



Deo Vindice

Fall 2008 Volume 1, Issue 4

Special Notices:

- Nov 3 - Camp Meeting
- Dec 1 - Camp Meeting
- Jan 18 - Lee-Jackson Dinner

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We Need Your Stories!

Please submit stories to:

SCVNewsletter@Comcast.net

Fifth Annual SCV-UDC Old South Picnic

Our fifth annual picnic for SCV and UDC members and guests was held Sunday, July 20 in Charlottesville at the Buena Vista estate of Clara Belle Wheeler.



The event was well-attended. We were blessed with beautiful weather as the "brass and drum" ensemble graced us with songs of the South beneath an old oak tree.



The food was plentiful and the fried fish, provided by quarter-

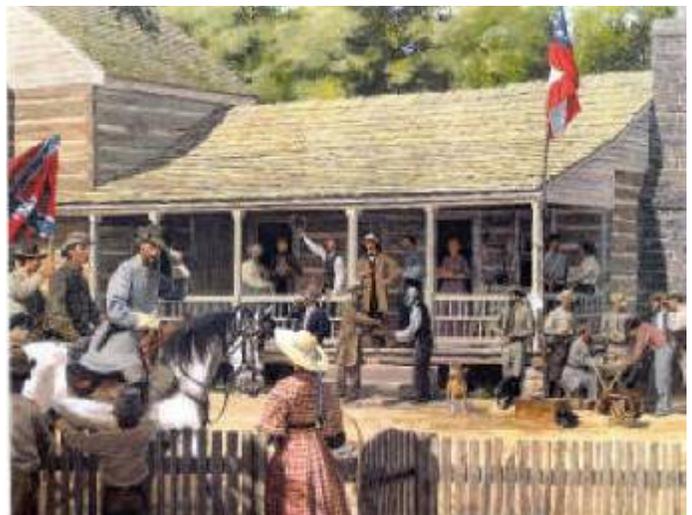
master Harvey Stoner, was delicious.

Attendees appreciated the opportunity to gather together to celebrate our heritage, much like our ancestors' families gathered in the years before the war that was to ravage their homes and their way of life.

This annual event is reminiscent of the recruiting picnics and barbeques that were held throughout the South before and during the war. It was not very difficult to rally men (and

women) around the cause for which they were to fight. Such was the experience of General Nathan Bedford Forrest when he returned to his home to host a recruitment gathering.

The SCV and UDC endeavor to provide experiences that help members and guests appreciate what the South once was and what it can be again. Emulating the virtues of our forebears is a pleasure enjoyed by all.



We Need Your Story or Article for Our Next Newsletter!

Sixth Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner – January 18, 2009



The members of the 19th Virginia Infantry Camp 1493, Sons of Confederate Veterans, invite all lovers of history – as well as of fine food, warm firesides, and old fashioned hospitality – to join them for their Sixth Annual Lee-Jackson Day Dinner. Set for Sunday, January 18, 2009, at Historic Michie Tavern, this event will continue the Virginia tradition we reintroduced in 2004.



**Ed & Virginia Creasey
Camp 2124**

Long celebrated in the Commonwealth as a state holiday, Lee-Jackson Day marks two birthdays: those of Robert Edward Lee,

born January 19, 1807, and Thomas Jonathon "Stonewall" Jackson, born January 21, 1824. And though its celebration has weathered challenge in recent decades, its hold on many hearts remains secure.

Our 2009 dinner is open to anyone and everyone who wants to attend. A single advance payment of **\$35 per person** or **\$70 per couple** – will cover all costs. That fee includes a dinner buffet featuring Michie Tavern's justly famed home-style southern fare: Country ham, fried chicken, black-eyed peas, biscuits, corn-bread, plus desserts and non alcoholic beverages. (Beer & wine are extra.)



**Harry Jackson
& Clarence Holloway
Camp 1493**

The evening begins at 6:00 pm with a social hour. Dinner follows at 7:00 pm. Afterward, and in a change from previous years in

which we had a speaker, Professor and Mrs. Gibson of Lexington will provide musical entertainment.



**Doug Pruiett, Jr., Camp 1493
Sid Lester, Camp 2124**

Reservations are required and must be made no later than January 14, 2009, with camp treasurer Robert W. Tatum, Box 59, North Garden VA 22959. (Checks should be made out to 19th Virginia Infantry.) For more information, contact camp commander Lee Scouten, telephone (434) 293-3148, or e-mail:

relscouten@cs.com.

We hope you will join us.

R. E. Lee Scouten

Old Cane Springs: The War Between the States in Madison County, KY

By Chaplain Doug Pruiett
(Part 1 of 2)

In the late 1700s and early 1800s a good portion of my family migrated from Virginia to Madison County, Kentucky. During the War Between the States, ten of my closest relatives served with the Confederate cavalry. I have visited our family homesteads in Madison County and often wondered about the life of my family during the years preceding and during the war.

The book *Old Cane Springs* provides an eyewitness account of the conditions, attitudes, and affinities of my family during this tumultuous time. It reveals that life was good in the pre-war South, and that human relations between landowners and their servants were harmonious and pleasing to all parties. It also shows that both black and white residents of Madison County did not want the “freedom” and social engineering that Lincoln desired to impose upon them by force.

The author John Cabell Chenault tells his story through the eyes of his first cousin, young Augustine Hart, the son of an ardent emancipationist, who after the death of his mother in 1859 is sent to the community of “Old Cane Springs” in Madison County to live with his aunt and uncle Josephine and Robert Chenault.

The story begins with the arrival of Augustine “Gustin” in Old Cane Springs. He finds as he surveys the territory from a knoll above the confluence of the Kentucky and Red Rivers and Muddy

Creek, that the valley in which the community lays appears as the biblical “land of milk and honey.” He discovers that it indeed is some of the best land in the state and abounds in springs, crops, and game. Those who work the land in this area are amply provided for by God’s creation. The people are cognizant of God’s abundant providence and they give Him due reverence and credit. Thus, the center of community activity and piety is the Old Cane Springs Primitive Baptist Church, which still stands today.



**Old Cane Springs
Primitive Baptist Church
Built in 1810**

Gustin’s first order of business is to visit all the plantations and farms of the area to see for himself the deplorable working and living conditions that he has been led to expect from his father and other emancipationists. He has been told that slaves (a term that is seldom used by either landowners or servants in Madison) live in poverty and oppression and that they clamor for freedom. He reflects, “My father had caused me to believe that slave owners managed their slaves like beasts of burden, and that the Negroes were a restless and unhappy set of human

beings, longing for freedom and writhing under their enforced servitude.” As Gustin rides from house to house, meeting with the servants, inspecting their living conditions, watching them work, seeing their interaction with the landowner and with other servants, observing the landowners’ familial treatment of and respect for their workers, being greeted at each homestead or servants’ quarters with a smile as if he is family, listening to the joyful singing in the fields where servants and landowners’ children work side by side, he wonders, “Are these the unhappy homes my father wishes to break up? Is this the bondage he has taught me to abhor?”

The revelation of the true nature of life in Madison is completed when Gustin attends a Christmas ball put on at a plantation for the Negro servants of all the surrounding farms. “The beaux and belles came early from the adjoining plantations. No place in the quarters was large enough to hold all that came . . . the dance must be out in the yard. A great bonfire was prepared and torches and lamps were arranged to light the place. Fortunately, the night was pleasant, a condition that often happens at Christmas time in Kentucky. The music began and twenty or more couples took their places for the Virginia reel. Such dancing I had never seen before, nor have I seen it excelled since. All were

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George Wythe Randolph: Secessionist, Soldier, Secretary of War by Wayne Elliot



The Jefferson Family cemetery at Monticello holds the remains of some 200 descendants of Thomas Jefferson. Buried not far from the third President is his grandson, George Wythe Randolph, Confederate general and Secretary of War.

George Randolph was born at Monticello on March 10, 1818, the son of Martha and Thomas Mann Randolph. After Thomas Jefferson's death in 1826, Martha took George to Boston where she lived for some six years with her daughter, Ellen Coolidge. George went to school in Boston. In 1833 he was commissioned a Midshipman in the Navy by President Jackson. At fifteen, George went to sea, sailing on the USS Constitution, "Old Ironsides." In 1837, he returned from the sea

and prepared to take the examination for "Passed Midshipman." As he was too young to legally sit for the exam, he returned to Albemarle County to wait for the next opportunity. He entered the University of Virginia and graduated with a Bachelor of Law degree in 1840. He then resigned from the navy and began the practice of law in Albemarle County. In 1851, he moved to Richmond and continued his legal practice. But, he retained an interest in military and political events.

He was a strong Calhoun supporter and served for a time on the Richmond City Council. John Brown's raid moved him to action. He denounced those who defended Brown as, "low half educated Yankees." He left his law practice, organized the Richmond Howitzers, and served as Captain of the first company. The unit was sent to Harper's Ferry and then to Charlestown where it remained until after Brown's conviction and hanging.

Randolph foresaw future events. He expected that Lincoln would be elected and that there would be secession. He correctly believed that

Virginia would not immediately secede, but would do so when Lincoln called for troops and ordered those troops to move through Virginia. He was a leader in the Virginia secession movement and argued that for Virginia to remain in the Union would be "dishonorable, dangerous and ruinous." He was elected as one of Richmond's three delegates to the Virginia Secession Convention and was one of the main speakers in favor of secession. The Richmond Dispatch described his speech as the "most practical and sensible" delivered. Writing a relative a few months later, he said, "There is no instance in history of a people as numerous as we are inhabiting a country so extensive as ours being subjected if true to themselves."

In April Randolph was appointed one of the three "Peace Commissioners" who were to attempt to get Lincoln to promise not to subjugate the seceded states. Before they could meet with Lincoln, reinforcements had been ordered to Fort Sumter, the fort had been attacked, and the war was underway. The Washington Star called Randolph a "poisonous secessionist."

Now it was time for battle. The Richmond Howitzers were activated and assigned to command of Colonel John Bankhead Magruder. George Randolph was appointed Major. At Big Bethel, June 1861, the Richmond Howitzers were engaged and Randolph was described by Colonel D.H. Hill as having "no superior as an artilleryist in any country." Magruder recommended him for promotion to Brigadier. But only a Colonelcy came through. He remained on the Peninsula, commanding the defenses of Yorktown, until the army withdrew.

Appointed Brigadier General in February 1862, he commanded the forces along the James and there watched the battle between the Virginia and the Monitor. On March 17, 1862 he was appointed Secretary of War by President Davis. The Richmond Dispatch described him as: "A fine scholar, of military education and experience, of excellent abilities, of a reputation without a blemish, of pleasant manners

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and easy approach, and of indefatigable industry." He urged the offense, believing that the Union army could only improve.

As Secretary of War, he oversaw the implementation of the Conscription Act, and worked to convert what might have been a mere mob into an army. He established direct telegraph lines from the military front to his office and established a board to examine would-be military surgeons. He regularly attended the Presidents military conferences and often spoke up for the Navy interests as well as the Army. Yet, he was plagued with bad health. He had tuberculosis. As Davis increasingly became his own Secretary of War, Randolph was reduced to what General Henry Wise referred to as "merely a clerk." Finally, Randolph ran afoul of President Davis. Davis had directed that no officer could leave his assigned theater of operations without prior approval from Richmond. General T.H. Holmes was then posted west of the Mississippi. Randolph issued an order for Holmes to cross the Mississippi and aid Confederate forces

near Vicksburg. When Davis learned of this, he countermanded the order and made it clear that the Secretary of War had "no discretionary power over strategy or administration." Randolph resigned the secretaryship on November 15, 1862 and requested assignment to the army.

As Secretary of War, he had overseen the integration of new conscripts into the army and had pushed the Confederacy to mobilize all its resources. He focused attention on the western theater and helped make Davis's Departmental system workable. His resignation inevitably made him identified with the anti-Davis forces inside the government and the press. John Jones in "A Rebel War Clerk's Diary" says concerning Randolph's resignation, "A profound sensation has been produced in the outside world by the resignation of Mr. Randolph; and most of the people and the press seem inclined to denounce the President, for they know not what. In this matter the President is not to blame; but the Secretary acted either a very foolish or very desperate part."

TB would keep George Randolph from

returning to the army. He did command the Richmond volunteer militia and helped repel Dahlgren's raid in May 1863. He also served as Marshall for General Jackson's funeral and as a pallbearer for General Stuart.

Advised to find a better climate, he and his wife ran the blockade out of Wilmington and made their way to London. There the TB diagnosis was confirmed and he was told to spend some time in southern France. In the spring of 1865, he heard of the collapse of the Confederacy. In the summer of 1865, his sister Ellen Coolidge arrived in France, along with her husband Joseph. The Coolidge's had lost a son in the Union army and family relations were somewhat strained. Eventually, Ellen and her brother mended the fences, but their spouses did not. Randolph blamed the European attitude toward slavery for the Confederacy's defeat saying slavery "poisoned all sympathy for our cause and made even our friends find consolation in our downfall." He took the Oath of Allegiance in 1866 while still in France and returned to a devastated Virginia.

In the fall of 1866 he

arrived at his older brother's home, Edgehill, in Albemarle County, hoping to return eventually to Richmond and the practice of law. His health deteriorated and he died at Edgehill on April 3, 1867.

George Randolph's tenure as Secretary of War was short. He served under difficult conditions and worked directly for a very difficult man. But, it was at his insistence that the one-year soldiers were retained in the ranks after the expiration of their initial term of service. That alone makes his tenure militarily important.

In "How the North Won" we find this. "It was perhaps fitting that a prominent position in the Cabinet should go to this urbane, cultured, and competent Virginian, for, as the grandson of Thomas Jefferson, he reinforced the Confederate's perception of themselves as engaged in a second American Revolution. Randolph brought to the War Department recent field experience, firsthand knowledge of how the military systems functioned, and a great sense of urgency concerning manpower needs." All in all, not an insignificant contribution.



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equals, there was not cost, and **everybody was happy**. The white folks looked on and enjoyed the merry-making. The dancing was punctuated by solo renditions of spiritual songs and continued until refreshments were announced.”

“Along early in the morning we started for home. As we went away I thought that I had surely seen the happiest folks in the world that night. And I had watched a people that I had been taught to believe oppressed and miserable exhibit such happiness as comes only from those who are contented with their lot in life. I felt therefore that someone was in error about the oppressed colored race in America. I had been taught that happiness here and hereafter should be the chief aim of man, and I was concluding that if there was anything in appearances, the Negroes around Old Cane Springs had acquired it here, and, as nearly all of them were Christians, they were likely to secure it hereafter.”

Such was the life of harmony and relative peace and joy enjoyed by all in this region prior to 1860. But all was to change with the election of Lincoln and his precipitous pressure upon Kentucky to reject their Southern brethren and to remain loyal to the Union. Lincoln’s hope was that the Negroes would revolt. But as one landowner commented, “These Negroes are not eye-servants, they all appear to regard themselves as a part of the family with whom they reside; and I tell you, come what will out of this war, you will never hear of a

Negro in Old Cane Springs being in revolt against the whites here. I admit there are enough of them to kill every white person in the community in one night, but there will never be enough Yankees south of the Mason-Dixon to induce them to do it.” And such was the case throughout the war, as no racial division or uprising of any note took place.

As the threat of war loomed on the horizon, the church became a place for weekly discussion of the issues. “Men gathered in various parts of the yard, and as one passed among them he heard nothing but war and preparation for war being discussed. . . . The opposing views of the North and South were freely advocated and it was evident that the peace-loving and law-abiding citizens of Old Cane Springs and vicinity were ready to take up arms in defense of one or the other of the sections.”

The church was filled to overflowing most Sundays, and it was common for there to be a sizable crowd in the church yard even while the preaching was going on. On a particular Sunday in 1860, a new minister by the name of Rev. William Rupard delivered a message from the pulpit in which he called the people of the South, “Rebels bent on dissolving the Union.” Word of this “sermon” reached the church yard in short order, in reaction to which one man declared in a loud voice, “No more of his preaching for me. No true preacher knows anything in his pulpit but Christ and Him crucified!” The lines of allegiance were being drawn, and the church crowd dwindled as people readied themselves for the conflict.

Thus the division among a formerly unified people began to become evident. It is interesting to note that although an apparent majority sided with the South both in sentiment and action; others sided with the Unionist cause. Strangely though, virtually all the people of the county considered themselves as “Southerners” and those north of the Ohio River as “Yankees” who did not share their values and heritage.

Early on the Unionists in the state government, under pressure from Lincoln, disbanded the State Guard, who were largely aligned with the South, and replaced it with the Home Guard, which did the bidding of the North under the guise of, “protecting all citizens and property.” The Home Guard became much despised by the people of Old Cane Springs and of Madison County. Those who joined the Home Guard were of the lower echelon of society, ruffians and malcontents many. An old Negro woman by the name of “Aunt Sallie” remarked after the Guard had visited and disturbed her home that she perceived them to be “nothin’ but po white trash.”

Many men seeing an opportunity to join the cause of the South began, from as far north as Cincinnati, to stream to Tennessee to join the Confederate army. The Home Guard was charged to put a stop to this, and began to arrest and jail any man perceived to be heading south. Kentucky Confederates thus went “under ground” until the coming liberation by Smith’s and Bragg’s armies soon to invade from the South.

(Continued in the Next Edition)

In Memoriam – Chaplain Doug Pruiett

This summer saw the passing of one of our camp members and a lady of our sister UDC camp.

We thank God for the contributions these individuals made to their organizations and to the cause of honoring and preserving Southern heritage and values.

William Bennett Edwards, member of Camp 1493, died on September 7, 2008. He was 80 years old.

Born in Auburn, New York, "Bill" was the son of John Bowen Edwards, a Greek scholar and teacher, originally from Alderson, West Virginia. Bill's mother, Virginia Bean Edwards, from Gala Water, Virginia, was the daughter of William Bennett Bean, a 2nd Lieutenant in the Baltimore Light Artillery, CSA.

Bill authored a book entitled, *The Story of Colt's Revolver*, a biography of Sam Colt and his contribution to the history of 19th century technology. This book gave him some international fame. He also authored another book

entitled, *Civil War Guns*.

Bill became associate editor of "The Gun Digest" and technical editor of "Guns" magazine, his creation and the first of many guns magazines.

Bill was a technical director of Mars-Centennial Arms Co.; he also was the owner of Benet Arms, an importing firm that dealt with factories in Japan, Italy and Switzerland.



Clara "Gail" Hall Kutch, member of Albemarle Chapter No. 1, #154,

UDC passed away on October 1.

Gail was born in Charlottesville and raised in Fluvanna County. Her great grandfather William S. Hall served with the 19th Virginia Infantry, CSA, thus giving her entrée to the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Gail was an active member of her UDC chapter as is her daughter Amanda. Gail was also in the process of membership application to the Daughters of the American Revolution, National Society of United States Daughters of 1812, and the National Society of the Colonial Dames Seventeenth Century.

Gail was an active member of Beaver Dam Baptist Church, where she sang in the choir and performed in holiday musical presentations. Gail was strong in her faith in the Lord and she was quick to share her love and beliefs with those she encountered.

Please pray for the Edwards and Kutch families during this time of loss.

Camp Project – Cemetery Maintenance

Lee Scouten and Chris Hagert pause by the grave of John Henry Dudley of Co B 56th Virginia Infantry after a cleanup detail of the Dudley-Bunch cemetery on May 18, 2008. Camp 1493 took on the maintenance of the long neglected family graveyard located near the Nelson County line south of Batesville in 2005 after being approached by descendants who live out of the

area. Also buried there is Anderson Harrison Bunch of Co D 39th Virginia Cavalry. The initial cleanup effort was celebrated in June 2006 with a dedication ceremony that included uniformed reenactors. That event was covered by both *The Charlottesville Daily Progress* and *Nelson County Life*.



**Sons of Confederate
Veterans**
19th Virginia Infantry
Camp 1493

P. O. Box 301
Charlottesville, Virginia
22902-0301

E-MAIL:
SCVNewsletter@comcast.net



We're on the Web!
See us at:
scvcamp1493.tripod.com

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the

true history of the South is presented to future generations.

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

About Our Camp

The Charlottesville SCV Camp is named for the famed 19th Virginia Infantry. Many men from the Charlottesville area served in that unit.

The Camp provides a way to recognize the service of our ancestors who fought for the South. That recognition is enhanced by monthly meetings with speakers who share their knowledge of the

War with the Camp members.

The Camp publicly honors all the men in gray with an annual dinner named for the two most prominent Confederate Generals, Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson. The Camp donates money to activities and institutions devoted to the Confederate experience. Finally, the Camp provides a

degree of camaraderie for those today who still take pride in the Confederate military service of their forbears.

If you are a member, we encourage your participation. **If you would like to be a member, please contact our adjutant Wayne Elliott at 434-973-0314.** We would be glad to help.

CAMP OFFICERS

<i>Camp Commander:</i>	R. E. Lee Scouten	relscouten@cs.com
<i>Adjutant:</i>	H. Wayne Elliott	hwayne7@embarqmail.com
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Robert W. Tatum, Jr.	lanehs57@yahoo.com
<i>Chaplain:</i>	Dr. Douglas Paul Pruiett	SCVNewsletter@comcast.net
<i>Quartermaster:</i>	Harvey Stoner	
<i>Webmaster:</i>	Troy W. Bowie	troyb_43@yahoo.com
<i>Membership Captain:</i>	Volunteer Needed!	