

The Ironclad Newsletter

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Take your nation and shove it

Secession Convention heats up as an escape valve for States

Despite the antagonistic headline, this is a fairly objective treatment of the Second Annual Secession Convention held October 3-4 In Chattanooga, Tennessee:

Is the idea of secession loopy? Independence movements are not new or novel in America. The Revolutionary War was a secession from the British Empire. Vermont and Texas were once independent republics. Several states have the right of secession embodied in their Constitutions.

Maybe it's time.

And maybe it's past time. The groaning machinery of imperial bureaucracy has choked the life out of grass-roots movements for so long, it's been nearly impossible for the system to correct itself. Boondoggles such as the No Child Left Behind law, Homeland Security, and the Iraq War—which not only continues despite popular opposition, but is about to expand into an Iranian front—are symptoms of a system in such an advanced state of decay that the old rules and old models just don't fit anymore. The writer, John Sugg of CreativeLoafing.com in Atlanta, gets it:

The meeting last week ended with the adoption of the "Chattanooga Declaration." It argues that the "old left-right split" is

meaningless and dead, that the "power of corporations endanger liberty as much as government power, especially when they are combined ... in the American Empire," and that the "American Empire is no longer a nation or a republic, but has become a tyrant."

A lot of Americans clearly feel the same way. A year ago, a CNN poll found that an overwhelming 71 percent of Americans felt "our system of government is broken and cannot be fixed." Things have gone from merely terrible to really horrible since then.

Yes, secession is still ridiculed as a solution to the spiraling chaos DC continues to generate. However, at some point, things are going to heat up until the simmer becomes a boil, and then, secession will be recognized as the only means of escape. How long it'll take is anyone's guess. Nevertheless, too many sharp observers have noted what's going on for it all to be a figment of the imagination of a bunch of "Fergit Hell!" daydreamers. The empire is falling apart under its own unmanageable weight, and the only thing that can save us from being sucked down with it is home rule.

To the lifeboats.

From the Lost Cause to the New South

From K. Steven Monk and J. Michael Hill

From 1861 until 1865, the Southern states of what we today call the United States of America existed as a sovereign nation known as the Confederate States of America. Because of differences in culture, economics and religion which the South felt were irreconcilable, they had seceded from their alliance with the Northern states. This was an act which,

under the terms which they had ratified the Constitution, they had the right to do (they had in fact entered that union as sovereign states under contract with the other sovereign states and a federal entity known as the United States or federal government).

(Go to Cause - Continued on page 2)

Cause

(Continued from page 1)

All would have been well and good had the federal government simply let the Southern states go their way. We had no hatred for the Northern people, we simply wanted to be left alone. But empires are not built through pacifism and so federal forces acting under the dictatorial authority of Abraham Lincoln invaded our homeland with a vehemence that was unprecedented in the history of mankind. In the single most costly war in American history brother was often times pitted against brother in a conflict that took more American lives than have all the wars that she has ever fought in combined.

Although we lost the War for Southern Independence, the cause for which we fought still lives on in the hearts of our fellow Southern patriots, or Southrons, as they are more properly termed. It will always live on so long as men desire to be free -- free to live their lives in the way they see fit without the constraints and infringements of government. Government without the consent of the people is tyranny and, as such, has no

legitimacy. Patriots fought against tyranny in 1776 and they fought against it again in 1861. Man's desire to be free does not sleep nor will it die. It is an inalienable right granted by God and not by any governmental institution created by men.

The war ended in 1865 with the peace to which Robert E. Lee agreed, but the hostilities continue. It has been 142 years since the last shots of the War for Southern Independence were fired, but still, Yankee troops remain on our soil and their Washington based government continues to rule us with an iron hand. We are living under an occupational government. The Yankee Empire has replaced our constitutional form of government with a bureaucracy, backed by a non-elected judiciary of unprecedented power. Its open-door policy on illegal aliens is daily destroying our unique Southern culture with government-enforced multiculturalism and "political correctness." This same wave of political correctness has incited the removal of many of our monuments and memorials from public display. The

(Continued on page 3)

The Chattanooga Declaration

From the League of the South News Service

On 3-4 October 2007 AD, the League of the South, the premier organisation of the Southern independence movement, and the Middlebury Institute of New York, cosponsored the Second North American Secessionist Convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The convention was attended by delegates from the numerous secession movements currently active within these united States. The purpose of the convention was to provide a forum for the representatives of those movements to discuss strategies, exchange ideas and information, and find areas of mutual understanding and cooperation. The event was a resounding success, and resulted in the issuance of the following joint statement by the delegates.

THE CHATTANOOGA DECLARATION

The Chattanooga Declaration was drafted and approved by delegates to the Second North American Secessionist Convention on 4 October 2007.

We, the delegates of the Secession movements represented at the Second North American Secessionist Convention, acknowledging our differences, yet agree on the following truths:

1. The deepest questions of human liberty and

government facing our time go beyond right and left, and in fact have made the old right-left split meaningless and dead.

2. The privileges, monopolies, and powers that private corporations have won from government threaten everyone's health, prosperity, and liberty, and have already killed American self-government by the people.
3. The power of corporations endangers liberty as much as government power, especially when they are combined as in the American Empire.
4. Liberty can only survive if political power is returned from faraway and self-interested centers to local communities and States.
5. The American Empire is no longer a nation or a republic, but has become a tyrant aggressive abroad and despotic at home.
6. The States of the American union are and of right ought to be, free and self-governing.
7. Without secession, liberty and self-government can never be sustained, and diversity among human societies can never survive.

Cause

(Continued from page 2)

removal of still others is a constant threat. Even our cherished banners--symbols of Southern Pride--have been banned from public display and from schools in many areas of our beloved Southland. We can all remember a time when the playing of "Dixie" at a school football game would bring the crowd to its feet with wildly exuberant cheers and Rebel Yells. Now it too has been banned from school grounds and alumni events, right along with prayer.

But the spirit of our people, fueled by this Cause, undaunted by reconstruction and guided by the hand of God, like the phoenix which rose from the ashes, will lead Southrons to build a new South that will rise in prominence among the nations of the world.

However, no people can be truly free without the means of withdrawing from an illicit regime that is destructive of life, liberty, and property. Our forebears in 1787-88 understood that at some time in the future their descendants might find it necessary and profitable to dissolve the political bonds that joined the States together in voluntary union. That time came in 1860-61, and indeed it may be prudent again in the twenty-first century

if we are to be a free people.

Consider the words of President Davis, "*We feel that our cause is just and holy; we protest solemnly in the face of mankind that we desire peace at any sacrifice save that of honour and independence; we ask no conquest, no aggrandizement, no concession of any kind from the States with which we were lately confederated; all we ask is to be let alone; that those who never held power over us shall not now attempt our subjugation by arms.*"

Secession is nothing more than the assertion of the inalienable right of a people to change their form of government whenever it ceases to fulfill the purposes for which it was created. Under the U.S. Constitution this should be a peaceful remedy. The decision of a State or States to withdraw from a confederacy or league (and not to overthrow it by rebellion) ought not be seen as a revolutionary or insurrectionary act. To call the secession of a sovereign State from a voluntary union an act of "treason" or "rebellion" is sheer folly. Yet this is what most Americans --especially Southerners-- have been taught.

Independence? State Sovereignty?

Governor encourages citizens to suckle the Mother's Milk of the federal leviathan

FRANKFORT, Ken –

In 2004, the latest year figures are available, the Tax Foundation reported that the U.S. federal government seized just under \$20 million in taxes from the citizens of the Blue Grass State.

Meanwhile, Governor Ernie Fletcher recently announced that \$ 1.5 million in federal funding has been released to Kentucky to help low-income families pay for home heating.

"It's not too early to prepare for the colder months, and this funding will ensure that the families who need help paying their utility bills will have it when winter arrives," Governor Fletcher said.

The federal government released \$131 million for all states' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs (LIHEAP). The Cabinet for Health and Family Services administers the program in Kentucky through a contract with the Kentucky Association for Community Action (KACA). Benefits are disbursed through local Community Action Agency (CAA) offices. An astounding array of bureaucracies, to be sure, and not just peculiar to Kentucky.

"The federal government recognizes the importance of providing families with a basic resource like home energy," Governor Fletcher said. "Our administrators do a wonderful job of ensuring that the eligible households that

*(Go to **Federal**, continued on page 4)*

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

Our WEBMASTER is Pastor Greg Wilson of Archer, Florida . His e-mail address is **LIBCFL@aol.com**

REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS

Dues now payable

Dues for 2007-2008 are now due in the amount of \$45.00 and will be past due if not paid by October 31st.

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**

Thanks to all members for keeping their membership current.

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Historical Quiz

What was the original number of States that were in the Union when the United States government began operations under the Constitution in 1789?

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:

What phrase was found in the titles of all legislation passed under Franklin Roosevelt's "New Deal"?

Answer: All of the legislation passed as part of the "New Deal" had the phrase "national emergency" in the title.

Many good answers were received, but no one was correct.

Federal Funding

(Continued from page 3)

can benefit most - seniors, the disabled and families with young children - are encouraged to take advantage of it."

Think about it. How can we find independence when the treasure of our States is being redistributed to us on a need to receive basis dictated by the power-seeking politicians in Washington, D.C.? Does this benefit the "common welfare"? Cannot – should not care for their own? Begging at the King is

the trough of not freedom.

And, by every dollar government the good

Florida, 3 cents is lost to us forever. The remaining 97 cents is returned only after we exhibit the proper behaviour and a sufficient amount of begging.

Is this the proper way to care for our people?

"...the disabled and families with young children - are encouraged to take advantage of it."

the way, for the federal takes from citizens of

Are You Mad Enough Yet?

"There is a class of people [Southerners], men, women and children, who must be killed or banished before you can hope for peace and order."

(William Tecumseh Sherman)

Should we add *brainwashed* for a more modern flavour?



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"Governor, if I had foreseen the use these people desired to make of their victory, there would have been no surrender at Appomattox, no, sir, not by me. Had I seen these results of subjugation, I would have preferred to die at Appomattox with my brave men, my sword in this right hand."



The Southern Spirit

General Robert E. Lee

Camp 745 Happenings

Corn Maze

Don't forget to attend the Corn Maze to be held in Callahan on November 5th. Details will be announced at our monthly camp meeting.

Tommy Clayton's Cane Squeezin'

Don't forget to attend Tommy Clayton's Cane Squeezin' to be held in Callahan on November 17th. Details will be announced at our monthly camp meeting.

Florida Company Seizes Employee's Cotton Blossom

From the files of the Southern Legal Resource Center

CLEARWATER, Fla –

A supervisor at a Florida ice cream plant has asked the SLRC to investigate the confiscation by company officials of a stalk of cotton he brought to work to show fellow employees.

The employee, who works at a Good Humor/Breyers plant in Clearwater, says he picked the single stalk of cotton on his way back from a family reunion in Georgia and brought it to work to show his colleagues, many of whom had never seen an actual cotton boll. He placed the cotton on his desk, left his work station and returned to find the cotton gone. A company human resources officer



told him it had been removed because it "might cause disruption."

"It was just an object, a boll of cotton," the employee said. "I brought it to show around because to me it's pretty. That was the only motive."

The employee says he feels the company's action was arbitrary and unwarranted, undermined his supervisory position, and casts an unfavorable light on his record as an employee, without foundation. He is appealing through company channels while the investigation goes forward.

Any guesses as to why the disdain of this beautiful Southern bloom? Ah, they have so much love for the South, don't they.

Reliving Florida's Past

OCTOBER 2 1672 Ground breaking ceremonies are held in St. Augustine for the construction of a coquina fortress capable of withstanding attacks from British colonists in Carolina. The fort still stands today as a monument to the patriots of Florida's past.

OCTOBER 3 1802 John Gorrie, the acknowledged inventor of air conditioning, was born today. Gorrie, a physician, was born in Charleston, SC. and later settled in Apalachicola, Florida. The idea for artificially cooling air in limited spaces was recognized by the U. S. Patent office when it granted him Patent Number 8080 on May 6, 1851. A statue of John Gorrie was placed in the Capitol rotunda in Washington, DC, in 1914. Gorrie is one of two Floridians thus honored.

OCTOBER 4 1817 Luis Aury, a French-born pirate and reputed general in the Mexican independence movement, raised a flag on Amelia Island and declared himself in possession of an independent republic.

OCTOBER 5 1862 The City of Jacksonville was occupied today by Federal forces. The city is practically deserted. Union pickets encountered Confederate cavalry two miles east of the city. Confederate units are camped



about 12 miles west of Jacksonville.

OCTOBER 6 1862 Floridians are voting today for state offices (Senate and House of Representatives) under the new Confederate Constitution of Florida.

OCTOBER 7 1763 On this date,

British Florida was divided into East Florida and West Florida by Royal Proclamation. The dividing line was the Chattahoochee-Apalachicola River..

OCTOBER 27 1912 Today the Cohen Brothers, operators of Jacksonville's oldest department store (founded in 1867), opened a "block square" store in the St. James Building facing Hemming Park. Today, this building is the site of the Jacksonville City Hall.

OCTOBER 27 1834 A Seminole Council was held today at Fort King (Ocala). Osceola, Micanopy and other chiefs expressed strong hostility to the policy of removal to lands west of the Mississippi River.

OCTOBER 31 1900 Citizens of Jacksonville and North Florida experienced eight distinctive earthquake shocks at about 11:15 a.m. on today. The shocks, rated as 5 on the Mercalli Scale, produced broken windows, cracked plaster, and broken dishes. Twice before in 1879 and 1880 Florida experienced earthquakes in the modern age.

Secession Convention Held in Tennessee

147 years later, State separation is still a hot topic

Desiring to secede from the union known as the United States, two advocacy groups from opposite political traditions - New England and the South - are sitting down to talk.

Tired of foreign wars and what they consider right-wing courts, the Middlebury Institute of New York wants liberal states like Vermont to be able to secede peacefully.

That sounds just fine to the League of the South, a conservative group that refuses to give up on Southern independence.

"We believe that an independent South, or Hawaii, Alaska, or Vermont would be better able to serve the interest of everybody, regardless of race or ethnicity," said Michael Hill of Killen, Alabama, president of the League of the South.

Separated by hundreds of miles and divergent political philosophies, the Middlebury Institute and the League of the South hosted a two-day Secessionist Convention October 3rd -4th in Chattanooga.

Anyone wanting to separate from the Union so states can save themselves from an overbearing federal government was encouraged to attend. There were delegates pledged from 14 secessionist organizations in North America, from Hawaii to Georgia, and 2 from Europe, plus a dozen observers and 4 members of the press. The convention was held at the Marriott Convention Center Hotel in downtown Chattanooga.

Commenting on the difference between North and South, Hill said, If allowed to go their own way, New Englanders "probably would allow abortion and have gun control," while Southerners "would probably crack down on illegal immigration harder than it is being now."

The U.S. Constitution does not explicitly prohibit secession, but many doubt its viability in today political climate.

Vermont, one of the nation's most liberal states, has become a hotbed for liberal secessionists, a movement that has gained new traction because of the Iraq war, rising oil prices and the formation of several pro-secession groups.

Thomas Naylor, the founder of one of those groups, the Second Vermont Republic, said the friendly relationship with the League of the South doesn't mean everyone shares all the same beliefs.

Nevertheless, Naylor, a retired Duke University professor, said the League of the South shares his group's opposition to the federal government and the need to pursue secession.

"It doesn't matter if our next president is Condoleezza (Rice) or Hillary (Clinton), it is going to be grim," said Naylor, adding that there are secessionist movements in more than 25 states, including Hawaii, Alaska, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Texas.

The Middlebury Institute, based in Cold Spring, New York, was started in 2005. Its followers, disillusioned by the Iraq war and federal imperialism, share the idea of states becoming independent republics. They contend their movement is growing.

The first North American Separatist Convention was held last fall in Vermont, which, unlike most Southern states, supports civil unions. Voters there elected a socialist to the U.S. Senate.

Middlebury director Kirpatrick Sale said Hill offered to sponsor the second secessionist convention, but the co-sponsor arrangement was intended to show that "the folks up north regard you as legitimate colleagues."

Harry Watson, director of the Center For the Study of the American South and a history professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said it was a surprise to see The Middlebury Institute conferring with the League of the South, he said the unlikely partnering "represents the far left and far right of American politics coming together."

After the War, Robert E. Lee recognized that centralized power inevitably destroys tradition, liberty, and security. A glance at today's headlines proves Lee was right. And recent events, especially the active participation of folks from Dixie, Vermont, and Alaska in the North American Secessionist Convention, prove Alexander Stephens right when he predicted, *"It will not be long, not few years hence, when the cause of the South will be the cause of us all."* Looks like that time has come.

Camp Calendar

Dates to Remember

- **Oct 15** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan
Program: *From the members - Confederate Ancestors*
- **Nov 5** - Corn Maze in Callahan
- **Nov 17** - Tommy Clayton's Cane Squeezin'
- **Nov 19** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan
Program: *To be announced.*
- **Dec 17** - Camp 745 Monthly Meeting
7:00 PM The Pig BBQ, Callahan
Program: *To be announced.*

Understanding Southerness

A true Southerner can show or point out to you the general direction of "cattywampus".

A Challenge to all Southerners

"The consolidation of the states into one vast republic, sure to be aggressive abroad and despotic at home, will be the certain precursor of that ruin which has overwhelmed all those that have preceded it."

General Robert E. Lee



October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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November 2007

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December 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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Sons of Confederate Veterans

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Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

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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- return economic power to those who have ties to Southern soil

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