

The Confederate Kepi

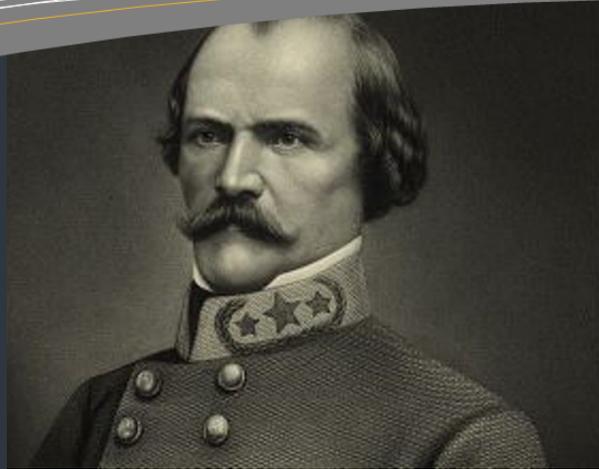


The Official Newsletter of Camp 2048

General Albert Sidney Johnston

A NEW YEAR!

As this year begins, let us all take a common step forward in renewing our dedication to honoring our Ancestors, and the cause they gave all for. Make it a goal to step with them in our hearts, as we make their stories known today, so that what they stood for so long ago isn't written out of history, as so much of our cause has been in the past few years. Let us educate ourselves, our families, and then we can better educate the people we come into contact with. Remember, to be mindful of their views, and listen with respect, and then present *OUR* cause to them without being combative or forceful. If we all can make just one person question what they have been taught, then our fight for the truth becomes easier each day. For now *THEY* will question the lies they've been taught for so long.



Becoming!

The beginning of the UCV

Veterans of the Confederacy launched a two-phased movement that influenced Southern thought for a century. Though most Southern vets withdrew from the public limelight, preoccupying themselves with earning a livelihood, many eventually yearned for the lost camaraderie of combat. Reconstruction-era hostility confronted "rebel" societies. In fact, federal authorities forbade them to organize as late as 1878. But that did not prevent the more determined among their lot from organizing. As early as 1867, Terry's Texas Rangers formed an association to erect a monument in Austin, Texas. (Incidentally, it took 40 years for them to raise \$10,000!) No doubt, other groups formed locally to achieve specific ends.

The Birth of the Confederate Veterans Movement

The Confederate veteran's movement evolved in two phases. The first phase centered on Virginia and was elitist. The Association of the Army of Northern Virginia, established Nov. 5, 1870, in Richmond. It never numbered more than 200 ex-officers. The group's Louisiana Division, which acted as an autonomous group, helped sick and unemployed vets in New Orleans.

Similarly, the Association of the Army of Tennessee came on the scene in 1877. A Confederate Survivors' Association was created in Augusta, Ga. in 1878. North Carolina's Society of Ex-Confederate Soldiers and Sailors was most likely the first Fraternal Confederate Veterans group to have statewide members in October 1881.

What is the Sons of Confederate Veterans?

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers.

Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to insuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.

Membership can be obtained through either direct or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically.

The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership

A prominent early vet group was Robert E. Lee Camp #1 of Confederate Veterans. It was formed in Richmond in April 1883. Camp #1's greatest project was creation of the first permanent soldiers' home in the South. It embraced Northern vets as "a band of brothers, bound to us by deeds greater than those won on the field of battle or the forum, deeds of brotherly love and charity." Four years later, other independent camps were coming together to form the Grand Camp of Confederate Veterans of Virginia. This group continued to extend its membership into Tennessee and Georgia.

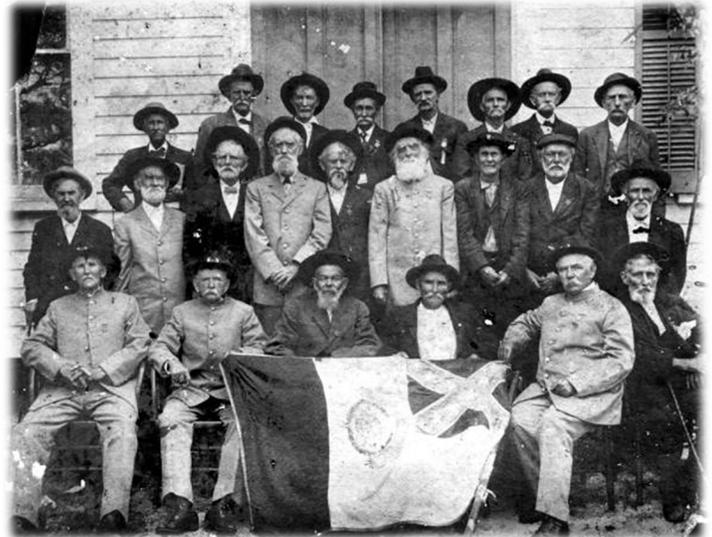
In 1883, Prior to the formation of Robert E. Lee Camp #1 of Confederate Veterans, The city of New Orleans had gained a reputation as the headquarters of post-war Confederate sentiment, feeling and action. Six years later in 1889, several groups met in New Orleans in order to unite and launch the Confederate Veterans movement's second and most influential phase.

United Confederate Veterans

In February 1889, the Virginia and Tennessee army society divisions along with the Benevolent and Historical Association, Veteran Confederate States Cavalry endorsed a plan for a comprehensive regional organization. Representatives of 10 Louisiana, Tennessee and Mississippi groups met that June and formed the United Confederate Veterans.

John B. Gordon became commander and George Moorman adjutant general. Moorman, the organizational genius and Gordon, the inspirational leader. they remained in office until their deaths in 1902 and 1904, respectively.

Sumner Cunningham was the owner and publisher of The Confederate Veteran, a newspaper magazine that reported news and information that was of value to Confederate Veterans. Cunningham brought to the Confederate movement his journalistic skills. After the formation of the UCV, the magazine became the official printed organ of the UCV. It sold for 50 cents and later \$1. It reached a peak circulation of 20,000 by the century's turn. In 1909, it was regarded by some as the most popular magazine published in the South.



Crawfordville, Florida 1904

The UCV helped create two auxiliaries that later went independent. In 1894, the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) was formed. It reached 45,000 members in 800 chapters by 1912. Children of the Confederacy was a UDC offshoot.

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The Seal of the Confederate States

Was used to authenticate certain documents issued by the federal government of the Confederate States. The phrase is used both for the physical seal itself (which was kept by the Confederate States Secretary of State), and more generally for the design impressed upon it. On May 20, 1863, C.S. Secretary of State Judah Benjamin instructed James Mason to arrange for its manufacture in London. The seal was first used publicly in 1864.

Seal of the Confederacy



The Daughters also sponsored a scholarship program at various colleges. In 1896, the Sons of Confederate Veterans was created. By 1903, its membership had grown to over 16,000 members.

Membership of the UCV and SCV were drawn from a broad spectrum of Southern society, the majority of which were from the lower and middle class. Virtually none of its membership was drawn from the "elite" upper society.

In 1890, more than 60 percent of Confederate Veterans were still under 55. Around 1903 or 1904, UCV hit its zenith in numbers: 80,000 or one-fourth to one-third of living Confederate Veterans.

Its 1,565 local camps were spread across 75 percent of the counties of the 11 former Confederate states. The largest percentage of camps, 19%, were located in Texas. South Carolina and Georgia trailed with about 10% each.

Assistance to needy veterans and their families was not the hallmark of the UCV's existence. However, the New Orleans, Nashville and Richmond camps became renowned for their charitable deeds for Confederate Veterans and their families. "In general, the UCV devoted limited attention to aid. The rhetoric of respect generally exceeded the reality of relief," reported Gaines Foster in *Ghosts of the Confederacy*.

Typical camps met only once or twice a year. Camps did not provide aid to indigent comrades and did not undertake historical projects. The number one project UCV camps were involved in were reunions or conventions for Confederate Veterans. These events quickly became "Festivals of the South"

where crowds expressed symbolically society's appreciation for the common soldier's sacrifices as well as lamenting "The Lost Cause". It was common practice for the SCV, UDC, and the UCV to produce medals, ribbons, and other assorted memorabilia to commemorate reunions and gatherings. The most renown of these medals was the UDC's Southern Cross of Honor that was presented to Confederate Veterans that attended the conventions. These medals and other convention items are now rare collector's items today and are much sought after by collectors.

Individual members looked forward to these annual gatherings. They were also extremely popular with non-members who often out-numbered the attending UCV members. Some 20,000 veterans flocked to Birmingham in 1894.

Throughout the 1890s, these get-togethers attracted on average 30,000 veterans and 50,000 spectators. UCV's 1903 reunion in New Orleans outdrew Mardi Gras in public attendance. After entering the Twentieth Century, the number of living Confederate Veterans was rapidly on the decline.

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.”

Lt. General Stephen D. Lee, Commander General United Confederate Veterans,

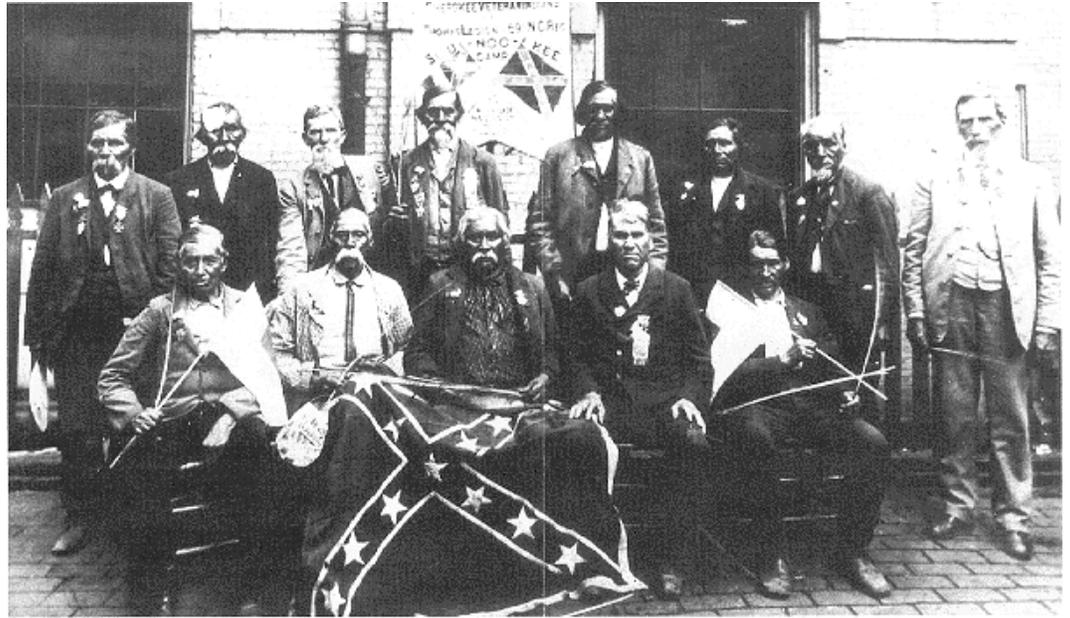
New Orleans, Louisiana,
April 25, 1906

Make a difference!

Don’t let your membership in the SCV be, just about a certificate or membership card. Take an active roll in helping tell your Ancestors story. Whether it’s attending just one meeting, submitting your Ancestors information for the newsletter, or even submitting an idea for a story. Make a difference, just as your ancestor did! They deserve to be heard once again, through you.

At the 1902 convention in Dallas, of the 140,000 people who were in attendance, only 12,000 were veterans. The 50th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg attracted 8,000 Confederate compared to the 44,000 Union veterans that were in attendance.

The greatest of all the Confederate Veterans gatherings was at Richmond, Virginia on June 30, 1907. During that event, a monument to Confederate President Jefferson Davis was unveiled and dedicated. It was estimated over 100,000 spectators attended the dedication.



Cherokee confederates, New Orleans 1903

An idea of the magnitude of these reunion conventions and the interest in them may be had by reference to that held in Little Rock, Arkansas, in May, 1911. Little Rock was city of a little more than 30,000 residents. inhabitants and over 100,000 visitors gathered there for the three-day event In 1917, the annual UCV convention was held in Washington, DC and is acknowledged as the most significant gathering of Confederate Veterans. The UCV parade was reviewed by President Woodrow Wilson.

The UCV sixty-first convention was held in Norfolk, Virginia. May 30th - June 3rd, 1951. It was the last UCV convention held and is generally acknowledged as the end point for the organization. A commemorative United States postage stamp was issued to commemorate the occasion that was virtually identical to one printed in 1949 for the last national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, the organization for Union Veterans.



California Division Reconfederation

This years reconfederation will be held Friday March 11, 2022—Sunday March 13, 2022. It will once again be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Bakersfield, located at 5101 California Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93309.

(661) 325-9700

Make Your Ancestor's story known!

Don't let the cause they fought for be forgotten!
Make them part of current history, not the history that is being erased or ignored!

Submit there information, story, and/or photos, and let them be heard again!



Online resources

www.scv.org

www.makedixiegreatagain.com

www.theconfederatemuseum.com

"Vindicating their Cause"

At first, the UCV primarily served as a functionary group that oversaw regular gatherings of Confederate Veterans, but as time progressed and the number of living Confederate Veterans began to dwindle, the UCV became interested in the preservation of the memory of the Confederacy. It began to take an active role in preserving Confederate heritage, especially the celebration of the average infantryman.

In 1892, it established a Historical Committee to promote understanding of the war. UCV recommended histories, sponsored exhibits and helped establish museums, such as the Confederate Battle Abbey in Richmond in 1921. Fearing history's verdict, it embarked on this crusade with a vengeance.

Vindication was needed because of the growing commercial sentiment that belittled the achievements of the war generation, specifically those that were of the Confederacy. One veterans group was determined "to see to it that our children do not grow up with false notions of their fathers, and with disgraceful apologies for their conduct."

Said one UCV Historical Committee member: "... No concerted action has been taken to write our history...save those who are antagonistic to us and our posterity, who are prone to moderate our valor, and the victories we won..." That was remedied with the publication of a 12-volume history -- Confederate Military History -- in 1899.

Military defeat had no bearing on this historical crusade. As author Bennett Young wrote, veterans had to believe the "sword in and of itself never made any cause right, and the outcome of battles does not affirm the truth of political or even religious questions." Besides its multi-volume military history, the UCV also proposed a major study of veterans contributions to society entitled "The Confederate Soldier in Peace".

The Committee's highly educated members could cite several successes. Their efforts stimulated historical research (by 1903 history was being taught in every Southern institution) and spurred the establishment of state archives. their efforts made history courses mandatory in public schools and convinced the State of Tennessee to fund a chair of American history at Peabody Normal College.



Sixty-first National UCV Reunion 1951

Twelve Confederate veterans were known to be living in 1951, at the time of the 1951 UCV reunion. Replicas of the nation's first ironclad warships, the "Monitor" and the "Merrimack," re-enacted their famous battle in Hampton Roads 89 years ago. The mock battle was a highlight of the 51st reunion of the United Confederate Veterans. Three veterans attended.

The final UCV Commander-in-Chief, General James W. Moore, (January 3, 1852-February 26, 1951) passed away. James had joined Morgan's Partisan Rangers as a member of Wheeler's Cavalry at 13. He was sent home after a year. Later he attended and graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1873 Sixty-second and Final National UCV Reunion 1952

One final meeting of the United Confederate Veterans was held at the 1952 convention of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, who in solemn conclave, voted to end the official existence of the United Confederate Veterans of America.

End of the Line

Like all associations, UCV endured petty bickering, internal political infighting, commercial exploitation of its rituals, trivialization of its traditions and declining public interest. Despite these things, the UCV endured, but it could not overcome the simple fact that through the progression of time, even the most hardy Confederate Veteran would age and eventually die.

After the formation of the UDC and the SCV, the UCV began a process of turning over its functionary duties to these secondary groups. By the 1920s, most of this work had been turned over to the SCV. After the 1951 UCV convention in Norfolk, Virginia, the UCV was effectively no longer in existence. The SCV laid claim to being the direct continuance of the UCV.



The last verified Confederate Veteran to pass was Mr. Pleasant Crump, who died on December 31, 1951. He served during the war as a Private in Company A, 10th Alabama Infantry, and was present at Appomattox Court House, Virginia when Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to the Union forces of General Ulysses S. Grant in April 1865 however there were a number of other men whose families claimed they were the last Confederate Veteran that died as late as December 1959. While there may have been Confederate Veterans that died after Mr. Crump, there is no evidence of proof to their exact birth date or

participation in the War.

The UCV published *The Confederate Veteran* which became one of the most popular magazines published, with a large circulation, perhaps for a time the largest in the South. The last issue was published in December 1932. It included articles on the many problems the UCV was experiencing, the advanced age of the veterans and the financial problems caused by the depression and how it affected the membership. Also, this last issue discussed the United Daughters of the Confederacy, their efforts to keep the UCV camps open and the help they had given to the magazine over the years.

Sources: Confederate Veteran magazine, Various camp sites from the SCV

Stephen D. Lee Institute 2022

The 2022 Stephen D. Lee Institute will be held February 18-19, 2022, on the Gulf Coast at Beauvoir, the last home of President Jefferson Davis, in Biloxi, Mississippi. Our host hotel for the event is the Edgewater Inn, 1936 Beach Blvd in Biloxi. 1-800-323-9676 or 1-228-388-1100. The event will take place in the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library on the grounds. Registration includes access to Buildings and Tours at Beauvoir. Check in table will be set up by 2 pm on Friday for those who wish to come early and tour the grounds. Friday night meet and greet at Beauvoir is from 8-9:30 pm. Saturday meeting starts at 8:30 am, lunch at 12, Banquet starts at 7:00 pm. This year's topic:

“The 21st Century Confederate”

Speakers include:

Dyan Mears. Executive Director of Beauvoir.

Dean Stevens. Chairman of the SCV IT Committee.

Carl Jones. Army of Tennessee Department Councilman, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Paul Gramling. Past commander-in-chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Chris Sullivan. Past commander-in-chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and immediate past director of the S.D. Lee Institute.

Walter D. "Donnie" Kennedy

Respect where respect is due!

Once again Wreaths Across America was a great success to all who participated. On December 18th, 2021, camp 2048 paid it's respects to those Hero's who have served our country in times of war dating back to the American Revolution. A heart felt "Thank You" to those who participated is justified, as it is with no greater honor that respect is given to those who have protected every American.



Brother Russ played taps, and was instrumental in setting the somber mood of the occasion, and made it a time for reflection of the sacrifices made, by so many.

Zane and Grandpa (Who was of great help making sure the Salute went off without a "Poof") were present in the mornings dedication of wreaths.



Congratulations to Russ are in order for making Bugles Across America aware that the SCV is doing its part in honoring those who are deserving.

In conversation with WAA HQ, brother Greg, has found that they are fully aware that the SCV continues to support the cause, with many camp across America participating. Just another reason to keep the good fight going, with a factual truth as to our Ancestors sacrifices.

Second time capsule found!

Newspapers, photographs, coins and books were among items uncovered in a 19th century time capsule that was hidden beneath a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee in Virginia, historians announced Tuesday December 28th. Another time capsule found beneath the same statue and opened a week prior contained an almanac, cloth envelope and a silver coin.

"It's in better shape than we had expected," said Chelsea Blake, a conservator for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. "We thought everything was going to be soup and it's not soup. So it's pretty great."

Conservators also unboxed a piece of wood with a bullet in it, handwritten letters, multiple books with antique bookmarks, Confederate coins in an envelope, and a copy of a photograph of former President Abraham Lincoln in his coffin.

Next, conservators will conduct a full inventory of the artifacts, stabilize and preserve them, they said. Officials think the box was left by someone who oversaw the monument's initial construction.

The Monument that once stood will be melted down and converted into new art work! *CBS news report*

Let's make some noise about that decision!

The Lee Monument Time Capsule



Governor Northam's henchmen have finally located the time capsule buried in the Memorial erected to Confederate Gen. Robert Edward Lee in Richmond, Virginia. How shameful and hypocritical that today the Virginia Department of Historic Resources shows so much interest in opening and disgorging the contents of the time capsule in light of their insipid defense of this monument and others throughout the Commonwealth over the last six years. Governor Northam no doubt is salivating at the thought of this final desecration, disgrace, and slander of General Lee and the Confederacy. In the state-sponsored and promoted removal of Gen. Lee's Memorial, Virginians have not seen such vile hedonism and disrespect since the Taliban destroyed the Buddhas of Bamyana, or ISIS tore down the statuary of Ashurbanipal and ravaged the artistry of Palmyra!

Americans, only a few years ago, saw and reviled these actions as barbarity and criminality of the worst order and criticized them universally as the destruction of world-historical patrimony and cultural evolution. Virginians' government and its agencies are now showing the civilized world that Americans and Virginians at the highest levels are just as capable of barbarism and mindless hedonism as the most depraved order of our species. Sadder yet is the vast majority of Virginians who have sat by and said or done nothing to resist the slander, historical revisionism, cancel-culture, and the rioting, and looting in our cities, driven by the runaway horse of a false premise of political correctness, for power, with racist motivation.

The tearing down of cultural, heroic, and veterans memorials and monuments is what a people's worst enemies do upon conquest for the purposes of subjugation. The eradication of monuments is the jackboot of a tyrant upon the neck of a conquered people meant to demoralize and symbolize complete control.

Virginia's Confederate Memorials were erected to honor our veterans and were respected by our conquerors just as we respected those of their dead patriots of the North. *Excerpt from the Abbeville Institute article 12/28/2021*