



THE BRIDGE

"It is our duty to keep the memory of our heroes green." Jefferson Davis



April 2018

Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013

Volume XXIV Issue 4



Camp Officers

Peter D. Boineau

Commander

5149 Broxton Bridge Road
Bamberg, SC 29003

boineausgunshop@gmail.com

Joseph "Buzz" Braxton II

1st Lieutenant Commander

buzzbraxton@gmail.com

Robert Keel

2nd Lieutenant Commander

kline@barnwellsc.com

Donald Webster

3rd Lieutenant Commander

Retention & Recruiting

websterdrd@yahoo.com

Charles L.D. Carlson

Adjutant

Chaplain

Bridge Editor

scv842@wildblue.net

Edward S. Floyd

Treasurer

Edward.floyd444@gmail.com

Carl Platts

Judge Advocate

Carl.platts@yahoo.com

Coleman Loadholt

Quartermaster

Roy Hart, Jr.

Surgeon

Ira Beach

Color Sergeant

ibeach@embarqmail.com

Vacant

Historian

Friends and Compatriots,

Mencius, the Chinese philosopher said, "Friends are the siblings God never gave us." That seems to be true; a small group of Compatriots gathered on Saturday, March 31st, to perform much-needed maintenance on the cemetery at Smyrna Baptist Church. As they worked they seemed to enjoy one another's company and though they were working, that seemed to be fun as well. They could have easily been "brothers".



Some of these "brothers" met with other "brothers" on Saturday, April 7th, to clean up at Barker's Mill in preparation for our annual banquet; they too had a good time. Actually the "brothers" at Smyrna Church were Donnie Ayer, Robert Keel, Carl Platts, Hugh Gray, Buzz Braxton, Pete Boineau and Charles Carlson. Those who gathered at Barker's Mill were, Jimmy Wingard, Buzz Braxton, Carl Platts, Ira Beach, Pete Boineau and Donnie Webster; Edward Floyd had been out previously and gave the crew a big head start by having pressure washed much of the front of the building and porch. Coleman Loadholt was building book shelves.

We say, "Thank you" to these Compatriots (friends and "brothers") who gave of their time to make OUR headquarters a more presentable place for receiving our guests. You might not think it, but working together for a common goal gives a sense of accomplishment and binds a group together. We invite everyone to experience this at our next workday.

April 21st is just days away; I hope you have made plans to be with us. Even those who are physically unable to participate in work days are capable of honoring us with



their presence and sharing a meal. This too is a much-needed sign of solidarity; you can do it by putting your mind to it. Someone will take this baby home! Or at least they will have the paperwork to do so after all the documentation is taken care of. I'm talking about the Glock 43 9mm pistol that is being raffled off on the 21st. You'll want to be there.

Even if you don't win the pistol, you'll still get Roast Beef, Chicken, Rice and Gravy, Whole string beans, Baked Macaroni and cheese, Squash casserole, Cabbage and sausage, Broccoli Salad, Oreo cookie pudding, Banana pudding, Yeast rolls and Iced tea (sweetened and unsweetened). If you leave hungry then shame on you.

As you recover from your sumptuous meal, you will be entertained by period music performed by **Pickin' Pearls**. They have played in a number of venues around South Carolina, but probably none quite like Barker's Mill. Music has been quite prominent in the history of this old building. As they say, "Good times there are not forgotten."

We'll see you on the 17th for our regular meeting and the 24th for the banquet, Pete



Commander Boineau



142nd Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial

The 142nd Rivers' Bridge Confederate Memorial Day service will be held on the Memorial Grounds at Rivers' Bridge State Historic Site, near Ehrhardt, S.C. on Friday, May 11, 2018. Period music begins at 10:00 a.m. with the main program featuring patriotic speakers, presentations and decoration of the military graves by the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the American Legion to follow at 11:00. Color Guard will be provided by Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #842. Honor guards and gun salutes will be provided by Confederate reenactors. Dinner on the grounds will be available for \$9.00 per plate, following the service.

This annual tribute to those who defended the Rivers' Bridge crossing on February 2nd and 3rd, 1865 is sponsored by the **Rivers' Bridge Confederate Memorial Association**.



Confederate Breastworks at Rivers Bridge

Memoir of Capt. Benjamin S. Williams, 47th Georgia Infantry, from 'A Confederate Soldier's Memoirs,' Charleston News, March 8, 1914:

At Rivers' Bridge, in the hottest of the fight in the afternoon [Feb. 3, 1865], Capt. Thompson--Joe--went down, a minie ball striking him on the left cheek under the eye and crushing though, came out near the angle of the jaw on the right side of his face. The young captain was left for dead, and was so reported in our "report" of the battle. At our first stop near Branchville, S.C., I kept my promise and wrote to my good friend, Old Col. Thompson, a long letter of condolence and sympathy, informing him of the death of his son, my friend and comrade.



Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial Grounds

On my first visit to Savannah, after the war, in the fall of 1865, while on my way to call at Col. Thompson's home, I met Capt. DeWitt Bruyn, captain of Company E, of my regiment, and told him of my intended visit and expressed my dread of the meeting the family on account of Joe's death. Bruyn threw his arm around my shoulder and said: "About face and march with me only a block. I want

to show you some one and then you can pay your visit to Col. and Mrs. Thompson." We halted at the open door of an office and Bruyn said: "Go in." I stepped in, a man wheeled about toward me and I stood face to face within five feet of Joe Thompson, ex-captain of Company C, 47th regiment, Georgia volunteers, who had been "killed" at Rivers's Bridge. His face was disfigured and his speech affected, one eye gone, but--there he was. The young captain had, before our retreat, regained consciousness and, one of the favored, had been cared for and removed. He reached Augusta, Ga., and from there, finally, Savannah, and in the chaotic condition of all things, was in his home rapidly recovering when my letter describing his death--reached his family. He had married his pretty sweetheart, Miss Lizzie Gannon, and years after Joe told me that when at home, if feeling kind of blue and reminiscent, he would get out of a safe-keeping place my letter of condolence to his father and read it aloud to his wife and children.



In Memory of our Confederate Dead

Monuments Petition Project

The Save the Monuments petition project will require the support of all SCV camps in the South Carolina Division. Our goal is to collect as many signatures as possible to present to both the House and Senate at the 2019 Legislative Day event. We got the attention of both the house and senate with our turnout at the 2018 Legislative Day event and I feel we can make a bigger impression in 2019 when we present petitions containing thousands of signatures in support of saving the monuments.



To help the SCV camps in South Carolina the division has prepared several things to help in the petition campaign.

A listing by county of annual festivals held throughout South Carolina. Some of the listed festival's dates are currently shown "To Be Announced (TBA)." Camps in those counties can periodically check the county web site and catch the date when announced or just call the county office to obtain the date and specific info about participating.

A petition template has been designed for use by all camps. The petition template asks for the following signee information;

tion template asks for the following signee information;

- *Printed Name – Column 1*
- *Signature – Column 2*
- *Address – If the signee does not want to provide his/her address get their Zip Code. Legislators will recognize the Zip Codes of their constituents.*
- *E-Mail – If the signee will provide their Email address would be great. This could provide the SCV a way to contact them when/if needed.*
- *Date – Simply date the entry. If a multi-day event like the State Fair then we can better account for those signatures.*

A Save the Monuments bumper sticker (12"L X 3.25"H) can be provided by Division to the camps at divisions cost of .37¢ each. The bumper sticker can be sold at the petition drive as part of anything else the camp might be selling at the festival.

Completed petitions will be forwarded to the designated Division project contact for logging in and scanning the petition into a file for later printing when presented to the House and Senate.

Woman Assumes Olympics Fan Is Flying a Confederate Flag. It Was Norwegian.

By Cady Lang

A news tip earlier this week that reported a Confederate flag flying beneath an American flag in the Greenwood neighborhood of Seattle, Washington was discovered to be a mistake — because the red and blue-striped flag was actually a Norwegian flag.

The *Seattle Times* received the following tip from *New York Times* best-selling author Rebecca Morris after she believed that she saw a Confederate flag flying in her neighborhood: "Hi. Suddenly there is a Confederate flag flying in front of a house in my Greenwood neighborhood. It is at the north-east corner of 92nd and Palatine, just a block west of 92nd and Greenwood Ave N. I would love to know what this 'means' ... but of course don't want to knock on their door. Maybe others in the area are flying the flag? Maybe it's a story? Thank you."

However, a more thorough examination revealed that it was actually a Norwegian flag was flying at the house of Darold Norman Strangeland, who raised it at the start of this year's Winter Olympics in Pyeong Chang, South Korea as an homage to his Norwegian-American background — his parents emigrated to the states in the mid-1950s.

When Morris found out that she had mistaken the flags, she pointed to the current political climate as a possible reason for her mix-up. "Maybe that's the story," she told the *Seattle Times*. "We're so stressed by all things political that we see things that aren't there."



"Painful" Reminder of Slavery?

The Bridge

561 Appleton Road
Allendale, SC 29810



EMAIL: scv842@wildblue.net

WEB: www.riversbridgecamp842.com

Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Apr 17	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Apr 21	Annual Banquet at Barker's Mill 7PM
May 5	Confederate Memorial Day Elmwood Cemetery
May 10	Confederate Memorial Day
May 11	Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial
May 15	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
June 19	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM



Surrender at Appomattox

They faced each other in two long straight lines - just as they had so many times before on so many bloody fields of fire. This time was different. Three days earlier, General Robert E. Lee had surrendered the skeletal remnants of his hard-fighting Army of Northern Virginia to General Ulysses S. Grant in farmer Wilmer McLean's parlor. Now it was time for the Sons of the South to lay down their arms and give up their bloodied battle flags. As enemies, these men in blue and gray had faced each other at Petersburg and Cold Harbor, at Gettysburg and Chancellorsville, at Fredericksburg and Antietam, at Second Manassas and Malvern Hill. Now they again stood in great ranks opposite each other - one now the victor, the other now the vanquished.

Placed in command of receiving the Southern surrender was Brigadier General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, a Northern war hero who bore four battle wounds inflicted by these men in gray and butternut now assembled before him. Absent in Chamberlain, however, was any animosity toward these former foes; present instead was a sense of

respect for fellow countrymen who had given their all in the grip of war.

At Chamberlain's order, there was no jeering. No beating of drums, no chorus of cheers nor other unseemly celebration in the face of a fallen foe. "Before us in proud humiliation," Chamberlain would later recall, "stood the embodiment of manhood: men whom neither toils and sufferings, nor the fact of death, nor disaster, nor hopelessness could bend from their resolve; standing before us now, thin, worn, and famished, but erect, and with eyes looking level into ours, waking memories that bound us together as no other bond. Was not such manhood to be welcomed back into a Union so tested and assured?"

At Chamberlain's command, the Northern troops receiving the surrender shifted their weapons to "carry arms" - a soldier's salute, delivered in respect to the defeated Southerners standing before them. Confederate General John B. Gordon, immediately recognized this remarkable, generous gesture offered by fellow Americans - and responded with a like salute. Honor answering honor. Then it was over. And a new day had begun - built on this salute of honor at Appomattox. Former foes both North and South - in mutual respect and mutual toleration - now faced the future together as Americans all.