



## S.C.V. Mission Statement (The “Charge”)

“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. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.”

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General, United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906

# THE FIRST SHOT

Newsletter of the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Camp #3000

April 2017

Volume 4 Number 4

## Commander’s Corner

For the Camp to prosper, the Camp needs to grow. We need to recruit new members and fill several position that are currently vacant. These are Chaplain, Aide De Camp, Fund Raising Committee, and Southern Heritage Defense Committee. Please keep the Camp in mind when you communicate with others – they may be potential members.

Significant changes have taken place in the Oakwood Restoration Committee. Several long-term members have been moved to the Advisory Board, and several new members have been appointed to the Committee. At a recent meeting, Division Commander and 2nd Lt. Commander met with James Laidler, Cemetery Operations Division Manager. Mr. Laidler has agreed that the growth along East Richmond Road in the Confederate Section of Oakwood can be removed. In the meantime issues of erosion will be revisited. This will allow the Ground Penetrating Radar and Global Positioning Surveys to take place to determine the locations of the thousands of Confederate graves. The GPS will allow markers to be accurately placed in the future. The Oakwood Project promises to be a major and hot topic at the 2017 Virginia Division Convention.

Our speaker this month will be Teresa Roane, noted Southern Historian. Her topic is “The Women of the Confederacy”. I’m sure this will be interesting.

I would like to commend the work of the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Graves Committee for their research in the Stubb’s Family Cemetery recently trying to determine the locations of unknown graves with the help of Art Taylor of the Capt. William Latane Camp. They have completed the work on the gate of Edmund Ruffin’s gravesite.

The Camp is signed up for the Hanover Tomato Festival on July 8 and Field Days of the Past on September 15 - 17. Please plan to come out and support the Camp at these events. The Camp has 15,000 Confederate Heritage stickers and we would like to see many requests for these.

Joe Wright  
Commander

# BREAKING NEWS

## 2017 Virginia Division Annual Convention and Reunion

I had not been to a Division Convention since 2012. I renewed a lot of old acquaintances from the Division Executive Council and from Camps around the state.

The venue for the Convention was Berry Hill Resort and Conference Center purchased by the Bruce family purchased in 1841. The rooms were tasteful in keeping with the Historical nature of the property.

The Division Executive Council held their pre-convention meeting on Friday, April 21 at 4 PM.

The first topic was the addition of several members to the Oakwood

Restoration Committee and the transfer of several members to the Advisory Board. Several DEC members were quite vocal about the manner in which this was done. Division Commander Tony Griffin explained that it was within his authority to make these changes. Division Commander Griffin spoke on his meeting with Jim Laidler of the City of Richmond on the city notification by the VA that application for 300 headstones had been submitted by the Oakwood Restoration Committee but the order would not be processed until a 106 review was conducted to determine the appropriateness of upright stones.

It was announced that the Membership Renewal System Forms would be mailed to the members on June 1. Those not returned with dues by September 1 would be delinquent.

Heritage Defense Chairman Frank Earnest spoke mostly on the legal action taken in defense of the Robert E. Lee Monument in Charlottesville and the June 10 Rededication of the Virginia Monument in Gettysburg.

An announcement was made that the Division website is again operational at [SCVVirginia.org](http://SCVVirginia.org)

Past Division Commander Tracy Clary spoke on the Sam Davis Youth Camp. It will operate as scheduled this year. After July 31, it will separate from SCV National and obtain its own 501(C)3 Tax Status and EIN.



Joe receiving the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Camp  
2017 Outstanding Camp Award

## Mark Your Calendar

**5/03/2017**

FireEater Meeting

**5/06/2017**

Robert E. Lee Camp  
Marker Dedication  
10:00 am. at  
Hollywood Cemetery

**05/11/2017**

JEB Stuart Yellow  
Tavern Ceremony -  
Color Guard

**05/13/2017**

Confederate Memorial  
Day Ceremony -  
Oakwood Cemetery  
11:00 am

## Save The Date

**June 2017**

Jefferson Davis  
Birthday Service -  
Hollywood Cemetery

**July 2017**

SCV Reunion,  
Memphis, TN

## Social Media Report:

Our public page on  
Facebook currently has  
1077 likes.

Members are reminded  
that they may also keep  
up with camp activities  
on our website:

EdmundRuffin  
FireEaters.org

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Edwin Ray is still trying to contact those who contributed to the legal action against the Museum of the Confederacy to inquire if they would like their contribution returned or to give it to the Division's Heritage Defense Fund.

### Virginia Division Convention, Saturday April 22, 2017

The opening ceremonies commences at 8:45 AM with the presentation of Colors followed by the Invocation and the SCV Charge. Greetings were brought by the Town Manager, State Senator Ruff, Mrs. Pat Grave of the Virginia Division, UDC, and ANV Commander Ronnie Roach.

With 44 of 79 Camps present, a quorum was declared, minutes of the 2016 Convention were read by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Ray. Commander Griffin discussed the updated website, the 100th anniversary of the Virginia Monument at Gettysburg on June 3, and the Jefferson Davis Services on June 3.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Ray spoke on the agreement with the City of Richmond and the 10 headstones to be supplied by the Veterans Administration.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Neville spoke on events attended and made additional comments on the meeting with Mr. Laidler of the City of Richmond.

Division Adjutant Mayes stated the Division has 3,021 members, the MRS forms will be mailed June 1, and the establishment of a new member database.

Division Treasurer Bill Graham announced that all accounts have been transferred to Wells Fargo and the Bond increased. Note: I have requested a detailed Financial Report of ALL Division and Committee accounts.

Quarter Master Ron Moore spoke on the Flag sales program.

Heritage Defense Chairman Frank Earnest spoke on the Robert E. Lee statue Charlottesville legal action that is to be read May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Past Commander Clary gave the Sam Davis Youth Camp update.

Finally Acting Parliamentarian Frank Earnest addressed the issue of the proposed Virginia Division Constitutional Amendment that simply put would discontinue providing the Oakwood Restoration Committee \$3.00 annual dues per member and provide those funds to a new committee, The Graves and Monuments Fund, to assist in cemeteries state wide. Many members were unsure the details and the Mission Statement wording for the new committee was questioned. After about 2 hours of discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Joe Wright  
Commander

**Edmund Ruffin**  
**Fire Eaters S.C.V.**  
**Camp #3000**

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 Chaplain

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 Sergeant at Arms  
 804.292.5457 (Cell)

**Vacant**  
 Quartermaster

**J. Walter Smith**  
 Adjutant/Treasurer/Judge  
 Advocate  
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Compatriots, Friends, Ladies of the Camp:

We are now in the Easter Season, and it really does seem like Spring is here for good.

There are a number of events coming up during the month of May that you should put on your calendars (phones for you youngsters) so that you do not miss out on all of the good things that are going on in connection with the Sons of Confederate Veterans and related organizations.

Here are a few opportunities to show your support for your Camp, your SCV, your Confederate ancestors and the true history of the South and the War:

May 3, 2017 (Wednesday): Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Camp Meeting.

May 6, 2017 (Saturday): Robert E. Lee Camp Marker Dedication Ceremony at Hollywood Cemetery; 10:00 a.m.

May 13, 2017 (Saturday): Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony at Oakwood Cemetery, with the Edmund Ruffin Color Guard participating; 11: a.m.

I have recently come across two books written from the Southern perspective about the War Between the States, and how the current educational instruction is being presented in our school systems is wrong and actually a lie. One is titled "Everything you were Taught about the Civil War is Wrong", by Lochlainn Seabrook. The other is "The Myth of Virtue; Histories' Lies of the Civil War" by Robert M. Salyer.

I have one in my possession and have ordered the other. Hopefully I will have them both by our May 3, 2017 meeting, to report on them generally, although I probably will not have had time to read them by then.

Please make every effort to attend our May 3 meeting, where Teresa Roane, a very good Friend of our Camp will be our featured speaker. She will make a presentation on "Women of the Confederacy". Teresa is a requested speaker for many events, and we are fortunate that she has agreed to speak to our Camp.

I look forward to seeing everyone on May 3 at Anna's Italian Restaurant.

Joe Howard  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander



**FIND US ON FACE BOOK and BE SURE TO LIKE US!**

<https://www.facebook.com/FireEaters3000>

## Upcoming Color Guard Events

### Color Guard Report – April 2017

At this time, the list of requests for the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Camp Color Guard is limited but as it is now Spring I'm sure many Camps, Chapters, and organizations are in the planning stages of ceremonies to dedicate headstones, Iron Crosses, and monuments and we will soon receive requests.

The Richmond-Stonewall Jackson Chapter, UDC has asked that we post the Colors for their May 11 Yellow Tavern Ceremony. The location is where J. E. B. Stuart was fatally shot. The address is 10112 Telegraph Road, Glen Allen, 23059. It will take place at 11 AM. The speaker is Mrs. Lynn Willis on the subject of J. E. B. Stuart monument in 1898. All are welcome to attend.

Our Color Guard has been requested to provide the Colors for the Virginia Flaggers Annual Memorial Service in the Confederate Section of Oakwood Cemetery on Saturday May 13 at 11 AM. This ceremony gets better every year. The Speaker is Army of Northern Virginia SCV Commander Ronnie Roach. Please consider attending to honor the thousands of Confederate soldiers buried there.

We are always looking for new members for the Color Guard so if anyone is interested in participating in the Color Guard, please contact me.

Joe Wright  
Color Sergeant

**Any members not already on the Color Guard email list with enlisted uniforms of the Confederate Army, Navy or Marines who would like to participate in honoring Confederate Soldiers at graveside headstone and Iron Cross dedications, Monument Dedications and displaying the Confederate Colors in parades, please, contact me at [varebel@embarqmail.com](mailto:varebel@embarqmail.com)**



## GRAVES & MONUMENTS COMMITTEE



# STUBBS CEMETERY

Thursday 4/20/17 Members of the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Graves and Monuments Committee worked in section E of the Confederate section of Oakwood Cemetery. Resetting 6x6x18-inch markers that had been moved slightly from their previous position resulting from a large tree falling last year in a storm.

Working as a team things get done! The Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Graves and Monuments Committee, welcomes other SCV in the Virginia division to come out and let us together, live up to our oath as SCV members. To live the charge Brother to Brother let's honor our fallen!

Per Commander Wright, "I just spoke with Virginia Division Commander Tony Griffin and 2nd. Lt. CMDR Johnny Neville. They had just left a meeting with Jim Laidler of the city of Richmond.

We now have permission to work in the Confederate section of Oakwood. I wish this to be coordinated through Jim Tingle our Graves Committee Chairman. He will notify CMDR. Neville of when he plans to work at Oakwood and will stop by the Cemetery office when he arrives.

At the present he can straighten and replace markers and clear limbs and brush behind the row A stones in sections A,B and C along East Richmond Road as well as other sections."

We will have permission to clear all brush and trees along East Richmond Road, but Mr.Laidler would like this to be done after the ground dries, and he will let CMDR. Neville know when this can start.

As this will be covered by the Virginia Division's insurance policy, those working on these projects must be members of the Division."



# Virginia Flaggers



## CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY AT OAKWOOD CEMETERY



Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 – 11AM

Reviving a grand tradition in Richmond  
Honoring Our Confederate Dead



### Keynote Speaker - Ronnie Roach

Commander, Army of Northern Virginia  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Color Guard - Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters SCV Camp #3000

Honor Guard - Captain William Latane SCV Camp #1690

Free to the Public.

Free Parking. All Welcome.

Attendees in period attire wishing  
to join the processional, please plan to  
arrive by 10:30 AM.

For more information or to sign up  
to lay a wreath and/or bring greetings  
from your organization.

[info@vaflaggers.com](mailto:info@vaflaggers.com)



Teresa Roane



TR

Historian ♦ Archivist ♦ Speaker

Presentation Topics

### **Minorities in Confederate Military: Combat Support...or Hidden in Plain Sight**

Historians have dismissed Men of Color who served as Combat Support. They do not understand logistics in the military. Documentations from the National Archives and other institutions, such as service records and payrolls, prove their service.

### **Minorities in Confederate Military Part Two: Men Lost to History**

In the second presentation, Ms. Roane introduces photos of Men of Color who served in the Confederate military. She uses multiple sources to tell their stories.

### **Robert E. Lee: Engineer to President**

Robert E. Lee's career is traced from his service in the U.S. Army in the Corps of Engineers and as a soldier. Ms. Roane continues the discussion about his leadership in the Confederate Army and his appointment as President of Washington College.

### **Why We Can't Keep Our Ancestors at the Door**

In 2011, a symposium was held to discuss how to interpret the War during the Sesquicentennial. A historian said that since the War was about one cause so Southerners needed to leave their ancestors at the door. Ms. Roane explains why Southerner cannot leave their ancestors at the door by reading letters from the people who lived during that turbulent time.

### **Hurrah, Hurrah: The History of Confederate Flags**

Did you know that there is no such thing as a Confederate Flag? This presentation introduces a small selection of Confederate Flags to the audience.

### **Why Confederate History is Relevant Today**

This presentation shows the importance of Confederate history by using a comparison to other history months, such as Black, Women and Native American.

### **Women in the Confederacy**

Ms. Roane tells the story of women and their roles during the War.

### **Davis Family and their Relationship with People of Color**

Many people do not know that Jefferson and Varina Davis had a special relationship with People of Color. Ms. Roane uses letters to explore the complexity of their association.

## Champion of the Black Confederate

Historians systematically have tried to erase or suppress the history of Black Confederates for decades, but yet it cannot be denied. Published books about it exist but the majority of modern historians have dismissed the evidence. The main issue is how one defines the Cause of the War Between the States. Modern historians ascribe the Cause to simply Slavery. This is the only War in human history that has one cause. If the War was about slavery, then how can People of Color who served in the Confederate military fit this narrative? Historians will respond that the men and women were forced. It is true that many were impressed. However, the conscription act will draft many into service with the Confederate military as well as the Union. The next argument is if these men wore a confederate uniform, then they were passing for White. That conclusion does not work because the Appomattox parole list records the complexion of the men went from light to dark.

However let us go back to the argument about muster rolls and payment. The compiled Confederate service records located at the National Archives consist of information from muster rolls. One can find records of combat support and combatants. Years ago one had to go to Washington, DC or perhaps examine copies of the records from a state archives. Nowadays, the website service Fold3 has made the information accessible to the public.

Thank goodness for  
Quartermasters!

These men exist because of their paperwork. They had great handwriting which I love as an Archivist. Their records are easy to read and they are the bean counters for the military: Quartermasters recorded the reasons for pay. It was very important to keep track of the salaries of the combat support in the military. Why? They were paid more than the Privates. For example: Fortification workers made \$15.00 per month, assistant Cooks also made \$15.00 while Chief Cooks earned \$20.00 per month. Laundresses were paid \$10.00 to \$11.00 as a base pay and then they charged for each piece of clothing that they washed. The proof can be found on pay rolls at any archives that contained Confederate Quartermaster records. Please note that a portion of the salary went to the owners of the enslaved; however extra duty pay went directly to the person who did the work. Free People of Color received the same pay as the owners.

In conclusion, help me to understand why is it that that Men of Color who served in the United States Colored Troops who had the same military occupation specialty such as musicians, cooks and body servants as their Colored Confederate counterparts are considered to be soldiers while the Confederates are not? It would appear that a reappraisal of People of Color's role in the Confederacy deserves the respect as their USCT counterparts. The Confederate military recognized the skills and were willing to compensate their combat support personnel. In the early 20th century, almost all the former Confederate States provided provisions of these people's service by granting pensions.

© Teresa Roane

### About Teresa Roane

Teresa Roane was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia. She earned her B.A. in history at Virginia Commonwealth University. She worked for eight years at the Richmond Public Library followed by 15 years at the Valentine Museum's library. She was the Archivist at the Museum of the Confederacy for 7 ½ years. She has served on the boards of Friends of the Richmond Public Library, Alliance to Conserve Old Richmond Neighborhoods and Historic Richmond Foundation.

She received the Heritage Preservation Award from the National SCV in 2012 and the Rebecca Jones Alford Bonnie Blue Medal from the North Carolina SCV in 2014. At the National SCV Reunion, she received the Commander in Chief Ladies Appreciation medal. At their 2015 convention, UDC North Carolina Division bestowed the Jefferson Davis Gold medal for excellence in history to Ms. Roane. She was honored with a Ladies Appreciation medal from the General Robert E. Lee SCV Camp. The National SCV bestowed the Dixie Defender award in July 2016. Teresa has given many presentations and workshops. She spends her free time reading, watching movies and walking battlefields.

To schedule a presentation, please contact Teresa via email:

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