



The Ironclad Newsletter

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February 2008



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A Forgotten Story for Black History Month

By Calvin E. Johnson

If a picture is worth a thousand words, are words of truth not the fruit of a Godly, intelligent and free people?

June 3, 2008, is the Bi-Centennial Birthday of Jefferson Davis and the Sons of Confederate Veterans, on the Internet at www.scv.org, have proclaimed this year "The Year of Davis." Davis was also honored in Georgia with a bicentennial birthday proclamation, signed by Gov. Sonny Perdue with historical groups; Sons of Confederate Veterans, United Daughters of the Confederacy and Children of the Confederacy, joining State Senator Jeff Mullis and Georgia Civil War Commission Chairman John Culpepper for the signing.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, distinguished Black-American, author, editor, publisher and historian, was the father of Black History Week that would become "Black History Month." Woodson (1875-1950) believed that black people should be proud of their heritage and other Americans should also understand it.

The Sons of Confederate Veteran do understand and are planning a Davis Memorial Statue, depicting the forgotten story of the Jefferson Davis family and Jim Limber, in Virginia. It will be financed through private contributions from Southerners and all who appreciate true American history.

Who was Jim Limber Davis?

In 1989, a magazine article caught my eye, which I had to read from beginning to end. The story was written by Gulfport, Mississippi freelance writer, Mrs. Peggy Robbins and entitled, "Jim Limber Davis." This is my summary of Mrs. Robbin's heart-warming story.

This story begins on the morning of February 15, 1864, when First Lady Varina Davis, wife of Southern President Jefferson Davis, had concluded her errands and was driving her carriage down the streets of Richmond, Virginia on her way home. She heard screams from a distance and quickly went to the scene to see what

(Black History - Continued on page 2)

Commander's Corner

Jim Lear, Commander Camp 745

A new year and new challenges. We may need to re-invent ourselves and distribute responsibility to more members.

In addition to editing the "IRONCLAD", Steve Walker will assume the additional duties as Webmaster. Our thanks for providing our current site goes to Greg Wilson for the past 5 years. However, we now feel that we can get more info for Steve since he is local and will have a good grasp on updated news.

We have a great Confederate Memorial Day ceremony planned for April 26th at Jones Cemetery in Callahan. Musician and "Camp Ghoul" Ken Sturges, Jr. will be in charge of arrangements.

The OCR plans a "yard sale" in April, "RR Days", and "the Blueberry Festival" are not far behind. The grave stone for Rebecca Higginbotham Jones should be ready sometime this year. We are starting fast and the action should continue all year long.

Black History

(Continued from page 1)

was happening.

Varina saw a young black child being abused by an older man. She demanded that he stop striking the child and when this failed, she shocked the man by forcibly taking the child away. She took the child to her carriage and with her to the Confederate White House.

Arriving home Mrs. Davis and maid "Ellen", gave the young boy a bath, attended to his cuts and bruises and fed him. The only thing he would tell them is that his name was Jim Limber.

The Davis family was visited the following evening by a friend of Varina's, noted Southern Diarist--Mary Boykin Chesnut, who saw Jim Limber and wrote later that she had seen the boy and that he was eager to show me his

cuts and bruises. She also said, "there are things in life that are too sickening and such cruelty is one of them."

The Davis' in their letters called Jim "a member of our gang of family."

The end of the War Between the States was coming and Richmond was being evacuated. Varina and the children left ahead of Jefferson Davis. The president and his staff left shortly before the occupation of Union troops.

Varina and the children were by Jefferson Davis' side at his capture near Irwinville, Georgia and again the family was separated. Jefferson Davis was taken to Virginia to spend two years in prison. Mrs. Davis and her children were taken to Macon, Georgia and later to

(Continued on page 5)

Looking To The Political Future

Edited from an message by Michael Givins, ANV Commander

The time has come for us to come together for the common good of defending the true history of our beloved Southland.

We have officially entered the election season, both nationally in the USA and throughout the SCV. Both of these elections will influence the way the world will see the South and our ancestor's fallen plight to freedom.

In the coming years the SCV must adhere to the Charge, focus our energies and strengthen our forces in preparation of battle. This may sound like typical election year rhetoric, but it is not. This is not the time for rhetoric, but for action. The disorganized lines are forming over the hill and we must stand and face the danger or sit and witness the demise of our heritage and culture.

Let's begin with the US national Elections. We do not endorsing any candidate, but we should be a part of the process as a citizen.

Of the people offered for the office of the President of these United States of America, only two (Ron Paul and Mike Huckabee) have shown any sort of support or even friendly recognition for the symbols of the Confederacy, namely the Confederate Battleflag. All the others have shown great disdain.

Ron Paul of Texas has taken a strong position that flying the Confederate flag is a state's rights issue. He has even gone so far as to argue, on NBC's Meet the Press, that Lincoln's prosecution of a war against the South was wrong.

Mike Huckabee of Arkansas recently issued a statement declaring his position on the issue of flying the Confederate flag on the Statehouse grounds in South Carolina. On behalf of Gov. Huckabee, an advisor said, "...as someone who spent over ten years as the chief executive of a state, Governor Huckabee believes very strongly in state sovereignty. He believes that the question of the Confederate flag and South Carolina . . . should be decided by South Carolina. This is a 10th amendment, states' rights issue, and it's a decision for

the people of South Carolina to make."

Mitt Romney of Massachusetts has taken a very hard anti-Confederate position. During a recent debate, Romney stated that, "...I'm not going to get involved with a flag like that. That's not a flag that I recognize ... The people of our country have decided not to fly that flag. I think that's the right thing."

John McCain of Arizona is without a doubt the most strenuously opposed to our heritage. In 2000, when Sen. McCain was running against George Bush, he repeatedly described the Confederate flag as symbol of heritage. Later he retracted that statement and even returned to South Carolina to "apologize" for not having said he was against the flag.

When told that his Mississippi ancestors served honorably in the Confederate army, McCain said that they did not deserve to be honored at all. He later said of his ancestors, "They fought on the wrong side of American history."

He added: "My ancestors fought for the Confederacy ... but I don't believe their service, however distinguished, needs to be commemorated in a way that offends, deeply hurts, people whose ancestors were once denied their freedom by my ancestors."

One does not have to venture far into the psyche of the Democrat Party to find that their true feelings about our peoples struggle or their symbols is marred by their vote seeking agendas.

Hillary Clinton of New York said, "I think about how many South Carolinians have served in our military and who are serving today under our flag and I believe that we should have one flag that we all pay honor to, as I know that most people in South Carolina do every single day," Clinton told the *Associated Press* in an interview. "I personally would like to see it removed from the Statehouse grounds,"

Barack Obama said the flag belonged in a museum. So, what's the fuss? We have not had a champion for our

(The Future - Continued on page 3)

The Future

(Continued from page 2)

cause in the White House since before the War itself, you might add.

On August 5 1975, President Gerald Ford restored the citizenship rights to our hero General Robert E. Lee.

On October 17 1978, President Jimmy Carter restored the citizenship rights to President Jefferson Davis.

But perhaps the most important move by an American President since the War has been President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Proclamation 3382 "Civil War Centennial." In part, his proclamation said: "...That war was America's most tragic experience. However, like most truly great tragedies, it carries with it an enduring lesson and a profound inspiration.

It was a demonstration of heroism and sacrifice by men and women of both sides who valued principle above life itself and whose devotion to duty is a part of our Nation's noblest tradition."

Here is the fuss, a truly serious fuss of enormous proportions; of the front runners and probable candidates for US President there is not one that would even rise to the level of respect for the deeds of our ancestors shown by Carter or Ford much less Eisenhower.

As we come into the sesquicentennial of the War for Southern Independence we will have a President in office, at best disdainful, at worst filled with hate, toward the patriotic people of the South and their ancestors.

How can we expect, when reading the statements above by the candidates, that they will embrace or even allow ceremonies and truthful studies of those gallant men in grey and their long suffering families at home?

How can we expect or hope for a fair debate on the causes of the War and the effects of both the War and the horrors of Reconstruction? We cannot expect a thing.

We are approaching our greatest test, for this we are certain. If the ideals of the Confederacy and the virtues of her people are not valiantly defended during this onslaught, their stories will be lost and gone perhaps forever. The time has come for the sons of those great men to come together to their defense. We must forget, at least for the time being, our personal struggles and differences within and concentrate on the defeat of our enemies through the telling of the truth about the South.

If we sit back and do nothing, nothing will be done! President Eisenhower called on "our Nation's schools and colleges, its libraries and museums, its churches and religious bodies, its civic, service, and patriotic organizations, its learned and professional societies, its arts, sciences, and industries, and its informational media," to do what was right in the Centennial years. Can we expect the same support and action just fifty years later? No, we cannot! If the job is to be done, it will be done by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and virtually no one else.

We Call Them Southrons

Where are men like this today?

A great and learned statesman, who now reposes with his fathers once brilliantly explained the construction the union known as the united States. Have we, in our lifetime, been educated to these facts?

"Ours is a system of governments, compounded of the separate governments of the several States composing the Union, and of one common government of all its members, called the Government of the United States. The former preceded the latter, which was created by their agency. Each was framed by written constitutions; those of the several States by the people of each, acting separately, and in their sovereign character; and that of the United States, by the same, acting in the same character - but jointly instead of separately. All were formed on the same model.

"[The Government of the United States] is federal, because it is the government of States united in political union, in contradistinction to a government of individuals socially united; that is, by what is usually called, a social compact.

"To express it more concisely, it is federal and not national, because it is the government of a community

of States, and not the government of a single State or nation."

John C. Calhoun served as U.S. senator from South Carolina, secretary of war, secretary of state, and twice as vice-president of the United States, and was a dominant figure, alongside such men as Henry Clay and Daniel Webster.

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.
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Historical Quiz

In 1795, the Treaty of San Lorenzo de la Real set the border between the United States and two Spanish colonies. What were their names?

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

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:

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?

Answer: These authors argued that the strong national government proposed by the Federalists was a threat to the rights of individuals. The best and most influential of these articles and speeches were gathered by historians into a collection known as the *Anti-Federalist Papers*.

No one had the correct answer to this month's quiz.

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

Coming soon. An exciting new Camp 745 Web Site.

Stay tuned for updates as we move forward.

See, I Told You So

American political philosopher and senator from Virginia, John Taylor of Caroline (1753-1824), made this prophesy in the early 1820's:

"I believe that a loss of independent internal power by our confederated States, and an acquisition of supreme power by the Federal department, or by any branch of it, will substantially establish a consolidated republic over all the territories of the United States, though a federal phraseology might still remain; that this consolidation would introduce a monarchy; and that the monarchy, however limited, checked, or balanced, would finally become a complete tyranny."

Give it some thought. Would you agree or disagree with Senator Taylor's prediction of the fate of these united States?



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Thoughts on Freedom

"To take from one, because it is thought his own industry and that of his fathers has acquired too much, in order to spare to others, who, or whose fathers, have not exercised equal industry and skill, is to violate arbitrarily the first principle of association, the guarantee to everyone the free exercise of his industry and the fruits acquired by it."



Thomas Jefferson, April 1816

The Southern Spirit

Black History

(Continued from page 2)

Port Royal outside of Savannah. At Port Royal, their Union escort, Captain Charles T. Hudson, made good on his earlier threats to take Jim Limber away. As the Union soldiers came and forcibly took young Jim, he put up a great struggle and tried to hold onto his family as they did to him. Jim and his family cried uncontrollable as the child was taken. They would not see Jim again.

The Eleanor S. Brockenbrough library, of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia, is home to a picture of Jim Limber Davis.

For more information about

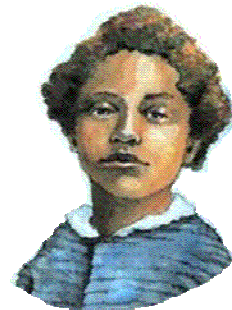
Jefferson Davis go to the Internet at www.beauvoir.org that is the web site for "Beauvoir" the last home of Jefferson Davis and his family and presidential library. The historic site was damaged by



Hurricane Katrina but it is being

restored to its historic look.

A reopening ceremony, for the house, will take place at 10 AM on Tuesday, June 3, 2008, for the 200th birthday of Jefferson Davis in beautiful Biloxi, Mississippi.



Reliving Florida's Past

FEBRUARY 6 1806 The United States Senate approved a secret appropriation of \$2 million to be used for the possible purchase of Florida.

FEBRUARY 7 1864 Union troops under General Truman A. Seymour landed at Jacksonville. This was the fourth occupation of the city by a Union army. The troops were to be used in a major Federal push into the center of the Sunshine State, a push that would culminate with the Battle of Olustee on February 20. Here the Confederates were victorious and the Federals were forced to retreat back to Jacksonville.

FEBRUARY 8 1832 The Territorial Legislature of Florida repealed an anti-dueling law, which again made it legal for gentlemen to settle their differences through personal combat.

FEBRUARY 11 1832 The City of Jacksonville was incorporated today by the Territorial Legislature.

FEBRUARY 18 1842 Colonel William J. Worth reported that only 300 Seminoles were left in Florida and that it was impossible for the U.

S. Army to capture or kill them all. He recommended to his superiors in the War Department that a peace treaty be made with them. They agree and Worth, on August 14, declares the Seminole War at an end.



FLORIDA.

FEBRUARY 19 1821 The United States Senate gave its approval to the Adams-Onis Treaty today. Under the terms of this trans-continental treaty, Spain ceded Florida to the United States in exchange for the elimination of approximately \$5 million in outstanding financial obligations.

FEBRUARY 20 1864 The largest battle of the War for Southern Independence to take place in the State of Florida occurred today at Ocean Pond near Olustee. Union and Confederate forces were about evenly matched with 5,500 soldiers each. The Confederates, under the command of general Joseph J. Finegan, had prepared defenses in the area. The failure of the Union commander, General Truman Seymour, to commit his forces in concert and as a whole gave the Confederates a strategic advantage. At the end of the day, the Confederates controlled the battlefield and Federal forces were in a hasty retreat toward Jacksonville and the safety of the guns of the Union navy.

FEBRUARY 22 1959 The first "Daytona 500" race, with a purse of \$19,000, was won today by Lee Petty of Randleman, N.C. Petty averaged 135.42 mph in his 1959 Oldsmobile. Johnny Beauchamp of Harlan, Iowa, finished second in a 1959 Ford Thunderbird. Petty's win was disputed as the two men finished neck-and-neck in a photo finish.

How to Choose a President

What they didn't teach you in school

So you think your presidential candidate is the right one for the job. Well, let's look at the position and then determine if you made the correct choice?

For those of you who were lucky enough to have learned a bit of American History and Civics in school way back when, you'll remember that in the eighteenth century this country was formed by the union of then thirteen British colonies renamed States after each had declared her independence. Hence, the name "united States". The common government they instituted for themselves was called the United States of America with its executive power vested in a President. To properly define that office, they specifically enumerated each power in their federal Constitution, ratified in 1787, with the certainty that each State would have a say in choosing the man for the office. A noble and brilliant experiment, to be sure.

"Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of Electors, equal to the whole number of senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled to in the Congress."

Be sure to note here that each State legislature may make its own rules concerning who these Electors might be. Today, all States use a popular vote of qualified citizens, but are not required to do so except as under their own Laws and Constitutions.

That being said, a list of duties for the position was outlined in the Constitution. Article II, Sections 2-4, which enumerate the powers of the president, comprise but four paragraphs, most of which deal with appointments and minor duties and remain unchanged to this day.

Here they are:

- Receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers, Commission Officers of the United States;
 - Finally, he shall take care that the federal laws be faithfully executed.
- The president is to act as commander in chief of the army and navy, but Congress alone can commit the nation to war, that is, "declare war." The president is to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed," but only Congress can enact laws, and then only within the scope of its limited, enumerated powers. *The presidency was intended to be a largely ceremonial position whose occupant would confine him to enforcing federal laws.* Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Taney wrote in 1862 that the president essentially has only one power regarding the life, liberty, and property of private citizens. The president has the power to "take care that the laws shall be faithfully executed." The president "is not authorized to execute them himself, or through agents or officers, civil or military, appointed by himself, but he is to take care that they be faithfully carried into execution, as they are expounded and adjudged by the coordinate branch of the government to which that duty is assigned by the constitution."
- Sounds pretty simple and something most charismatic and outgoing patriotic gentlemen with a keen sense of military tactics could do. Nothing is mentioned here about bringing people together, educating citizens or providing employment, health care, home loans or repairing the myriad of social ills ostensibly besetting the several States.
- However, over time, abruptly during Abraham Lincoln's presidency and progressively during the twentieth century and into the twenty-first, presidents have seized more and more power.
- The people of the States who ratified the original Constitution never intended the presidency to be a powerful office spawning "great men."
- Does your favorite candidate promise to lead within the constraints of the Constitution or overstep its lawful boundaries? Maybe you had better take another look before you cast that vote.
- American liberty will never be reestablished so long as elites and masses alike look to the President to perform supernatural feats and therefore tolerate his virtually unlimited exercise of power. Until we can restore limited, constitutional government in this country, God save us from great presidents.
- The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States;
 - He shall have power to make treaties;
 - Nominate and appoint Ambassadors, public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the Supreme Court, and other officers with the consent of Congress;
 - Fill temporary vacancies during the recess of the Senate;
 - Give to Congress information of the state of the Union and recommend any measures he shall judge necessary and expedient;
 - Convene and adjourn Houses of Congress on extraordinary occasions;

Camp Calendar

Dates to Remember

- **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.*
- **Apr 21** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan
Program: *To be announced.*
- **Apr 26** - Confederate Memorial Day
Camp 745 Celebration
Jones Cemetery, Callahan.

February 2008

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March 2008

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Celebrating Birthdays?

Abe Lincoln's 199th Birthday
February 12

More so than Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt or Lyndon Johnson, Abraham Lincoln created a State that no internal component could defy.

Under his rule, Americans went from a federal government that represented 1-2% of the gross domestic product to one of 20% by 1865

The Truth of the Matter

"Christianity is not my religion and the bible is not my book. I have never united myself in any church because I could never give assent to the long, complicated statements of Christian doctrine and dogma."

Confession by Abraham Lincoln



April 2008

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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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Sons of Confederate Veterans

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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.

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