



Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Major John C. Hutto Camp # 443
Jasper, Alabama

Published Monthly

June 2015



Pictured are Walker High History teacher and Hutto Camp member Mr. John McGraw (left) who spoke on General Joseph Wheeler at the May camp meeting and Hutto Camp Cmdr. James Blackston (right).

Major John C. Hutto Camp

June Meeting Notice

Sunday, 21 June 2015 - 2:30 PM

**First Methodist Church
1800 Third Avenue
Jasper, Alabama**

**Speaker Mr. Tim Kent
SCV member and author of *“Die Like
Men, Nashville Campaign”***

The first two (2) compatriots to come through the door get a free hardback, shrink wrapped copy of Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.'s book *“Speaking of Liberty”*



Part of around 30 folks who came to the Confederate Cemetery in Union Springs for Confederate flags to be placed by grave markers of Confederate soldiers on May 23, 2015. Note the Confederate soldier monument in the background.

Mayor gave Permission to place Flags

By Faye Gaston

The "*Union Springs Herald*" newspaper asked me to cover the event of May 23, 2015 (I am a regular reporter for the newspaper.) This was after Myron Penn removed the flags from the cemetery and he was interviewed by the local newspaper and WSFA TV. This is the article that I wrote about that event of May 23.

On Saturday, May 23, 2015 the National Commander-in-Chief of 90,000 members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV), Charles Kelly Barrow; the Commander of the Alabama Division of Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV), Gary Carlyle; the

Chief-of-Staff of the Alabama Division of SCV, Russ Hare; the Commander of the Tallassee Armory Guards SCV Camp 1921, Fred Randall Hughey; and Annie Catherine Liepins, President of United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) Chapter Elizabeth Burford Bashinsky 236 of Troy and Bullock County people, (about 30 total) came to the Confederate Cemetery in Union Springs for the placing of Confederate flags at the grave markers of Confederate soldiers.

The cemetery is on the National Register of Landmarks and Heritage in the downtown district. Commander Carlyle had contacted the Mayor of Union Springs, Saint T. Thomas, Jr., for permission to place Confederate flags and USA flags for

Memorial Day that honors American veterans. Only one USA flag was placed because there is only one Union soldiers marker that reads, "Union Prisoners of War, 1861-1865, Victims of Plague".

The small cemetery is known as the Confederate Cemetery and Old City Cemetery because it served the city for 35 years, having been established in 1849 until 1884. A few early settlers are buried here. Most of the 22 Confederate soldier grave markers are for unknown Confederate soldiers.

The Confederate soldier monument was placed in the intersection of Prairie and Hardaway streets in 1895 and was moved to the Confederate cemetery in August 1973.

This cemetery is one of at least three owned by the city of Union Springs, the other two being Oak Hill (where Confederate soldiers are also buried) and the modern Perpetual Care cemetery. An ordinance about city cemeteries could not be found by a clerk at City Hall or this reporter for the Union Springs Herald newspaper.

Reporters from TV channel 12 and TV channel 8 were present in the cemetery.

Commander Carlyle was interviewed on TV. He said he phoned the Mayor for permission to place flags on May 23 for Memorial Day and for the city to remove them the following Saturday. He said the SCV places Confederate flags in April, the Confederate

History Month (designated each year by the Alabama governor and the State Board of Education) by grave markers of Confederate veterans.

These are picked up after April because the weather would damage the flags. He pointed out that Southern men had fought for America in the Revolutionary War up to the present time, Southern men of several nationalities. He explained that Confederate flags stand for Southern heritage and deserve respect, and that placing Confederate flags in this cemetery is not anything new. He thanked Mayor Thomas for his permission to place flags here.

The SCV and UDC members place Confederate flags by the thousands by grave markers of Confederate soldiers in several states. Flags are not picked up after April in many cemeteries, but just replaced with new ones the following year because of the large number of graves. For example, the Oak Wood cemetery in Montgomery has over 700 Confederate graves.

The Bullock County Historical Society places a memorial wreath in the Union Springs Confederate Cemetery every April. The SCV and a UDC chapter have placed Confederate flags in this Confederate cemetery for years without incident.

Commander Barrow was interviewed on TV. He said that removing the flags by "Myron Penn had torn people apart. Pulling the flags down does not pull people together". He

explained that the Confederate flags honored the men who stood against tyranny, and more time should be given to educate people to honor the Confederate flag that has the Christian Cross on it. He said this flag with the Cross, the Christian symbol, had been used throughout Europe when people have fought for independence.

Mayor Saint T. Thomas, Jr. was very complimentary of Commander Carlyle in the way he asked permission. The Mayor said that the City Council would need to approve an ordinance that "would give direction" about the cemetery.

The placing of the Confederate flags and the interviews ended with the Chief of Staff of the SCV Alabama Division, Russ Hare, playing "Dixie" on his violin.

I note here, as a local historian, that the SCV has never approved of any "hate group" using this flag. There were many different designs on flags used on the battle fields, but this "Battle Flag" with the Cross has become the unifying symbol for the descendants of Confederate soldiers. Many Confederate flags with varying designs have been conserved in the Archives of History building in Montgomery. These are conserved with the bullet holes, blood stains and insect damage.

A SCV member pointed out that "in 1958 Congress ruled that Confederate veterans are American veterans and should be treated as such".

A UDC member said that the Legislature had officially named the 1861-1865 war the "War Between the States" because a group of Southern states, the Confederate States of America, was invaded by a group of Northern states. She pointed out that it was not a "Civil War" because the Southern states did not try to take over the federal government in Washington DC, but just wanted to be a separate country. She emphasized that the constitutions of these states gave them the right to secede from the Union, so it was not treason.

A member of the SCV stated that the SCV is "outraged at the act of Myron Penn of dishonoring Southern Veterans graves. Federal law P. L. 38, 59 Congress Chap. 631-34 Stat.56 passed by the U.S. Congress places Confederate Graves with the same rights, respect and privileges as all U.S. veterans. We wish to honor our forefathers".

As a past president and past historian of the Bullock County Historical Society and who presents a Historical Preservation report to the Union Springs City Council every month, I would add these facts. As one of about ten major wars of America, the War Between the States took 600,000 military lives, more than any other of our wars. 30,000 Confederate military of Alabama lost their lives and 35,000 more came home with severe wounds. This amounts to thousands and thousands who lost their fathers, their husbands, their sons, their brothers, their uncles and whose bodies came from hospitals and battle fields to be buried. The destruction and killing by

those who invaded the Southern states was devastating. The descendants of these soldiers who served in the Confederate States of America just want to place a flag by the grave markers.

Sewell slams effort to ‘compromise historical integrity,’ rename Edmund Pettus Bridge - by Elizabeth BeShears



SELMA, Ala. — A campaign by some Democratic leaders in the state legislature to rename the Edmund Pettus Bridge the “Journey to Freedom Bridge” may have found support in the Alabama Senate this week, but Selma native and Congress woman Terri Sewell (D-AL7) is slamming the proposed change, saying it would “compromise the historical integrity of the voting rights movement.”

“The bridge is an iconic symbol of the struggle for voting rights in America, and its name is as significant as its imposing

structure,” Sewell said in a statement to Hill.com.

Named for Edmund Pettus, a Confederate general, Grand Dragon of the Alabama KKK, and Democratic U.S. Senator, the bridge was the site of the “Bloody Sunday” protests where civil rights marchers were beaten for trying to cross it.

Later protesters, including Martin Luther King, Jr., came back despite the violence, crossing the bridge, the demonstration was lauded as one of the most beautifully ironic symbols of the civil rights movement, and is recognized as a significant catalyst of the voting rights act passed later that year.

“There are many things in our society to change that are more significant than the name of a bridge, but removing this vestige of the past will serve as a parallel to the ongoing journey towards equal rights, fair representation and open opportunity,” reads the resolution, sponsored by state Senator Hank Sanders (D-Selma).

Sewell disagreed vehemently with the spirit of the resolution, remarking, “As inheritors of the legacy surrounding the historical events that took place in Selma, we must safeguard that history — good and bad — and resist attempts to rewrite it.”

The Alabama legislature ended its 2015 sessions Thursday evening without passing the resolution.

The First Town to Secede from the United States - Rough and Ready, California



The town of Rough and Ready was founded in 1849 by the Rough and Ready Mining Company of Wisconsin. The company leader had served under General Zachary Taylor in the Mexican war. The general had just been elected as the 12th president of the United States with a nickname of "Old Rough and Ready." It is described as a hidden hamlet among green meadows with riches that could not be hidden from fortune seeking miners.

A year later, in April 1850, Rough and Ready became the only mining town to officially secede from the Union. The goal

was to avoid both a tax on mines and prohibiting alcohol. The United States Post Office asked the town to change its name to either "Rough" or "Ready," instead of using both names.

"Tents were pitched on the flat and along the ravines everywhere. Government became needed to control the rapidly rising population. It was during the uncertainty of 1850 that Colonel E. F. Brundage came up with the concept of separate republic. He issued a high-sounding manifesto, and called a huge meeting to organize the State of Rough and Ready. About 100 men became very devoted to him and excitedly began working to build their new country."

Colonel Brundage was elected president to lead the 3,000 people living in the Republic of Rough and Ready. Three months later, while making preparations to celebrate the July 4th Independence Day of the United States, the miners realized they could not participate in the party because Rough and Ready was no longer officially a part of the U.S. Residents quickly voted to rejoin the Union and the party was on once again.

Today, the town is home to less than 1,000 residents, living in an area of about three square miles. The town continued to prosper into the 1900s. Unfortunately, many historic buildings were lost due to fires over the years. The Fippin Blacksmith Shop is one of few historic buildings that still stand and presents a display of period artifacts.

Today residents and visitors gather each year on the last Sunday of June to celebrate secession day with a musical melodrama, "The Saga of Rough and Ready," arts and crafts festival, blacksmith demonstrations, pancake breakfast and other food vendors.



Akins brothers, Jerry & James, Rededication of Confederate Circle in Selma, Alabama - Saturday, May 23, 2015, 1:00 pm



Table center piece for the 2015 Alabama Division Reunion in Tallassee, Saturday evening Award's Banquet



Cmdr. Brandon Prescott (left) & Cmdr. James Blackston (right) attend the 2015 Ala. Div. Reunion in Tallassee

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

Commander James Blackston
1st Lt. Cmd. John Tubbs
2nd Lt. Cmd. Brandon Prescott
Adjutant Trent Harris
Chaplain Barry Cook
News Editor James Blackston
Facebook Brandon Prescott



Cmdr. Brandon Prescott holds a replica of the carbine manufactured at the Tallassee Armory. Only four of the original carbines are left, one is located at the Confederate Park Museum, Mountain Creek, Alabama

Website: www.huttocamp.com

Email: fair@huttocamp.com



[Visit our Facebook page](#)

The *Rebel Underground*, is the official monthly publication of the Major John C. Hutto Camp #443. All members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are invited to submit articles. Articles published are not necessarily the views or opinions of the Executive Board or the Editor.

The fair use of any included copyrighted work is for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, or research, and is for nonprofit educational purposes only.
17 U.S. Code § 107

The *Rebel Underground* is dedicated to bringing our readers the very best of important news concerning Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We are not ashamed of our Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We dare to defend our rights.



Tallassee Camp 1921 Rifle Co. at Reunion Memorial Service on 06 June 2015