

THE HOWLING DAWG

DECEMBER 2016



"A very Merry Christmas to all ..."

16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G

"The Jackson Rifles"



Scuppernon Press

"NEVER SURRENDER, NEVER RETREAT" AND NEVER LOSE HOPE - ESPECIALLY NOW

"The Commanding General takes pleasure in announcing to the Army the series of successes which, by the blessing of God, have recently been achieved by our arms. A part of the enemy's force that had been threatening has been intercepted with the loss of their wagon train and a number of prisoners. Another body of the enemy has sustained a severe defeat and retreated. We are pursuing the remainder. Several of the most formidable gunboats that accompanied the expedition have been destroyed by the enemy to save them from capture, and our forces have interrupted all other navigation. A cavalry force has, likewise, been repulsed and every demonstration of the enemy has been successfully repelled.

This Army, under the blessing of Almighty God has thus far checked the progress of the enemy towards us and inflicted heavy loss. Your Country looks to you in your gallant struggle with confidence and hope. Encouraged by the successes that have been granted to us, stimulated by the great interests that depend upon the issue, and sustained by the prayers of those in whose defense you fight, let everyone resolve to put forth his utmost efforts, to endure all and brave all, until by the assistance of a just and merciful God the enemy shall be driven back and a speedy peace secured to our Country.

Some of our bravest officers and men - your brave comrades - have fallen, but they have left the example of their glorious sacrifice. Let you, their remaining comrades, emulate the valor of those who have fallen to see that they shall not have died in vain.

With the blessing of God, it is in your power to defeat this last great effort of the enemy, secure independence to your native land, and earn for yourselves the love and gratitude of your Country." Adapted from a May 1864 letter by: General Robert E. Lee



THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

As is our custom, we will not meet in December. We are both pleased and proud to announce that Past SCV Camp 1399 Commander, former Georgia Volunteer Battalion Commander, legendary 16th Georgia commander, and cherished brother, Col. Steve Smith of Byron, Georgia will be our keynote speaker for our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet on Thursday, January 19th, 2017. Georgia Division Adjutant Tim Pilgrim plans to be with us in February of 2017. March 2017 brings us a long-time friend from the Putnam County Camp, Hank Segars who will speak on the topic of "The Civil War in Popular Culture". Two well-liked speakers, Sherrie' Raleigh and Ed Shelor will also return in 2017 - May and June respectively. Our guest speaker openings for Camp 2218 meeting programs are all nearly filled for 2017. Contact the Adjutant to apply.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2016 - **NO** SCV CAMP 2218 MONTHLY MEETING - **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

2017

JANUARY 19 - LEE-JACKSON BANQUET - CAMP 2218 - **EVERYONE IS INVITED!**
GEN. ROBERT E. LEE BORN

JANUARY 21 - GEN. LEE BIRTHDAY EVENTS - GA SCV - **DETAILS FORTHCOMING**
GEN. "STONEWALL" JACKSON BORN

FEBRUARY 14 - VALENTINE'S DAY

FEBRUARY 16 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - **GA DIV. SCV ADJ. TIM PILGRIM**

FEBRUARY 17-19 - **OLUSTEE, FLORIDA**

FEBRUARY 22 - **PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON BORN**

MARCH 12 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME - SET CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR**

MARCH 3-5 - **152nd Anniversary of the Battle for Broxton Bridge, SC**

MARCH 16 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - **HANK SEGARS**

APRIL 13 - **PRESIDENT THOMAS JEFFERSON BORN**

APRIL 16 - **EASTER SUNDAY**

APRIL 20 - **SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING**

APRIL 29 - **CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)**

MAY 6-7 - **OLD CLINTON WAR DAYS - APRIL WORK DAYS TO BE SCHEDULED**

MAY 14 - **MOTHER'S DAY**

MAY 18 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - **SHERRIE' RALEIGH**

MAY 29 - **U.S. MEMORIAL DAY**

JUNE 15 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - **LTC. EDWARD SHELOR**

CHRISTMAS WITH THE 16TH GEORGIA
The Cochran, GA Parade – December 2nd



Beth Colvin

CHRISTMAS WITH THE 16TH GEORGIA
The Dexter, GA Parade – December 3rd



Beth Colvin

CHRISTMAS WITH THE 16TH GEORGIA

The Richland Church, GA – December 3rd



THE 16TH GEORGIA, CO. G - "The Jackson Rifles"



Brig. Gen. Herbert Burns - 478-668-3598
Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201
Rev. Joey Young – Hon. Member - 678-978-7213
Capt. Wm. "Rebel" Bradberry, Cmding. – 404-242-7213
1st Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755
2nd Lt. Charles Whitehead – 478-986-8943
Color Sgt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796
Adjutant: 5th Corp. "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. Dan Williams - 478-230-7189
2nd Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151
3rd Corp. Avery Allen - 478-662-3732
Lead Chaplain – Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798
Hon. Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal – 478-808-8848
Assistant Chaplain – Charles Hill – 770-845-6878
Musician – Drew Edge – 478-365--1897
Musician – Chance Sprague – 706-491-9755
Musician - Aaron Bradford – 302-668-8029
Musician - Oliver Lummus – 302-668-8029
Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-318-7266

ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". And @ scv2218.com, thanks to Al McGalliard.

THE "WHITE FOLK GUILT" DISEASE - On Tuesday morning, December 7, 2016, as I stood with the Southern Cross in the public easement on the Smoky Park Highway returning the waves of the many cars passing by, I would be approached by two young white men. One would inquire, why was I standing there with the Confederate flag, and pointing to my Dixie Out Fitter hat, and the Legends of the Confederacy shirt that depicted a picture of the Honorable General Nathan Bedford Forrest, and several Black Confederate soldiers with the caption that read: *"These boys stayed with me until the end, and no better Confederate lived than they"*? Before I could answer, he went on to berate me for shaming black folks, especially in light of what Dylan Roof had done in South Carolina. It finally



dawned on me that he was trying to impress his friend. I was almost oblivious to the cars now passing, honking their horns and shouting out my name as I listened intently to this poppy cock, until one would pull beside where we stood with two young black men, and two young white men who shouted out, *"we got your back Mr. HK"*, and a hearty Rebel Yell to boot as they pulled away. So, I asked this man where they were from. He was quick to point out that he was from Columbia, South Carolina, and his friend responded, *"I'm from Eugene, Oregon"*. I told them that more than a decade ago that two honorable ladies from Alabama (Ms. Ellen Williams, and Ms. Pat Godwin) had pointed a disease out to me and others: *"White Folk Guilt"*. And, that every year I would journey to Marion, Alabama to the Johnson Estate, and study in one of the finest libraries to eradicate this disease. I would then whip them with a history lesson from the Corwin Amendment, the Congressional Klan trials with General Forrest, Lincoln's illegal invasion of the South, to his total warfare policy, the Union League, the eradication of the memory of the Black Confederate Soldier and his supportive family back home, reconstruction (then and now), and most importantly the stench of Niki Haley who supported and led the lie against the Southern Cross and the memory of the honorable men and women of the South, be they freed or indentured, who stood as family against tyranny and the illegal invasion of their homeland. After about 30 minutes of my diatribe, the young man from Oregon reached out his hand and said; *" Sir, I don't know if you have cured my friend, but you have certainly inoculated me from the disease of White Folk Guilt, and I would hope that on this day others would come and get a shot of HK! God bless you, and thanks!"* His friend looked as though he had been whipped by a herd of buffalo, and even worse when he turned to him, and said; *"you didn't see that coming did you!"* God bless you! **H.K. Edgerton**

**PRAY
LIKE
YOU MEAN IT**

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." -

James 5:16

You may not recognize many of the names on this page, but they surely represent real people – real needs. Just because you do not know them personally nor the nature of their circumstance does not mean that you cannot bow your heart and head for a moment and ask God to meet the needs of those listed here according to His will ... Thank you.

Rev. Joey Young and family / Rev. Gary Berrier & family
Ethan and Crystal Bloodworth / Terry and Vickie Berrier
Tommy and Elaine Wallace / Ed and Val Elliott
J.C. Nobles and family / Joel & Jessie Whitehead
Tim Fowler / Frank and Bette Foulke / Matt Whitehead and family
Roy and Dana Myers/ Bruce Whitehead
Mrs. And Mrs. Herbert Burns
Gary Banks and family/ Faye Dixon
Barbara Garnto and family
Capt. Wm. Bradberry, Tina and family
Perry Harrelson and family
Marvin and Joyce Medders
Robert and Becky Craswell
Ben Jones / Judi Powers
Chris and Shelby Faulkner/Gale Red
Richard Durham / Kim Cann
Paul Jerram / Edna Fowler / Duke
U.S.A. & Israel / Travelers
Paramedics & Firefighters

Those who are alone - especially during the Christmas

Our political leaders, judges & voters, missionaries, ministers of the Gospel. Even our enemies and, if you will, for Me & You, that we may boldly witness. And, *please*, do let me know of others.

(For privacy, in some cases, I do not publish the details of these requests but will share if you contact me.)

The Georgia Confederates Youth Camp



June 11th - 16th, 2017

➤ Ages 12 ~ 17

➤ Scholarships Available

➤ True Southern History Presented

➤ Banquet & Ball, Friday

➤ Co-ed: programs for boys and girls

"Every man should endeavor to understand the meaning of subjugation before it is too late... It means the history of this heroic struggle will be written by the enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern schoolteachers; will learn from Northern school books their version of the war; will be impressed by the influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, and our maimed veterans as fit objects for derision... It is said slavery is all we are fighting for, and if we give it up we give up all. Even if this were true, which we deny, slavery is not all our enemies are fighting for. It is merely the pretense to establish sectional superiority and a more centralized form of government, and to deprive us of our rights and liberties." *Maj. General Patrick R. Cleburne, CSA, January 1864*

The re-writing of history by the enemies of the Confederacy has been going on for over 150 years. Who will stand up for the truth? Will you send Campers in 2017? The counselors and parents of campers at the GCYC are ready to do our "duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations." Thank You to all who were there in 2016. *Al Perry, Director, GCYC*

QUOTES

*"How can you find the truth when you've hidden it for so long....."

(Anonymous)

*"Time sets all things right. Error lives but a day. Truth is eternal. "

(General James Longstreet)

*"Abolish the Loyal League and the Ku Klux Klan; let us come together and stand together."

(General Nathan Bedford Forrest)

*"Sinner come view the ground where you shall shortly lie." (Co. Aytch)

* "Three men in the Confederate army knew what I was doing or intended to do; Lee, Stuart and myself."

(Colonel John S. Mosby)

* "My policy sought only to collect the Revenue (a 40 percent federal sales tax on imports to Southern States under the Morrill Tariff Act of 1861)." reads paragraph 5 of Lincoln's First Message to the U.S. Congress, penned July 4, 1861.

*"The patriot volunteer, fighting for country and his rights, makes the most reliable soldier on earth."

(General "Stonewall" Jackson)

*"I go to prepare a place for you."

(The Lord Jesus Christ – John 14:2)

150 Years Ago

by Larry Upthegrove

December 2, 1866: Hamilton Waters is a partially blind ex-slave who works as Erie, Pennsylvania's town crier and lamplighter. As he moves about the town, he sings plantation songs...Today is a happy day for him because of the birth of his Grandson, Harry Burleigh. When he is old enough, Harry will



accompany his Grandad and hear those old songs all day long, songs that will one day make Harry famous. In 1892, young Burleigh will receive a scholarship allowing him to attend the National Conservatory of Music in New York where he will learn the skills that prepare him to present the music of his Grandfather to the world in art form. His arrangements and sight music for the old Negro traditional spirituals will remain classic over the ages. Among the count of 300 or more, including "Go Down Moses", "Deep River", "Swing Low Sweet Chariot", "By an' By", and an "Old Songs Hymnal". As a vocalist, Burleigh will become will known and widely heard. He will become a charter member of the American Society of Composers, Author, and Publishers. He will receive the Spingarn Medal in 1917 and honorary degrees from Atlanta University and Howard University for his contributions as a vocalist and composer.

December 8, 1866: In Selma, Alabama, the "Selma Times" has this report (more like a toast) on Confederate General Hardee: "Gen, Hardee is located in Selma, in the beautiful residence of our lamented fellow-citizen, (the late Major Marks) on the suburbs of the city. Welcome to the noble soldier and the polished gentleman

Sherman's designated photographer, George N. Barnard has just published 61 photos in "Photographic Views of Sherman's Campaign". In today's "Harper's Weekly", a reviewer says: "before seeing this collection of Mr. Barnard we could not have believed that there were such magnificent possibilities in and art so purely mechanical as to its mode of operation."

Photo (right) taken, during the Union occupation of Atlanta, of the Georgia Railroad Freight Depot, with the Trout House Hotel and Masonic Hall beyond. Most of what you see was destroyed by Federal soldiers, a few weeks after the picture was taken.



December 9, 1866: In today's "Atlanta New Era", Atlantans learn of the death of one of its earliest fine citizens last month. Major Stephen Terry was born and raised near Chester South Carolina, August 10,



1788, removing to Marthasville, Georgia in 1843, the town's first year. The first Town Commissioners were appointed by the State of Georgia, but the succeeding years, they were elected officials. In 1845 Stephen was elected Commissioner of Marthasville, the town changing its name in December of that year to "Atlanta". Stephen was always known as "Major" Terry, that being a rank he held in State Militia. He having attained 73 years when the War Between the States began, he did not participate...Stephen was a strong Methodist and was one of the founders and first Trustees of the Wesley Chapel, built where the Candler Building will later be....In 1846 Stephen became the City Surveyor and was so for several years. He served on City Council several times, the first time in 1852. He was Judge of Inferior Court for several years also...For his living he came to the area as a contractor for the Monroe Railroad, then contracted for the Georgia Railroad. He invested as owner in "Washington Hall", one of the earliest hotels in the city...Late in life, he took up farming on acreage that will become Lakewood Park. His wife, Elizabeth, with whom he had twelve children, died in 1838, and Stephen remarried in 1860 to Mary Lewis, a pretty woman, much younger than he. Stephen Terry was buried in the soil of his farm, but his grave site (marked by field stones) will soon fade from memory.

“UNKNOWN, NO MORE”



Corp. James Adril Wisenbaker, Co. I, 12th Georgia Infantry and his wife, Sarah
(Quarter-plate ambrotype by an anonymous photographer. Liljenquist Family Collection at Library of Congress)

Our friend, Laura Elliott, of Rainbow City, Alabama had some recent success in identifying a Confederate ambrotype in the Liljenquist Family Collection of Civil War Photographs at the Library of Congress - donated to the Library in 2012.

The soldier in the image wears a light-colored, early-war, uniform, with military-style buttons and standing collar, light-colored pants as well as a civilian-style dark waistcoat, collared shirt and cravat. No rank insignia is present. He has a beard, receding hairline and appears a few decades older than the typical private soldier.

The woman, also likely middle-aged, bears an equally serious gaze. Her hair is parted down the center, forming sausage curls on each side of her head. She sits attired in a dark-colored dress; her folded hands in her lap partially covering some kind of chain (chatelaine ???). A wedding band is also visible on one ring finger.

Elliott was drawn to these images for several reasons, including the age of the couple, and, especially, the “older than typical” face of the soldier. She had been writing a regimental history of the 16th Georgia Infantry, and the coat of the unidentified soldier reminded her of similar uniforms she had encountered in her research.

Library of Congress staff had titled the digitized photos (including one of Sarah, alone) based on a partial identification scrawled on the back of one ambrotype: “Mrs. Sarah A. Dasher, [illegible], Ga.” Elliott recognized that with a full name and a state, she could investigate census records for possible matches. A handful of Sarah Dashers were born prior to 1840, but Elliott methodically ruled most of them out. Some lived their whole lives in Northern states. Others died before the War. Finally, Elliott had only one person left on her list: Sarah Ann Catherine Dasher. During the 1860 census, Dasher was about 40 years old and living in Lowndes County, Ga.,—a strong match for the mystery woman’s age and the inscribed location. Elliott recalled, “I was thrilled! Of course, my immediate thought was that she just might be the wife of one of ‘my’ 16th Georgia boys.” Her follow-up research found that Dasher had indeed married a Georgia soldier, but not a member of the 16th Infantry. Her husband was James Adril Wisenbaker, a farmer and native Georgian. With 11 children, a family farm and a 30-year marriage, the couple had plenty to protect. In 1861, Wisenbaker enlisted as a private in Company I, the “Lowndes Volunteers,” of the 12th Georgia Infantry, Dole’s Brigade, Rodes’ Division, Ewell’s Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. James A. Wisenbaker was born in Effingham County, Georgia in 1810. On June 14, 1861, he enlisted at Valdosta, Lowndes County, GA at about 50 years of age.

Despite his age, Wisenbaker witnessed as much of the Civil War as perhaps any soldier, North or South. The 12th Georgia, part of Jackson’s Valley Campaign and the Army of Northern Virginia, participated in almost every major battle of the eastern theater, from Antietam to Gettysburg to The Wilderness. At the Battle of McDowell in Highland County, Virginia, alone, the 12th suffered more than 140 killed and wounded on May 8, 1862 (among them Lt. James T. Woodward, 12th GA, Co. D – SCV Camp 1399). Wisenbaker survived a wound at Cedar Creek, Virginia, in October 1864, and eventually earned his corporal stripes. When paroled in Lynchburg, after Lee’s surrender, only 60 men remained in his regiment.

Wisenbaker headed home after the War, but he was not long for this world. He died in 1868, and was buried in the family cemetery in Lowndes County. His wife lived two more decades, and was laid to rest beside him in 1888.

Laura Elliott is pleased “that James Adril Wisenbaker is ‘unknown’ no more’.”

THE SLAVES OF NEW ENGLAND



Slavery began in New England during the first years of settlement in Massachusetts, and thus, the Puritans learned how to be slave owners immediately upon arrival. As white New Englanders conquered their new settlements, they enslaved Native American populations both to control them and to draw on them for labor. Although John Winthrop did not immediately see Indians as slaves, it dawned on him quickly that they could be. The enslavement of American Indians had a different tenor than the enslavement of Africans. The indigenous slaves represented an enemy, a conquered people, and a grave threat to Puritan society. African slaves represented a trade transaction, laborers without strings attached. Moreover, Indian slaves . . . served as collateral with which to negotiate with Native leaders. Further Puritan colonists could expel troublesome Native slaves out of the colony, or they could just control them as slave property. Massachusetts' first legal code (1641 Body of Liberties) outlawed slavery among the Puritans. However, the exceptions of strangers (foreigners who lacked protection from the King) and war prisoners gave an opening to enslave other human beings.

The rapid rise in the number of slaves at the dawn of the 18th century caused Massachusetts leaders to take action. Spiritually, slavery proved an obstacle for the local ministers, as some congregants began to question whether a Christian should own another Christian. In 1693, Cotton Mather took on the challenge of Christianizing the heathen population without ending enslavement. In his 1701 pamphlet, *The Negro Christianized*, Mather assured nervous masters that conversion did not free the slave.

By 1701, Boston had the largest slave population in the colony and began passing municipal laws aimed at setting standard limits on slave behavior. They could not drink alcohol, start fires, or assemble. So as to not hamper slave owners' profits of property rights, slaves were whipped rather than imprisoned, a punishment that few whites suffered in the early 18th century. Having children was also difficult for enslaved women from New England. Masters found childbirth inconvenient and actively discouraged it, which contributed to the low birth rate among African Americans in Massachusetts.

Indian and African slavery was a primary factor in the development of New England commercial economic prosperity. Colonial historian Bernard Bailyn wrote "*only a few New England merchants actually engaged in the [transatlantic] slave trade, but all of them profited by it, lived off it.*"

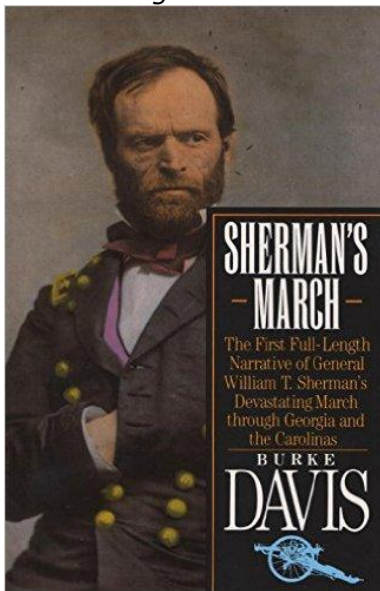
Sugar, and its by-product molasses, was shipped back North, usually in barrels made of New England wood and sometimes accompanied by slaves. Scores of Northern distilleries turned the molasses into rum to trade in Africa for new slaves, who were shipped to the sugar plantations. CREDITS: *Tyrannicide, Forging an American Law of Slavery in Revolutionary South Carolina and Massachusetts, Emily Blanck, UGA Press, 2014, excerpts, pp. 12 -16) *Complicity: How the North Promoted, Prolonged, Profited from Slavery, Farrow, Lang, Frank, Ballantine Books, 2006, excerpts, pp. 46-49) *The Great American Political Divide Bernhard Thuersam, www.Circa1865.com From: bernhard1848@gmail.com

BOOKS

Sherman's March: The First Full-Length Narrative of General William T. Sherman's Devastating March through Georgia and the Carolinas by Burke Davis

Sherman's March is the vivid narrative of General William T. Sherman's devastating sweep through Georgia and the Carolinas in the closing days of the Civil War. Weaving together hundreds of eyewitness stories, Burke Davis graphically brings to life the dramatic experiences of the 65,000 Federal troops who plundered their way through the South and those of the anguished - and often defiant - Confederate women and men who sought to protect themselves and their family treasures, usually in vain. Dominating these events is the general himself - "Uncle Billy" to his troops, the devil incarnate to the Southerners he encountered.

"What gives this narrative its unusual richness is the author's collation of hundreds of eyewitness accounts...The actions are described in the words, often picturesque and often eloquent, of those who were there, either as participants - Union soldiers, Confederate soldiers - in the fighting and destruction or as victims of Sherman's frank vow to 'make Georgia howl.' Mr. Davis intercuts these scenes with close ups of the chief actors in this nightmarish drama, and he also manages to give us a coherent historical account of the whole episode. A powerful illustration of the proposition put forth in Sherman's most famous remark." - The New Yorker



EDITOR'S NOTE: You may feel that the last thing you want to read is yet another excruciating remembrance of Sherman's March. I agree, yet, I am intrigued at the prospect of newly uncovered eye witness accounts to this blatant, unforgivable treachery. Prolific author Burke Davis has long shown excellent research ability. There just might be some interesting nuggets of information this new and comprehensive work. *Duke*

Yet, the invader's foot is still on
our soil, but there beats in our
bosoms the blood of brave and
patriotic men, and we will continue
to follow our old and war-worn and
battle-riddled flag until it goes down
forever.

(Sam Watkins - Co. Aytch)

Why Yankees Won't (And Can't) Leave the South Alone

Selected and summarized excerpts from a Forrest McDonald essay of August 6, 2015

Southerners rarely while away their leisure hours by contemplating Yankees, for there is no point in thinking of unpleasant things if one is not obliged to do so. Yet the practice does define those attributes which set us apart from others, and sometimes we can be made aware of such attributes only by observing people who do not share them. One virtue of thinking about Yankees is that it serves to remind us that they have repeatedly tried to make us over in their own image. What is there about us that makes us so offensive to them? Or, what is there about them that has compelled them to meddle in our affairs? The North always embraced rationalism and egalitarianism; the South had a "deep suspicion of all theory, perhaps of intellect," and it has clung to a hierarchical and deferential social order. The North bowed down before science and material progress; the South "persisted in regarding science as a false messiah," and remained into "our own time".

The Yankees were the way they were long before they began to worship the Almighty Dollar, and their intellectual heirs are still that way even though most of them now espouse socialism or some approximation of it. The psyche of the Yankee (by which I do not mean all Northerners, but only of 17th-century New England Puritans and their descendants, both genetic and ideological) has roots that run deep, and ultimately to the Yankee's ever-changing concept of the nature of God. To get a handle on the Yankee, it is helpful to look to his original Calvinism, and especially with the doctrine of predestination: The belief that most men are doomed and a few are elected for salvation, not by faith or works or any other act of human volition, but only in accordance with a preordained and unknowable divine plan. First understand the Yankee is a doctrinal puritan - pietistic perfectionism. Unlike the Southerner, he is constitutionally incapable of letting things be, of adopting a live-and-let-live attitude. No departure from his version of Truth is tolerable, and thus when he finds himself amidst "sinners", he must purge and purify the community or join with his fellow saints to establish a new society. The religious Southerner's conviction is normally a source of inner peace and contentment to him; and though a spirit of Christian charity may inspire him to share the joys of his faith, and even to spread the Gospel around the globe it is devoid of the urge to force his faith upon others. For example: Southern missionaries have usually been interested only in saving souls, not in remaking societies. The Yankees have a record as meddlers. Initially, they pretty much minded their own business (or each other's) until the Revolution and the Constitution brought them into contact with Southerners. Although they cooperated in bringing about independence, mutual antagonisms were not long in surfacing. Soon they spread westward, and infested an area from Salem, Massachusetts, to Salem, Oregon and many points in between. Yankees formed the backbone of the Republican Party of Abraham Lincoln which perceived slavery as an evil and stamped it out without giving any serious thought to the consequences. It hardly occurred to them that the former slaves needed preparation if they were to bear the awesome burdens and responsibilities of freedom. Consequently, the blacks were the principal victims of the Civil War, though the white South, too, lay devastated.

The Yankees' latest campaign to remake us in their own image is well under way. He has always been uncomfortable when times are good...when there is no need for his reforming services. In such circumstances he looks frantically for evils and injustices, so as to reassure himself that there is a great deal left to be done; and if he blames himself for what is wrong he thereby stakes out a claim to be the one who must rectify it. (a guilt trip is an ego trip.) That leads us to a final point. I believe that somewhere, deep in the innermost recesses of their half-starved souls, Yankees know that they truly have botched things and are plagued with guilt. That is the bottom line: the Yankee hates himself, and he hates his heritage. And why does he hate us? Because we do not hate ourselves and treasure ours.

SOURCE CREDIT: This essay was first published in Southern Partisan in the Winter, 1985. Forrest McDonald is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Alabama. He is considered to be one of the leading experts on the founding period and the United States Constitution.

THE ART OF *Val Elliott*

1861 - MACON'S FIRST CHRISTMAS TREE



the annual Christmas tree trimming. However, history details that the Germans initiated the custom back in the 15th Century and immigrants imported it to America. In Macon, Georgia a local newspaper carried a story during the tumultuous holiday season of 1861 that told of the arrival of the first Christmas tree. As it would happen, the first time a Christmas tree was raised in Macon, it was for the benefit of Confederate soldiers. The Macon Telegraph reported, "Germans have a beautiful custom each Christmas of decorating a tree with a variety of presents. The tree is displayed on Christmas Eve and each one's presents are designated by a card attached. The occasion is always one of great delight as the custom throws a halo of love and pleasure over each household, and spreads gratification throughout the entire nation at each return of the anniversary of our Savior's birth. It is proposed that we revive this custom in Macon during our approaching holidays, to please the young people and at the same time make a fund for the relief of our beloved soldiers. The entire community, especially the little girls, are invited to furnish articles of handiwork or beautiful, useful ornamental presents for this

purpose. Contributions may be left at Mrs. Dessau's store." On the night before Christmas the same newspaper advised the children of the City to attend the Christmas tree ceremony instead of hanging up their stockings. The managers of the Christmas tree event secured beautiful and commodious rooms on the second story of the Ayer's Building. Ladies of the area were asked to send pieces of evergreens for decorating the rooms. A telegram from Santa Claus said that the jolly ol' soul had been "filled with patriotism this Christmas but due to the consequences of War he would not be visiting firesides and adding that sliding down chimneys would greatly soil his suit of clothing. Instead, Santa would go to the tree at Ayre's to deposit presents."

1895-THE CHRISTMAS CANNON

- The dark clouds of War eventually passed from the land and Americans, particularly those in the South, regained the Christmas spirit that had grown so cold.

A local newspaper of December 26, 1895 informed that, "nearly all of Macon, Georgia came out in holiday attire yesterday. Everyone felt good and some, even better." In the years after the War, it had been the custom with the residents of East Macon to haul out a big ol' cannon, around which "clustered memories of violent days gone by and make the rusty throat speak to the startling of the people of neighboring counties." It was said that the cannon, now only used for celebrating, had been captured at Walnut Creek, near Macon, during the famous Stoneman Raid of the late War for Southern



Independence. A day before this Christmas the local boys decided to mount the piece of artillery at a familiar spot called Cutler's Green and make the old piece speak as it never had before. "Christmas was in their bones and they rejoiced that the past year had been so much more prosperous than several years previous." In their exuberance, they wanted "to make a greater holiday demonstration than ever before and shock East Macon" into the Christmas spirit. Proceeding with their plan, "a huge load of powder was rammed into the cannon and upon that was packed great quantities of mud until the barrel was full." At 8 o'clock on the morning just past, before any celebrations could commence, "an explosion was heard echoing and re-echoing along the river until the stream almost shook from its bed. The monster gun had blown to pieces! The load was just too much. Only the breech and the fractured part of one wheel remained. It's a wonder no one was killed by the explosion. Huge fragments of iron were thrown in all directions; near the Methodist parsonage and along the Clinton road. Of course no one knew and no one will ever know who caused this explosion, but East Macon lost a War relic that had been highly prized for more than 50 years."

"He Volunteered"

On Veterans Day in St. Louis, Marine General John F. Kelly, delivered what the *Washington Post* described as "a passionate and at times angry speech about the military's sacrifices and its troops' growing sense of isolation from society." That he was able to speak at all was remarkable. Four days earlier (November 9), Kelly's 29-year-old son, Marine 1st Lt. Robert Michael Kelly, stepped on a land mine while leading a patrol in southern Afghanistan. He was killed instantly.

John Kelly, President-elect Donald Trump's reported pick for Homeland Security chief, never spoke of his fallen son by name during the speech to the Semper Fi Society that he had committed to give long before his son's death. According to the *Post*, the elder Kelly made one request to the officer who introduced him: "Please don't mention my son."



"We are in a life-and-death struggle, but not our whole country," Kelly said in his speech. "One percent of Americans are touched by this war. Then there is a much smaller club of families who have given all." Kelly, 66, is the highest-ranking military officer to lose a child in combat in Iraq or Afghanistan — a burden of war that thousands of so-called Gold Star military families like his must bear.

"The chattering class and all those who doubt America's intentions, and resolve, endeavor to make them and their families out to be victims, but they are wrong. We who have served and are serving refuse their sympathy. Those of us who have lived in the dirt, sweat and struggle of the arena are not victims and will have none of that."

The four-star General, whose Marine career spanned five decades and included three tours in Iraq, spoke of the growing divide between civilians and the military, and argued that Americans who don't serve don't understand the sacrifices of those who do.

"Those with less of a sense of service to the nation never understand it when men and women of character step forward to look danger and adversity straight in the eye, refusing to blink, or give ground, even to their own deaths. The protected can't begin to understand the price paid so they and their families can sleep safe and free at night. No, they are not victims, but are warriors, your warriors, and warriors are never victims, regardless of how and where they fall. Death, or fear of death, has no power over them. Their paths are paved by sacrifice, sacrifices they gladly make — for you. If anyone thinks you can somehow thank them for their service, and not support the cause for which they fight — America's survival — then they are lying to themselves and rationalizing away something in their lives. But, more importantly, they are slighting our warriors and mocking their commitment to the nation. Yes, we are at war, and are winning, but you wouldn't know it because successes go unreported. And only when something does go sufficiently or is sufficiently controversial, it is highlighted by the media elite that then sets up the 'know it all' chattering class to offer their endless criticism. These self-proclaimed experts always seem to know better, but have never themselves been in the arena. We are at war and like it or not, that is a fact. It is not Bush's war, and it is not Obama's war, it is our war and we can't run away from it. Today's troops are not born killers, but are good and decent young men and women who for going on 10 years have performed remarkable acts of bravery and selflessness to a cause they have decided is bigger and more important than themselves. Like my own two sons who are Marines and have fought in Iraq, and until this week, Afghanistan, they are also the same kids that drove their cars too fast for your liking," Kelly said, holding back his tears, "and played the god-awful music of their generation too loud. But have no doubt they are the finest of their generation." Kelly retired as the head of the U.S. Southern Command earlier this year. He spoke openly about his son's death at his final Pentagon news conference. "To lose a child is — I can't imagine anything worse than that. I used to think, when I'd go to all of my trips up to Bethesda, Walter Reed, I'll go to the funerals with the Secretaries of Defense, that I could somehow imagine what it would be like. But when you lose one in combat, there's a — in my opinion — there's a pride that goes with it, that he didn't have to be there doing what he was doing. He wanted to be there. He volunteered."



(Reuters)

WE GO AFTER STONEMAN

One morning our regiment was ordered to march, double-quick, to the depot to take the cars for somewhere. The engine was under steam, and ready to start for that mysterious somewhere. The whistle blew long and loud, and away we went at break-neck speed for an hour, and drew up at a little place by the name of Jonesboro. The Yankees had captured the town, and were tearing up the railroad track. A regiment of Rebel infantry and a brigade of cavalry were already in line of battle in their rear.

We jumped out of the cars and advanced to attack them in front. Our line had just begun to open a pretty brisk fire on the Yankee cavalry, when they broke, running right through and over the lines of the regiment of infantry and brigade of cavalry in their rear, the men opening ranks to get out of the way of the hoofs of their horses. It was Stoneman's cavalry, upon its celebrated raid toward Macon and Andersonville to liberate the Federal prisoners. We went to work like beavers, and in a few hours the railroad track had been repaired so that we could pass. Every few miles we would find the track torn up, but we would get out of the cars, fix up the track, and light out again. We were charging a brigade of cavalry with a train of cars, as it were. They would try to stop our progress by tearing up the track, but we were crowding them a little too strong. At last they thought it was time to quit that foolishness, and then commenced a race between cavalry and cars for Macon, Georgia. The cars had to run exceedingly slow and careful, fearing a tear up or ambuscade, but at last Macon came in sight. Twenty-five or thirty thousand Federal prisoners were confined at this place, and it was poorly guarded and protected. We feared that Stoneman would only march in, overpower the guards, and liberate the prisoners, and we would have some tall fighting to do, but on **arriving at Macon, we found that Stoneman and all of his command had just surrendered to a brigade of cavalry and the Georgia militia, and we helped march the gentlemen inside the prison walls at Macon.** They had furnished their own transportation, paying their own way and bearing their own expenses, and instead of liberating any prisoners, were themselves imprisoned. An extra detail was made as guard from our regiment to take them on to Andersonville, but I was not on this detail, so I remained until the detail returned.

Macon is a beautiful place. Business was flourishing like a green bay tree. The people were good, kind, and clever to us. Everywhere the hospitality of their homes was proffered us. We were regarded as their liberators. They gave us all the good things they had - eating, drinking, etc. We felt our consequence, I assure you, reader. We felt we were heroes, indeed; but the benzine and other fluids became a little promiscuous and the libations of the boys a little too heavy. They began to get boisterous - I might say, riotous. Some of the boys got to behaving badly.....

(Sam Watkins - Co. Aytch)

In memory of **Michael Green Barfield** (Born June 7, 1847 - Died July 31, 1864) *Killed at East Macon during the Stoneman Raid.* Buried in the Barfield Cemetery, Rogers Road; 3/10 mile from the intersection of Rogers Road and Hartley Bridge Road; SW of Macon, GA

Who is Jesus?

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. - Isaiah 9:6

This Christmas season I would like to reflect on Jesus. He came to this dying world to save us from our sins. He came not as a conqueror to make the world as it should be, but as a baby - meek and mild the perfect lamb spotless and pure - sacrifice from God to make us right with Him. If you look at the gifts that Jesus was given as a baby (gold, frankincense, myrrh) these represent not only gifts fit for a King but also preparations for death. This is all a part of God's redemption plan.

As Jesus grew into an adult, His life was sinless and the perfect example of how we should live our lives. He leads by example which is why He is the good Shepherd (Psalm 23). When He faced the cross, He was a lamb at the sacrificial alter, but it God's will - not Jesus' - was done. He became our sin to take it from us (II Corinthians 5:21). Dying on the cross His blood was payment (I John 2:1-2) for all of his children, so we can live with Him in paradise. When He arose from the grave He arose with power that He was, is and forever will be. When He ascended into Heaven went to prepare us a place so we may be with Him forever (John 14:3). He is with us from the cradle to the grave never to leave us nor forsake us. Jesus is God. He has blessed us with the saving knowledge of His amazing grace.

When things feel out of control remember that God is in charge. He is returning to take us home to Heaven. Do you know Jesus?

"Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" (Matthew 16:13)

Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr. 16th GA / Camp 2218

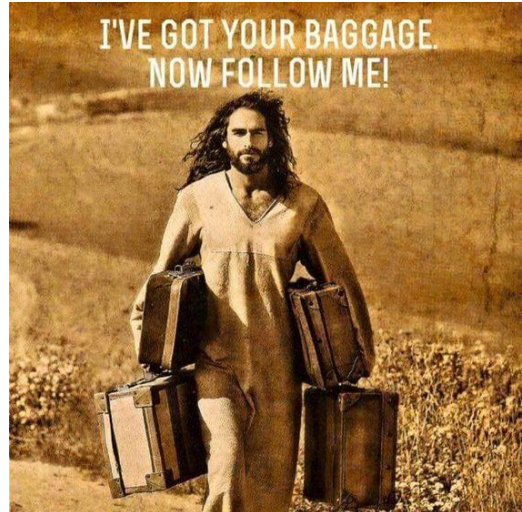
Send a Christmas Card to JEB STUART



It has been brought to our attention that Colonel J.E.B. Stuart IV has been under the weather for a considerable period of time. The Stuart family has made it known that the Colonel would welcome letters and cards. Please send your prayers and wishes to Colonel

Stuart at his home:
1111 West Avenue,
Richmond, Virginia 23220

(Dixie Heritage)



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE CANNONBALL HOUSE

Macon, Georgia

Saturday, December 10, 2016



And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:;) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. - Luke 2:1-14