



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

June 2017

Volume 4 Number 6

Commander's Corner

Our July meeting was held at Bass Pro Shops at 7 PM on July 5th. Attendance was good considering it had been raining hard with reports of flooded roads. For those attending, they were rewarded by the presentation by Compatriot Ed Harris of the Latane Camp on General John Bell Hood. His style was to present all the important aspects of Hood's life and career, keeping the attention of the membership.

As Commander I brought the membership up to date on communications from the Division Commander and Oakwood Chairman on the GPR/GPS surveys that do not appear to be taking place and the lost opportunity to obtain confirmed names of those buried in the cemetery.



Recruitment and member retention were discussed with the impact of the "rhetoric" of the Division in regards to the Virginia Flaggers who are successfully placing flag poles with Confederate flags throughout the state. This makes maintaining or growing the membership difficult. Southern organizations should not criticize or work against each other.

2nd Lt. Commander Willie Wells and Camp Store Chairman announced he had picked up the Camp's new 12 foot trailer and the planning for the upcoming Hanover Tomato Festival.

The Camp participated at the July 8th Hanover Tomato Festival at Pole Green Park. 2nd Lt. Commander Willie Wells brought the Camp's new trailer filled with the Camp's merchandise and tent and tables and chairs. Compatriots Tingle, Craver, Mills, Howard, and myself set up and manned the tent. Merchandise sales were brisk and over 1,000 Confederate Heritage stickers were given out. Interactions with those attending were often and interesting, informing them on our Confederate Heritage and History. Several picked up recruiting brochures with our contact information.

We will evaluate our inventory and replenish for the upcoming Field Days of the Past event coming in September. A work day will be required to produce new shirts, and it is hoped that additional members will turn out to man our tent at this upcoming event.

Joe Wright, Commander

Mark Your Calendar

1st Lt. Commander's Report

8/02/2017

FireEater Meeting

8/07/2017

OCR Meeting

Save The Date

09/09/2017

156th Anniversary
Capt Sally Tompkins
Commissioning

09/15-17/2017

Field Days of the
Past - We have a
booth for this event.

10/15/2017

Flag Pole Dedication,
Riverview Cemetery
for the UDC
Stonewall Chapter

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

Compatriots, Friends, Ladies of the Camp:

WOW!!!!!! What a great Tomato Festival on July 8, 2017 in Hanover County. If you have never been to a Tomato Festival, you really are missing a fantastic event.

The number of tents and organizations at the event boggles the mind. The number of visitors was estimated to be 33,000 by the Richmond paper, but it seemed like a lot more than that. People just kept coming all day. Herb Carver, Jim Tingle, Charlie Martin and Commander Wright had a hard time keeping up with all the folks wanting to buy our T-shirts or flags, etc. We gave out over 1,000 Confederate Heritage stickers. The newspaper even mentioned that there was a booth where you could get a Confederate Heritage Sticker, but it did not mention our Camp by name. In addition, among all of the visitors, we met and talked with 4 families that were descendants of Edmund Ruffin.

The VA Flaggers, Order of Confederate Rose and Army of Northern Virginia Mechanized Cavalry were all well represented. It was a fantastic day for everyone.

Please make a big effort to attend the Camp's August meeting at the Bass Pro Shops. Our attendance last month was better, but there is still room for improvement.

Our keynote speaker on August 2, 2017 will be Robert Krick, of the National Park Service in Richmond. He will be giving a presentation about the Generals involved in the Defense of Richmond Campaign. Jimmy Creech has heard him speak and recommended him.

We are meeting, greeting and eating starting around 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. for fellowship and telling a bunch of tall tales. The restaurant at the Bass Pro Shops is very convenient and has some decent meals, and there are a number of other restaurants in the general vicinity around Ashland. Too bad the Smokey Pig is no longer in business.

Regular meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

We need you all to come on down to the August 2 meeting at the Bass Pro Shops.

See you then,

Joe Howard
1st Lt Commander



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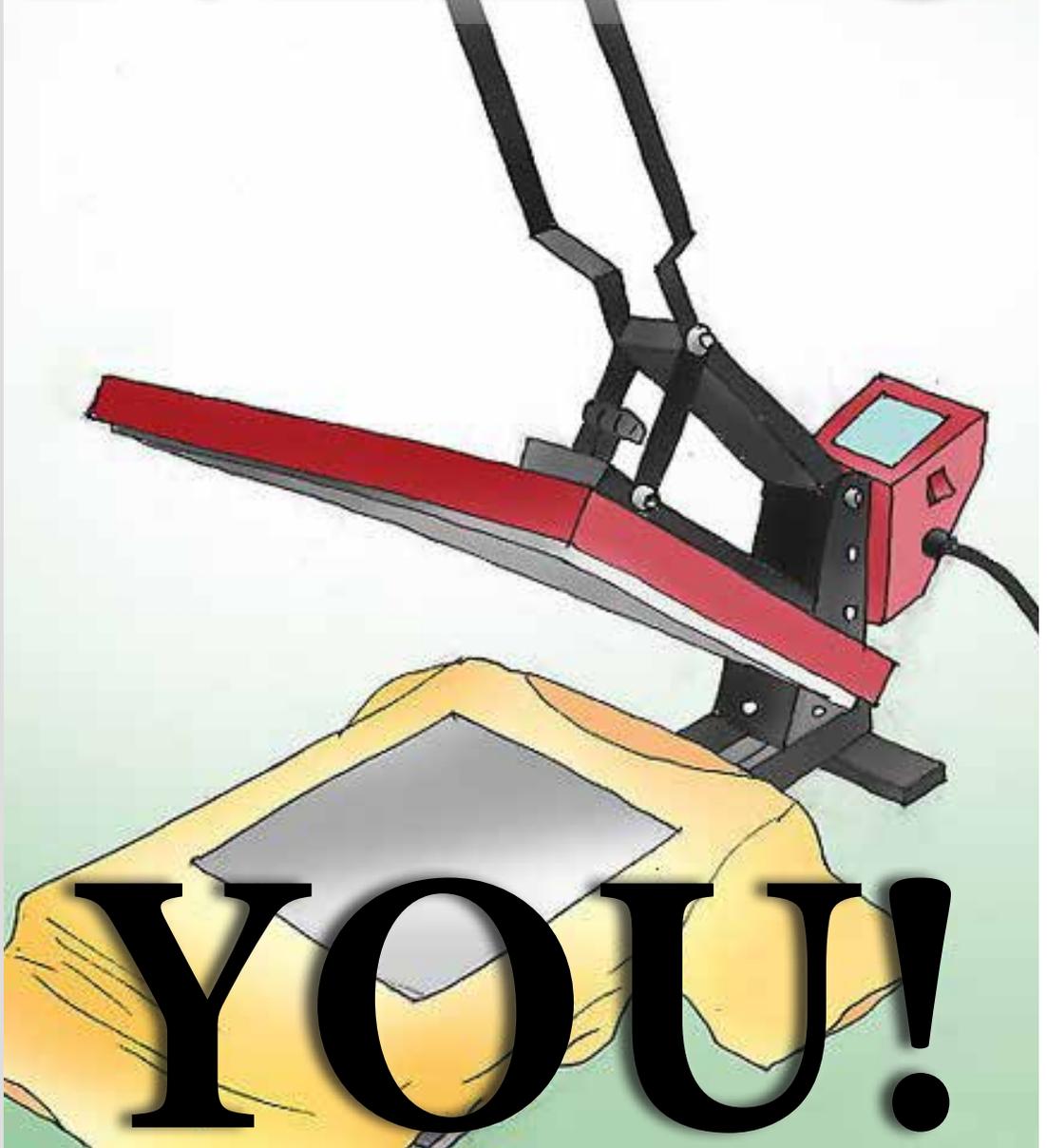
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YOUR CAMP NEEDS



Camp Work Day We Need More T-Shirt

For our booth at the upcoming Field Days of the Past in
September. Full details will be forthcoming.
Be ready to answer the call when we set the date

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

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

Upcoming Color Guard Events

Color Guard Report

Participated in a dedication for 2 North Carolina soldiers headstones at Spotsylvania Confederate Cemetery yesterday.

On July 22 Saturday, I posted the Colors for the Virginia Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy's 156th Annual Commemoration of the First Manassas Battle on behalf of the Camp. Although it was a hot July day, there was a good turnout. In addition to the Virginia Division President, Ms Eleanor Price, we were honored with the presence of the UDC President General Pat Bryson. I was honored to be asked to bring greetings.

Upcoming Event:

On Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 2 PM, there will be a dedication of a Flag Pole at Riverview Cemetery. This will be held in the section where residents of the Home for Confederate Woman are buried to honor these women. This is a 20+ foot flag pole with the First National flag right behind the pyramid for these ladies. This is for your calendar and hope we get a large Color Guard for this event.

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

GRAVES & MONUMENTS COMMITTEE



Tuesday July 18, 2017
Members of the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters camp 3000 Graves & monuments committee, went to the family grave site of Edmund Ruffin to clean headstones and replace tattered and or faded flags. Upon their arrival and to

their dismay a large tree limb had fallen across the fence that borders the grave site. The damage, if any, to any of the headstones can not be determined until the limb is removed Tuesday July 18 , 2017. We will have the equipment and volunteers on site at that time.

7/13/2017 Oakwood: vandals ripped flags from more than 50 sticks what you see here is just some of what was done. Herb and I replaced most of what was vandalized but ran out of flags. Our post to Facebook regarding the vandalism was pick up and acknowledged by the VA Division. See their repost of our article below.

Jim Tingle, Chairman Graves & Monument Committee



Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans shared your photo.

Just now · 🌐

A big thank you to our Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Camp #3000 for replacing the flags that were vandalized earlier. Staying true to our Charge!



Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters SCV Camp #3000

46 mins · 🌐

7/13/2017 Oakwood: Vandals ripped the flags off from more than 50 stick flags that were placed on the graves of our Confederate veterans. What you see, in the photo, here is just some of the damage that was done.

Herb and I were able to replace a majority of the flags that were vandalized, but ran out of flags so were unable to replace them all.

Graves & Monuments Committee
Jim Tingle, Chairman

GRAVES & MONUMENTS COMMITTEE



Tuesday July 18,2017

Members of the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Graves & Monuments Committee came together this morning to remove a fallen tree limb from Edmund Ruffin's grave site. There was no damage to the fence however, Edmund Ruffin's headstone was damaged, but can be repaired. We reset Mr. Ruffin's marker so as to prevent further damage. We hope to repair it soon. We also set another headstone that was atilt caused by the fallen tree limb. We mowed and trimmed the grass. Thank you Tim Tuck, Charles Martin, Bill Cuneo, and Herb Carver for volunteering to join me in preserving and maintaining this historic landmark.

Chairman Jim Tingle
Graves & Monuments Committee

Support the Graves & Monuments Committee by helping to fund the purchase of stick flags.

\$1⁰⁰

Fund a stick flag to mark a veterans grave.
Donate Today!

This is an ongoing project, and we thank you for your support in honoring our Confederate Veterans.



**DONATE
TODAY!**



Fire Eaters' Booth
July 8, 2017





On Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 2 PM, there will be a dedication of a Flag Pole at Riverview Cemetery. This will be held in the section where residents of the Home for Confederate Women are buried to honor these women. This is a 20+ foot flag pole with the First National flag right behind the pyramid for these ladies. The Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters will be providing the color guard for this event. Be sure to mark your calendars, lets have a large camp turnout for this event.