



THE BRIDGE

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



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Camp Officers

Peter D. Boineau
Commander

5149 Broxton Bridge Road
Bamberg, SC 29003
boineausgunshop@gmail.com

Joseph "Buzz" Braxton II

1st Lieutenant Commander
buzzbraxton@gmail.com

Robert Keel

2nd Lieutenant Commander
kline@barnwellsc.com

Donald Webster

3rd Lieutenant Commander
Retention & Recruiting
websterdrd@yahoo.com

Charles L.D. Carlson

Adjutant

Chaplain

Bridge Editor

scv842@gmail.com

Edward S. Floyd

Treasurer

Edward.floyd444@gmail.com

Carl Platts

Judge Advocate

Carl.platts@yahoo.com

Coleman Loadholt

Quartermaster

Roy Hart, Jr.

Surgeon

Ira Beach

Color Sergeant

ibeach@embarqmail.com

Karl Bishop, Jr.

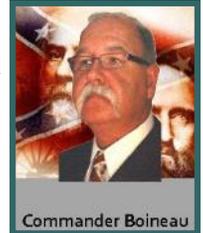
Russell E. Dobson

Camp Historians

Compatriots,

Many of you probably have read books on Southern History and the importance of Christianity in the South that were published by Compatriot Lloyd T. Sprinkle. I sadly report that Compatriot Sprinkle passed away September 26, 2019 at age 80.

He was the faithful founding pastor for over fifty years of Providence Baptist Church of Harrisonburg, Virginia. In addition to this he was a student of the Word of God and Southern History, a publisher of the finest Southern Christian literature, and a promoter of the cause of Christ and the South. Please remember in prayer his wife Jacqueline Lee Leftwich Sprinkle; his siblings, Frances Miller, Betty Roadcap and Robert "Bob" Sprinkle.



Commander Boineau

As we remember the Sprinkle Family, we ask too that Charles D. "CD" Bishop be in your prayers. "CD" is the 13 year old brother of Compatriot Karl Bishop, Jr., and was recently diagnosed with Leukemia.

At our last meeting we continued our trek toward Orangeburg. Compatriot Bart Chassereau first brought to our attention the numerous skirmishes for bridge crossings of the Edisto. Though these confrontations did not have the casualties of the better known "big" battles, for those killed and gravely wounded they represented the biggest battles ever. Having reached Orangeburg and learning of the destruction there, we will at a date to be determined move on toward Columbia. We thank Bart for sharing this little-known history with us.

We have our raffle tickets and we encourage you to be present for our meeting on October 15th to get yours and help us with sales. As you probably recall, this is our only source of funds to support Camp operations and Southern Heritage efforts. There is a saying, "Many hands make light work." Let's see if we can put this into practice.

Keep in mind our upcoming Camp election process. The pertinent section from the SCV Camp Handbook is included inside for your convenience. In addition, we continue to solicit your input, as we have in the past, as to how we can make our meetings better and thereby achieve better attendance.

You are invited to leave the sidelines and "get in the game," to move our Camp forward and make meetings such that they will be seen as time well spent. Why not begin on October 15th? I hope to see YOU at Barker's Mill on that date.

Pete

DEO VINDICE

Praying in a Pagan Land

By Erwin W. Lutzer



When the Israelites were exiled to Babylon, they were commanded to seek the welfare of this pagan city and to “pray to the Lord” for its people (Jeremiah 29:7). The most compelling example of praying during this time is Daniel who, even as a 17-year-old boy arriving in Babylon, had a consistent prayer life. In time, he became a trusted advisor to King Darius.

Some of the governors of the kingdom became jealous of Daniel. They convinced Darius to make a decree that “whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions” (Daniel 6:7).

But Daniel feared God more than the lion’s den! He continued to get down on his knees three times a day to pray and give thanks before his God. The lesson for us is clear: Let us not be intimidated by a culture that wants to prohibit our obedience to God and worshipping Him. Let us not back off when laws are made that compel us to compromise our conscience or silence our witness.

If we were to spend as much time praying for the enemies of Christianity as we do complaining about them, we might yet be amazed at what God would do in our country. As a result of Daniel’s prayer, God brought the Israelites from Babylon back into the land. God often works without our prayers, but our intercession moves His hand. **Pray for our nation and the Southland. Editor**

Politically Incorrect Questions and Answers

Did the South, as alleged by Lincoln in his messages and in his Gettysburg speech, fight to destroy popular government throughout the world?

No; the charge was absurd. Had the South succeeded, the United States would still have enjoyed all its liberties, and so would Great Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, and all other peoples. The danger to popular government came from Lincoln himself. In conducting the war, Lincoln talked about "democracy" and "the plain people," but adopted the rules of despotism and autocracy, and under the fiction of "war powers" virtually abrogated the Constitution, which he had sworn to support.

Was Lincoln's proclamation freeing the slaves worthy of the praise which it has received?

No; his proclamation was a war measure merely. He had no humanitarian purpose in view, and only ten days before its issuance he declared that "the possible consequences of insurrection and massacre in the Southern States" would not deter him from its use, whenever he should deem it necessary for military purposes. (Nicolay and Hay, Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, I/, p. 235.)

For You Information

Section 10:

CAMP ELECTIONS

Camps usually nominate new officers in either November or December of every other year depending upon a particular camp's individual constitution and bylaws. The process usually begins with the selection of a nomination committee by the current commander in the third quarter of the year, prior to the beginning of the next term of office.

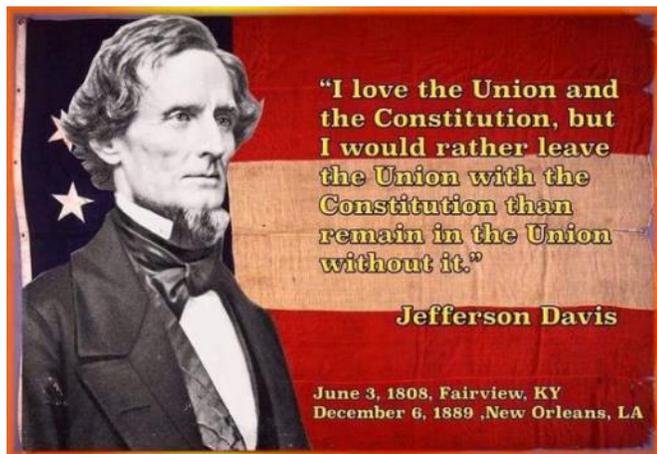
The nominating committee should have a good knowledge of the current camp membership. As you would expect, the officers to be nominated should possess the skills and attributes noted in good leaders. Attention should be paid to special skills and resources of the individual in asking him to serve. It is not required, however, that certain officer positions must be filled with those in that particular profession. For example, the chaplain's position does not require a minister, priest or a rabbi to fill the position.

After a slate of officers has been selected and they have agreed to run for election, the candidates are announced to the membership. During the process of seeking candidates, the general membership should be strongly encouraged to seek office and to run for the position for which they feel most qualified to serve. Each individual running for office, particularly when there is more than one seeking the same office, will be given an opportunity prior to the vote to address the membership stating why he is seeking the office and why he thinks he is the best candidate for the position.

The election is normally held in December using Robert's Rules of Order procedures and the formal installation of the new officers is conducted the following January. Once the new officers have been installed, a report must be made to all echelons above the camp level. A form "Report on Election of Officers" is provided for this purpose in Appendix E.

Secession as an American Right

by Dr. Boyd Cathey



There are several excellent, in depth scholarly studies that undercut the arguments against secession from some hyper-unionists: the most recent, by Prof. Barry Alan Shain (Cornell Univ), *The Declaration of Independence in Historical Context: American State Papers, Petitions, Proclamations, and Letters of the Delegates to the First National Congresses* (2013), dispels the myth that the Declaration somehow "created a nation" and based it on equality. Shain's extensive research is totally convincing. And per the US Constitution, the late Prof. M. E. Bradford's *ORIGINAL INTENTIONS: On the Making and Ratification of the United States Constitution* (1993), demonstrates conclusively, through a thorough investigation of the discussions and debates, and the voluminous correspondence that survives surrounding the adoption of the Constitution, that secession for cause was never forbidden. If so, the document would never have been ratified.

One of the better, shorter summaries of the prevalent Constitutional theory *at that time* has been made by black scholar, professor, and prolific author Dr. Walter Williams. Here is what he writes in one his

columns:

"During the 1787 Constitutional Convention, a proposal was made that would allow the federal government to suppress a seceding state. James Madison rejected it, saying, 'A union of the states containing such an ingredient seemed to provide for its own destruction. The use of force against a state would look more like a declaration of war than an infliction of punishment and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it might be bound.'

*"In fact, the ratification documents of Virginia, New York and Rhode Island **explicitly** said they held the right to resume powers delegated should the federal government become abusive of those powers. The Constitution never would have been ratified if states thought they could not regain their sovereignty - in a word, secede. On March 2, 1861, after seven states seceded and two days before Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, Sen. James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin proposed a constitutional amendment that read, "No state or any part thereof, heretofore admitted or hereafter admitted into the union, shall have the power to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the United States."*

*"Several months earlier, Reps. Daniel E. Sickles of New York, Thomas B. Florence of Pennsylvania and Otis S. Ferry of Connecticut proposed a constitutional amendment to prohibit secession. Here's a question for the reader: **Would there have been any point to offering these amendments if secession were already unconstitutional?**" [emphasis added]*

Anti-slavery zealot and staunch unionist President John Quincy Adams advocated secession over the annexation of Texas, and in his April 30, 1839, speech "The Jubilee of the Constitution," commemorating the 50th anniversary of George Washington's inauguration as the first American president, he affirmed:

"... if the day should ever come, (may Heaven avert it) when the affections of the people of these states shall be alienated from each other; when the fraternal spirit shall give away to cold indifference, or collisions of interest shall fester into hatred, the bands of political association will not long hold together the parties no longer attracted by the magnetism of conciliated interests and kindly sympathies; and far better will it be for the people of the disunited states, to part in friendship from each other, than to be held together by constraint."

More, during the antebellum period William Rawle's pro-secession text on Constitutional law, *A View of the Constitution of the United States* (1825,) was used at West Point as the standard text on the US Constitution. And on several occasions the Supreme Court, itself, affirmed this view. In *The Bank of Augusta v. Earl* (1839), the Court wrote in an 8-1 decision:

"The States are distinct separate sovereignties, except so far as they have parted with some of the attributes of sovereignty by the Constitution. They continue to be nations, with all their rights, and under all their national obligations, and with all the rights of nations in every particular; except in the surrender by each to the common purposes and object of the Union, under the Constitution. The rights of each State, when not so yielded up, remain absolute."

A review of the Northern press at the time of the Secession conventions finds, perhaps surprisingly to those who wish to read back into the past their own statist ideas, a similar view. As historian William Marvel explains in his volume, *Mr. Lincoln Goes to War* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishers, 2006, pp. 19-20), very few Northern newspapers took the position that the Federal government had the constitutional right to invade and suppress states who had decided to secede. Indeed, this non-



The Bridge

561 Appleton Road
Allendale, SC 29810

EMAIL: scv842@gmail.com

WEB: www.riversbridgecamp842.com



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Camp No. 842 Calendar

Oct 4-5, 1862	Battle of Corinth Mississippi
Oct 8, 1862	Battle of Perryville Kentucky
Oct 15	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Nov 19	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM - Nominations
Dec 17	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM - Elections

Sons of Confederate Veterans

interventionist view was the view of Presidents Buchanan, Pierce, and according to their previous opinions, a majority of those on the Supreme Court in 1861.

Congressionally a majority of members of Congress expressed a view which favored peaceful separation and that such separation, although regrettable, was constitutional. Indeed, were it not the New England states in 1814-1815 who made the first serious effort at secession during the War of 1812, to the point that they gathered in Hartford to discuss actively pursuing it? To read transcripts of their discussions is to see that not just Southerners but most Americans understood during the pre-war period that states had the right to abrogate their original adhesion to the American union.

One last comment regarding the accusation of "treason." After the conclusion of the War, the Southern states



were put under military authority, their civil governments dissolved, and each state had to be re-admitted to the Union. But, logically, a state could not be "re-admitted" to the Union unless it had been out of it. And if it were out of it, legally and constitutionally, as the Southern states maintained (and some Northern writers acknowledged), then it could not be in any way guilty of "treason." Robert E. Lee formally resigned his commission from the US Army, and then reverted to civilian status. When Virginia seceded, which its state constitution gave it every legal right to do (and according to a majority Constitutional view of the time), he was called back into service by his state (which was then out of the union). There is no way that ex post facto argumentation can construe this as treason.