



THE BRIDGE

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



October 2017

Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013

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"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it."
-George Orwell

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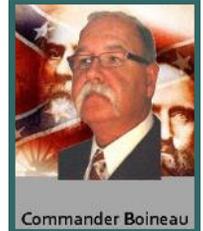
Historian

Compatriots,



John Mack Barnes

Sadly we begin with the announcement that we have lost another faithful camp member. On Friday, September 22, Compatriot John Mack Barnes passed away as a result of heart failure. Please include his wife Jessica in your prayers.



Commander Boineau

John Mack Barnes

I regret also to report that the harassment by Mr. Daras against us in Orangeburg continues unabated. In April 1861 President Davis spoke these words in one of his speeches, **"We seek no conquest. All we ask is to be left alone."** Well, much in the same way we do not wish to trample on the rights of anyone in this Orangeburg matter; all we ask is to be left alone with no infringement of our personal property rights and freedom of speech. We are trusting that there are those who, while not sharing our reverence for the Confederate Soldier and his flag, still hold these constitutional rights to be the bedrock on which the liberty of us all is laid. If we belittle or diminish the foundational rights of any person or group we welcome the destruction of our own as well.

Would it be unreasonable if we had an unspoken apprehension of becoming victims of backroom deals and other unsavory political transactions because we are seen as holding a minority view of our Confederate heritage? We are concerned regarding those in places of power who are so "pragmatic" that they will do anything to curry favor with the majority to get their votes. This conduct would include, but not be limited to, turning a "blind eye" to the violation of the rights of those embracing the minority position. We cannot but be suspicious of the motives of those who "strut and fret their hour upon the stage" to achieve something that will not benefit the community one iota. It is not politically correct, but sometimes one wants to ask such people, "Of all the problems facing the Orangeburg Community, is the Confederate Memorial adjacent to the Creamery REALLY one of significance?" "Will your claim to fame be 'I got rid of that flag,' while all the REAL problems still remain?" As we look around the country, that sadly seems to be the modus operandi. We probably have all heard that people get the leadership and representation that they deserve, but what a waste of resources and education.

In spite of our apprehensions and concerns we continue to trust in the Rule of Law. Thus far that trust has been well placed. Following the original zoning complaint, after weighing the regulations, it was declared that the memorial was not covered. In an appeal of that original decision, it was affirmed that no section regulates the placement of flags and memorials. That not being acceptable to our neighbor, the



Proposed Wall Location

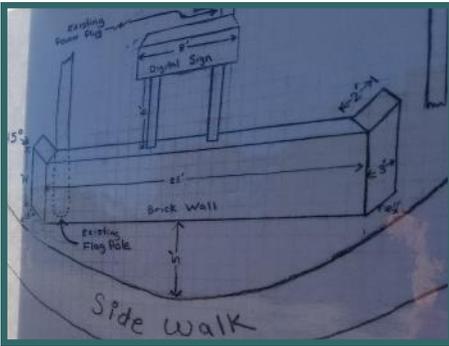


Diagram of proposed work

decision has now been appealed to the Circuit Court.

But it seems Mr. Daras is unwilling to wait for the decision of the court. His most recent effort has been to obtain a work permit and have preliminaries done to erect a wall at the memorial site. It doesn't seem to matter that the wall would be located on Camp 842 property. He reportedly said that he had notified the SCV Camp in Santee to come and get the



Official notice to Stop Work

monument if they wanted it; if not picked up soon something else would have to be done with it. Here again, how do you give away that which is not yours? Fortunately First Lieutenant Commander Braxton, ever alert, made appropriate notifications and a "stop work" notice was eventually placed at the site. It almost seems that Mr. Daras wants to goad us into some action that can be used by the media to present us in a negative light. The wisest advice to all seems to be, **"Keep calm and trust in the Rule of Law."**

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



John Mack Barnes 1968-2017

There is an inscription on more than one Irish headstone that reads, *"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."* This is a sentiment that Jessica Barnes can attest to. Early on the morning of Friday, September 22, Jessica lost her husband John and we lost a faithful compatriot. As he was making preparations for a visit to the VA for medical testing, he experienced a complete cardiac arrest and was beyond all lifesaving measures. Suddenly and without warning Jessica's partner of a lifetime was gone. Yes, we will miss



Compatriot of the Year

John Mack Barnes

John, but let our concern now be for his widow; please keep her in your prayers. I feel assured that he would appreciate it.

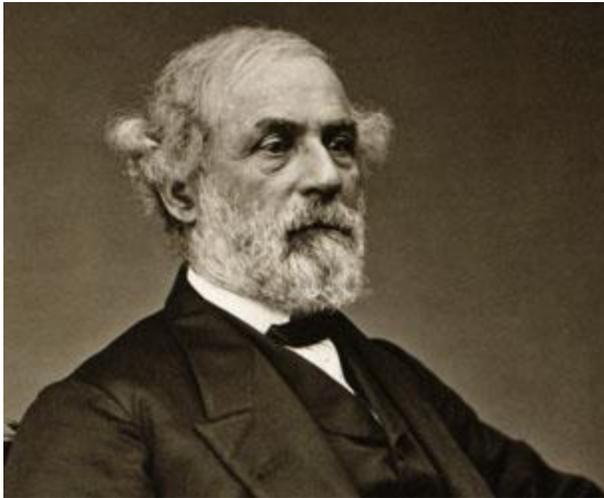
John Mack Barnes was Rivers Bridge Camp Historian for a number of years and the award streamers that adorn our camp flag will attest to his efforts and achievements. You may look also at our camp scrapbooks and see the work of the faithful team which was John and Jessica. John and Jessica were also faithful, while his health permitted, in maintaining our Camp float and getting it to many parades. There are plaques at the camp that bear witness to these endeavors. They also contributed the bulk of the Rivers Bridge Camp Library which many of you take advantage of to increase your knowledge of your Southern Heritage; loyal compatriots such as these cannot be replaced and their cooperative support will be sorely missed.

John was the great grandson of Private John McDuffie Barnes of Company G, 17th SC Infantry. He was also the great great grandnephew of: Corporal Jacob Thomas Polk, Company K, 11th SC Infantry; Major John Jacob Gooding, 11th SC Infantry; Lieutenant William James Gooding, Company D, 11th SC Infantry.

John was a SCV National Life Member, a SC Division Life Member, and a Life Member of Rivers Bridge Camp No. 842 as well.

The number of names on our Memorial Plaque is quickly growing; our compatriots who are resting in the shade of the trees across the river may soon outnumber those on the near bank; are we ready for the crossing or are there things we need to set in order first?

On October 12, 1870, former Confederate general Robert E. Lee died at his home in Lexington, Virginia, at age 63, after suffering a stroke two weeks prior. Following his surrender to Union general



—this month in—
HISTORY
OCTOBER 12 ★ 1870
THE DEATH OF
ROBERT E. LEE

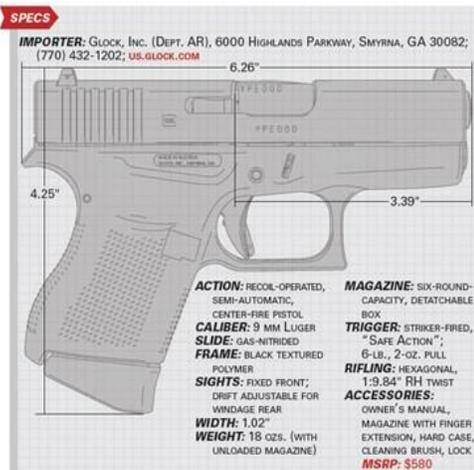
Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in April 1865, Lee—who had been commander of the Army of Northern Virginia and then General in Chief of all Confederate armies—traveled to Richmond, Virginia, where his family was living. Now jobless and without an income, Lee briefly considered turning to farming but instead accepted the presidency of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia—a position he would hold until his death five years later.

Washington College (today's Washington and Lee University)—at the time a private all-male school—had been damaged during the war and had fewer than 50 students when Lee became its president in the fall of 1865. During Lee's tenure, the student body grew to several hundred students, and Lee favored adding modern, practical courses to the curriculum in addition to the traditional courses in the classics.

In the years following the Civil War, Lee largely stayed out of the public eye and avoided postwar politics. Despite being indicted, Lee was never tried for treason, due in large part to the intercession of Ulysses S. Grant on his behalf. However, although he submitted the necessary documents, Lee was never returned to U.S. citizenship during his lifetime; instead, Congress would posthumously restore his citizenship in 1975.

In his final years, Lee's health declined due to cardiovascular disease, but he remained active with the college. In the early spring of 1870, the college faculty and Lee's doctors recommended he travel further south for his health. This trip—in which he visited Southern states such as North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida—became what many historians call Lee's "farewell tour."

Although his health was poor, Lee remained president of Washington College when it resumed classes in the fall of 1870. However, on September 28, following a church meeting, Lee suffered what was most likely a stroke after returning home that evening. Lee remained largely incapacitated for two weeks following his stroke and developed pneumonia, finally passing away on the morning of October 12 at the age of 63. He was interred at the Washington College chapel.



Glock G43 9mm

The handgun depicted at the right was selected to be the prize for our next fund raising effort.

This gun's compactness makes it a natural choice for a concealed self-defense weapon for both men and women. It is also marked by the reliability that is the hallmark of Glock.

Tickets are \$5.00 donation each and the drawing will be April 21, 2018. Winner will be notified if not present.



The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

October 17	Regular Camp Meeting 7 PM
Nov 7-8, 1861	Battle of Port Royal, SC
Nov 21	Regular Camp Meeting 7 PM
Dec 19	Regular Camp Meeting 7 PM
Jan 16, 2018	Regular Camp Meeting 7 PM
Jan 19, 1807	Robert E. Lee Born
Jan 21, 1824	Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson Born



Little Sorrel

A foal born on a farm owned by Noah C. Collins on Pink Street (now Springfield Road) became one of the most famous residents of Somers, Connecticut, and a legendary figure of the War Between the States. That horse, later known as Little Sorrel, grew up in Somers but earned fame as the mount of Confederate General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. As Jackson's trusted companion, the steed carried him into some of the most well-known battles in US history. Little Sorrel's wartime service earned him a place of honor at the Virginia Military Institute and, in 1990, his hometown of Somers named a street after him. [Look out Little Sorrel, you may be a painful reminder of slavery and your street will have to be renamed.]

Little Sorrel began his military career after being purchased by the Northern government for use in the War Between the States. In 1861, he and a number of other Union horses landed in Con-



Little Sorrel After the War

federate hands when Southern forces at Harper's Ferry overtook their transport train. After reviewing the newly captured prizes, General Stonewall Jackson selected a pair of chestnut horses for his own use. He intended to keep the larger of the two for military purposes and named that horse Big Sorrel. (Sorrel is a commonly used descriptive term for horses with reddish or chestnut colored coats.) The smaller of the two was given the name Fancy and was to be sent to Jackson's wife Mary Anna as a gift. Within a matter of days, however, Jackson recognized that Big Sorrel frightened easily and did not have a disposition suitable for battle. Fancy, on the other hand, proved to be a much calmer and more reliable horse. Jackson changed Fancy's name to Little Sorrel and the horse from Somers became his mount for the remainder of the war.