



THE BRIDGE

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



December 2020

Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013

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Compatriots,

We are in the midst of a season that is traditionally one of joy and thanksgiving as we consider our present blessings and look forward to the great promises of The One whose birth we are celebrating. You will note that neither the blessings nor the promises are gifts of some politician or government. Therefore, do not let some of our current predicaments rob you and your family of the true celebration of this blessed time of year. As much as ever or, perhaps even more, our prayers should be for, "peace on earth, good will toward man." To all of you, I wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and the Very Best that God has to offer for the coming New Year!

Our November meeting was well attended and for that we are thankful indeed. Of course, we are always glad to welcome more; as long as we have enough to feed everyone satisfactorily we say, "The more the merrier." If at all possible, come and encourage us with your presence on Tuesday, December 15, at 7PM.

There will be more information at our next meeting, but we believe we have obtained another Glock for our annual raffle. It seems that guns and ammo are hard to locate and go for a premium price when you can find them. We'll keep you posted on developments.

As I usually do, I would like to continue to ask that each would make a concerted effort to be encouraging to your fellow compatriots. Facing the challenges that are on the horizon makes it very easy for anyone to be a "Negative Ned," but it takes a person of superior character to at least attempt to be encouraging in the midst of the storm. You may grow weary of hearing it, but the conduct of our ancestors set an excellent example for us. Your weariness does not lessen the truth of that fact. Lift up your head, Southerner! Go confidently into the future with the example of your ancestors and the promises of God fixed firmly in your heart and mind.

How long this COVID situation will remain with us we do not know, but we can't let it paralyze us into total inactivity. We will be making plans as to how we will approach the celebrations that we observe annually and as progress is made we will share that with you. As in the past, we still welcome your input as to how we can breathe life into Camp 842. Without you and your ideas, there is no way we can make needed improvements. One of the last requests of our good friend and Compatriot, Kenny Cone, was, "Don't let it dry up." What are we doing to keep from drying up?

If not for *The Reason* for the season, we could rightfully be downcast and without hope. If we look around us there are many who seem to have the, "Oh, woe is me, the sky is falling," attitude. Accept this fact, the battle has been won. Not some political battle, but rather the one that gives us a reason for living. Those of us who claim the name of Christ are to rejoice and share the good news with *everyone*. For those who may not understand or believe this, there is no better time to seriously consider the possibilities. In the coming year of 2021, if you are a Southerner, act like one; if you are a Christian, **live like one!**

Merry Christmas! — Pete

God's Warning

By Billy Graham

I believe that unless America repents, God will judge her. I believe that judgment is near. Judah was judged by the unholly, ungodly nation of Assyria. God used the wrath of men to work out His purpose with His people. There is no reason to believe that He will not let the ax of judgment fall on our heads if we, like Judah, refuse to repent of our sins and turn to His Son, Jesus Christ.

If Jeremiah were here today, I believe he would talk about the lost sense of sin in America. The people of Judah had forgotten what sin was. The word *sin* was seldom mentioned in the temple. The priests spoke soft phrases to the people, but they were never challenged to face up to the evil of their hearts and repent.

Hasn't the word *sin* become almost taboo in America? And as a result, haven't we all but forgotten the meaning of it? Many burdened ministers have told me with tears that their people seem to have forgotten what sin is, and that many of their members have become embroiled in the most grievous sins imaginable. They are distressed and concerned that their people have ignored the fact of sin and its consequences.

The Bible says, "Behold, I will bring you to judgment for saying, 'I have not sinned.' How lightly you gad about, changing your way! You shall be put to shame" (Jeremiah 2:35-36, RSV). My friends, the Bible says, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). That is just as true today as it was in Jeremiah's day. You cannot break God's laws and get away with it. "The soul who sins shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4).

God is saying today to individuals and nations, "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts" (Hebrews 3:15). "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:3).

I ask you today to give your life to Jesus Christ. If you have never come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, repent of your sins right now. Receive Him, and the same Christ who changed lives 2,000 years ago can change your life at this moment, and you can start in a new direction.



SC Division State Convention --The Pee Dee Rifles have some great things planned for you.

Friday March 19, 2021

12-5PM - SC Division Executive Council Meeting
Homewood Suites Ball Room ([3450 W Radio Dr, Florence, SC 29501](#))

6 - 9 PM - Friday Night Social - **Homewood Suites Ball Room**

Saturday March 20, 2021

9AM-5PM South Carolina Division Convention
Convention at Florence Civic Center ([3300 W Radio Dr, Florence, SC 29501](#))

- Prices are low as we can get them - keeping prices at the 2014 convention rate.
- Location for all events is within 1 block of each other - right at the intersection of I-20 and I-95.
- Convention medal patterned off 1921 UCV medal.
- 60 page color program featuring [Don Troianai](#) Print
- Friday Night Social is catered BBQ meal with sides
- [Stan Clardy](#) will provide entertainment at Friday Night Social and Saturday during lunch
- [Members have the option to register online and pay with a card if they choose.](#)
- lots of great vendors lined up
- Displays of period items from several collectors and museums
- Convenient to shopping for ladies who do not attend meetings

SC Division State Convention Update

CONFIRMED: Susan Hathaway from the Virginia Flaggers is scheduled to attend. Susan is an outspoken voice in the heritage community encouraging thousands to stand up for our history. Come out and meet Susan at the convention **March 19-20.**



Susan Hathaway

Register By Mail

Make Checks Payable to:
Pee Dee Rifles Camp 1419
 Mail forms and check to:
 Ron York
 1455 Marion Green Rd
 Florence, SC 29506

Online Registry & Forms at:

<https://scscv.com/>

The Lessons of Waging War Against the Dead

By Victor Davis Hanson



Victor Davis Hanson

The 21st century is in danger of becoming an era of statue-smashing and historical erasure. Not since the iconoclasts of the Byzantine Empire or the epidemic of statue destruction during the French Revolution has the world seen anything like the current war on the past.

In 2001, the primeval Taliban blew up two ancient Buddha statues in Afghanistan on grounds that their very existence was sacrilegious to Islam.

In 2015, ISIS militants entered a museum in Mosul, Iraq, and destroyed ancient, pre-Islamic statues and idols. Their mute crime? These artifacts predated the prophet Muhammad.

The West prides itself in the idea that liberal societies would never descend into such nihilism. Think again.

In the last two years, there has been a rash of statue toppling throughout the American South, aimed at wiping out memorialization of Confederate heroes. The pretense is that the Civil War can only be regarded as tragic in terms of the present oppression of the descendants of Southern slaves—154 years after the

extinction of the Confederate states.

There is also a renewed crusade to erase the memory of Italian explorer Christopher Columbus. Los Angeles removed a Columbus statue in November based on the premise that his 1492 discovery of the Americas began a disastrous genocide in the Western Hemisphere.

Last month, the Northern California town of Arcata did away with a statue of former President William McKinley because he supposedly pushed policies detrimental to Native Americans.

There have been some unfortunate lessons from such vendettas against the images and names of the past.

One, such attacks usually revealed a lack of confidence. The general insecurity of the present could supposedly be remedied by destroying mute statues or the legacies of the dead, who could offer no rebuttal.

The subtext of most current name-changing and icon-toppling is that particular victimized groups blame their current plight on the past. They assume that by destroying long-dead supposed enemies, they will be liberated—or at least feel better in the present. Yet knocking down images of Columbus will not change the fact that millions of indigenous people in Central America and Mexico are currently abandoning their ancestral homelands and emigrating northward to quite different landscapes that reflect European and American traditions and political, economic, and cultural values.

Two, opportunism, not logic, always seems to determine the targets of destruction.

This remains true today. If mass slaughter in the past offered a reason to obliterate remembrance of the guilty, then certainly sports teams should drop brand names such as “Aztecs.” Likewise, communities should topple statues honoring various Aztec gods, including the one in my own hometown: Selma, California.

After all, the Aztec Empire annually butchered thousands of innocent women and children captives on the altars of their hungry gods. The Aztecs were certainly far crueler conquerors, imperialists, and colonialists than was former President McKinley. Yet apparently the Aztecs, as indigenous peoples, earn a pass on the systematic mass murder of their enslaved indigenous subjects.

Stanford University has changed the name of two buildings and a mall that had been named for Father Junipero Serra, the heroic 18th-century Spanish founder of the California missions. Serra was reputed to be unkind to the indigenous people whom he sought to convert to Christianity.

Stanford students and faculty could have found a much easier target in their war against the dead: the eponymous founder of their university, Leland Stanford himself. Stanford was a 19th-century railroad robber baron who brutally imported and exploited Asian labor and was explicit in his low regard for non-white peoples.

Yet it is one thing to virtue-signal by renaming a building and quite another for progressive students to rebrand their university—and thereby lose the prestigious Stanford trademark that is seen as their gateway to career advancement.

Third, in the past there usually has been a cowardly element to historical erasure. Destruction was often done at night by roving vandals, or was sanctioned by extremist groups who bullied objectors.

So too in the present. Many Confederate statues were torn down or defaced at night. City councils voted to change names or remove icons after being bullied by small pressure groups and media hysteria. They rarely referred the issue to referenda. Four, ignorance both accompanies and explains the arrogance of historical erasure, past and present.

Recently, vandals in North Carolina set fire to a statue of General Lee. But they got the wrong Lee. Their target was not a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, but a statue of World War II Maj. Gen. William C. Lee, who campaigned for the creation of a U.S. Army airborne division and helped plan the invasion of Normandy.

The past is not a melodrama but more often a tragedy. Destroying history will not make you feel good about the present. Studying and learning from it might.

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Editor: As you read this 2019 article from today’s perspective, does it take on even greater significance?

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The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

December 15	Regular Camp Meeting -- 7 pm
January 19, 2021	Regular Camp Meeting -- 7 pm Robert E. Lee born 1807
February 16	Regular Camp Meeting -- 7 pm
March 16	Regular Camp Meeting -- 7 pm
March 19-20	SC SCV State Convention -- Florence Deo Vindice

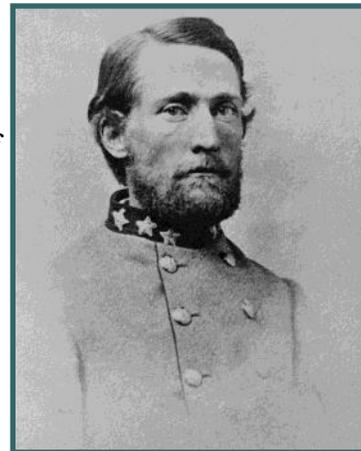


The South Was My Country

Colonel John S. Mosby, December 6, 1833 — May 30, 1916

The “Gray Ghost,” as he was oftentimes called, eluded Union troops throughout the war. After Gen. Philip H. Sheridan’s victory at the Battle of Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864, Union forces in the Shenandoah Valley focused on putting an end to Mosby’s operations. Special counter-partisan forces were organized specifically to deal with Mosby and his

peer John H. McNeill. One such force, under the command of Capt. Richard Blazer, faced off with Mosby in mid-November near Kabletown, West Virginia (approximately twenty miles northeast of Winchester). The partisans defeated the force and captured Blazer.



Colonel John S. Mosby

After Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, in command of the troops around Winchester, ordered Mosby to surrender, however, the Gray Ghost refused. Mosby disbanded his battalion near Salem, Virginia (located just east of present-day Markham).

After the war he practiced law in Warrenton, Virginia, and died there in 1916.