel has never been with the man of black skin but rather the one in the blue suit and his ever encroaching, rights-crushing, immoral government. Neither honesty nor integrity lies among "those people" who oppose us.

Some of us may not live to see it but Deo Vindice - God Will Vindicate.

It's Not Dixie's Fault

By Thomas J. Sugrue - July 17, 2015



Many of the racial injustices we associate with the South are actually worse in the North.
(AP Photo/Dave Martin, File) (Dave Martin/AP)

The tragic Charleston, S.C., church shooting, in which nine black worshippers were killed, allegedly by a Confederate-flag-supporting white supremacist, has unleashed a new battle over Southern culture. Confederate monuments have been defaced; leaders have demanded that emblems of the Confederacy be erased from license plates and public parks; schools in Texas, Louisiana and Alabama are struggling to defend their "rebel" mascots. Most predictably, pundits have renewed their characterization of Southern states as the ball and chain of America. If all those backward rednecks weren't pulling us down, the story goes, the United States would be a progressive utopia, a bastion of economic and racial equality. "Much of what sets the United States apart from other countries today is actually Southern exceptionalism," Politico contributor Michael Lind wrote this month in an essay called "How the South Skews America." "I don't mean this in a good way."

This argument recapitulates an old, tired motif in American journalism that the South is the source of our nation's social ills. It has been blamed for our obesity problem ("Why Are Southerners So Fat?" Time asked in 2009), persistent poverty ("The South Is Essentially A Solid, Grim Block Of Poverty," the Huffington Post asserted in 2014) and general stupidity ("What's Wrong with the South?" the Atlantic scoffed in 2009). This time, in the wake of the church shooting, the states of the old Confederacy have

become a national scapegoat for the racism that underpinned the massacre. If only they would secede again, Lind and others suggest, the nation would largely be free from endemic prejudice, zealotry and racist violence.

Not even close. These crude regional stereotypes ignore the deep roots such social ills have in our shared national history and culture. If, somehow, the South became its own country, the Northeast would still be a hub of racially segregated housing and schooling, the West would still be a bastion of prejudicial laws that put immigrants and black residents behind bars at higher rates than their white neighbors and the Midwest would still be full of urban neighborhoods devastated by unemployment, poverty and crime. How our social problems manifest regionally is a matter of degree, not kind — they infect every region of the country.

In fact, many of the racial injustices we associate with the South are actually worse in the North. Housing segregation between black and white residents, for instance, is most pervasive above the Mason-Dixon line. Of America's 25 most racially segregated metropolitan areas, just five are in the South; Northern cities — Detroit, Milwaukee and New York — top the list. Segregation in Northern metro areas has declined a bit since 1990, but an analysis of 2010 census data found that Detroit's level of segregation, for instance, is nearly twice as high as Charleston's. The division between black and white neighborhoods in the North is a result of a poisonous mix of racist public policies and real estate practices that reigned unchecked for decades. Until the mid-20th century, federal homeownership programs made it difficult for black Americans to get mortgages and fueled the massive growth of whites-only suburbs. Real estate agents openly discriminated against black aspiring homeowners, refusing to show them houses in predominately white communities.

When all else failed, white Northerners attacked blacks who attempted to cross the color line, using tactics we typically associate with the Jim Crow South. They threw bricks through the windows of their black neighbors' homes, firebombed an integrated apartment building and beat black residents in the streets. In Detroit, to name one example, whites launched more than 200 attacks on black homeowners between 1945 and 1965. In Levittown, Pa., hundreds of angry whites gathered in front of the home of the first black family to move there and threw rocks through the windows. Racists burned crosses in the yards of the few white neighbors who welcomed the new family. That violence occurred in 1957, the same year whites in Little Rock attacked black students integrating Central High School, yet it's that story — of racial bias in the South — that dominates our narrative of America's civil rights struggle.

Passage of the Fair Housing Act in 1968 didn't eliminate racist real estate practices. A recent National Fair Housing Alliance investigation found that in 87 percent of test cases, agents steered customers to neighborhoods where existing homeowners were predominantly of the customers' own race. And while Southern states are home to a larger

portion of the nation's minority residents, nearly half of all fair-housing complaints during the 2012-2013 fiscal year were filed in the Northeast and the Midwest.

Economic segregation is most severe in America's Northern metropolitan areas, as well, with Milwaukee; Hartford, Conn.; Philadelphia; and Detroit leading large cities nationwide, according to an analysis of 2010 census data by the Atlantic. White suburbanites across the North — even in Bill and Hillary Clinton's adopted home town, Chappaqua, N.Y. — have fought the construction of affordable housing in their neighborhoods, trying to keep out "undesirables" who might threaten their children and undermine their property values. The effects of that segregation are devastating. Where you live in modern America determines your access to high-quality jobs (which are mostly in suburban places), healthy food (many urban areas are food deserts) and, perhaps most important, educational opportunities.

Education remains separate and unequal nearly everywhere in the United States, but Confederate-flag-waving Southerners aren't responsible for the most racially divided schools. That title goes to New York, where 64 percent of black students attend schools with few, if any, white students, according to a recent report by the Civil Rights Project. In fact, the Northeast is the only region where the percentage of black students in extremely segregated schools — those where at least 90 percent of students are minorities — is higher than it was in the 1960s. Schools in the South, on the other hand, saw the segregation of black students drop 56 percent between 1968 and 2011.

White Southerners fought tooth and nail to prevent desegregation, using protests and violence to keep black children out of all-white schools. But federal courts came down hard on districts that had a history of mandated segregation, and federal troops and law enforcement officers escorted Little Rock and New Orleans students through angry white mobs in front of their new schools.

White parents in the North also fought desegregated schools but used weapons that seemed race-neutral. Black and white students above the Mason-Dixon line attended different schools not by law but simply by nature of where they lived. This de facto school segregation appeared untainted by racist intent, but, as noted earlier, housing practices in the North were fraught with conscious racial injustice. Further, metropolitan areas like Philadelphia and Detroit contained dozens of suburban school districts, making it easy for white families to jump across district boundaries when black neighbors moved in. (Often, Southern districts, as in Charlotte, encompassed the inner city, outlying suburbs and even some rural areas, making it more difficult to flee desegregation. As a result, Charlotte became one of the most racially integrated school districts in country.) Unlike in the South, it was nearly impossible for civil rights litigators to prove that all-white schools in the North were a result of intentional discriminatory policies.

None of this denies that the South is, in many ways, shaped by its unique history. It broke from the union over slavery, and its economy was indelibly shaped by that peculiar institution. After emancipation, it took a century of grass-roots activism and public policy to break down the legal barriers that limited Southern blacks' economic opportunities. But the South is not timeless and unchanging. The region's per capita income began to converge with the rest of the nation's during World War II and accelerated in the decades after the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, according to Stanford economist Gavin Wright. The South is still at the bottom economically, but the regional gaps have narrowed considerably, especially for African Americans. By the 1990s, Southern black men earned as much as their counterparts in other regions. Now, Northern blacks are migrating South in search of better economic opportunities, reversing historic trends.

The South has become an increasingly heterogeneous place, home to the fastest-growing immigrant populations in the country, led by North Carolina, Georgia, Arkansas and Tennessee. Immigration has remade Southern big cities and small towns alike: North Carolina chicken-processing centers have attracted Guatemalan immigrants. Suburban Atlanta is dotted with panaderias and taco shops catering to the rapidly growing Mexican population. And Vietnamese-born shrimpers are working the Gulf of Mexico's shores in Texas and Louisiana. In the past decade, immigrants have accounted for half of the growth of country-music capital Nashville, with large numbers of Latinos as well as Kurds, Bosnians and Somalis.

It's reassuring for Northerners to think that the country's problems are rooted down South. But pointing our fingers at Dixie — and, by implication, reinforcing the myth of Northern innocence — comes at a cost. As federal troops and Supreme Court decisions forced social change in the states of the old Confederacy during the 20th century, injustices in the North were allowed to fester. That trend continues, as Northerners seek to absolve themselves of responsibility for their own sins by holding aloft an outdated and inaccurate caricature of a socially stunted South. In 1960, Martin Luther King Jr. said: "Another group with a vital role to play in the struggle for racial justice and equality is the white northern liberals. The racial issue that we confront in America is not a sectional but a national problem." That holds true for most of America's troubles today. Enough finger-wagging at Dixie. Change begins at home.

Thanks to Ethan Bloodworth for sending this article our way

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