



# The Ironclad Newsletter

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January 2008



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## Happy New Year

It's a New Year, 2008. Here in the South we are fond of tradition and one of the traditions which will be observed on New Year's Day is the eating of Black-eyed Peas also known in the South as Cow Peas and often served in a dish known as Hoppin'-John.

Tradition is a good and useful thing. It's purpose is to make us remember and it serves to teach those who were too young to witness the original lesson first hand what was so important to their ancestors.

So what's so important about Black-eyed Peas? What lesson could that humble little pea possibly teach us? Well, let me tell you a little story.

The Cow Pea was brought to the shores of North America in the late 1600s. It was not considered a food source for humans, hence the name, Cow Peas. They were grown for feeding livestock. That was, until the turbulent period between 1861 and 1865 when Southerners were fighting for the independence of their

Southland.

During this time the US Army had the custom of burning everything in its path that it couldn't steal and use for itself or ship North. Cash crops like cotton and tobacco were often burned to prevent its use in funding the Confederate cause. All food crops were also stolen or burned often leading to the intentional starvation deaths of thousands of Southern women and children. One crop that was often overlooked was the Cow Pea. It was just an animal feed and with the animals stolen and shipped North or shot and left to rot where they fell, what was the sense in expending the time and manpower in burning a useless livestock feed crop?

History has it that during the siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi the ravaging horde of United States troops burned every food crop surrounding the city that their vandal torches could touch. Every available food source left

*(New Year - Continued on page 2)*

## An Historical Admonition

Gustave Flaubert, French Writer (1821-1880)

We can learn from history how past generations thought and acted, how they responded to the demands of their time and how they solved their problems.

We can learn by analogy, not by example, for our circumstances will always be different than theirs were.

The main thing history can teach us is that human actions have consequences and that certain choices, once made, cannot be undone. They foreclose the possibility of making other choices and thus they determine future events. Our ignorance of history causes us to slander our own times.

## New Year

*(Continued from page 1)*

to the citizens of Vicksburg, animal or vegetable was laid waste. The patriotic citizens held out for as long as possible eating shoe leather and rat meat. If an artillery mule was accidentally killed by an incoming federal shell, its meat barely had time to cool before it was cut up and distributed to the starving civilians and soldiers in the city. The shelling was so thick from the federal guns that the citizens took to living in dank and filthy bomb-proof caves cut from dirt banks. Disease took its toll along with starvation. No doubt, the prayers rose thickly to Heaven from Vicksburg during that brutal siege and prayers were answered. It was discovered that the Cow Peas were still available and they didn't taste so bad after all when you're hungry. The dried peas were ground into flour and mixed with water to make bread. They weren't too bad just boiled in water or even eaten raw. The threat of death from starvation has a way of making things look different. I know it's hard to imagine anyone turning up their nose at Black-

eyed Peas today but back then it would have been like asking someone to eat dried dog food or a bag of goat feed.

Even though the city of Vicksburg eventually fell to the forces of federal despotism, the lives of many Southerners were spared due to the little Cow Pea. This scene was played out all across the South, especially in the swath of desolation cut by Sherman in his vindictive march to the sea.

But what has the little Cow Pea taught us? Why have we remembered it every year since the close of that war so long ago? Many people will just tell you that eating Black-eyed Peas will bring you good luck and that's as far as the story is ever told. But for our Southern ancestors it wasn't about good luck. They had something else they wanted us to know and remember. The lesson taught by the Cow Pea was a blessing from God. It reminded us that God never places a burden on us too great to bear and he always

*(Continued on page 5)*

## We Call Them Southrons

### The War for Southern Independence - An Observation

The following is a short extract from a printed address to an assembly of the United Confederate Veterans by the Hon. John Sharp Williams, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Mississippi. Williams was the son of Annie Louis and Christopher H. "Kit" Williams who commanded the 27th Tennessee Volunteer Infantry during the War for Southern Independence. The address was delivered to Company A, United Confederate Veterans at the Lyceum theatre. Memphis, TN 31 May, 1904. This speech was published in Confederate Veteran magazine. Vol. XII, No. 11, November, 1904, pages 517 - 521.

"One of the Ten Commandments delivered by Jehovah to Moses on Sinai, and not the least of the ten, is this: 'Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.' Like all the other commandments of God to his children, this applies not only to the individual man, but to men in the aggregate -- men in organized societies forming governments, constituting peoples. Just as the boy who does not honor his father and mother is apt to bring his own life to an untimely end, as a consequence of experimenting in new and foolish paths to the neglect of the advice, accumulated experience, and teaching of those who have seen the world before him, so a people who forget the history, despise the traditions, ignore the ideals, and fail to share the aspirations of their ancestry

are a people not apt to conserve anything -- neither their own power nor greatness, nor their very living in the land itself. . . .

We hear much about a "New South." There is no New South. What there is of change is a change to the direction of the energies of the people; and if there be anything great and good in the so-called "new" South, as far as I have been able to ascertain, it is always something whose growth has its roots in the soil of the Old South. Everything admirable in the so-called "new" South is built upon the old, as a house is built upon the rock of its foundation. We hear much of letting the "dead past bury its dead." No poet who was a philosopher, and perhaps no real poet, would ever have uttered that sentence. There is no such thing as a dead past. . . .

My friends, there is no other instance that I know of where men having apparently lost a cause by four years of fighting subsequently preserved it by ten years of unterrified solidarity, superb patience, and magnificent common sense. I believe the world knows about us now these two things: First, that we have the strength of a giant; and secondly, that we can be trusted not to use it like a giant - brutally and irrationally."

Can we Southrons of today continue to claim this strength, more than 100 years later?

The Constitutional Republic Experiment

220 Years of Progress



**Bronze Heroes**

By Rodney Hinson, Goshen, Ark.

Why do they call them Rebels?  
 These men who marched under Lee.  
 What they fought for,  
 Was their future: Yes, that's you and me.

The Bible states there's no greater love,  
 Than for another to die.  
 These stones mark hallowed ground,  
 For these souls died for you and I.

Most were common country folks,  
 That just wanted left alone.  
 They cared about their family  
 And were defending their precious home.

They brought with them their weapons,  
 Just a squirrel gun worked quite well,  
 But many never got a rifle,  
 Until their comrade fell.

These men trudged through winter snow  
 And the briars in summer's heat.  
 But the best that some had,  
 Was only rags to protect their shoeless feet.

So let our heroes, now cast in bronze,  
 A constant reminder be.  
 There will always be a high price,  
 For life and liberty.

When time on earth has ended  
 And the Mighty Angel's trumpet blown,  
 God will surely reach down  
 And welcome these soldiers home.

**REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS**

*Dues now payable*

Dues for 2007-2008 in the amount of \$45.00 were due by October 31, 2007 and are now past due.

Dues can be sent by mail if so desired or members may pay at any monthly meeting.

If paying by mail, send to:

**Adjutant Lee Jones  
 8420 Cross Timbers Dr. W.  
 Jacksonville, Florida 32244**

If you have not renewed for the upcoming year, please do so promptly.

## Advertisement

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## Historical Quiz

Authors using pseudonyms such as *Cato*, *Brutus*, *Centinel* and the *Federal Farmer* presented what important opinion writings during the formative years of the union of the united States?

Mail your answer to: **Historical Quiz, P.O. Box 37338, Jacksonville, Florida 32236**, or send an email to:

[neflos@net-host.net](mailto:neflos@net-host.net)

The first correct answer will win a free Florida State Flag, suitable for outdoor display of your patriotism.

*Answer to last quiz:*

Juan Ponce de León, a Spanish conquistador, named Florida in honor of his discovery of the land on April 2, 1513, during the Easter season. What was the Spanish term for this season of the year?

*Answer:* The season was called Pascua Florida, meaning Flowery Festival or Feast of Flowers. Pascua Florida Day, April 2, is a legal holiday in Florida.

Congratulations to Todd Larrimore of Callahan who had the first correct answer.

## On the Internet

Just type: "SCV Camp 745" into your browser search and an interesting page will appear with links to our Camp.

Web Address of SCV Camp 745:  
[earth.prohosting.com/scv745](http://earth.prohosting.com/scv745)

Our WEBMASTER is Pastor Greg Wilson of Archer, Florida . His e-mail address is [LIBCFL@aol.com](mailto:LIBCFL@aol.com)

## Annual Olustee Battle Festival

144th Anniversary, February 15 - 17, 2008

### Olustee Festival & Craft Show:

Don't miss this annual event for Arts, Crafts, Foods and other Vendors and exhibits. A good time for the entire family.

Held in Downtown Lake City Friday & Saturday

### Blue-Grey Square Dance:

Sponsored By the Dixie Dancers on Saturday

### Olustee Battle Reenactment:

Annual re-enactment of a Civil War Battle between the North and the South. Hundreds of re-enactors come from miles around to participate in this historical event held at Ocean Pond battle site Saturday & Sunday.



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## The Constitutional Right of Secession

"The Union was formed by the voluntary agreement of the States; and these, in uniting together, have not forfeited their Nationality, nor have they been reduced to the condition of one and the same people. If one of the States chose to withdraw its name from the contract, it would be difficult to disprove its right of doing so."



The Southern Spirit

Alexis de Tocqueville, Political Thinker

## New Year

*(Continued from page 2)*

leaves a way out to the faithful. It was a lesson in humility. Sometimes the way out is to humble ourselves. The Cow Pea showed us that we can adapt and persevere in the face of death and overwhelming odds. It gave us hope when all hope had fled. It was a symbol of strength in that the small and insignificant can confound the strong and mighty.

And there are other things the little pea taught us that our fathers wish us to remember every year. But this is where I start to talk of things that scare my friends and family and those who were raised in government

schools, learning government lies from government textbooks printed up North.

Our fathers wanted us to remember the importance of liberty through Southern independence. To them, it was worth every deprivation imaginable. It was worth starvation and disease. It was worth dismemberment, blindness and other horrific wounds on the battlefield and slow death. It was worth the risk of rotting in a government prison. It was worth losing all your worldly possessions. Liberty at every cost save the loss of honor because the alternative was slavery under a

despotic government.

Our fathers wanted us to remember their noble Cause and the sacrifices they made for it. They wanted us to vindicate that Cause. Not by merely talking about it and remembering it but by making the same kind of sacrifices they made. So this year and every New Year's Day henceforth, when you hoist a forkful of savory Hoppin'-Jon to your palate, think about this; Are we more free today than our ancestors 140 years ago? If you say yes, go back to sleep. If you say no, prepare with me for hard times and sacrifice.

*Happy New Year*

## Reliving Florida's Past

JANUARY 3 1861 Delegates to the Florida Secession Convention meet in Tallahassee to take up the question of secession. Edmund Ruffin of Virginia arrives to confer with Governor Madison Starke Perry and members of the convention.

JANUARY 4 1978 Janet Reno became Florida's first female State Attorney when Governor Reubin O'D. Askew appointed her to head up the Eleventh Judicial District (Miami) when Richard Gerstein resigned. Ms. Reno will be remembered as the Attorney General of the United States under President Clinton.

JANUARY 5 1861 The Florida Secession Convention reconvenes today. John C. McGehee, a passionate state-rights planter from Madison County, is elected permanent chairman. McQueen Macintosh of Apalachicola introduces a resolution declaring Florida's right to secede and urges the passage of a proclamation declaring the state is no longer a part of the United States. The following day U.S. Senator Stephen F. Mallory of Florida recommends that the state's Secession Convention secede. This declaration followed a caucus of Southern senators called by Jefferson Davis and John Slidell of Mississippi.

JANUARY 10 1839 The first Florida

Constitution was adopted in the assembly at St. Joseph's (Tallahassee) today and signed by members of the constitutional convention on the day after. Although the document would not become the law of the land in 1839, it provided the basic framework for the first state constitution in 1845



JANUARY 11 1861 The Ordinance of Secession, approved by the Secession Convention yesterday, was signed today. Florida became an "independent nation" until it joined the Confederate States of America on January 28. Soon-to-be governor, John Milton, unfurls the new flag of Florida, a white silk banner with three stars. The stars

represent the three southern states, which have seceded-South Carolina, Mississippi, and Florida.

JANUARY 15 1859 Lake City, formerly known as "Alligator," was incorporated today.

JANUARY 20 1890 The St. John's River railroad bridge, the first major steel railroad bridge in Florida, opened to traffic today in Jacksonville.

JANUARY 22 1908 In Jacksonville, the Kalem Company, organized in 1907, produced what is regarded as the first dramatic film in Florida. The picture was entitled, "A Florida Feud."

JANUARY 24 1989 Convicted serial killer Theodore Bundy was executed today in Starke's Raiford Prison. Bundy died from electrocution in "Old Smokey." On July 23, 1979, Bundy was convicted of the murder of two co-eds at Florida State University. During a period of 15 years, it is suspected that Bundy killed more than thirty young women in Washington, Utah, Colorado, and Florida.

JANUARY 25 1814 Petitioners representing the "Republic of East Florida" asked the U.S. Congress to admit their republic, with its capital at Fernandina, into the Union. They were unsuccessful in their quest.

# 1868 - A Constitutional Death Blow?

Nothing New Under the Sun 139 Years Later - By Gabriel Paul

The Truth needs neither eulogy nor apology, while the most extravagant praises and lip service are powerless to shield falsehood from exposure.

Reckless tyrants have trampled down the rights and manhood of the people together, and the poor privilege of complaint conceded to the dying culprit and not denied to the rich man in hell, prohibited in one half of the United States.

Our Government is in nothing uniform except its contempt of law, and powerful for only the oppression of the people.

Every officer seems to contemplate his office as an engine of destruction in which he is engaged to work ruin of the particular department of government entrusted to his care.

The Postmaster General for the last five years has violated the mails.

The Secretary of the Treasury has squandered the public wealth.

The Secretary of the Navy has been enfeebling our Naval power.

The Secretary of War, all crimsoned with innocent blood, is employing the army for the destruction of the country.

The Secretary of State has been subverting Constitutional Law and disgracing our form of government at home and abroad.

The Secretary of Interior has been conniving with public jobbers to defraud the government of its most valuable lands.

The Attorney General is gravely burlesquing nonsense by itself by defining the Constitutional construction of unconstitutional laws, and is in conspiracy with Military Commissions to murder innocent women.

The President is administering the government through Military Satraps in a manner unknown to Republican Systems and disgraceful to despotisms which regard the character of those entrusted with power.

The Courts of the country are infamously corrupt.

The State Legislatures and Congress are flagrantly accessible to bribes, which have become the only tangible basis of special and an essential necessity in general legislation.

The people of the late Confederate States, after encountering terrible vicissitudes of war, were overtaken by a famine which inflicted frightful forms of starvation, and are now overrun and robbed by predatory invasions.

EACH STEP OF ADVANCING USURPATION UPON THE PART OF THE TYRANTS HAS BEEN MET BY A RECEDING COWARDICE UPON THE PART OF THE PEOPLE, WHICH HAS YIELDED TO ITS BEHESTS.

Capital has availed itself of the general distress to combine its powers to oppress labour; labour has conceded and begged in the vain hope of appeasing capital, until Banks, Tariffs and Usury, the three great criminals of all governments, are now employed by the funded system to create revenues, keep up military establishments and enslave the people.

The freeman of America must learn to think for themselves. These questions must be put to the people;

1. By what right can any generation contract to enslave successive generations, and mortgage the labor of future centuries to pay the debt created by satiate hate and aggrandize a lawless cupidity?

2. Can any government justly levy a tax upon the labor of the country to support and increase its untaxed capital, and enslave industry to speculation?

3. By what earthly power can such a claim be enforced upon a people who are aroused to a sense of its injustice, and shrink with horror from the recollection of the bloody crimes which entailed it upon us?

4. Can any government retain its freedom and continue subject to subsidies more than equivalent to equal rents, which are levied for the benefit of a privileged class upon the laboring and agricultural classes, making the distinction between the rich and the poor clearly marked and indelibly drawn?

5. Is it profitable, is it desirable, nay, is it possible, to overthrow our present system of government and substitute for it an arbitrary government, or a monied aristocracy or limited monarchy, for the enforcement of a debt which has been contracted for the most part without the authority of law?

6. Will the people of this country give organic guarantees for the payment of a debt due to citizens of this and other countries, the payment of which is subject to the action of the courts, simply to avoid the faithful interpretation of the law by judicial tribunals to which every other claim is legally subjected?

7. Is it possible for any popular government, in violation of all historical precedent, to long continue the victim of arbitrary power, administered by a few through combinations of force, fraud and fanaticism?

8. If any future Congress should refuse to make appropriations for the liquidation of such debt, or for the payment of standing armies to enforce it, how then can constitutional guarantees protect capital from taxation, or make labour support idleness in her exorbitant demands?

9. Were the powers which created this debt legally elected by free and fair elections?

10. Were the Legislative bodies which made appropriations legally constituted?

11. In what manner, for what purposes and by what authority was money spent which had been thus appropriated?

12. What must be the relative condition of capital and labour under the direction and control of the funding system?

13. By what authority and under what pretense was the present compound system of fraudulent Banking- the illicit offspring of Financial debauchery, imposed upon the country?

14. Why are the systems of duties, excises and direct taxes levied for the purpose of oppressing the poor and aggrandizing the rich, to create a hateful monied Oligarchy in the land?

15. Why have the resources of the country, the business of the people, the harmony of society, and the hopes of civilization and Christianity been swept away from the land?

16. What shall be done to restore our liberty? Secession?

## Camp Calendar

### Dates to Remember

- **Jan 11** - Florida Secession Day
- **Jan 19** - Robert E. Lee's Birthday
- **Jan 21** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Program:** *To be announced.*
- **Feb 15-17** - Olustee Reenactment  
Weekend Lake City & Ocean Pond
- **Feb 18** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Program:** *To be announced.*
- **Mar 17** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Program:** *To be announced.*

## Thoughts on the Ballot Box

Complete Southern autonomy and the establishment of a true confederate system is the only solution for the South that can remove the possibility of new encroachments against state rights by the Federal government. Devolution of central power back to the local and state level will remove an unneeded and unwarranted level of bureaucracy and provide the greatest amount of freedom and empowerment to the people.

Inspiration by Mike Tuggle

## The Truth of the Matter

"In saving the Union, I have destroyed the republic. Before me I have the Confederacy which I loath. But behind me I have the bankers which I fear."

Confession by Abraham Lincoln



## January 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

## February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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## March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## Official U.S. Policy on Confederate POW's Preamble to H.R. 97, Passed by Both Houses of Congress

"Rebel Prisoners in our hands are to be subjected to treatment finding it's parallels only in the conduct of savage tribes and resulting in the death of multitudes by the slow but designed process of starvation and by mortal diseases occasioned by insufficient and unhealthy food and wanton exposure of their persons to the inclemency of the weather."

**LT. EDWARD K. JOHNSTON, CSN - SCV CAMP  
745**

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## Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of The Confederate soldier’s good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Are you ready to die for your country? Is your life worthy to be remembered along with theirs? Do you choose for yourself the greatness of soul?”

Not in the clamor of the crowded street,  
Not in the shouts and plaudits of the throng,  
But in ourselves are triumph and defeat”

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General. United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.

### ***Why Buy Southern?***

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- Help to disrupt the "Global Economy" of the New World Order
- return economic power to those who have ties to Southern soil

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