THE BRIDGE

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

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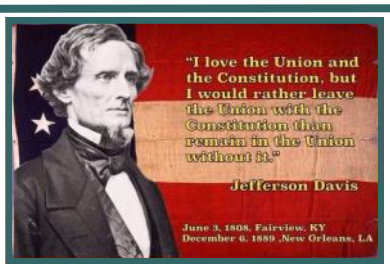

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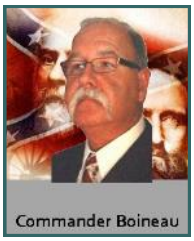
Happy New Year to you all!


Commander Boineau

It is once again the customary time for making resolutions and by this time, December 3rd, many have already been broken. Perhaps it would be better to set goals instead; in that way when we stumble we can pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and continue toward the goal instead of discarding it altogether. One of those goals might be to be more discriminating about how we stay informed about current events. I believe it is evident that much of what passes for news today is packaged and presented not to inform, but to shape how we think about the events that have been selected by media outlets and declared to be "important". God gave us all brains and they work very effectively if we use them. The "news" sources are endless and they present an equally endless number of ideas that may seem to make sense if you don't think about them. Did you catch the key phrase, *if you don't think about them*? Stay informed, but use that God-given brain to think about what you hear and don't just accept things at face value without supporting evidence. This applies as well to those things that we WANT to believe; they're not always true either.

An upcoming event that needs your presence is the SCDOT meeting to review the proposed bridge replacement very near our property in Orangeburg. The meeting is scheduled for **5PM until 7PM** at **Mellichamp Elementary School** at 350 Murray road. This will be on **January 29th**. Dress appropriately as we will be representing our ancestors and Confederate Soldiers. We have no idea of what kind of reception we will receive, but poor manners and rudeness on the part of others do not rate a similar response from us. It is not about us, it is about the Confederate Soldier and his good name.

The Colonel Colcock Camp #2100 of Ridgeland, SC had planned to celebrate January **19, 2019,** the anniversary of Robert E. Lee's birthday in a special way. The event to honor "Marse" Robert was to be the dedication and raising of the first Confederate Battle Flag over a South Carolina interstate.

Following the capture of Hilton Head, Beaufort, and the nearby Sea Islands in the fall of 1861, General Robert E. Lee was given command of the coastal military department of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida. From his headquarters at Coosawhatchie, he planned the strategy and defenses that successfully contained the enemy until the end of the war.

Because of prolonged inclement weather which has delayed work, the event has been postponed to a future date. I'm sure you will want to attend this flag raising so we will keep you informed of any and all new developments. The flag will be located on the frontage road between Point South and Coosawhatchie.

Later this year, we have been invited to attend a celebration event at **Main Street Bar-B-Que**, in Branchville on February 16th at 7PM. The Branchville Camp has arranged to have the **Pickin' Pearls** as entertainment so with it being just after Valentine's Day it would be an excellent opportunity to take that special someone out to enjoy some good music, good bar-b-que, and the company of good friends. I hope to see you there.

See you at Barker's Mill at 7 PM on Tuesday, January 15th. -- Pete

Facing an Unknown Future

Billy Graham

Unspoiled and unsoiled, the New Year lies before us—365 days of golden opportunity. We stand at the dividing of two streams; one called Yesterday, and the other, Tomorrow. We know every bend and every turn in the river Yesterday, but the river Tomorrow stretches out into an unknown future.

We are living in a world that is far different from our world of Yesterday. We are living in troubled and difficult times.

To many people, this New Year will bring suffering, sorrow and untold sadness. Many will be called upon to walk through the "valley of the shadow of death" (Psalm 23:4). During this new year, some will stand at the grave, blotting hot tears of bereavement as a minister says of a departed loved one, "Dust you are, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

Some people will be maimed by accidents on highways, and others will be victims of cancer or heart attacks. Some may fall victim to the attacks of terrorists, and others will experience financial disaster.

And millions of people, wandering aimlessly in life's struggles, will be filled with inner fears and frustrations and fail to realize their cherished dreams, hopes and ambitions.

These are cold, harsh, depressing facts. But we need to remember that the New Year is a venture into the unknown, and we are going to have to rethink our lives. This New Year affords us an opportunity to take spiritual inventory of our lives to see if our spiritual resources are sufficient for the needs and demands of the coming days of trial, temptation and sorrow. In the midst of all this, there is but one hope—the hope that Jesus Christ is coming again.

Editor: This has been a continuing truth since the beginning of time; it is comforting that this same promise of hope sustained our ancestors as they struggled with the trials of life which included so-called reconstruction.

Why Do Southerners Eat Black-Eyed Peas on New Year's?

Most Southerners will tell you that it dates back to the War Between the States. Black-eyed peas were considered animal food (like purple hull peas). The peas were not worthy of General Sherman's Union troops. When Union soldiers raided the Confederates food supplies, legend says they took everything except the peas and salted pork. The Confederates considered themselves lucky to be left with those meager supplies, and survived the winter. Peas became symbolic of luck.

Black-eyed peas were also given to slaves, as were most other traditional New Year's foods. Let's face it: a lot of the stuff eaten in the South on New Year's is soul food. One explanation of the superstition says that black-eyed peas were all Southern slaves had to celebrate with on the first day of January 1863. What were they celebrating? That was the day when the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect. From then on, peas were always eaten on the first day of January.

The Confederates considered themselves lucky to be left with those meager supplies, and survived the winter. Peas became symbolic of luck.

Others say that since the South has generally always been the place for farming, black-eyed peas are just a good thing to celebrate with in the winter. Not many crops grow this time of the year, but black-eyed peas hold up well, were cheap and just make sense.

How do you eat the peas? Some people believe you should cook them with a new dime or penny, or add it to the pot before serving. The person who receives the coin in their portion will be extra lucky. Some say you should eat exactly 365 peas on New Year's Day. If you eat any less, you'll only be lucky for that many days. I guess on leap years, you need to eat an extra one. If you eat any more than 365 peas, it turns those extra days into bad luck. Some say you should leave one pea on your plate, to share your luck with someone else (more of the humbleness that peas seem to represent).

Some say if you don't eat every pea on your plate, your luck will be bad.

It's also said that if you eat only peas, and skip the pork, collard greens, and the accompaniments, the luck won't stick. They all work together or not at all.

We the People of South Carolina….

By Karen Stokes

Signer's Monument

William Plumer Jacobs (1842-1917), a native of Yorkville, South Carolina, was a Presbyterian minister and scholar whose entire life has been called "a singular consecration to work and service in behalf of his fellow men." He is closely identified with the town of Clinton, where he pastored a church and founded the Thornwell Orphanage and the Presbyterian College of South Carolina. Prior to entering the ministry, Jacobs served as a reporter for several publications. In late 1860, he was in Charleston, where he attended the Secession Convention, and in his diary, he recorded a vivid account of what happened there on the 20th of December. After noting the spread of smallpox in Columbia and the moving of the Convention to Charleston, he wrote the following in an entry that began on Wednesday, December 19:

On Wednesday nothing of much importance was done but ever memorable will be the 20th day of December. At one o'clock Mr. Inglis introduced the ordinance of Secession. "An ordinance to dissolve the Union between the state of South Carolina and other states united with her under the compact entitled The Constitution of this United States of America. We, the people of the state of South Carolina in convention assembled do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained that the ordinance adopted by us in convention, the 23rd day of May in the year of our Lord 1788 whereby the Constitution of the U.S. of America was ratified and also all acts or parts of acts of the General Assembly of this state ratifying amendments of this said Constitution are hereby repealed and that the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and other states under the name of the United States of America be hereby dissolved."

At seven minutes after one the vote was taken on the ordinance. As name by name fell on the ear of the silent assembly the brief sound was echoed back without any exception in that whole body—aye! Scarcely had the President announced the vote unanimous before the people assemble without, sent up one universal shout of triumph and men and children ran from street to street, heralding the glad tidings. All the stores were closed, bands of soldiers were immediately parading and crowds were gathered everywhere to hear and tell the news. The Mercury extras were seized with an eagerness unparalleled in the annals of the Charleston press. At five thirty the convention again met and proceeded in a body to the Secession (Institute) Hall to ratify the ordinance. At the foot of the stairs they were joined by the Senate and House of Representatives and the three bodies took their seats … An old gray headed man was brought forward to supplicate the throne of grace and Dr. Bachman poured his whole soul in it. The President then read the ordinance and when he finished it, the whole audience rose and gave tremendous applause. One by one the delegates went up and signed the ordinance and when the last name was added, President Jamison said "I do therefore declare South Carolina to be a separate, independent commonwealth," every man, woman and child leaped up, hats flew high in air and cheer after cheer echoed and re-echoed from floor to roof, from side to side, until exhausted it fell down in one long, loud cadence of rejoicing.

It was the noblest moment of my life. Even now while I write, my blood thrills with excitement at the thought. The same scene was re-enacted in the street.

Burt-Stark House

For anyone interested in learning more about the Secession Convention and its delegates, a great resource is the book *South Carolina Secedes* by John Amasa May and Joan Reynolds Faunt. Published in 1960, it includes the proceedings of the convention from December 17, 1860 through September 17, 1862, its reports, resolutions and ordinances, the "Declaration of Immediate Causes," the "Address of the People of South Carolina," and biographical sketches of all the signers. The book is dedicated to the signers "in reverence and in admiration for the courage of the men of 1860."

Editor: If you were not able to attend the dedication of the monument to the signers of the ordinance of Secession in Abbeville, I would highly recommend a visit. It is a beautiful monument and Camp 842 played its part in making it possible. Abbeville is a picturesque little southern town with much history including being the location of the last meeting of the Confederate Cabinet.

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Sons of Confederate Veterans

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Camp No. 842 Calendar

Jan 15	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Jan 29	5-7PM SCDOT Meeting Orangeburg
Feb 1	Leadership Conference Saluda Shoals Ctr
Feb 2	Leadership Conference Saluda Shoals Ctr
Feb 13	Legislative Day at State House
Feb 16	Mainstreet BBQ Brancjville event 7PM
Feb 19	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM

January 19th and 21st - Remembering Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson

On January 19 and 21, many of us will remember the birthdays of Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas Jonathon "Stonewall" Jackson respectively. In honor of their memory, I'll raise atop my flagpole an Army of Northern Virginia Battle flag as tribute to two great sons of the South. Why remember these two men? They were the epitome of leadership by example by which many have patterned their lives. This includes Presidents and Pastors, along with folks in various walks of life both in our country and abroad. Their life and career left a legacy of selfless devotion to duty, honor, and people unmatched in the history of western civilization. Their mark was not just military heroism, but also a moral heroism. Their brilliant accomplishments on the battlefield were exceeded in victory and defeat by the nobility of their moral courage and stainless integrity. Their devotion to God, family, soldiers and the Southern Cause are legendary.

Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, whose military tactics have been studied worldwide, were American soldiers, educators, Christian gentlemen, husbands and fathers. And even though they are primarily thought of as Confederate Generals, they both would only want to be remembered as humble servants of God. They accepted no credit for victory or defeat, noting it was God's will and that all glory be given to him.