



THE BRIDGE

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



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Compatriots,

By now you are recovering from the Thanksgiving Holiday and I hope you had a very enjoyable one with friends and family. While Christmas may not create the same anticipation as it did when we were children, I trust that now as adults the true promise of Christmas is even more uplifting and inspiring. May you and yours have a very merry one.

Our flag in Orangeburg was in the news this past month. While the media may have been hoping for a "confrontation" worthy of headlines, Buzz, Carl, Roy and Donald conducted themselves respectably as we expected they would. It seems that the owner of the adjacent ice cream parlor was laboring under the misconception that he was the owner of the land on which our flag stands. It was pointed out that Camp No. 842 was in possession of ownership papers as well as documents showing that the Camp had been paying taxes on the property. The situation, at least for the time being, seemed settled. You may rest assured that there will be more to come on the behalf of those who despise the flag. One would think that, regardless of what is thought of the flag, the sanctity of private property rights would be understood and appreciated by most thinking people. Such is not always the case.

On a positive note, we need to get folks out to the December meeting for at least two reasons. Firstly, we will be welcoming a special guest who has been asked to make a presentation to our camp on behalf of a well-known organization that is very active and visible in the defense of Southern Heritage. I am intentionally NOT telling you any more in hopes of bringing more compatriots to the meeting by way of curiosity. The second reason is so that we can distribute the raffle tickets on the Henry Golden Boy HMR .17 rifle. As you know, these raffles are our only fund raising means for supporting our causes and for paying our bills. Without your help it WILL NOT happen; we have no bottomless source of money.

I mentioned two reasons to be present at this month's meeting, but of course there are many more. We always enjoy seeing our compatriots, and especially those we have not seen in some time. It is also a way for us all to stay connected to the duty that we have to our ancestors. I know that this busy world requires a lot of us, but would one meeting a year be asking too much? You can almost hear the ancestors of tens of thousands across the South asking, "**Does our sacrifice mean no more to you than this?**"

We want to start a tradition by allowing a brief time at each meeting for a compatriot to share with us the record and memories of his Confederate Ancestor; Carl Platts has agreed to begin this tradition this month.

I believe you should have received your long-awaited SCV Directory by now; I hope it meets with your approval.

I hope to see you at Barker's Mill on December 20th,

Pete



Pete Boineau

Whose History – and Why It Matters

By Valerie Protopapas



Valerie Protopapas

Some time ago, I wrote an article in response to a review of the book, *REBEL YELL: The Violence, Passion, and Redemption of Stonewall Jackson*. I did so because I believed what the review's author, Matthew Price, had written should not be allowed to go unchallenged. Mr. Price noted that, "(Stonewall) Jackson was no pro-slavery zealot, but (author) Gwynne does not address directly the somewhat vexed issue of writing sympathetically about a figure who still fought for *a cause utterly discredited by history*." My question to Mr. Price was, to "*whose history*" was he alluding when he made that claim?

Because the matter involved the history and heritage of the South, I submitted my position to a Southern publication holding the same beliefs as expressed in my essay. However, it was rejected not because of my premise but because, in the words of those involved, the publication was "... not publishing as many *Confederate history articles* as previously . . . [Our] focus has shifted to current issues and to the future of the South." Frankly, I fail to see the "disconnect" between that which I countered—Mr. Price's definition of the cause for which Stonewall Jackson fought as "discredited"—and those same "current issues" which the publication wishes to address. After all, this contention is the very basis for the ongoing efforts of cultural genocide "currently" directed against the South! Ergo, it is neither rational nor intelligent to fight the present anti-Southern brushfires while ignoring the inferno causing them; that is, Mr. Price's accepted version of "*whose history!*"

To further illustrate the importance of the defeat of Jackson's "cause," I ended my article by stating, "For those who look at this country today and wonder how we got a government that is essentially lawless . . . and a Constitution that has been nullified along with its Bill of Rights, most of the answers to their questions can be found in the defeat of General Thomas Stonewall Jackson's noble cause, a cause which has been made *ignoble* through the triumph of that present version of "history." I believe that such a conclusion *does* address "current issues" for until and unless we directly counter the present myth of the South's seceding because of and fighting for slavery, nothing else we do will matter. If we vacate that "historic" field and leave Mr. Price's version of "*whose history*" to define all issues relative to the South's past, then every *present* effort, no matter how intelligent, rational or spirited, is going to be dashed to pieces on the rocks of politically correct, factually inaccurate racial rhetoric.

Responding to every claim that the Southern cause was all about slavery is analogous to going back and correcting a miscalculation at the beginning of a mathematical equation. For no matter how involved and lengthy the equation, if one starts with error one will never reach truth no matter how many years one takes to solve the problem. All efforts to avoid "Confederate history" and "move on" so as to address "current issues," is a study in futility for each and every time the South is considered or discussed in the present, we invariably—and inevitably—go back to that same "Confederate history." This *cannot* be avoided and all attempts to disconnect present from past only gives credence to those who say that we do so *because the South's past is shameful and has been discredited by actual* (rather than "*whose*") history.

Did my response to Mr. Price involve merely matter of history or did it not represent an attempt to enlighten people to the facts that undergird the entire question of "today's" South? Do we who desire to re-establish the South as representing the true vision of the Founding Fathers *not understand* that until people realize the ante-bellum South was *not* all moonlight, magnolias and slavery, we have little chance of achieving our goal? Do we *not realize* that if we do not thwart this wretched narrative about slavery as the South's only cause, all of our efforts to stave off oblivion are in vain? If we do *not* understand this reality, then we are wasting our time trying to refute the image of the South as it is currently understood in the 21st century. The simple fact is that we must repudiate "*whose history*" and re-establish *authentic* history. Only by doing so will the people of the South—their faith, intellect, morality, humanity and way of life—be understood to be what is *missing* from the *current* United States! On the other hand, if we do not—if we permit "*whose history*" to remain the *only* history, the South will be consigned to oblivion.



Drawing to be made on April 18, 2017

Henry Golden Boy HMR

.17 Caliber

\$5.00 donation per ticket

Private Property Rights; Inalienable, Inviolable, God-given

Rivers Bridge Camp No. 842 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans owns a “postage stamp” sized piece of property in Orangeburg, South Carolina. On this property we maintain a small monument and a flag pole upon which flies a replica of the Confederate Battle Flag in memory of those Confederate soldiers who defended the Edisto crossing in 1865. It is no secret that many in the community do not appreciate our Southern Heritage and dislike the presence of this flag so why doesn't Camp 842 just take it down and make everyone happy?

Say what you will about the Confederate Flag, there is something called private property rights which we feel should be defended by ALL people. We believe that the right to hold, possess, and use one's own private property was also recognized by our Framers and in our founding government documents as one of the foremost of our inalienable, inviolable, God-given rights.

Samuel Adams declared that our inalienable rights included “first, a right to life; secondly, to liberty; thirdly, to property – together with the right to support and defend them”. John Adams stated that “The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the law of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence”, and that “Property is surely a right of mankind as real as liberty”.

John Jay, original Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court and an author of the

Federalist Papers asserted that “It is the undoubted right and unalienable privilege of a [citizen] not to be divested or interrupted in the innocent use of . . . property. . . . This is the Cornerstone of every free Constitution”. Adam Smith, famous economist of the Founding Era, foresaw the tendencies of governments to invade the rights of private property, forewarning: “As soon as the land of any country has all become private property, the landlords [e.g., the governments], like all other men, love to reap where they never sowed, and demand a rent even for its natural produce”.

Noah Webster, a Founding Father who served as a judge and legislator, declared that property is “the exclusive right of possessing, enjoying and disposing of a thing; ownership. In the beginning of the world, the Creator gave to man dominion over the earth, over the fish of the sea and the fowls of the air, and over every living thing. This is the foundation of man's property in the earth and in all its productions. Prior occupancy of land and of wild animals gives to the possessor the property of them. The labor of inventing, making or producing anything constitutes one of the highest and most indefeasible titles to property”. Both John Adams (signer of the Declaration and framer of the Bill of Rights) and William Paterson (signer of the Constitution and Justice placed on the U. S. Supreme Court by President George Washington) declared: “All men are born free and equal, and have certain natural, essential, and unalienable rights, among which may be reckoned the right of . . . acquiring, possessing, and protecting property”.

As we would never infringe the rights of another in the use of their private property, we will accept no less consideration in return. In our present day, however, there are far too many unwilling to extend the same courtesy especially to those who esteem the Confederate Flag.



Camp No. 842 flies this flag over a small monument in memory of the defenders of the Edisto crossing in 1865

The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Dec 20	Regular Camp Meeting	
Jan 17, 2017	Regular Camp Meeting	
Jan 19, 1807	Robert E. Lee born	
Jan 21, 1824	Thomas Jonathan (Stonewall) Jackson born	
Feb 3, 1865	Battle of Rivers Bridge	
Feb 21, 2017	Regular Camp Meeting	
Mar 3-5, 2017	Battle for Broxton's Bridge Reenactment	

Sons of Confederate Veterans replace 78 flags taken from graves

Hal Crowe hopes the removal of flags from the graves of Confederate veterans at Brunswick, Georgia's historic Oak Grove Cemetery is like the war itself: Over.

Crowe and four other volunteers were at the cemetery at 8 a.m. Wednesday placing small versions of the Third National Flag of the Confederate States of America on graves where 78 flags were taken in August.

Crowe, the commander of the Thomas Marsh Forman Camp 485 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and other camp members have battled since Aug. 15 to get some explanation for why the flags were removed in the first place. Robert M. Gindhart III, president of the Oak Grove Cemetery Society, owned up to taking the flags away.

Crowe said he finally grew tired of all the proposed solutions including suggestions that it was a crime to take down the flags without the owners' permission - the camp in this case - or that the matter be

mediated. Any proposed resolutions seemed to fade away, Crowe said.

Crowe said he sent registered letters to the cemetery society asking for reimbursement and never got an answer and that members never responded to another in which he asked for a public apology.

He brushed aside suggestions he go to Glynn County Magistrate Court to file a complaint to get reimbursement. "I've been saying the issue isn't the cost of the flags. It's the principle," he said.

Finally, Crowe said he secured a special annual permit to place the flags. A city ordinance requires a 30-day notice before anyone, including the Cemetery Society, removes anything from a grave.

Camp Adjutant James C. Carter put out a call for volunteers to put out new flags Wednesday morning. He and Crowe were joined by three others to place the flags.

Camp member Ron Clements was among those helping saying it appears some have a "different idea of how to respect flags."

Clements said his great grandfather joined the Confederate Army in 1861 in Mecklenburg County, N.C.

There was no shortage of funds for new flags. James MacLean of Jacksonville sent a donation and said his grandfather, William Hurt Harris, is buried in the cemetery. "He was a doctor from Sparta, Ga.," Harris said in a letter to Carter.

Also, Tom Warner, a researcher from Angelica, N.Y., sent a \$100 donation from himself and another donor for new flags. "It is with great sorrow that we read about the loss of your 70 cemetery flags in Oak Grove. Some people just don't understand that you will never erase the history ..." Warner wrote. And that wasn't all, Carter said. "We had a \$200 donation the other day for flags from one individual," he said. There appears to be enough money to buy all new flags for Confederate Memorial Day in the spring. Terry Dickson: (912) 264-0405