

# THE **TARGETEER**

The Official Newsletter of the Lt. John T. Bullock Camp, SCV Camp #2205



**Issue No. 4 — November 2013**

# CONTENTS

## CAMP OFFICERS

### **Commander**

Joey Dickerson

### **1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander**

Frank Keller

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander**

Craig Phippen

### **Adjutant**

George Kearney

### **Chaplain**

Randy Green

### **Color Sergeant**

Brandon Yarboro

### **Surgeon**

Stanley Bennett

### **Historian**

Frank Keller

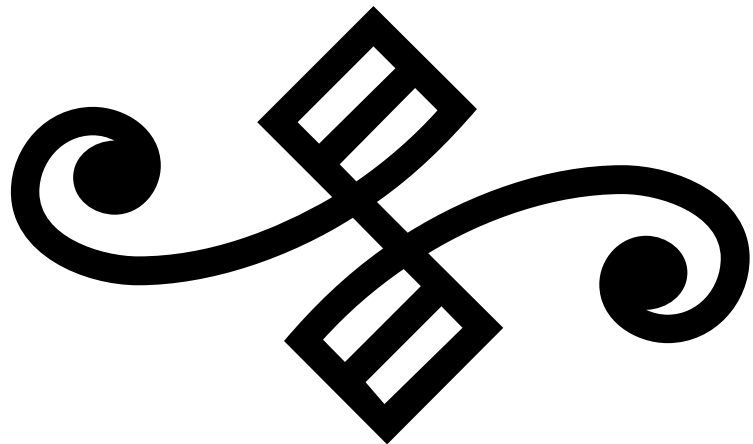
### **Web Master**

Allen Dew

### **Newsletter Editor**

Michael DeBoe

<b>Pledges .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Congratulations .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Camp News .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>From the Chaplain .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander's Comments .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>History of Fort Branch .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Battle of Ringgold Gap .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Contrasts in Character .....</b>	<b>9</b>



# THE CHARGE

“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 also ready to die for your country? Is your life worthy to be remembered along with theirs? Do you choose for yourself this 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

## Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America

*I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under GOD, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

## Salute to the Confederate Flag

*I salute the confederate flag with affection, reverence and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands.*

## Salute to the NC Flag

*I salute the flag of North Carolina and pledge love, loyalty, and faith.*



*Congratulations*

*To*

*Brandon & Rebecca*

*On The Birth Of Their*

*New Daughter*

*Arrie Lynn Yarboro*

*On*

*October 27<sup>th</sup> 2013*

# CAMP NEWS

## Next Meeting

### When

Tuesday November 5, 2013  
at 5:30pm

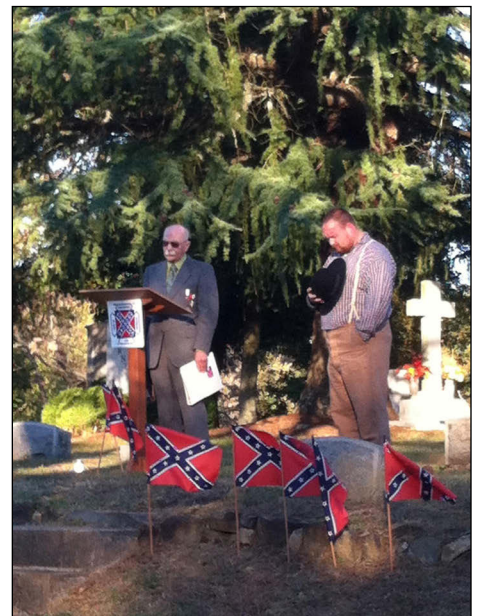
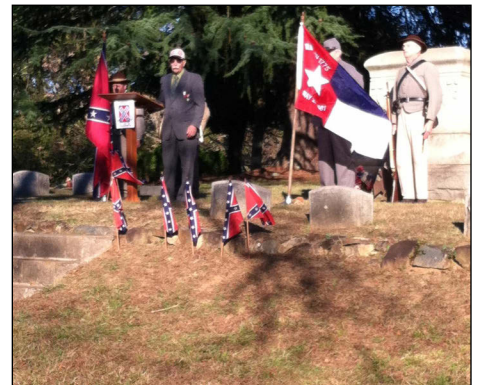
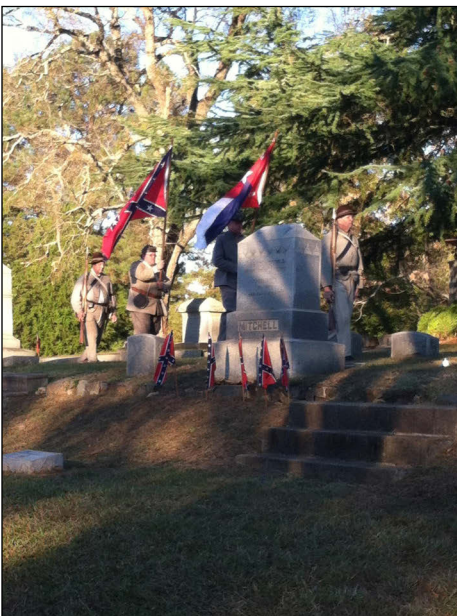
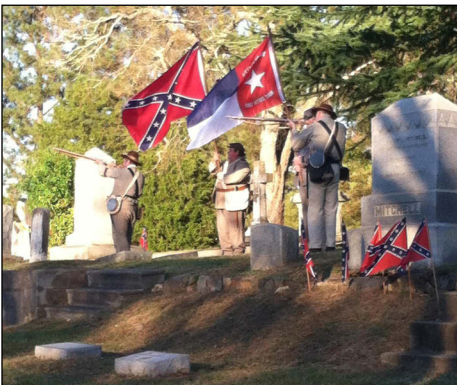
### Where

Bob's Barbecue in Creedmoor, NC

## Historic Elmwood Cemetery Tour

The Lt. John T. Bullock Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp from the Southern Granville County area sponsored the first annual Historic Elmwood Cemetery tour in Oxford on Saturday, October 26. The event took place to honor over seventy two Confederate Veterans that are buried in Elmwood Cemetery.

Many of these men shaped the destiny of the community as we know it today. Camp 2205 thanks everybody who made it out to help with the tour, and all those who came to take part in the tour.



# FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Hello to All,

As Chaplain for the John T. Bullock camp I would like to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve in this position. It has been an honor to be a member of such a great group of guys that we all share a common heritage. I really believe many of the problems we are currently experiencing today are the same issues faced by our ancestors 200 years ago. I think many people can not grasp our fierce unconditional feeling for individual freedom and independence given to us by our one and only maker. Government intrusion is not an option. Our rights and freedom are given to us from the same God that unites us together. ONE NATION UNDER GOD. I hope to explore this further in future newsletters. I would also like to give you folks a brief history of chaplain service of the U.S. armed services.

Chaplains have served the military since the American Revolution although not in great numbers. The Confederate Congress was the first to authorize chaplains for service in the army. The Union army had about 2387 men and the Confederate army about 1303 men served as chaplains. The original pay for the Confederate chaplain was 50 dollars per month and a Union chaplain 100 dollars per month. Although their numbers were small their impact on soldier morale was great as you could imagine. This is just a small taste of the impact of the chaplain during the Civil War and I will continue next time.

Randy Green  
Chaplain  
Lt. John T. Bullock Camp #2205



# 1<sup>ST</sup> LIEUTENANT COMMANDER COMMENTS

## Why General George?

One could find it curious that the Confederate States of America might choose the first President of the United States (the nation they had just broken free of) to be the centerpiece of their Great Seal.

Quite frankly George Washington was chosen because he embodied many of the same principles that our Confederate brethren held dear to their hearts. You see, Washington was more to the Confederate States of America than just the first President of the United States. He was more than just a Virginian. He was the symbol of the fighting spirit of freedom. Washington had fought a long war that led to the founding of a new nation guided solely by his principled values and his devotion to almighty God. Washington lived his life as a model of good character. A standard for others to strive to attain. In addition to being a soldier, General George was a man of agriculture, owning his own plantation. He was a staunch proponent of individual liberty, and personal responsibility. He was a Christian who believed in the natural rights of man. He believed that those rights were delegated directly to man from God, and was more than willing to bloody his sword in the defense of those values.

Citizens of the southern states felt a connection with these attributes. They too saw a need to take up arms to defend themselves from a tyrannical government that was reaching far beyond its granted powers. They could see their liberties shrinking away right before their very eyes.

The populous northern states were using their political might to impose their will on the agriculturally based south. They had eroded the rights of the masses as well as the price of their crops.

The good people of Dixieland had endured enough and were ripe for independence and revolution. Much the same way that George Washington and many others were a mere eighty five years earlier. So there, a southern gentleman hailing from deep plantation roots, endowed with fighting spirit, compassion, steadfastly resolute in the defense of his values, and his God, steeped in the spirit of individual liberty and individual freedom was chosen to be the centerpiece of the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America.

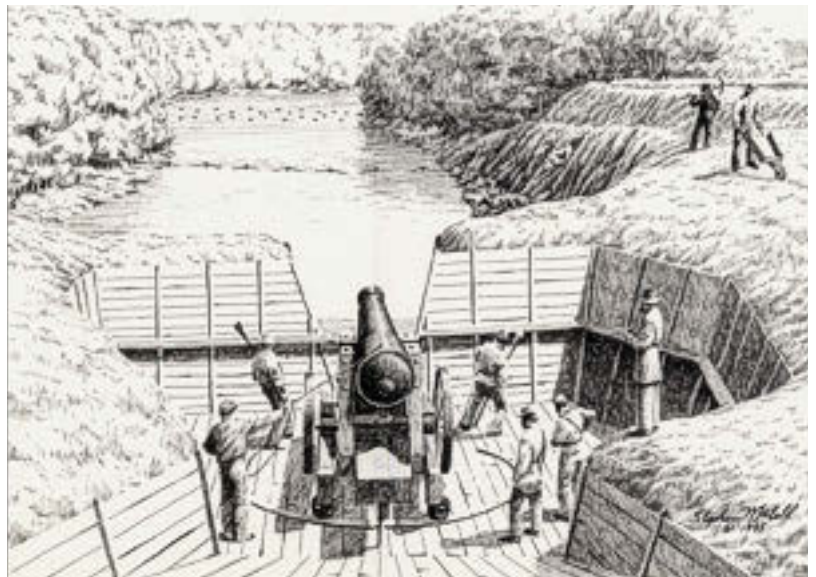
For its part, the likeness of Washington atop his horse was taken as inspiration from the Washington Monument in Richmond, VA. It was in the shadow of this monument that Jefferson Davis gave his inaugural address. The seal was adopted on April 30, 1863.

Frank Keller  
1<sup>ST</sup> Lt. Commander/Camp Historian  
Lt. John T. Bullock Camp #2205

# HISTORY OF FORT BRANCH

Fort Branch was named for Lawrence O'Brian Branch of Halifax County, N.C. He was born in 1820 to a prominent and wealthy family in Enfield, N.C., but was left an orphan at a very early age. He was then taken into the home of his uncle John Branch of Raleigh, N.C., who served as Secretary of the Navy in Andrew Jackson's administration. Lawrence lived in Washington, D.C., with his uncle where he had the benefit of having Salmon P. Chase, later Chief Justice of the Supreme Court as his private tutor.

Branch attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for a short while, but graduated with honors from Princeton in 1838. He then went to Florida where he studied law but was so young when he finished his study that it took a special act of the Florida legislature to give him a license to practice there. He moved back to Raleigh where he became president of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad. He then served as congressman from 1855-1861. A staunch, Southern Democrat, he resigned his seat in Congress at the outbreak of the War Between the States and came back to North Carolina where he actively promoted the secession of North Carolina.



In April 1861, he joined the “Raleigh Rifles” as a private, but in May, Governor Ellis persuaded him to accept the office of Quartermaster General of North Carolina. Wanting to be actively involved in the field however, he resigned his position and in September was commissioned colonel of the 33rd Regiment North Carolina Troops. By January of 1862 he was promoted to brigadier general and was given command of the Southern troops defending New Bern, N.C.

At that particular time, all of eastern North Carolina was threatened with attack by Federal forces under the command of General Ambrose Burnside. They were unable to stem the flow of Union troops however, and had to retreat from the area. The job of holding their ground proved to be a difficult one since his troops were poorly trained and undisciplined. Their lack of training was due to the fact that most of them were volunteers and militia men who had very little formal military instruction. Before Branch could train them, they had to move against the well-trained troops of Burnside, but they made a gallant stand against overwhelming odds.



# HISTORY OF FORT BRANCH

Although he was blamed for the loss of New Bern to the Federals, his brigade ultimately won the tribute of Stonewall Jackson for their valor and steadfastness in later confrontations with the enemy in the Seven Days Battles around Richmond.

After the fall of New Bern, Branch was ordered to Virginia where he was attached to A.P. Hill's "Light" Division. His brigade then consisted of the 7th, 18th, 28th, 33rd and 37th North Carolina Regiments. Besides the battles around Richmond, they were involved with the battles of Hanover Courthouse, Second Manassas, Fairfax Courthouse, and Sharpsburg.

On September 17, 1862, he led his troops on a rapid march from Harper's Ferry to Sharpsburg and arrived on the field of battle in time to help stop the Union advance, thus saving General Lee's right flank from a crushing defeat. Soon after this victory however, a tragic end came to Branch's career when a Federal sharpshooter shot him as he stood talking with three fellow officers. He fell, dying in the arms of a staff officer.

General Branch had won the respect of this fellow officers and after his death General A.P. Hill said of him, "He was my senior brigadier and one to whom I could have entrusted the command of the division with all confidence. No country has a better son or nobler champion, no principle a bolder defender than the noble and gallant soldier, General Lawrence O'Brian Branch."

His body was laid to rest in the Old City Cemetery in Raleigh, N.C.

This article appeared in the October 14, 1993 edition of the "Enterprise" newspaper published in Williamston, N.C.

# BATTLE OF RINGGOLD GAP



November 26, 1863, Chattanooga was lost. Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg, with his forces in ragged retreat after their rout at Missionary Ridge, had wanted only to buy enough time for his men to escape to Dalton, Ga., some 30 miles to the southeast. Bragg's artillery and supply train were bogged down in the mud, and he feared imminent destruction by the pursuing Yankees under "Fighting Joe" Hooker.

Meanwhile, Confederate Gen. Patrick Cleburne, bringing up the rear, encamped his troops on the west bank of the East Chickamauga Creek for the night of November 25, 1863. Shortly before midnight, however, orders arrived from Bragg sending him forward to Ringgold Gap, just ahead: "Tell Gen. Cleburne to hold this position at all hazards, and keep back the enemy until the artillery and transportation of the army are secure."

Cleburne rode on to scout the situation before his troops were roused at 3:00 A.M. and marched to the head of the Gap, a narrow railroad cut just beyond the village of Ringgold, Ga. With only two cannon and 4,100 men, he hoped to hold off three times as many

Yankees long enough to let Bragg get away. Hooker soon approached, but Cleburne held his fire until the enemy was almost upon him, and then opened up with everything from cannon to pistol. Hooker reeled back, and then tried to outflank Cleburne first to the right, and then to the left, but the Rebels continued the slaughter. "It was the dog-gondest fight of the war," said an observer. "The ground was piled with dead Yankees; they were piled in heaps . . . From the foot to the top of the hill was covered with the slain, all lying on their faces. It had the appearance of the roof of a house shingled with dead Yankees." With Bragg's forces safely away, Cleburne stayed only until just after noon, and then retreated.

The Rebels suffered 221 casualties, while Hooker claimed exactly twice that number, but no one, including Gen. Ulysses Grant, believed that low Yankee estimate.

Fascinating Fact: Cleburne's orders had been to camp on the east, as opposed to the west bank of the East Chickamauga Creek, but he didn't want to risk his men's health by making them ford the rushing stream and sleep in their wet clothes.

From the website [www.us-civilwar.com/ringgold.htm](http://www.us-civilwar.com/ringgold.htm)

# CONTRASTS IN CHARACTER

Camp Commander Joey Dickerson recently posted a couple of quotes on our camp's Facebook page, attributed to two leaders of The War Between the States. One quote was from then president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, the other from General Robert E. Lee of the Confederate Army. The history taught in our schools would have you believe that Abraham Lincoln was a great president, who fought valiantly for the emancipation of an enslaved people. Those same history lessons would also suggest that because General Lee fought for the Confederate States, that he was fighting solely for the preservation of slavery.

One look at this quote from "Honest" Abe may present another story. The quote is as follows,

*"I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and black races. There is physical difference between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid their living together upon the footing of perfect equality, and inasmuch as it becomes a necessity that there must be a difference, I, as well as Judge Douglas, am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position."*

Quite a different perspective from what the history lessons presented by our public institutions of education, or should I say indoctrination, have been shoveling down the throats of students across the country. In contrast, here is a quote from General Lee, humbled by his defeat after the war,

*"Everyone should do all in his power to collect and disseminate the truth, in the hope that it may find a place in history and descend to posterity. History is not the relation of campaigns and battles and generals or other individuals, but that which shows the principles for which the South contended and which justified her struggle for those principles."*

The quote from General Lee is that of a humble man, who fought for what he believed in. His references to truth and principle (the very principles that the Founding Fathers held to in 1776), and the fallacies spread by the education system and biased media, are the very reasons organizations like ours, The Sons of Confederate Veterans, must exist. Without those willing to stand their ground, present the truth, and preserve the honor and heritage of our great ancestors, the true story of this chapter in American history will be lost.

Michael DeBoe  
Editor, The Targeteer  
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