



THE BRIDGE

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



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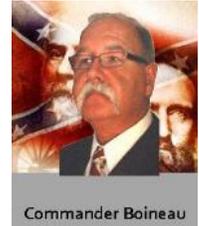
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Vacant

Historian

Friends and Compatriots,

I hope you were able to enjoy a wonderful Fourth of July with your family as you recalled with pride the formation of our country. It is sad, but there are many in our nation who are enjoying the benefits of citizenship while doing all in their power to "fundamentally change," what was bequeathed to us by the Founding Fathers. Contrary to what too many believe, the South's purpose during 1861-1865 was to perpetuate the system of government they inherited and not to destroy it. The desire was that the Constitution be observed and adhered to strictly. We are blessed indeed to live in these United States.



Commander Boineau

It is also the time of year for us to renew our SCV membership by paying annual dues. I am encouraged to hear than many of you have already done so and I thank you for your promptness.

We extend our thanks and appreciation to Donnie Webster and Carl Platts for doing a great job in maintaining our grounds. This is no easy task and I apologize for not recognizing your efforts more often.

Does anyone enjoy eating? What would we do without the faithfulness of Robert Keel in getting our meals here when we meet? And when it is decided that, "it's getting dark," and most everyone goes out the door, Robert is still here getting things in order to return them to the caterer.

Thank you to those who give him a hand in this unsung duty.

At our July 17th meeting, Compatriot Bart Chasse-reau will be sharing the story of the fighting at Lawtonville during the visit of General Sherman to our area in 1865.

Plans are to continue this as a series of talks to cover many of the fights which are often skimmed over, if mentioned at all, in presentations on Sherman's Carolina Campaign. You won't want to miss them.



See you on the 17th at Barker's Mill,

Pete



Okinawa Confederate Flag

By Philip Leigh

*Philip Leigh contributed twenty-four articles to **The New York Times Civil War Sesquicentennial**. He has lectured at numerous Civil War forums and roundtables. He holds a Bachelor of Science from Florida Institute of Technology and an MBA from Northwestern University.*

Eugene Sledge, in, ***With the Old Breed***, states that the first American flag to fly over the conquered Japanese fortress at Shuri Castle during the World War II battle of Okinawa was the Confederate battle flag. Sledge, who was present, wrote:

Earlier in the morning [of May 29, 1945] . . . Marines had attacked eastward into the rains of Shuri Castle and had raised the Confederate flag. When we learned that the flag of the Confederacy had been hoisted over the very heart and soul of Japanese resistance, all of us Southerners cheered loudly. The Yankees among us grumbled . . .

Since Sledge was an Alabaman, I additionally noted that Professor Greg Grandin of New York University wrote in an article about Confederate symbols: "In World War II . . . the first flag Marines raised upon taking the [Okinawa] headquarters of the Japanese Imperial Army was the Confederate one. It had been carried into battle in the helmet of a captain from South Carolina."

The battle of Okinawa began on Easter Sunday, 1945. Several sources such as The Marine Corps Association & Foundation report that South Carolina Marine Captain Julius Dusenbury raised the flag. But the captain's grandson, Stuart Moore, reveals a more complete and interesting story.

First, the captain's correct name was Julian Dusenbury. He was the Executive Officer of cadets at Clemson University in December 1941. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor he led a group of students in a patriotic demonstration on the lawn of the University President's house to proclaim that they would leave school to enlist. Southerners have long been among the most willing to serve in the American army. Dusenbury's grandson, Stuart, was among them. Even today forty percent of our troops come from the South as compared to fifteen percent from the Northeast.

Second, the captain led the assault that captured Shuri Castle, the last major Japanese stronghold on the island. "The night prior to the assault . . . Julian crawled through mud, over bodies, and sneaked past Japanese sentries nine times to drag back boxes of ammunition through enemy lines to his men." During the wiping up process a sniper shot him, putting him in a wheelchair for his remaining thirty years. After he was evacuated, his men found the Confederate flag in his helmet. Since "they had no formal US colors to fly they flew my grandfather's, in part to show their victory but also to show their love and respect for their 'skipper.'" Journalist Ernie Pyle commented upon this affection for Dusenbury in one of his books.

Although he was [incorrectly] attributed with the controversial flag raising. . . he went to his grave saying he preferred being known [even erroneously] for flying the Confederate banner, over winning our nation's highest honor!"

Third, according to his grandson Stuart, the captain "was put up for the Medal of Honor. . . but even in 1945 political correctness" about the Confederate flag blocked it. Instead, he received the Navy Cross but never bemoaned or regretted his failure to get the Medal of Honor.

Fourth, Dusenbury "returned to South Carolina where he was elected to the state legislature . . . and died in 1976. Although he was [incorrectly] attributed with the controversial flag raising. . . he went to his grave saying he preferred being known [even erroneously] for flying the Confederate banner, over winning our nation's highest honor."

As Carlos Eire put it in ***Waiting for Snow in Havana***, "Show me history untouched by memories and you show me lies. Show me lies not based on memories and you show me the worst lies of all."

Reasons to Fly the Confederate Flag

By James W. King



Political correctness and Socialist Marxist Revisionism are attacking everything Southern and Confederate on national, state, and local levels all across America. The Confederate flag represents honor, faith, courage, dignity, integrity, chivalry, Christian values, respect for womanhood, strong family ties, patriotism, self-reliance, limited constitutional federal government, states' rights, and belief in the free enterprise system. It symbolizes the noble spirit of the Southern people, the rich heritage, the traditions of the South and the dynamic and vigorous Southern culture. No other symbol so

proudly says "Dixie" as the Cross of St. Andrew (Confederate Battle Flag) waving in the breeze. Liberals have falsely indoctrinated many black Americans to believe it represents racism, bigotry, and a painful reminder of slavery. But white Christian Southerners who fly the Confederate Battle Flag are not the enemy of (RESPONSIBLE) Black Americans who are working to better themselves. Furthermore the U.S. flag the Stars and Stripes flew over the genocide and near extermination of the native American Indians yet it is given a free pass while the Confederate flag is attacked as racist. Also the Confederate flag never flew over a single slave ship but the Stars and Stripes flew over many for many years.

The Confederate flag is the last flag to represent the concept of local control of ones' life in America ... In a larger sense it represents the same values and principles as the original U.S. Betsy Ross Flag: Limited Constitutional Federal Government, States Rights, Resistance to Tyranny, and Christian Principles and Values. Thus it represents "government of the people, by the people, and for the people with the consent of the governed".

The Confederate flag is an internationally recognized symbol of resistance to tyranny. In 1980-1981 it was chosen by the Polish Solidarity movement as their symbol of resistance to Russian Communism. And resistance to tyranny is why it was flying over the Berlin Wall when it was being torn down in 1989 and has been flown by numerous countries or provinces seeking independence.

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It reminds knowledgeable Americans that government is to be held accountable for its actions, and if those actions are viewed as not being in the best interest of the people, there is a price to be paid for it. This fact has not been lost upon the Socialist, Communist, liberal left and that is why they have spent inordinate amounts of money and energy trying to suppress this powerful symbol of freedom. The Confederate battle flag is a Christian symbol and that is why proponents of Secular Humanism (the belief that there is no God and man, science, and government can solve all problems) oppose it.

The flag also represents the valor and sacrifice of our Southern ancestors in their quest to gain independence and recognition as a sovereign nation. Confederate soldiers displayed tremendous bravery in the face of overwhelming odds and blatant tyranny and aggression on behalf of the Yankee government that invaded the Southern homeland. It was, is, and will continue to be the flag of the region Southerners call home, the Southland. We are Americans, true, but we are also proud Southerners.

The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

July 17	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Aug 21	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Sep 17, 1862	Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam)
Sep 18	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Sep 18, 1863	Battle of Chickamauga
Oct 16	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Nov 20	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM

A Smyrna Confederate

The date on the tombstone was legible and the birth date shown would have made the person of military service age at least by the end of the war. There was nothing to indicate Confederate service however. What reasons could have prevented this individual from joining the ranks to defend South Carolina?

The young man was Charles Jacob Gray and I began to search for any military records concerning him. I found nothing in the regular Confederate Service records for SC. On an ancestry site I found an image of an application made by his widow in 1919 for a Confederate Pension which was granted. There was no information concerning his rank

or unit, but O.W. Barker, Father of one of our Real Sons, was one of the approving officials for Allendale County. I was sure that no pension would be granted if there was not knowledge of service, but I wanted to know the unit and rank.



Pursuing the pension application eventually led me to the SC Battalion of Cadets and the Arsenal Cadets in particular. Our Citadel grads will know that in preparation for war efforts, on January 28, 1861, the South Carolina General Assembly passed an act combining the Arsenal (Columbia) and Citadel (Charleston) into one institution. It was decided that the Arsenal Academy and the Citadel Academy should retain the same distinctive titles, but they would together constitute and be entitled, "The South Carolina Military Academy." Charles Jacob Gray was a Private in Company B of the Battalion of State Cadets and served as such throughout the war. His service began when he was 15 years old so at the end of the war he was at most 20. As an adult following the war he operated a sawmill and a gristmill in Barnwell County which included what is now Allendale County.

We can now confidently install a Cross of Honor in recognition of Charles Jacob Gray's service to the Confederacy.