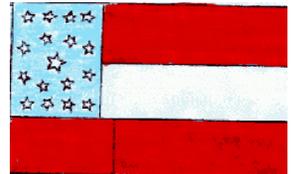




# The Vidette

## CALIFORNIA DIVISION

### Sons of Confederate Veterans



The J. P. Gillis Flag



26 April 2003 Issue 16 Published by Division Adjutant Vernon R. Padgett [vp09@earthlink.net](mailto:vp09@earthlink.net)

## MEDIA COVERAGE FAVORABLE TO PROTESTERS

# Lincoln in Richmond?



Honorary SCV Member H.K. Edgerton and members of the North Carolina Order of Confederate Rose in Richmond. From left to right Marsh Crump, Von Strickland, Greta Pierce, H.K., Laura Stallard and seated, Lynne Maulden.

## Compatriot Brock Townsend, Camp

**1208 Los Angeles Reports:** I skipped the Hollywood event in order to be early to the protest and scout out possibilities.

At 1:30, Dixie and I were turned away and told to come back in 45 minutes. There was a white policeman with a black female traffic helper. The policeman said he liked Dixie too! (in response to my front bumper plate-- I Love Dixie) to which I replied: "Well, she's sitting right beside me"-- to which he stated he liked her also!

We came back in 45 minutes (2:15, still 15 minutes early). The policeman stated I was too early, to which I replied, that you said 45 minutes. The black helper talked to him and he waved us in. They were both very pleasant.

We took 300 4-page handouts ("Less Familiar Quotations and Acts of Lincoln" from the 37th Texas website) down the hill towards the entrance. There were three mounted policemen. I stated my purpose and he said to go straight on in to which I replied that I desired to hand them out as the people went in the entrance.

At that moment, I believed he realized that I wasn't handing out pro-Lincoln papers and he said I would have to go across the street and stay with the



H.K. with Tredegar Iron Works in background

protesters. I stated, "So only pro-Lincoln people on this side, correct?"

He said no, but I couldn't be AT the entrance as it was private property. I then asked could I go back to the corner on his side and he said OK. I then asked if I could be even closer-- right behind him a few feet.

He looked back and said he didn't see any reason why not. I said, "Thank you, Sir." Dixie and I started handing them out as fast as we could. She had on her Children of the Confederacy pin and I my MOS&B.



Pictures from April 5, 2003 Richmond, Virginia Lincoln Statue Protest; thanks To Scott Dailey; more at [www.dixieinternet.com/RICHMOND.html](http://www.dixieinternet.com/RICHMOND.html)

One white man, in a gruff mood, asked who had sponsored this and I said that I had. He then asked my name and I gave it to him. One black lady asked if she was going to like what I was giving her, and I said that I didn't know.

Only one person of all that passed did not take the handout; however, two white men brought them back to me. One very politely said he didn't think he needed it.

Once our protesters found out the type of papers they were, quite a few asked for them. I imagine they thought I was the enemy at first, as all I was saying was: "Lincoln Quotes."

A short while later one of them came up and said they were making everyone throw the papers away before entering.

So I stopped and went to the other side. I then walked to the entrance with a copy and asked the black policeman if I could enter. He was very polite. He said I would have to throw it away. I then politely asked why, to which he replied that the white man behind him was responsible. That man was rude and

ignored my question, but he worked for the Ethyl Corporation.

So, many people took these handouts inside until the powers found out their content and then barred them. Hard to believe. At any rate, I don't believe it was a lost cause, as we did get the word out to quite a few and hopefully caused a few of them to read some more. AND I've got plenty left for the next occasion!

One newspaper man said he would print my endeavor, but I haven't seen it.

Everyone on our side was in a good mood and there were absolutely no problems.

We sang Dixie, chanted Sic Semper Tyrannis as the plane flew over, chanted "Lincoln was a racist," and a few others gems.

When they uncovered the statue, we all turned our backs.

H.K. Edgerton definitely put a spark in the crowd when he came. He walked across the street to jokingly confront the one protester (black) on the Lincoln side, but the black policeman stepped in and all three were smiling and joking. I thought for sure that would get in the papers, but I haven't seen it.

That night I was able to see coverage on two local channels at 11 p.m. WRIC (ABC 8) was excellent. Great shot of H.K. talking about Lincoln. We had much more coverage and I was really excited having seeing it as it was definitely not biased or, if all, in our favor!



Downey Cemetery Grave Marking for George Butler Vern Padgett and Philip Gallanders, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2003; photo by Floyd Farrar.

WTVR (CBS 6) was good. Not biased at all. We again had more coverage and I would say it favored us.

The BIG surprise was when I heard the claps and BOOS when the statue was unveiled! I had not heard it at the site, but both stations made a big deal of the boos. They were quite pronounced! I didn't realize that there were protesters inside.

So, when they are talking about the number of protesters, the papers aren't mentioning the ones inside. From the sounds, I would think there were almost as many on both sides.

The parade was just marvelous. Three or four ignorant individuals along the way, but not outspoken and many others proudly waving flags.

One was particularly touching. An elderly man standing at strict attention with his hand over his heart and, I believe, tears in his eyes. Dixie and I cheated and rode on the Mountain Cannon trailer that had six flags plus our two, the Cavalry Battle and the Bonnie Blue.

I feel a few years younger after this weekend! On to Richmond next Friday for some more.

I've done this quickly, so excuse all the mistakes, but you should get the idea.

We don't have to worry about many people seeing the statue. I thought it would be visible as you drove up to the waterfront, but not so. It is behind guarded large, high metal gates/walls. Then you have to climb up some steep steps. Security cameras et cetera.

I forgot to mention that the reason I identified each individual by color was to show that all the rude ones were white. I hope that was self-evident.

**Brock Townsend, Camp 1208 Gen. John Bell Hood**

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**Lincoln's statue belongs  
in the Hall of Shame, not  
in Richmond**

**WILL ANDERSON**  
**April 18, 2003 1:07 am**

YOUR EDITORIAL regarding the statue of Abe Lincoln and his son Tad being placed in Richmond ["Welcome, Abe," April 4] states "the statue

remembers a great man, someone who saw this country through its most bloody war."

Abraham Lincoln was unquestionably a white racist, stating frequently, consistently, and publicly his belief that blacks were an inferior race. In his inaugural address of 1861, he declared he had no intention whatsoever of ending their enslavement.

The world press recognized the Emancipation Proclamation for what it was on the very the day it was issued--a cynical political maneuver that did not free a single slave.

Lincoln's own vision for America involved the deportation of all blacks, slave and free, to Panama, Haiti, or Liberia. In modern terms, that is an atrocity called "ethnic cleansing."

Further, Lincoln created "war powers" for himself never mentioned in the Constitution, enforcing them through the terror of military force.

His own newly created secret police, overseen by Secretary of State William H. Seward, destroyed hundreds of newspapers, while thousands of U.S. citizens were imprisoned without charge, without trial, and without recourse to legal representation for simply dissenting in the Northern states.

Lincoln ordered a scorched-earth policy waged against civilian populations.

Prior to secession, the Southern states had provided almost 90 percent of national revenues through tariffs while receiving very little in return. Following the devastation of the war, it took almost a century before these same states were able to recover the quality of life and economic vitality that they had possessed in 1860.

About 9 percent of Union prisoners of war died in the harsh conditions of Con-federate POW camps. The Confederacy could scarcely feed its own population and soldiers. Richmond proposed POW exchanges throughout the war, which Lincoln refused or delayed. Lincoln allowed his own soldiers to die in captivity for the cynical purpose of putting a further drain on the South's resources.

A much larger percentage--about 12 percent--of the Confederate POWs died in Union camps, this atrocity occurring in a country that had surpluses of food, clothing, and other necessities, again a direct result of Lincoln's personal wretchedness. That fact alone was worthy of a war-crime tribunal, even by the standards of that time.

Reconstruction is the most shameful chapter of pillage and abuse in our history, creating the poisonous environment from which sprang the horrors of the Ku Klux Klan, Jim Crow laws, and enduring

racial animosity. Granted, Reconstruction occurred after Lincoln had been assassinated, but considering the way the war was waged under Lincoln's direct day-to-day direction, is there any reason whatsoever to believe that he would have conducted a more benevolent Reconstruction himself?

Slavery ceased to exist in every other country where it existed throughout the civilized world in the 19th century without carnage and bloodshed. America could have ended slavery in the same manner if a "great man" had been in the White House instead of Abraham Lincoln.

His war killed more Americans than all our other wars combined.

The American economy took decades to recover. It made a mockery of the fundamental concept of American democracy that a government's legitimacy to rule is based on the consent of the governed and invalidated at the tip of a bayonet.

It established a second-class citizen status for black Americans that prevailed throughout the nation, North and South, for more than 100 years after.

I am not a Southerner and I don't have any illusions about the glories of old Dixie. I'm also convinced that Lincoln could be described as a statesman only if he had found a way to end slavery without violence.

He could be described as an effective leader if only he had preserved the Union through a war much shorter than four horrific years.

Lincoln could have been described as benevolent only if the stench of racism and hypocrisy did not pervade almost the entire body of his own writings and pronouncements.

He could have been described as humanitarian only if he had not directed the worst war crimes of his century against civilian populations (North and South) and against prisoners of war (North and South).

However, Lincoln is guilty on all counts. The most common defense for Lincoln that "at least he saved the Union" is simply a case of "the ends justifying the means."

America has a host of heroes to honor and to include Lincoln in that number is an insult to their memory.

His record is more in keeping with the tyrants and dictators of world history.

**Author WILL ANDERSON** resides in Spotsylvania County. Copyright The Free Lance-Star Publishing Company.

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## STATEMENT FROM DIVISION COMMANDER Barron T. Smith

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# We Are At a Crossroads

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Comrades!

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Division convention at Fresno.

We are at a major crossroads in our organization at both the Division and National levels. Our Division in the last year has expanded in numbers of active camps and is poised to increase in camps and membership in the upcoming year.

If reelected as Division Commander I propose to again attempt to form Provisional Brigades to aid camps in recruitment, communication and education. I hope that some of our members will be actively interested in acting as officers in the new positions that will be opened up if we do so. Because of the size of our state and numbers of camps, it is becoming increasingly hard for any individual to visit all camps around the state and therefore by forming brigades we can facilitate communication and comradeship between camps and Division.



**Division Commander Barron Smith reports: "Had a great time at the Lee-Jackson Luncheon and thought you might want a picture for the Division Newsletter."**  
**Left to right: Lou Olker, Cosby Camp Adjutant, wife Loye Olker, Kyle, Myself, Mike Montague, Commander, Cosby camp, and Paul Toland, former Commander of Stainless Banner camp.**

I would expect Brigade Commanders to be able to visit at least one activity of each of the camps in the

Brigade at least once a year and to report to me often as to their activities and progress in attaining goals that we may set such as responding to heritage violations and other activities meant to show the public that we exist and are proud of our heritage!

At the National level we are having a great discussion as to what our heritage means to us, and what we as an organization plan to do about the constant attacks on it.

In this past year at Division level have been fortunate to only have moderate heritage violations occur that we have responded to tactfully.

At National level there have been major attacks such as the Georgia and Point Lookout Maryland flag situations that have had to be responded to in a very public manner with much press. A rift has been forming between those within our ranks who believe that what the South fought for was a righteous cause and that we should stand up for those beliefs and those also within our ranks who have southern lineage but believe that the South was wrong in some or many of the beliefs they fought for and that for patriotism we should weaken our positions in defense against those heritage violations and possibly respond more in the manner that the U.D.C. would.

We must be thinking and discussing these things in the time before our Division Convention!

Deo Vindice! Barron

- 3- weapons display
- 4- medical display
- 5- a memorial to General Tyree Harris Bell
- 6- mini-church consisting of song, prayer, and before battle prayer
- 7- Silent auction
- 8- Social Friday evening (Mint Juleps on behalf of Stephen Holcomb and Raspberry Cordial on behalf of Eric Tidd)
- 9- Period dance
- 10- AWARDS presentation

Meetings:

- 1- Sons Of Confederate Veterans Business
- 2- Sons Of Confederate Veterans Adjutants
- 3- Camp 1804
- 4- Order of Confederate Rose

Speakers:

- 1- Connie Moretti (UDC past President, and descendent of General Bell)
- 2- Kermit Albritton (Commander of the Modesto Camp)
- 3- Neal Johnson (History Professor, Reedly College)
- 4- Richard Wagner's (Camp 1804) explanation of Confederate Flags
- 5- The wonderful voice of Ernie Powell
- 6- Tim Desmond's Before Battle prayers

As you can see! It will be a busy weekend.

I would like to say thanks to my wife Marcia for being a great secretary and advisor. Thank you to Mrs. Linda Wagner for the making of the "First National" flag, and being a great resource. Thank you to Sheryl Hill for arranging a visitation to the "Meux" home for our SCV and UDC ladies. Thank you to Sandy Ashdown-Turner for bringing the OCR to our Convention.

Above all, thanks to Taya Cline and the ladies of our local UDC Chapter for all the valuable support you are giving. It is so important that the UDC and the SCV work together like brothers and sisters. Combined with the OCR, and we all head in the right direction instead of apart I can see great accomplishments for the future.

Thank you to "Camp 1804" for having the drive to form this convention and all the "stuff" to bring this convention to Fresno.

I want to thank all of you that have supported my run for Division Commander. I have tried not to let that get in the way of this convention. I am running for this position because I feel we need some change in our Division. I will campaign in a fair and gentleman-like manner AND ACCORDING TO THE

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## Division Convention Schedule

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**MANY EVENTS PLANNED.**

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**By Commander Chuck Norred, Camp 1804**

Well, some might think I have too many things going on for an SCV Convention. Last year was my first SCV Convention.

I thought it lacked as the conventions I have always attended had various speakers and activities going on. An education or athletic seminar might have as many as 15 speakers in one day.

Hope I'm not going to burn ya'll out. You can look forward to:

- 1- various door prizes
- 2- a raffle for a large "First National Flag" handmade by Linda Wagner

SCV CONSTITUTION of which we ALL should abide by.

New Book: Civil War/Science-Fiction with  
**CONFEDERATE PROTAGONISTS**

by Lucas Starr

Slated for release June 1, 2003 from Port Town Publishing, the new blood-and-thunder epic, Expeditionary Force, tells the story of a war between two primitive alien races, one civilized village dwellers called Kandirians and the other savage nomads named Sleebok. With the vicious Sleebok threatening to overwhelm them, the Kandirians are willing grab at any chance to save their civilization from annihilation.

An opportunity soon presents itself in the form of a strange portal to another world, a world that turns out to be the state of Georgia in the year 1864. Contact is made between a Kandirian scholar and the C.S. Army of Tennessee, and a pact is soon made after "modern" Human weapons like muskets and cannon awe the alien creature. In exchange for an expeditionary force of Southern troops and advisors, massive amounts of Kandirian gold will be funneled to the Confederacy's war effort.

The book then follows the exploits of Major Lucas Starr, the commander of the 1st C.E.F., as he attempts to battle off hordes of death-crazed savages on a far-off world, keep the peace between suspicious human soldiers and distrustful Kandirians, and hold his tiny command together in an attempt to change the destiny of two worlds. The tottering Confederacy, wracked by losses at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, as well as Kandirian civilization both hang in balance.

Paperback copies of this unusual tale of adventure are available for \$6.95 advanced sale price (list price \$8.95) plus \$4 for shipping at Port Town Publishing's website [www.porttownpublishing.bigstep.com](http://www.porttownpublishing.bigstep.com), or by mail from Port Town Publishing, 601 Belknap Street, Superior, WI 54880. Also available at the website: A sample excerpt of the book's action-oriented nature.

**CONFEDERATE MARINES**

"I would like to see the infernal Yankee race exterminated and only known as a people that have passed away, unhonored and unwept." 1st Lt. John Douglas Fowler, April 23, 1862, the only Confederate Marine Officer to die on active duty.

(Thanks to Brock Townsend—Ed.)

**Gebhardt Clarifies  
Confederate Flag Stand.  
Protestors Flag Him.**

HANNIBAL, Mo. (AP) - Democratic presidential candidate Dick Gephardt, who said on a South Carolina campaign stop that the Confederate battle flag shouldn't fly "anytime, anywhere," now says he did not mean people should be barred from displaying the flag on their own property.



**Protesters who disagree with presidential candidate Richard A. Gephardt's position on the Confederate flag attended the Democrat Days celebration in Missouri on Saturday. (Dan Dalstra -- Hannibal Courier Post Via AP)**

"My position is clear: I think it's inappropriate to fly the Confederate flag in public places," the Missouri congressman said Saturday.

"It's a hurtful, divisive symbol in our country, and it just shouldn't be in public places. They're free to do whatever they want in private property."

Campaigning in South Carolina in January, Gephardt said in a statement that the Confederate battle flag should no longer fly "anytime, anywhere" in the United States.

On Saturday, Gephardt told The Associated Press he intended his statement to apply only to flag displays on public property, because "that's what the issue was in South Carolina."

The NAACP has a continuing tourism boycott against South Carolina because of the flag's display at a Confederate memorial on Statehouse grounds. The NAACP contends the flag, which formerly flew from the Capitol dome and was moved as a compromise,

should not be flown in a "place of sovereignty."

Gephardt is the sixth of the nine announced Democratic candidates to decide to campaign with public money, as he did when he ran for the party's nomination in 1988.

After Gephardt made the flag comment in South Carolina, the AP reported the Confederate battle flag had flown for decades at two state-run historic sites in Missouri. Gephardt's spokesman said the congressman was unaware of that but thought those flags should come down.

At the behest of Democratic Gov. Bob Holden's office, the director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources ordered the flags to come down at the Confederate Memorial State Historic Site in Higginsville and at Fort Davidson, site of the 1864 Battle of Pilot Knob. Missouri was a slave state under the 1821 Missouri Compromise but did not join the Civil War confederacy.

Reaction to the flags' removal included two marches to the Governor's Mansion by Southern heritage groups and complaining letters to editors.

Saturday night, as Gephardt entered a Democratic banquet in Hannibal, he paused on his way to the podium to wave.

**Three men stood from their seats at the table beside him and silently held up Confederate flags.**

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## When is Confederate Memorial Day?

### In Order of Secession

20 December 1860 South Carolina  
**May 10<sup>th</sup>**

9 January 1861 Mississippi  
**Last Monday in April**

10 January 1861 Florida  
**April 26<sup>th</sup>**

11 January 1861 Alabama  
**4<sup>th</sup> Monday in April**

19 January 1861 Georgia  
**April 26<sup>th</sup>**

26 January 1861 Louisiana  
**June 3**

1 Feb 1861 Texas

**Confederate Heroes Day on January 19<sup>th</sup> (R. E. Lee's Birthday).**

23 March 1861 Arizona Territory

**April 26<sup>th</sup>**



Source: [www.sterlingprice145.org/memday.htm](http://www.sterlingprice145.org/memday.htm)

6 May 1861 Arkansas

**April 27<sup>th</sup>** (Saturday preceding Easter Sunday)

7 May 1861 Virginia

**Last Monday in May**

20 May 1861 North Carolina

**May 10<sup>th</sup>**

8 June 1861 Tennessee

**June 3, Confederate Decoration Day**

1 July 1861 Indian Territory

?

19 August 1861 Missouri

**April 26<sup>th</sup>**

20 Nov 1861 Kentucky

**June 3, President Davis' Birthday**

Source: [www.csawardept.com/documents/secession/](http://www.csawardept.com/documents/secession/)

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**WAR BETWEEN THE STATES BOOKS**  
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Advertisement from Charles Hayes:

We are pleased to offer an **entire library of hard-to-find books relating to the War Between the States.**

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unheralded privates and civilians.

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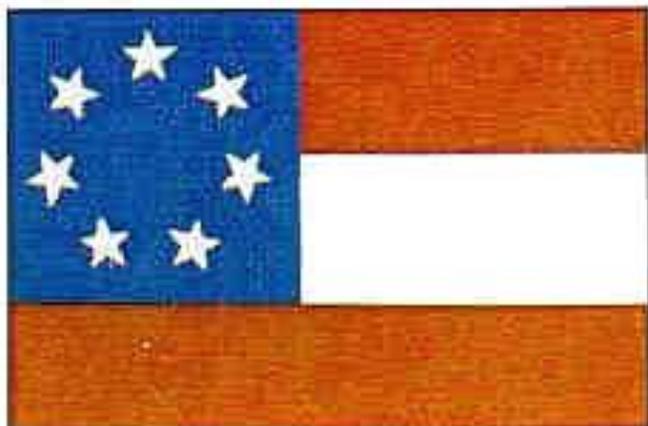
## SCV Life Membership

Apply for Life Membership by completing application at [www.SCV.org](http://www.SCV.org). Fee is \$300 if you are 59 or younger; \$200 for those aged 60 to 69, and \$100 for those aged 70 and older.

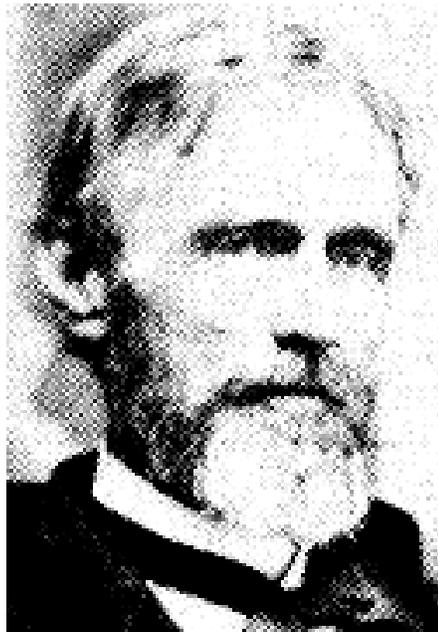
Mail check and form to HQ. Life Members are assigned to Camp 2 and are also listed on local Camp rosters with "LM" instead of an expiration date.

## California Division Staff

**Commander** Barron Smith [rebbaron55@cs.com](mailto:rebbaron55@cs.com)  
**Lt Cmdr** Jeffrey Towery 661.288.2156. No e-mail  
**Adjutant** Vern Padgett, 16302 Shady Valley Lane,  
Whittier 90603-2635 562.947.1554  
[vp09@earthlink.net](mailto:vp09@earthlink.net)  
**Webmaster** Gary Waltrip [Secesh@rebelgray.com](mailto:Secesh@rebelgray.com)  
**Historian** Dr. Ro King [RebelRo@qnet.com](mailto:RebelRo@qnet.com)



## WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT



**"A question settled by violence, or in disregard of law, must remain unsettled forever." -- Jefferson Davis**



**Sonny Perdue's Proposed New Georgia State Flag.**

## California SCV Web Site

Check [www.scvcalifornia.net](http://www.scvcalifornia.net) for the California SCV website. Gary Waltrip, Commander Camp 1440, The Stainless Banner, San Jose, continues to expand and add to the web site. See Gary's own site at [www.RebelGray.com](http://www.RebelGray.com). Take a look at our work!



**Downey Memorial Ceremony, 29 March 2003. Color Guard by Cameron E. Thom SCV Camp 2007; photo by Compatriot Floyd Farrar.**



**Gravestone for Chaplain George Emory Butler.**

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## **THE CONFEDERATE MARINE CORPS: THEY ALSO SERVED**

**by Kevin P. Gallen**

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The Confederate Marine Corps was established in the spring of 1861 and was authorized to have a maximum complement of 990 officers and enlisted men. The Corps was plagued by recruiting difficulties throughout the war but reached its largest point in October of 1864 with 571 Marines at arms. The Marine Corps was commanded by Colonel Lloyd James Beall. In 1862, the Marines established a base at Drewry's Bluff, Virginia, and named it Camp Beall.

In July 1864, General Robert E. Lee devised a plan where a battalion of Marines were to slip through the naval blockade and make an amphibious landing at Point Lookout above Washington D.C. to free the Confederate Prisoners of War. This was to be done in support of General Jubal Early's raid on Washington. The force was led by Thomas S. Wilson, and included 2nd Lt. Henry H. McCune also of Missouri. The ships carrying the Marines were called back and the mission aborted due to perceived leaks regarding their activities.

As the fortunes of the Confederacy grew dark in the spring of 1865, sailors and Marines were brought to Drewry's Bluff and formed into fighting units such as Tucker's Naval Battalion, which fought with distinction at the battle of Saylor's Creek. When Robert E. Lee surrendered his army at Appomattox Court House, it included four Marine officers and 21 enlisted Marines.

Information on this subject was gathered from *The United States Marine Corps in the Civil War-The First Year* by David M. Sullivan.



**Color Sergeant John Holland, Camp 2062 Ventura County, recruits at Ventura Harbor Village February 15, 2003. Photo by Commander Ken Koch.**

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