

# The Ironclad Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

March 2007



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## The Founding Fathers Had it Right

**"... and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate."** Taken from Article V of the U.S. Constitution.

Is the State of Florida represented in the Congress of the United States government?

With respect to states' rights, it should be readily apparent to all that state governments cannot exert any meaningful influence or control over the federal government, judiciary, or any other federal institution.

Let us state the problem precisely. At the present time, there are no checks and balances available to the states over federal power or over Congress itself in any area. Since the passing of the 17th Amendment in 1913, the Federal Government has exploded out of control, usurping the rightful power of State Governments to govern the people. As the power was wrested from state elected officials, it was transferred to non-elected Federal officials who do not

### Southern National Congress Committee Launches "Year of the South" Campaign

The Southern National Congress Committee has announced a "Year of the South" campaign to establish a Southern National Congress (SNC). "Southerners will celebrate two significant anniversaries this year, the bicentennial of the birth of Robert E. Lee and the quadrennial anniversary of the first English colony in North America, at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. 2007 is not just 'the Year of Lee', it is 'the Year of the South.'

Visit [southernnationalcongress.org](http://southernnationalcongress.org)

answer to the people because the people do not vote them in nor out of office. Thus any government official not directly reporting to a specific elected official is out of the control of the people. From these officials there is no redress!

We need to return to the Founding Fathers Success Formula, which kept

*(17th Amendment - Continued on page 5)*

## Retention - a Twelve Month Endeavor

By Ed Butler, Army of Tennessee Councilman

During the last year of my term as Tennessee Division Commander, I contacted Elm Springs to ask the number of delinquent members in the Tennessee Division.

Before reading further, I hope you will visualize a number that you would guess. I was shocked to learn that we have over six thousand eight hundred delinquent

members. That is about two and a half times the number of current members. The idea of sending them a letter encouraging them to renew was quickly dismissed. I am convinced that contacting delinquent members is still an excellent way to grow our numbers but it must be done at the camp level so it can be accom-

*(Retention - Continued on page 2)*

## Retention

*(Continued from page 1)*

plished by phone or personal contact. If you would like a list of delinquent members in your area, contact our Headquarters.

We are in competition with many other organizations for the time and talents of our members. The furious pace of today's lifestyle is also a major detraction. Retention will always be a challenge but we can definitely improve our percentages if we will make retention a year round effort. If we are to retain a larger portion of our members, we must emphasize the importance of our organization and the importance of each member to the general well being of the SCV. I repeat, we must make each member feel that HE is important to the general well being of the SCV! When I served as Commander of the Dillard-Judd Camp #1828 in Cookeville, TN I was determined we would not lose the usual ten to fifteen percent of our members that had been common in past years. Starting the first month I was Commander, I composed an article for our camp newsletter. One of the basic desires of human nature is the desire to feel important or needed. I tried every month to include something that would emphasize the im-

portance of each member and the need to grow our numbers. When the time came that dues were to be paid, we printed a notice in the camp newsletter as usual and thirty days later had the usual results! At the end of the second month, about twenty-five percent of the members had still not paid their dues. This was the year the due date was advanced to August so it would be consistent with our Fiscal Year. There was much sad singing and slow walking at the Dillard-Judd Staff Meeting that month as some expressed their doubt that we would retain several members as they had paid dues just six or eight months ago.

I decided not to ask any of my fellow officers to call delinquent members because of their negative attitude and I boldly made the statement that I would call them myself. As I called the twelve to fifteen members to ask that they remit their dues, I was totally amazed at the warm reception I got from most of them. Some of these men were charter members but never attend a Camp meeting or event so I had never met them. Most asked

*(Continued on page 3)*

## What Do You Apologise For Next? The Virginia Legislature "Apologises" For Slavery

Well, the legislature of the state of Virginia has now officially "apologised" for slavery--a slavery they had nothing to do with. And who have they apologised to--others who were never enslaved to begin with? So what they have done is to apologise for something they never did to folks that have never suffered from what they never did. Sounds like an exercise in futility to me. You might as well apologise because the craters on the moon don't look they way you would like them to through a telescope--and so you "apologise" for how ugly they are. One makes about as much sense as the other.

A writer to a Fredericksburg, Virginia newspaper wrote: "I am amazed at the constant need of individuals and groups to demand an apology for the institution of slavery, which ended 141 years ago." Noting that former slaveowners and slaves are long since deceased, he asked, and rightly so, "who is left to apologise to?" Good question. Who indeed?

But understanding the mindset of the political and religious Left today, (these are usually the people that demand such apologies) we need to ask, not only ourselves but others, exactly what is the real reason for all

this apologising? What does it accomplish? Actually it is little more than another slick form of guilt manipulation as practised by the Leftists.

*Leftists want you to feel guilty, about being Christian, about being white, about being Southern.*

If you don't understand history, and most of Virginia's legislators probably don't, then the Leftists can manipulate you and make you feel guilty for all manner of things they've convinced you that you did or are wrong about. And if, like most legislators in most states today, you don't stand for anything except your own re-election, then you will be tempted to fall for most anything you think will give you another voting bloc to depend on. So, if you really want the black vote, why then just grovel a little--bend the knee to the so-called black "leadership" in this country today and that might help you--so you think! Actually, if you are that willing to apologise for something you never took part in, those people have nothing but contempt for you, and you won't buy their good will (of which they really have none) or their votes.

But the Leftists want you to feel guilty, about being Christian, about being white, about being Southern and defending your history and heritage--and so they shove this big bowl of apology mush in your face and watch

*(Virginia Apologises - Continued on page 4)*

## Retention

*(Continued from page 2)*

questions and wanted to talk about the SCV, Camp activities, and their own ancestors. In a week, the number of delinquent members was reduced to four or five. On my second call, I asked when it would be convenient to come by their home or place of employment to pick up a check! We had 100% retention a day or two later!

The phone calls had not only been productive, I had gotten acquainted with some members that I would have never had the opportunity to meet otherwise. I was amused the following year when one delinquent member made the statement, I have been wondering if you would call me again this year?! I proved to others and myself in the camp that 100% retention two years in a row is possible. It happened in Cookeville, it can happen in your Camp also!

## A Biblical Admonition

*"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them." (Ephesians 5:6-7)*

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## Meet Our Speaker

Robert Parker Hurst

Sons of Confederate Veterans activities:

- Member since 1997
- Commander, Col. David Lang Camp #1314, 2001-present
- 2nd Lieutenant Commander, Florida Division, 2005-present
- Public Affairs Officer, Florida Division, 2004-present
- Recipient of 2 Dixie Club medals and 4 Dixie Club citations
- Recipient of Meritorious Service Medal

Educational Background:

- BS in Pharmacy, Auburn University, 1968 (President, School of Pharmacy Student Body; Phi Lambda Sigma leadership society; Sigma Nu Fraternity; Varsity tennis)
- MSP in Urban & Regional Planning, Florida State University, 1975 (Masters)
- MSPA in Public Administration, Florida State University, 1976 (Masters)
- inducted into Phi Kappa Phi national scholastic honorary, 1975

Special Interests:

- Photographing antebellum mansions of the Old South (have photographed more than 200 since the late 1960's and presently present power point presentation to interested groups)
- Collecting Confederate art work by such artists as John Paul Strain, Mort Kunstler, David Wright, Michael Gnatek, and others
- Speaking to various historical groups on themes of the Old South and the Confederacy
- Writing monthly column entitled *CONFEDERATE JOURNAL* for magazine

## On the Internet

Just type: "**SCV Camp 745**" into your browser 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)**

## Projects and Goals

### SCV Goals for 2007

- Add more members to the "Red Shirt" Honour guard, especially musicians.
- Concentrate on local history, whenever possible.
- Spread the Camp responsibility

### OCR Goals for 2007

- A stone for the grave of Rebecca Higginbotham Jones
- A Chapter #6 Banner

## Advertisement

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## Historical Quiz

In May of 1860 the U. S. Congress passed a bill raising the average tariff from about 15% to 37% with increases to 47% within three years. Although this was remarkably reminiscent of the Tariffs of Abomination which had led in 1832 to a constitutional crisis and threats of secession and armed force, the U. S. House of Representatives passed the Bill 105 to 64. Out of 40 Southern Congressmen only one Tennessee Congressman voted for it.

Who was this tax bill named for?

Mail your answer to: **Historical Quiz, P.O. Box 37338, Jacksonville, Florida 32236**, or send an email to: [ne-flos@net-host.net](mailto:ne-flos@net-host.net)

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



## Virginia Apologises

*(Continued from page 2)*

you choke trying to swallow it.

Don't kid yourself that it will stop with the slavery issue. It will go on and on. Pretty soon you will be asked to apologize for the fact that Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson were born within the borders of Virginia, or some other such foolishness. Once they've got you on the apology skid, they don't plan to let you off. And, down the road somewhere, will magically appear the siren song of reparations. You can then atone for your "guilt" by paying and paying, and paying. And if it ever

gets that far, you can bet the black "leadership" will pocket most of what you shovel out. Wait and see if this doesn't end up being the name of the game at some point. It may not happen tomorrow, but keep your eyes open.

I wonder what would have happened if the Virginia legislature had had the courage to stand up and refused to pass this little bit of iniquity. We can only surmise because such didn't happen, did it?

*Thanks to Al Benson, Jr.*

## We Call Them Southrons

"I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations."

*James Madison*



The Southern Spirit

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# 17th Amendment

*(Continued from page 1)*

government leaders “chained down by the Constitution” and accountable to the people. We can do this by repealing the 17th Amendment.

Returning the various powers to govern from Washington D. C. to the states would automatically bring about campaign finance reform. Senators would not be pressured to solicit money from any special interest group nor deal with media phobia, nor the prejudice of spur of the moment opinion polls.

These are times of change; most recently some of the changes are monumental. While we would rather ignore some of the conse-

quences of these changes— some we just cannot ignore. For example many historical scholars are finding some alarming comparisons in today’s events with some of the mistakes of the past. Are the “seeds of destruction that crumbled ancient Rome” as outlined by Gibbons, evident in our civilization in our day?

Repealing the 17th Amendment would return the United States Senate to the design of the Founding Fathers, there being two Houses of Congress; a House of the People and House of the States. Under the current system, U.S. Senators haven't any incentive to

contact and work with their own state legislators, giving the States no representation in the central government.

To her credit, Florida did not ratify the 17th amendment, as it never reached the State Senate.

In 2004, after announcing his retirement, Senator Zell Miller of Georgia introduced a constitutional amendment (S.J. Res. 35) that would repeal the Seventeenth Amendment, arguing that it gives too much power to Washington's special interests and was an attack on federalism.

## Reliving Florida's Past

**MARCH 1 1861** Construction of the first cross-peninsula railroad from Fernandina to Cedar Key was completed today. David Levy Yulee, United States Senator from Florida, was the driving force behind this railroad. Although used very little because of the outbreak of the War between the States in April, the railroad made Cedar Key a major urban site in the immediate postwar years. (See Charles Fishburne, History of Cedar Key)

**MARCH 3 1821** East and West Florida are unified under the control of General Andrew Jackson today.

**MARCH 3 1845** Florida was admitted into the United States as the twenty-seventh state today. President John Tyler signed the act of admission

**MARCH 4 1845** On this date, Tallahassee officially became the capital of Florida. Governor William Pope Duval, the first Territo-

rial Governor, issued the proclamation.

**MARCH 5 1865** Federal forces have occupied the left bank of the St. Mark's River as far inland as Newport. Federal commander Gen-



eral John Newton is expected to move his forces toward Natural Bridge. Federal success here will mean that Tallahassee will fall. Confederate forces are moving to prevent the successful passage of the Union force.

**MARCH 12 1812** The Territory of East Florida was declared to be in existence today on Amelia Island.

**MARCH 19 1832** United States Secretary of War John C. Calhoun ordered the creation of a road between St. Augustine and St. Mary's. Calhoun also ordered a survey for a road between St. Augustine and Pensacola.

**MARCH 25 1781** Twenty-three Spanish horses and two scalps were brought to the English fortification in Pensacola by Indian allies of the British during the two-month long Spanish siege of the city.

**MARCH 25 1901** Plans were announced for the integration of two new Clyde Line passenger ships to operate between Jacksonville and New York today. The ships, nearing completion in a Delaware shipyard, are the Apache and the Arapahoe.

# The Moral Right To Secede

## A Voluntary Association of States

The United States is a voluntary association created by the states and states have and had every right to secede. Lincoln was wrong. He did not have the authority, either Constitutional or moral, to make war on the South. The Declaration of Independence itself provides for secession - "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government..."

"If tyranny and despotism justified the Revolution of 1776, then we do not see why it would not justify the secession of 5 millions of Southrons from the federal union in 1861. -- NY Tribune 12/17/1860

To determine the moral right in this matter, ask yourself this simple question: "Would any colony have agreed to join the Union if it had known it would have to fight to get out?" Not a single one would have.

"Opposing secession changes the nature of government from a voluntary one, in which the people are sovereigns, to a despotism where one part of the people are slaves." -- NY Journal of Commerce 1/12/1861

Jefferson Davis in his inaugural address stated that, "the American idea [is] that governments rest on the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish them at will whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established." Similarly President James Buchanan in his annual message to Congress in 1860 said, "The fact is that our Union rests upon public opinion and can never be cemented by the blood of its citizens...If it can not live in the affections of its people, it must die."

Horace Greeley wrote "We hope never to live in a republic whereof one section is pinned to the residue by bayonets" (1/19/1860).

George Mason University Professor Walter Williams argues that Lincoln's defeat of the South meant the abrogation of the Tenth Amendment - that the concentration of imperial power in Washington was an inevitable result of the war. His analogy is that if you tell a wife she cannot divorce under any circumstances, then her husband can treat her any way he wants. The federal government can treat states any way they want and they want to reduce them to subjugated vassal extensions. As we shall see below, the war was death to the Constitution of the United States in many ways.

Founding Father Alexander Hamilton argued at the Constitutional Convention, "To coerce the states is one of the maddest projects that was ever devised...What picture does this idea present to our view? A complying state at war with a non-complying state: Congress marching the troops of one state into the bosom of another? Here is a nation at war with itself. Can a reasonable man be well disposed toward a government which

makes war and carnage the only means of supporting itself - a government that can only exist by the sword?"

### Destruction of the Constitution

Lincoln suspended Habeas Corpus and 13,000 people were thrown into prison in Washington, DC, alone on charges never brought or made known. In his Proclamation of September 24, 1864, Lincoln by executive fiat ordered that all citizens who engaged in "disloyal practices" would be tried in military tribunals, with such practices decided at whim by Lincoln himself. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Roger B. Taney informed Lincoln that he was engaged in practices that violated the Constitution he had sworn an oath to uphold. (*Harold Hyman, A More Perfect Union, pp 85-86*) Lincoln issued orders to arrest the octogenarian Taney but thought better of assaulting the most respected man in the country. The governor of New York reminded people that the founding fathers during the Revolution did not destroy men's rights - "THEY did not say liberty was suspended, that men might be deprived of the right to trial by jury, that they might be torn from their homes by midnight intruders."

Lincoln let his generals suspend 300 newspapers. As Encyclopedia Britannica puts it "He justified this action on the ground that he had to allow some temporary sacrifice of the Constitution in order to maintain the Union..." In other words, he destroyed the Constitution in order to save it. It is little wonder that Booth considered Lincoln a tyrant and expected Lincoln to create a monarchy. Lincoln's model of assuming war powers and concentrating power in Washington was the precedent used by Wilson and FDR as a tool to remake America into a socialist state. Their intense desire and eagerness to grab and use this tool lead them to mistaken and harmful war-mongering. When the Constitution fails them they have only to say "this is time of war - and war gives all needed power."

### Ordinance of Secession.

*We, the People of the State of Florida in Convention assembled, do solemnly ordain, publish and declare: That the State of Florida hereby withdraws herself from the Confederacy of States existing under the name of the United States of America, and from the existing Government of said States; and that all political connection between her and the Government of said States ought to be and the same is hereby totally annulled, and said union of States dissolved; and the State of Florida is hereby declared a Sovereign and Independent Nation; and that all ordinances heretofore adopted in so far as they create or recognize said Union are rescinded; and all laws or parts of laws in force in this State, in so far as they recognize or assent to said Union be and they are hereby repealed.*

*Done in open Convention, January 10th, A.D. 1861*

**Dates to Remember**

- **Mar. 19** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Speaker:** Dr. Robert Hurst., *"Battle of Natural Bridge, Florida"*
- **Mar. 31** - Heritage Meeting at the Scottish-Rite Temple in Jacksonville. *"Red Shirts" will perform.*
- **Apr. 16** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Speaker:** Mr. Larry Skinner., *Topic To be announced*
- **Apr. 26** - Confederate Memorial Day  
Legal Holiday in Florida  
**Camp Observance:** *To be announced.*
- **May. 18-20** - Florida Division Re-union  
in Ocala at the Ramada Inn. (Highways I-75 and US27)
- **May 21** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Speaker:** *To be announced*
- **Jun. 2** - Railroad Days in Callahan.  
Parade and Exhibit.
- **Jun. 18** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting  
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan  
**Speaker:** *To be announced*

**April 2007**

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**May 2007**

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**A Challenge to all Southerners**

"The South is a true nation built on realities of place and kinship and history. Without it we cannot survive.

When we know who we are and are willing to defend ourselves and our posterity, then we shall be a truly free people. If we fail to grapple with this basic question, we shall end up in the proverbial "dustbin of history: --unsung, unworthy, and unlamented."

*Dr. J. Michael Hill*



**June 2007**

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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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## 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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