



15th Regimental Report

Camp #51 Lexington County, S.C.
Sons of Confederate Veterans



Volume XI, Issue VI

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June 2003

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**Winner of the S. A. Cunningham Newsletter Award,
Camps with over 50 members.
2002 SCV National Convention - Memphis Tennessee**

**Winner of the Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award,
Palmetto Level
First Place 2002 S. C. SCV State Convention - Aiken
Second Place 2003 S. C. SCV State Convention - Mount Pleasant**

Letter from

**Capt. William Coke Capers
Company Commander, Co. "G"
First Louisiana Heavy Artillery**

Battery below Vicksburg

April 7th, 1863

Dear Starr:

My heart was made exceeding glad, yesterday afternoon, by the reception and perusal of a letter from you, full of kind words; beautiful expressions; vivid pictures of the olden, golden time, and sentiments of a continued personal esteem which any man might envy, and but few possess. I read the treasured communication over and over; laid it aside; took it up, and read it again and again, until I felt my heart warming towards you as never before, although you have long claimed its purest love and highest admiration. I felt oppressed by a sense of my own unworthiness, when contrasted with your generous kindness, and I involuntarily exclaimed, Oh, that I merited but *one half* * the esteem that my noble-souled, gifted, unselfish friend has so long lavished [u]pon me!-- A tear drop stood trembling in my eye; my heart softened and glowed under its influence, and I

Let the Newsletter Editor know if you wish to receive your newsletter by email.

Send all camp correspondence to:

**15th Regiment SC
Vols
P.O. Box 84381
Lexington, SC
29073**

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Commander's Comments

Commander's Comments
June 2003

We had a successful outing at the Land of the Sky gun show at the State Fairgrounds June 14 and 15. We sold nearly \$200 of merchandise. We met a lot of nice people and made some good recruiting contacts. Our table was manned by Allen Frye, Steve Wolfe, Eddie Killian, and Wayne Roberts. Hopefully, we all get to meet some of the nice people we met at future camp meetings. I would like to see us form a recruiting committee to help organize our outreach at public events. If you enjoy meeting people and have the gift of gab, this might be just the place for you to serve the Camp. If interested, please contact me. This is an important duty and we have been neglecting it for too long.

Our next public event will be the Gilbert Peach Festival on July 4. We need volunteers to serve at our booth. This is a great opportunity to meet Lexington County folks. And, there will be plenty of them. Most of these folks will have Confederate ancestry. We are looking for volunteers to serve both the morning and afternoon shifts. We will be selling merchandise and recruiting. And I am certain we will have some time to take in some of the events. Please contact Adjutant Allen Frye or me if you will be able to help. We are also on the standby list for the South Carolina Arms Collectors guns show at Jamil Temple August 2 and 3. I am hopeful that a table will be available so that we can meet and recruit, and sell at this event. Keep those dates in mind.

If anyone is interested in taking on the responsibilities of the Guardian Program, we have several cemeteries in Lexington that need your help. Several of these cemeteries are small and could be easily maintained by an individual. These are the graves of our Confederate ancestors. We need to give them the proper respect they deserve. They made many great sacrifices for their country. We should be able to make the small sacrifices to keep these cemeteries clean and properly marked with government gravestones and Southern Crosses. This is our duty according to the Charge given the Sons of Confederate Veterans by Lt. General Stephen D. Lee.

Keep in mind the Camp meeting we have coming up this summer. We have some good speakers scheduled, and I know you may regret missing these meetings. Our next meeting is on June 26 when our speaker will be Horace Harmon director of the Lexington County Museum. He is an expert on Lexington County history and geography. If you have any questions about these topics, or about some of your research into Lexington County families or history, this will be your opportunity. Our July speaker will be Mike Wadsworth of First Corps Books. Mike is very knowledgeable about Confederate history and the Battle of Gettysburg. You should note that this meeting will be held on Monday July 28 because our regular last Thursday date conflicts with the SCV National Convention to be held in Asheville, North Carolina. Most of the Camp officers are planning to attend the convention.

Thanks again for your support,
Wayne D. Roberts
Commander





*The Louisa McCord Chapter
Lexington County, South Carolina
Order of the Confederate Rose
Andrea M. Evans-Wolfe, President*

*To the members of the 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers,
Camp #51 Sons of Confederate Veterans*

This letter is respectfully submitted to you in appreciation of your endorsement and assistance in the formation of the Louisa McCord Chapter of the Order of the Confederate Rose.

We graciously agree to assist Camp #51 in promoting its goals and ideals as related to the preservation of the Confederate Heritage and Southern Culture.

Thank you for your faith and belief and trust in our dedication. We are proud to have the honor of Camp #51 as our sponsor for the Louisa McCord Chapter of the Order of the Confederate Rose in Lexington County, SC.

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of May, 2003

By all the members of the Louisa McCord Chapter

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea M. Evans-Wolfe".

*Andrea M. Evans-Wolfe
President*

*Louisa McCord Chapter
P. O. Box 84381
Lexington, South Carolina 29073*



Compiled and edited by the ladies of the
 Louisa McCord Chapter
 Order of Confederate Rose
 Lexington, South Carolina

15TH REGIMENT, SC VOLUNTEERS, CAMP #51 COOKBOOK PROJECT

A cookbook is being developed by the Louisa McCord Chapter Order of the Confederate Rose as a fundraiser for SCV Camp #51. Our plans are for a completed book to be available for sale at the 2004 State Convention and the 2004 Peach Festival.

Start submitting any recipes: favorite, family, ancestral, or friends for appetizers/libations; salads/sauces/breads; main dishes/stews/soups; vegetables/side dishes; desserts; small family anecdotes; history tidbits; receipts; pictures; remedies (medicinal/cleaning/etc.); anything! The Camp cookbook will be unique because we'll have recipes and history combined. *It's not a traditional cookbook.* During the Civil War, one did not have the luxuries of today—so stories of how relatives had to cook (from killing to cleaning to cooking a chicken!) are wanted.

More information can be found on the www.15thregtscvols.org and **upcoming newsletters** or you may **call Andrea Wolfe at 803-732-1563** for details. Start submitting your recipes and information right now! Send by email to Andrea at: lexington-ocr@sc.rr.com or by snail mail: **130 Upper Loop Way, Columbia, SC 29212** or bring to the **Camp meetings**. We must have all recipes by **November 30, 2003** to allow us to have our Cookbook ready for the Spring of 2004!

Remember to include your name, address, phone number, email, Confederate Ancestor's Name/Regiment, and any pictures you want included.

Boy Scouts of America Politically Correct?

We have received some disturbing information from Virginia that you may have heard about. If you have not, this is worth reading closely as this could happen here as well.

Gentlemen,

In 1913 the Robert E. Lee Council #602 of the Boy Scouts of America was formed in the greater Richmond, VA area. On May 8, 2003, their board of directors met and voted to remove the name of Robert E. Lee from the Council. It was not a unanimous vote and there are many people in Scouting that are upset at their decision.

I personally am outraged. I am a former scout and my son is an Eagle Scout. I was a Den Leader and have contributed both my talents and money to the Robert E. Lee Council. For four years I designed their patches t-shirts for Summer Camp. I will withdraw my support if this decision is not reversed. I hope others will follow.

I spoke with one board member who resigned after twenty-three years of service in Scouting. He confirmed that they have been pressured by Officials at Nation BSA for years to change their name. I also know that the Free Press in Richmond has written many articles against the Council for keeping the name Robert E. Lee. These facts are in direct conflict with statements made to WRVA news reporters by Robert E. Lee Council #602, Executive Director Robert Tuggle. He told WRVA that he wanted to assure the public that in no way had they been pressured to make this decision. Does this sound like the truth to you? The last line of the Boy Scout Oath is, "To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight." The US Scouts website states that morally straight means to live your life with honesty, to be clean in your speech and actions, and to be a person of strong character. I believe that Mr. Tuggle was not honest and broke the Scout Oath. He is not a man of strong character. He has tucked his tail between his legs and ran because of a few politically correct bigots pressuring him to change the name.

Is this the example we should be setting for our sons? I think not. Instead of running from the name, Tuggle should be teaching all the scouts to emulate Robert E. Lee.

The character of Robert E. Lee is exactly what I want my son to follow. Robert E. Lee was a man of the highest moral, ethical, and Christian values. Robert E. Lee lived the Scout Law everyday. He was trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. When he was a student at West Point, he graduated second in his class and did not receive one single demerit. His record still stands today. When he was young, he took care of his ailing mother because his father was not there. He preformed every task to the best of his abilities. He thought of the welfare of others first before he thought of his own. When the War between the States was over, Lee worked very hard to bring this country back together. He became President of Washington College in an effort to teach young men how to make a better living for themselves. Union Generals paid Lee the highest compliment by

(Continued on page 12)

County adds two holidays

Lexington Council votes to adopt King Day, Confederate Memorial Day

By TIM FLACH
Staff Writer

Lexington County is joining the long list of communities celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday and the much shorter list of those also recognizing Confederate Memorial Day.

County Council on Tuesday approved closing county offices on both days, swapping them for other days off now given.

The change takes effect next year. It was adopted unanimously by the nine-member council.

Agreeing to observe both days "avoids what was potentially a divisive debate," Councilman John Carrigg of St. Andrews said.

The decision came after last-minute appeals for the county to observe both commemorations, continuing low-profile campaigns for each holiday.

R.O. Levy of Batesburg-Leesville, a leader of the county branch of the NAACP, said recognition of King Day would commemorate the drive for racial equality continuing today that the slain civil rights leader championed.

The step will serve as a reminder of "lessons in progress," he told the council before its decision.

"I'm very elated they saw fit to honor Dr. King," he said after the decision.

Six representatives of Confederate heritage groups likewise said it's time to remember the sacrifices of their ancestors.

"It's a matter of honor and respect," Eddie Killian of Gaston said.

Confederate Memorial Day supporters likewise called the council decision an unexpected but welcome surprise.

"We're elated," said Rusty Rentz, of Boiling Springs, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Levy and members of some of the Confederate heritage groups said they had no position on adoption of the other holiday as long as the one they support was included.

Lexington County becomes the 44th of South Carolina's 46 counties to close its offices on King Day in



Kyle Killian, Eddie Killian, & Kenneth Bickley

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January and the ninth to do so on Confederate Memorial Day in May.

Greenville County in the Upstate is caught in the middle of a battle over its refusal to close its offices on King Day.

Last month thousands of King Day supporters, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of the Chicago-based Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, and Kweisi Mfume, president of the NAACP, marched through the streets of downtown Greenville, calling for the county to recognize the holiday.

About 500 Lexington County deputies, firefighters, ambulance personnel and other emergency staff work holidays without extra pay.

The council decisions means county offices will close on the same days that state agencies do:

?_New Year's Day, King Day, Presidents Day, Confederate Memorial Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and the Friday after, Christmas and the day after.

A measure pending in the Legislature would impose that schedule on counties statewide.

The change means Lexington County workers lose Good Friday and a day near Christmas as days off.

Levy's hometown of Batesburg-Leesville is one of the few Midlands municipalities that doesn't observe King Day.

But he is conducting the same type of low-key campaign to win approval there.

<http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/6009088.htm>



Third Corley Park Cemetery Cleanup Day



Receive this publication and important Camp communications by email. Not only will you be receiving up to the minute information on what we are doing and need to get accomplished, but you will also be saving the Camp and yourself valuable money in the form of membership dues. You can sign up for our email list at each camp meeting or by emailing us at:

SC_15TH_REGIMENT@HOTMAIL.COM

Brought To Light

The discovery of the Confederate soldiers buried beneath the waters of Lake Murray and the raising of the monument that will memorialize them.

Research into old SCE&G and church records, cemetery surveys, and newspaper accounts revealed the names buried in the old Dutch Fork cemeteries that were covered by the rising waters of the Saluda River upon the completion of the Lake Murray Dam in 1929 and made possible the identification of the Confederate soldiers among them. Their names have been **Brought to Light**.

Lexington Camp 51, 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers has received unanimous approval from Lexington's City Council to raise a memorial monument to these Confederates in the city's newly renovated and expanded Corley Street Park. Upon it will be etched the names, ranks, and regiments of the presently identified 78 Confederates.

Surrounding the monument will be a floor composed of memorial bricks etched with the names of our Confederate ancestors. In fact, though, **bricks may be purchased to honor and memorialize any war veteran**, but the emphasis will be on Confederates and the most prominent section of the floor will be dedicated strictly to them.

Honor your Confederate Ancestor(s) by purchasing a memorial brick(s).

**Dedicate their names to prosperity;
Avow that we will never forget.**

Where else today can you lay a memorial brick in honor of your Confederates at a new Confederate monument?

Please print the information you desire on your Memorial Brick
No more than 14 characters including spaces

Line 1: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Line 2: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Line 3: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Please provide your telephone numbers and mailing address, etc.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (H) _____ (W) _____ Cell _____

Email: _____

Pager: _____

Fax: _____

- One Brick/2 Lines: \$60.00 each
- Two or More Bricks/2 Lines: \$50.00 each
- One Brick/3 Lines: \$100.00 each
- Two or More Bricks/3 Lines: \$75.00 each

Please provide a separate order form for each brick.

Please send this order form along with your check or money order to Bing Chambers, 701 Gervais St., Suite 150-110, Columbia, S.C. 29201. Please make payable to Camp 51, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Please direct questions to Bing Chambers at the above address or call 803-622-6995 or 803-254-5158 or page at 1-800-712-6502, Fax 803-254-1602 or Wayne Roberts, Commander, at 206 Efird Ave., Lexington, S.C. 29072, or call 803-957-4420. (This is Wayne's home number, and he's so antiquated that he has no voice mail, so call in the evening, please.)

Motion for amendment to Camp's By-laws

Associate Membership:

Items with >> >> indicate a change or insert.

Currently the section for Associate Membership reads as follows:

Section 3. Associate membership in the 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp shall be granted to those male applicants, eighteen years of age, who had no ancestor in Confederate service, but who demonstrate a commitment to the objects of the 15th South Carolina Volunteers Camp. Associate members will not have the right to vote or hold office, but will have all other privileges of membership. The dues paid by Associate Members shall remain in the 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp, and shall be set and changed by the executive committee as needed.

A motion to add associate membership for members of other camps who wish to be an associate member of our camp.

Section 3. Associate membership in the 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp shall be granted to those male applicants >> who are currently voting members in good standing in another SCV Camp and desire to be an associate member of this Camp. Associate Membership is also offered to those males>>, eighteen years of age, who had no ancestor in Confederate service, but who demonstrate a commitment to the >>mission >>of the 15th >>Regiment>> South Carolina Volunteers Camp >>and those of the Sons of Confederate Veterans>>. Associate members will not have the right to vote or hold office, but will have all other privileges of membership. The >>Associate Member's dues are set as those paid to Camp #51 only and>> shall remain in the 15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp.

Dues changes which take affect with the 2003 - 2004 Camp 51 physical year.

National Dues:	\$20.00
State Dues:	\$ 5.00
Local Dues:	<u>\$15.00</u>
Total Dues Owed:	\$40.00

**New memberships also incur an additional \$5 processing charge from National Headquarters.

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sending their sons to Washington College to be educated by Lee. These Union Generals knew there was no finer gentleman than Lee to instill their sons with the proper moral and ethical character they needed for life.

The character, morals and values of Robert E. Lee are desperately needed in today's youth. He is a shining example of how a young boy should live. Lee's values and ethics are the foundations of greatness. I urge all of you to contact the Robert E. Lee Council and tell them to reverse their decision. If you know any Scouts or Scout Masters in the Robert E. Lee Council, please ask them to inform the Council that they are opposed to this change. Also contact anyone who donates to the Scouts and tell them to inform the Council that they will not receive another dime until the decision is reversed. If we unite, we can change the outcome.

Sincerely,

Henry E. Kidd
Mad as Hell Eagle Scout Father.

Gentlemen,

I wrote the poem at the bottom for the Richmond Times Dispatch Editorial, but they have refused to print it.

If you are outraged about the Robert E. Lee Council dropping Lee's name, here is what you must do. Contact the Robert E. Lee Council and tell them to reverse their decision and that they will not receive any further donations until they do so. Also contact anyone who donates to the Scouts and tell them to inform the Council that they will not receive another dime until the decision is reversed. If you know any Scouts or Scout Masters in the Robert E. Lee Council, please ask them to inform the Council that they are opposed to this change. We have to hit them in their pocketbook as well. Contact all your friends and family and have them do the same. Send your letters to both the Robert E. Lee Council and the news media. If we unite, we can change the outcome.

They need to know that the entire country is outraged by their decision.

Sincerely,
Henry E. Kidd
Mad as Hell Eagle Scout Father.

The First Eagle Scout

By Henry Kidd

a former Scout and an Eagle Scout Dad.

On his honor, he did his best
one-hundred years before.

He lived his life by the Scouting Law,
before it became lore.

He did his duty to his God,
and prayed most everyday.

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He knew his future was in sacred hands,
and walked the Lord's highway.
Duty for him was not just a word,
but something inside his soul.
For his country, he served with pride
He strived for the highest goals.
For himself he wanted little.
He worked for the common good.
When others needed, he cared for them
Their pain he understood.
He kept himself physically strong.
He chose a soldiers life.
At West Point he learned to march
to the sound of the drum and fife.
To his studies he applied himself,
remaining mentally awake.
Not one demerit did he receive
His honor was at stake.
Morally straight, he led his life.
Never ventured from the truth.
In his final years he taught young men.
Instilling wisdom in our youth.
No finer man to emulate
An example, can't you see.
His character is impeccable.
His name is Robert E. Lee
Leaders of the Robert E. Lee Council,
Don't remove this honored name.
Cause if you do, you'd better be ready
to hang your head in shame.

Sincerely,

Henry E. Kidd
Mad as Hell Eagle Scout Father.

Phone, Fax and Mail your letters today and often.
Boy Scouts of America
Robert E. Lee Council #602
Robert A. Tuggle
4015 Fitzhugh Avenue
P. O. Box 6809
Richmond, VA 23230
Phone: (804) 355-4306
FAX: (804) 353-6109

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Gentlemen,

As an Eagle Scout, former merit badge counselor, and in a family that has generations in Scouting, I today hang my head in shame and revulsion.

" To do my duty to God and Country " were foundation blocks in the building of young boys toward manhood along the Scouting path. Today, however, that path has turned into a miry, politically correct, pandering quandary that has even the best compass at a lost.

What greater man to emulate than one whom all world historians have given accolades such as, a devout Christian, loyalty to state and country, a man of honor and principles, a gentleman, to mention only a few. Yet you have chosen to dishonor this great American and Virginian and to disgrace the Scouting name in the Old Dominion. And, for what ill-gotten gain that will never materialize !

I shall always be a Scout of the Robert E. Lee Council, Boy Scouts of America till the day I die, and your ludicrous name change will never change this status !

You are transgressing on one of Gods faithful servants, and in the hand of the Almighty, you I would not like to be.

If this name change is enacted, I nor any family or friend will ever give a dime of money or time to Scouting again and may you be resigned only to back pages of history.

Jefferson Ellett
8240 Kenleigh Ct.
Quinton, Virginia 23141

New Members Who Need To Be Pinned

Russell Everett Moyer
Walter P. Witherspoon Jr.

Please make plans to attend this month's meeting so that you can be sworn in as new members.



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

SOUTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

26 May 2003

Mr. Steve L. Wolfe
130 Upper Loop Way
Columbia, SC 29212

Dear Steve,

On behalf of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and the people of the state of South Carolina, I would like to thank you for your generous assistance in transporting the Terra Tiger from the Mack residence to the Conservation laboratory. Once rebuilt, this equipment will provide mobility to our remote sensing equipment. It is my expectation that it will double our efficiency in the field.

We had been looking for a small, agile all terrain vehicle for some time to act as a field platform for our Ground Penetrating Radar. With the equipment mounted on the rear of the vehicle, multiple acre surveys can be undertaken as a matter of course. This approach was successfully implemented during our recent work at the Sligh's Street cemetery. In that instance three acres of land were surveyed in a matter of days resulting in the identification of almost 2,000 lost historic graves.

Again, let me thank you for your assistance and commend you on your civic mindedness. It is greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to call upon me if I can answer any questions or assist you in anyway.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon".

Jonathan Leader, Ph.D.
Interim Director and State Archaeologist

Cc: NPR
File

1321 Pendleton Street • Columbia, S.C. 29208-0071 • (803) 777-8170 • 734-0567 • 799-1963 • FAX 254-1338

Associate member Dr. Jonathan Leader sent Compatriots Allen Frye and Steve Wolfe a thank you letter for their assistance in obtaining a all terrain vehicle that the S.C. Institute of Archeology & Anthropology can modify for use of the ground penetrating radar on large area projects. The above is the letter that Compatriot Wolfe received. It is always nice to know that one's efforts are appreciated.

(Continued from page 1)

felt that, of all men, these days of infidelity, I was most blessed, in the possession of a friend, who--if it is not sacrilege to use the expression--"sticketh closer than a brother". I think I can say, with truth, that my thoughts are with you daily, and always have been, although my long silence would seem to belie the statement. One reason I did not write, was the *idea* that my letters were not pleasing to you, and I did not wish to annoy you with them. Every officer in my company, and many in my Regiment, know you--your gifts, you noble, generous impulses, your pure, unselfish nature, and your brotherly regard for me. You must know that I am propped up in bed writing this, having been sick for five days. Yesterday afternoon, the Courier arrived from town with letters. One of my Lieutenants came into my tent saying, "Captain, I have a letter for you that will do you more good than all the medicine you can take. It is from your old friend Starr." Now, I mention this, in confirmation of what I stated above, that I not only think of you, but *talk* about you. The beautiful allusion you made to the interweaving of romance, poetry and sentiment of our past scenes and associations, touched a chord that awoke slumbering memories of a by-gone period, full of hope, and joy, and happiness, and, for a brief season, I lived over, in fancy, those previous days of life, but soon, the *stern realities* of the *present* chased away the pleasing vision, and left the mind sad and melancholy, by reason of the contrast.

Since my last was written, I have been moved from my former battery, to this point. The enemy was making rapid progress with the "canal", and which, being accomplished, would have enabled the entire fleet and army to pass through,--leaving Vicksburg and its defenses powerless to act--and throw the whole force upon Port Hudson, reduce it, and, joining Farragut and Banks, return, with overwhelming (sic) numbers, to crush out this. My guns being of the largest calibre, and throwing shot and shell with equal effect, I was ordered to remove them here, and dispute the passage of any boats attempting to run the "canal". I came, and found that two dredge boats had well-nigh succeeded in cutting through. I commenced, and kept up, both day and night, at irregular (sic) intervals, a telling fire, and finally drove the dredge boats and batteries away, and put a quietus to all work on the "canal". Being just two miles off the nearest point a battery could be erected--you may



The levee at Vicksburg, 1863.

judge with what precision I have to fire to make my shots effective. One of their letter writers, in speaking of my firing, says, "the rebel battery threw shot and shell with wonderful precision and terrible effect, making it almost impossible to work the boats." I had my lines and angles of fire so well determined, that I could burst shell over and around them, just as well at night as in the day, and the effect of my shell exploding at night was a grand sight, and witnessed by thousands, both in the city and the adjacent hills. Unless you have witnessed the transit and explosion of these huge missiles of death, over a hundred pounds in weight you can form no idea of its grandeur. As soon as it leaves the muzzle of the piece, you can see it, by aid of the burning fuze (sic), shoot up, like a brilliant star, into mid-heaven, and trace it in its flight and descent until it explodes, when it throws out a sheet of flame and smoke, and, in a few seconds, the explosion comes back with almost the

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same volume of sound that issued from the gun in its discharge. The sight, I say, is a grand one, and the effect most ter-

PAGE 2 - CAPERS LETTER

rible, as these immense shells break into fragments, go hissing through the air, and which, in their fall, are as deadly as solid shot. It acquired skill and practice to explode these shells at the right point, particularly as far off as I am from my object, but I can now burst them any where I please, within two and a half miles. This accuracy depends upon the charge of powder, elevation, range, and length of fuze (sic), with a proper allowance for drift and windage. I have, perhaps, been rather minute in describing my shell operations, but, as I see you are in the habit of letting some of the fair maidens of Texas read my letters, and supposing this may share the same fate, I concluded, while on the subject, I might as well enlarge a little, for *their* edification.

My general officers are highly pleased with my success, and say, they would rather see me keep the dredge boats out of the canal (sic), than to sink a dozen gunboats. If I keep them out of the "canal", they will be forced to pass the batteries at Vicksburg, which they are not anxious to attempt, as we sink, cripple, and drive them back as fast as they come. I have already burned over *two thousand pounds of powder*, and expect to double it in a month.

I heartily concur with you in your desire for peace, but alas! When that time will come, is known only to Him, who "ruleth the armies of Heaven and earth", and who will at His own good pleasure, incline the hearts of our cruel, malignant foes to peace, and secure to us the inestimable blessing of Independence. That this much desired event is not far removed, obtains (sic) ver (sic) generally here, both among soldiers and civilians. This opinion is based upon the disaffection of the Western troops, and the divisions and dissensions (sic) springing up at the North, growing out of Lincoln's infamous Proclamation, and other arbitrary acts of unauthorized power. These Western and Northwestern troops are getting their eyes opened to the fact that it is not for the "constitution and the Union", and the "free navigation of the Mississippi", that they are in arms against their *natural allies*, but to carry out the nefarious designs of the Abolitionists, and they now shrink from the plans and purposes of a war, which, for cruelty and inhumanity, has no parallel, even in the annals of savage barbarity. The most benighted heathen would blush to own many, very many acts of infamy which have been perpetrated during this unnatural war, and by those, too, professing to have *humanitarian*, if not *Christian*, instincts and impulses. These things have become so very palpable, that thousands turn from them with loathing and disgust, and are only waiting a favorable opportunity to renounce a cause so brutal and accursed. This, I say, is the state of feeling among the Northwestern troops, as affirmed by many who have escaped to our lines; and such being the case, let the battle come *here*, when and how it may, my faith is that our arms will signally triumph.

God grant that this hopeful prediction may be realized in all its fullness, and that, with *this battle*, may terminate the fierce conflicts which have deluged our soil with the blood of the bravest and best, and spread ruin and devastation over the fairest land that glows beneath the sun.

That the battle will be most terrible, all admit, and as I am more exposed than any other battery, and will have two of the most formidable war vessels of the Federal navy, the "Hartford" and "Albatros" (sic), to contend with, independent of others that may succeed in running the gauntlet, I can hardly hope to come off as well as I did last year. God mercifully preserved me during the terrible conflict of last year, and I believe He will throw the Aegis of His protection around me in this.

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At least, let us so hope; and when the din of war shall cease, and white robed peace unfurl her banner to the breeze, and war-worn soldiers strike their tents for the last time, and take up their line of march for their far distant homes, there to receive a welcome from those who make up their *all of life*; I, too, will bend my footsteps towards your rural, quiet home, to meet your genial welcome and kindly smiles; and, after the partial subsiding of a job, to intense for utterance, my overflowing heart shall be enabled to give expression to its emotions, I will tell you all about my connection with the army, and

PAGE THREE - CAPERS LETTER

the thousand times you were with me, in thought and fancy, cheering my flagging energies, and whispering to my soul of a happy meeting, after so long and painful a separation.

I should like, above all things, to be with you this balmy April day. We could spread us out, at full length, upon the bosom of our common mother, and, beneath the whispering boughs of the majestic oaks that stand sentry over the "Navidad", forgetful of wrong, and injury, talk, as only *friends* can.

Those are no false throbs of the heart of nature. The winds, as they quietly float (---) the wishes of God's (---) temple have no sound of suspicion, nor voice of detraction, nor word of calumny. All is truth, sincerity, seriousness. Therefore do I love nature so much, and therefore do I almost envy you your quiet forest-home.

Nothing so calms the soul of an earnest man, as communion with nature, in her great solitudes, and on the margin of her mighty waters. No matter what may be his struggles *with himself*, of his contest with a *misapprehending world*, if he will go forth thoughtfully, lovingly, and trustfully, amid the stillness of the woods, he will find that trees, and flowers, and green leaves and newmorning (sic) breezes, *all* have voices, and will speak to him. He will find a great peace coming into his soul. Not though, unless he is a *true man*; I do not say a *perfect one*, for who is perfect? But if he be a *true man*, in the sense of being conscious of his weaknesses and errors; --if deeply deploring them, and of earnestly striving to make himself better, he will find communion with *nature*, next in importance of communion with God.

I was sorry to hear my *little pet* has grown so wild, however, if there is nothing really wicked in it, she will sober down to a good and true woman, as most wild girls do. My letter to her was intended as a family letter, she being the medium of communication, and, I trust, it was received in the same spirit in which it was written. I did not expect a reply, and shall be agreeably disappointed if one comes. Her mother was always kind to me, and I will remember her, with gratitude, to the last moment of existence. Bettie's child-feelings, of course, are lost in the flight of years, and even my name would die out of remembrance, unless frequently recalled by circumstances, or friends.

Major Simons' Brigade has left for Fort Pemberton. He came to see me several times before he left. He gave me the first intimation of my old sweetheart, Miss Flora, having [m]arried (---) brother. I hope existence, to them, will never be shadowed.

I have written in great (---), both of body and mind, and my (---) as well as you (---) completely exhausted so *justice* to myself, and *mercy* to you, compel me to close by signing myself, as ever,

Your faithful friend.

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Volunteers are urgently needed to help man the Camp's booth at the Gilbert Peach Festival on July 4th !

Compatriots, the Camp needs members to step forward and man the recruiting booth on the 4th of July. Be it all day or just a couple of hours out of your day. Sign up at this month's Camp meeting or call Commander Roberts (957-4420) and volunteer.

July Camp meeting will be held on

Monday July 28th

This change is needed due to the SCV
National Convention

**These soldiers have a brick ordered for the Lake Murray
Monument memorial walk.
Have you placed your order?**

Last Name	First Name	MI	Suffix	Rank	Unit	War/Real Son
Barker	Archie					Real Son
Beckham	William	M		Captain	Co H 24th SCVI	War Between the States
Boyles	Edgar					Real Son
Boyles	James					Real Son
Boyles	William					Real Son
Brannon	W	Irby		Pvt		WWI
Brown	Leonard				5th Air Force	WWII
Byrd	James				E 12 SCVI	War Between the States
Byrd	John				A 2 SC Cav	War Between the States
Byrd	W	Lee			G 2 SCVI	War Between the States
Byrd	Thomas				B 3rd SC Bn Palmetto Lt Arty	War Between the States
Cave	J	Maurice				Real Son
Chambers	Joseph				Co E 27th GA Inf	War Between the States
Chapman	R	Bernard			Co D 7th SCVI	War Between the States
Crim	R	S (Sim)			US Navy	WWI
Crim	Samuel				C 2nd SC St. Troops	War Between the States
Crouch	Levi			Lt	D 9 SCVI	War Between the States
Dendy	James	W			Co G 10 AL Inf	War Between the States
Eubanks	Robert				43rd GA Infantry	War Between the States
Gregg	Maxcy			General	1st SCVI	War Between the States
Gray	Hezekaih	G			Co. H. 7 GA Inf	War Between the States
Gray	William	E			8 AF WWII KIA	WWII
Gray	Zachariah				Co F 56 GA Inf	War Between the States
Hendricks	D	J			24 SCVI	War Between the States
Lightfoot	W	T			Co I 2 SC Arty	War Between the States
Lighthart	W	R			Marion Light Arty	War Between the States
Mabry	William	F			Co B 53 GA Inf	War Between the States
Neely	Richard	L			B 3rd SC BN Palmetto Lt Atry	War Between the States
Neely	David	E				
Neely	Lucille					
O'Cain	Watson	A		Major	1 SC Inf Hagoods	War Between the States
Penny	James	T			Co B 1 SC Orrs Rifles	War Between the States
Penny	N	C			Co C 2BN SC Res	War Between the States
Pacheco	Jose	A		1Sgt		Vietnam
Pounds	James	H			Co A 20 SC Inf	War Between the States
Powers	John	W			Co F 2 SC Inf	War Between the States
Powers	W	T			Co G 2 SC Inf	War Between the States
Pursley	John	C			Co B 1 SC Orrs Rifles	War Between the States

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Pursley	David	E		Co B 1 SC Orrs Rifles	War Between the States
Seay	Daniel	E		Co F 5 Cav 1865	War Between the States
Stallings	F	M		Co B 53 GA Inf	War Between the States
Stevenson	A.	T.		Co F 24th SC Inf	War Between the States
Stevenson	S	J		1 Hampton's Leg	War Between the States
Stevenson	A	D		Co C 4 SC Inf	War Between the States
Taylor	Norman	A		116 Artillery	War Between the States
Unknown	Confederates				War Between the States
Wilson	James	C		Co D 46 Tenn Inf	War Between the States
Wolfe	Hampton	M		CWO4	WWII
Wolfe	James	B	Col	1st Cav Air Mobile	Vietnam
Wolfe	James	D	1 Lt	Co B 7th SC Cav	War Between the States
Wolfe	John	F	Cpl	Co D 7th SC Cav	War Between the States
Wolfe	Alexander	Hamilton	Sgt	Co D 7th SC Cav	War Between the States
Wolfe	Wade	Hampton	Cpl	Co D 7th SC Cav	War Between the States
Wolfe	Jacob	G	Pvt	Co D 7th SC Cav	War Between the States

Next Meeting June 26, 2003
Guest Speaker Horace Harmon
“Lexington During the War”
Carolina Wings and Rib House, 7:00 PM

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Coke

P.S. Remember me kindly to Mr. and Mrs. White, Bettie, Uncle Ben, and any others who may think of, or care for me.

Coke

http://www.geocities.com/BourbonStreet/Delta/3680/CaptCoke_letter.html

Camp Night Out

Saturday August 16th, 6:30 PM
Chestnut Hills Plantation Clubhouse

Our August Camp meeting is going to be a family affair. We will be privileged to have the ladies from our **Louisa McCord Chapter Order of Confederate Rose** receive their Charter this evening. In addition to this will be entertainment from Glenn Dedmont, who will play period songs for our enjoyment.

Currently, the plans for the menu will be Southern BBQ with all the fixings. In order for us to purchase enough food for those attending, we need you to inform us that you are coming and how many guests (adults & children) will be in your party. This will be an event where we will have to pay for the dinner and for the meeting place. Please use the form at the bottom of the page to let us know that you are coming and how many guests that you plan to bring with you.



If you have any questions about this evening, please contact either Commander Wayne Roberts (957-4420) or Steve Wolfe (732-1563) for more information. Directions to the clubhouse will be in the July and August newsletters.

I will be attending the August meeting and cookout.

Number of adults _____ @ \$10.00 each Children (ages 6-13) _____ @ \$5.00 each

Children (under 6) _____ (free)

Name

Mail to:
Steve Wolfe
130 Upper Loop Way
Columbia, SC 29212

You can also pay Adjutant Allen Frye at the June and July Camp meetings.



Support the Lake Murray Monument Project by buying a brick for a veteran in your family. These bricks honor veterans from all the wars that America has fought.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

June	26th	Camp Meeting
July	4th	Gilbert Peach Festival
July	28th	Camp Meeting (Monday)
July 30th - Aug 2nd		National Convention Asheville, N.C.
August	16th	Camp Cookout/Meeting Chestnut Hills Plantation (A Saturday)



Re-enactors 2003 Event Schedule

May 16-18	Battle Of Resaca - Resaca, GA
June 14	Ft. Lamar Living History - James Island, SC
July 4-6	140th Gettysburg - Gettysburg, PA
Sept 5-7	Tunnell Hill - Dalton, GA
Sept 20	Palmetto Battalion Elections - Columbia, SC Sesquicentennial State Park
Sept 26	Skirmish At The Big Tuna
Sept 27	Kaminski House LH - Georgetown, SC
Oct 4-5	Battle Of Perryville - Perryville, KY
Oct 24-26	Brattonsville - Brattonsville, SC
Oct 31 - Nov 2	Battle At Richland Creek - Saluda, SC
Nov 15-16	Secessionville - Charleston, SC



15TH REGIMENT SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS

Newsletter Editor
15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers
130 Upper Loop Way
Columbia, South Carolina 29212
Email: SC_15th_Regiment@hotmail.com

Next Camp Meeting
June 26th, 7 PM
Carolina Wings Restaurant
North Lake Blvd. Lexington

“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will 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.”

Stephen D. Lee

The 15th Regimental Report is a monthly publication of the Lexington, South Carolina Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 51.