



# THE BRIDGE

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



May 2017

**Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013**

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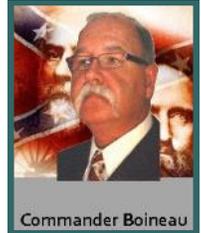
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**Vacant**

Historian

Compatriots,

On a sad note, I share with you the sad news of the passing of Mrs. WadeDelle Squires Moody on April 25, 2017. She was the wife of Compatriot William E. "Ed" Moody, past commander of Camp No. 842. Please keep Ed and his family in your prayers. Our numbers were few for our Annual Banquet, but as always, we enjoyed our time of fellowship together. Our banquet tradition is to have good food and plenty of it; I don't know of anyone ever leaving Barker's Mill feeling hungry. We usually send folks away with enough food for the next day and that custom stands.



Commander Boineau

Compatriot Albert Jackson shared with us the history of the Signer's Monument and the many challenges that have delayed it being placed in its ultimate home. The story would make an interesting book that would cause many to ask, "Can obstructing such a monument really happen in South Carolina?" The sad but true answer is, "Yes, and it is quite possibly only the beginning for all things connected with Southern Heritage." We commend Compatriot Jackson and his tireless efforts in this cause.

The winner of the Henry rifle was Brandon Ward with a ticket sold by, I believe, Compatriot Andy Cone. If I'm not mistaken, Andy also sold the winning ticket last year. Hmm. I may buy my next ticket from Andy too. Brandon is the son of late Compatriot Stanley Ward who was a life member of Camp No. 842. Congratulations Brandon! We thank all who helped us to make this raffle a success and enable us to continue our efforts in supporting the preservation of our Southern Heritage.

Be with us if at all possible for the 141st observation of Confederate Memorial Day at Rivers Bridge State Historical Site on Friday, May 12th. Music will begin at 10:30 AM and a BBQ dinner will be available following the ceremony. As always, you will be able to refresh yourself throughout the day with some of Coleman's and Gertrude's delicious oak barrel lemonade. It is an opportunity for some good Southern fellowship that, sadly, seems to be passing away; take advantage while you can.

Our May meeting is almost upon us too; I hope to see you at Barker's Mill on Tuesday, May 16th at 7PM. Our guest speaker will be Paul McMichael UDC Chapter #427 President Karen Black. Help us make President Black feel welcome.

Pete

**Confederate Memorial Day Observance Rivers Bridge SHS May 12, 2017.**



**This handsome rifle was won by Mr. Brandon Ward. We thank him for his support especially since his father was a Life Member of this camp.**

*As we approach the Confederate Memorial Day observance at Rivers Bridge State Historical Site and consider others that have taken place or soon will, let us give these opportunities some serious thought. We hope the following may add some perspective for you.*

## THE SUN IS NOT YET SET AND THE BATTLE CONTINUES

By John Wayne Dobson

The tide turned against the South on that fateful Charleston evening of June 17, 2015. Nothing is harder to take than being blamed for something you are not responsible for.

Without a syllable of allowed defense the whole Southern Nation, heritage, honor and cherished lifestyle was tried, convicted and sentenced. We are well aware of what has been done to us for nigh on two years. I need not rehearse it here. The cowards and shirkers departed our ranks almost overnight. Those left knew their duty and were prepared to stay on the firing line until the Southern sun set on the last day or the victory was won. It seems to me that three springs ago it was not quite so politically incorrect to take a stand for a God-given heritage - a birthright. Now, folks tremble at the suggestion of being associated with anything "Confederate."



The men in the photograph are members and Compatriots of the 16th Georgia Company G, "The Jackson Rifles." They are members of The Lt. James T. Woodward SCV Camp # 1399 of Warner Robins, GA, the Logan E. Bleckley SCV Camp # 1998 of Cochran, GA and The Camp of The Unknown Soldier SCV Camp # 2218 of Old Clinton, Jones County, GA. They stand in the full view of the world in the April sun, unashamed and unbowed. However, their ranks have thinned in the past two years. Oh, yes, precious souls who once stood with us have gone to their heavenly reward but some who could have and should have shown up just did not! You know in your own heart: were you ill, was a family member ill? Did you have to work? Did some calamity befall you or did you just not show up. The conglomerate of these afore mentioned men, on the cover, alone, were involved in as many as nine Confederate Memorial services in two days. How many did you attend? Did you even stop by a lonely roadside Confederate grave long enough to observe a moment of silence or offer a salute or were you too busy or just plain afraid someone would see you. Any excuse will do. Some, who have any measure of conscience left, will read this page and confess within their own soul that they could have attended - they could have done something - they could have taken a stand ... but they did not ... they did not.

Am I depressed by the reduced turn out? Not really. I know the caliber of men and women who attend these services and I am so very proud to be in such excellent company, that I could burst. Often, quality outranks quantity. The media did not show its scurrilous face and that was such a blessing. No, I am not dismayed - not especially. I talk to a lot of people each week. I also listen to what they say to me and I am here to tell you that there is a revival emerging regarding all things Southern. This resurgence is coming from some of the most unlikely points of heartland America that you can imagine. I am convinced that there is an age old principle at work here - a flourishing in the midst of persecution - and the fight is far from over. I am sorry if you could not or would not make any Confederate Memorial services this year. Some, indeed, had to work, at least one had National Guard drill and we sure understand these good reasons.

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### Why Secession?

Prior to the war about 75% (some figures estimate up to 85% of the money to operate the Federal Government was derived from the Southern States via an unfair sectional tariff on imported goods and 50% of the total 75% was from just 4 Southern states--Virginia-North Carolina--South Carolina and Georgia. Only 10%--20% of this tax money was being returned to the South. The Southern states were being treated as an agricultural colony of the North and bled dry. John Randolph of Virginia's remarks in opposition to the tariff of 1820 demonstrates that fact. The North claimed that they fought the war to preserve the Union but the New England Industrialists who were in control of the North were actually supporting preservation of the Union to maintain and increase revenue

from the tariff. The industrialists wanted the South to pay for the industrialization of America at no expense to them. Revenue bills introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives prior to the War Between the States were biased, unfair and inflammatory to the South. Abraham Lincoln had promised the Northern industrialists that he would increase the tariff rate if he was elected president of the United States. Lincoln increased the rate (Morrill Tariff) to a 47% level (between 50-51% on iron products) that exceeded even the "Tariff of Abominations" 40% rate that had so infuriated the South during the 1828-1832 era. The election of a president that was Anti-Southern on all issues and politically associated with the New England industrialists, fanatics, zealots and criminals brought about the Southern secession movement.

## Did You Know?

According to *The Economist*, in 1848, just after the acquisition of California and New Mexico, President James Polk was "decidedly in favor of purchasing Cuba and making it one of the States of the Union." Cheering him on was Jefferson Davis, then a Senator from Mississippi. "Cuba must be ours," he said, in a letter to President Polk.

The plan to buy Cuba failed. But Mississippi's other senator, Albert Gallatin Brown, maintained a lobby to revisit the issue.

William Walker was an American physician, lawyer, journalist and adventurer, who organized several private military expeditions into Latin America, with the intention of establishing English speaking colonies under his personal control, an enterprise then known as "filibustering." Walker became president of the Republic of Nicaragua in 1856 and ruled until 1857, when he was defeated by a coalition of Central American armies. He was executed by the government of Honduras in 1860.

But by the time of his death, Walker had convinced many Southern agricultural interests of the desirability of expanding into tropical Latin America.

As a result of this, the Confederacy appears to have had plans to accept Cuba into the Confederacy as a State. Of course, such a recognition would have first required that Cuba establish itself as independent from Spain.

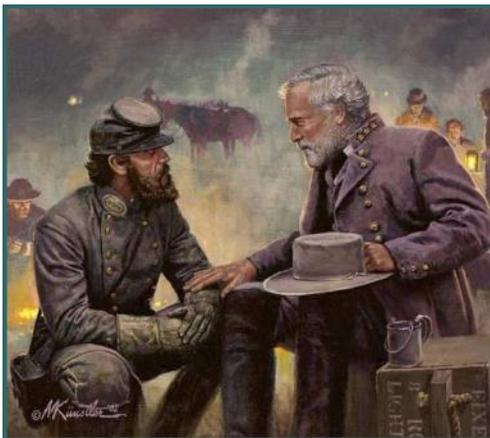
Confederate Vice President Alexander Hamilton Stephens supported the eventual inclusion of Cuba as a State in the Confederacy.

Of course, for any of it to matter, the Confederate States military first had to win its war for independence. A war which, as we know, was ultimately lost. And that is why we do not often discuss the possibility of such things as Cuba becoming a Confederate State.

May 6, 1863, was the final day of the Battle of Chancellorsville, which ended in a Confederate victory that is often considered General Robert E. Lee's "perfect battle," as he successfully defeated an army more than twice the size of his own.

In April, Union general Joseph Hooker—the new commander of the Army of the Potomac—decided to move against Lee, whose Army of Northern Virginia was situated at Fredericksburg, Virginia. Hooker wanted to avoid attacking Fredericksburg head on, as that had proved a disaster in the past, so he planned to send a third of his army to Fredericksburg to hold Lee there, while his cavalry would cut Lee's communication lines and the majority of his army would sweep around to outflank Lee from the rear and left.

—this month in—  
**HISTORY**  
MAY 6 \* 1863  
—CIVIL WAR—  
**BATTLE OF  
CHANCELLORSVILLE  
ENDS**



Hooker's movement to Chancellorsville, a crossroads not far from Lee's left flank, was well-executed, but Lee—although outnumbered more than two to one (roughly 130,000 to 60,000)—left only a small part of his troops at Fredericksburg and moved the rest under Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson to face Hooker rather than retreat. When Jackson began to push back against Hooker's vanguard, Hooker lost his nerve and had his troops take up defensive positions in a brushy, difficult area known as the Wilderness.

Defying conventional military wisdom, Lee and Jackson decided to split the army once again, leaving a portion of troops under Lee to distract Hooker's front, while Jackson would take the bulk of the troops on a 12-mile march to hit the Union's exposed right flank. The gamble paid off, and on the evening of May 2, Jackson's troops caught the Union right by surprise and it crumbled.

The fighting continued for a few more days, with the most intense occurring on May 3. Besides fighting around Chancellorsville, there was also fighting at Fredericksburg and Salem Church. Eventually, Hooker retreated across the Rappahannock

River, giving the Confederates the victory, despite heavy casualties on both sides.

However, although the battle was a Confederate triumph, Lee sustained a major loss in the death of Jackson, one of the best Confederate generals. On the night of the 2nd, Jackson and some others had been returning from scouting Union positions when they were fired on by their own pickets. Jackson was wounded, and his left arm had to be amputated. Complications arose following the surgery, and on **May 10**, Jackson died of pneumonia.

Lee's victory at the Battle of Chancellorsville would give him the necessary momentum for his campaign into the North, where he would face the Union on its home soil at the Battle of Gettysburg that July.

## The Bridge

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## Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South  
since 1896

## Camp No. 842 Calendar

May 12	Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial 10:30AM 141st Annual Celebration
May 16	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
June 3, 1807	Birth of President Jefferson Davis
June 20	Regular Camp Meeting
July 4, 1776	U.S. Declares Independence (Seceded)
July 18	Regular Camp Meeting

A day earlier, General Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia had faced potential destruction. In the forest thickets west of Fredericksburg, Virginia, near the rural crossroads of Chancellorsville, General Joseph Hooker and the Army of the Potomac had sought to envelop and destroy Lee's army. Hooker's strategy was sound, his army was much larger and better equipped, and he was confident of victory. **"My plans are perfect," he had boasted, "and when I start to carry them out, may God have mercy on General Lee, for I will have none."**

As Hooker moved to crush Lee's army, however, Lee learned of an unprotected route through the woods that might allow him to unleash a surprise assault on his enemy's right flank. Departing from basic military doctrine — never divide your force in the face of a superior enemy — Lee sent General Stonewall Jackson and 30,000 troops on a day-long forced march to set up the flank attack. It was a dangerous risk: Lee was left with barely 15,000 men to hold off the Federal ad-

vance. He deceived and stalled Hooker by feigning an assault — buying the time needed for Jackson to organize and launch his surprise attack.

That afternoon, May 2nd, Jackson's troops charged screaming from the forest and struck Hooker's right flank a mighty blow that sent the Federal XI Corps reeling in retreat. Instead of the success

he had proudly predicted, Hooker was dealt the same humiliating defeat that Lee had inflicted on the previous Federal army commanders. It was a mighty victory for Lee and Jackson, but it was a costly one: Stonewall Jackson would soon die of complications from battle wounds suffered at Chancellorsville. Looming ahead, too, was the battle of Gettysburg and the death of Southern dreams. For the moment, however, the Army of Northern Virginia was again victorious. As he moved among his army near the blazing Chancellor house the next morning, General Lee was mobbed by his cheering troops. Again, they had done the impossible. Again, they had turned back the invader. The triumph at Chancellorsville was Robert E. Lee's **supreme moment.**

