



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

October 2016

Volume 3 Number 30

Commander’s Corner

Greetings Compatriots,

The Fall Colors are certainly a Welcome and Beautiful Sight with the cooler temperatures as well as we wind the year down.

It was also a welcome sight to see nominations for officers for the following year get filled as each office was called for a nomination to be filled for the following year.

At the November 2nd meeting we will hold our elections of Officers for 2017 and install them as well. The installation will be one month early this year as we will not have a regular Camp meeting in December but we will have our Regular Camp Christmas Party in December at Willie and Teresa Wells Home to allow the new officers a little more adjustment time to get a good handle on their duties and have a smoother transition into their duties without having to run a formal meeting so quickly. With the month of December being as busy as it already is every year this will make only one Camp function for the membership to come to and it will be A great time for everyone to talk informally about their goals and initiatives and direction they want the Camp to go in for the future while enjoying good food and the Wonderful hospitality of the Wells Family and their Beautiful home. The date will be announced once all the details are worked out by the OCR Ladies.

As my time as the Commander now comes to a close and this will be my final message in the newsletter to the Camp, I would like to Thank everyone for the support you gave me and the Camp to make the Camp as successful as it is. The Camp has come a long way since the split in April 2014 and I’m sure with the new leadership it will continue the good works the Fire-eaters are known for. I wish you all the Best in all the Future Endeavors the Camp will Pursue!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Tag Team Speakers of Gary Hall and Byron Brady at the October meeting and all the Great information about the CSS Shenandoah they shared with us.

The November Speaker will be truly interesting and will have some

Mark Your Calendar

11/02/16

Fire Eaters Meeting

11/14/16

OCR Meeting

12/03/2016

FireEater/OCR
Christmas Party

12/04/2016

Mechanicsville
Christmas Parade

really good information
everyone will surely enjoy!!!

Please come out for our final formal meeting of the year at Anna's and support your New Officers as they are installed and start their journey in leading the Camp into the Future.

I look forward to meeting and greeting each and every one of you on November 2nd for what is sure to be another Great Fire-eater meeting.

Standing with you in the Cause,

Jimmy Creech



1st Lt. Commander's Report

Compatriots, Friends, Associates, Ladies, Guests and Prospective Members:

As our 2016 Camp year starts to wind down, it is appropriate for us to consider all of our Camp's blessings, to think about where we have come from as a Camp, about where we are as a Camp, and what we would like to achieve in the coming year as a Camp.

Many of you will remember that in April, 2014, a lightning bolt hit the Fire Eaters Camp, in the form of the then Commander resigning from the Camp and taking the hand picked members of the Camp that he wanted to join him in establishing a new camp.

As a new member of the Fire Eaters Camp, this development shocked and bewildered me, and left me wondering what was left of my Fire Eaters Camp, and what would happen. Fortunately, through extremely strong leadership headed up by new Commander Jimmy Creech, together with the other officers, the Fire Eaters Camp not only survived this traumatic situation, the Camp flourished!

Since that difficult time in 2014, the Camp has grown in members, has participated in numerous activities, and has accumulated a healthy balance in its Treasury. Through innovative thinking of its leadership, the Camp has been coordinating with and informally associating with

"Sirs, you have no reason to be ashamed of your Confederate dead; see to it they have no reason to be ashamed of you."

— Robert Lewis
Dabney, Chaplain for
Stonewall Jackson

Current Membership:

65 Members

11 Associate Members

6 Friends of the SCV

CAMP OFFICERS

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

Jimmy Creech
Commander
jimmycreech@comcast.net

Joe Howard
1st Lt. Commander
1stLtCommander@
EdmundRuffinFireEaters.org

Rich Perez
2nd Lt. Commander
2ndLtCommander@
EdmundRuffinFireEaters.org

Michael Bouganim
Chaplain
mybouganim@gmail.com

Jim Tingle
Sergeant at Arms
804.292.5457 (Cell)

Brandon White
Quartermaster
brandonwhite88@gmail.com

J. Walter Smith
Adjutant/Treasurer/Judge
Advocate
JudgeAdvocate@
EdmundRuffinFireEaters.org

Marvin Stalnaker
Surgeon
mnstalnaker@verizon.net

other like minded groups supporting our Southern Cause, including the Order of Confederate Rose (OCR), the Army of Northern Virginia Mechanized Cavalry (ANVMC), the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) and the VA Flaggers. This cooperation and association has benefited the Camp, as well as the other organizations involved.

The November meeting of the Camp will hold the election of the new officers to lead the Camp in the coming year. Any member in good standing is eligible to be nominated from the floor at the November meeting. The new officers elected then will need the continued strong support the membership has provided particularly over the past 30 months. We have an excellent Color Guard that has been recognized for its exceptional performance of duties; we have a strong Cemetery Committee program; we have a solid educational program through our speakers at our monthly meetings; and we have an extremely strong foundation with the number of our members, our associates, our Friends, the OCR, the UDC, the ANVMC and the VA Flaggers. This Camp can remain successful by building on the activities, associations and programs that have been developed in the past.

My reasoning in making these comments is to encourage each and every member of the Camp to renew his membership in the SCV and this Camp. Walter Smith is now acting as Adjutant/Treasurer on a temporary basis. He has sent out a message providing his address for you to return your annual dues, so that you will remain in good standing in the SCV and our Camp. Please take the time to send in your payment to Walter Smith at your earliest convenience.

There is definitely strength in numbers. Help keep the Fire Eaters Camp strong!

Joe Howard
1st Lt Commander

From Our Adjutant/Treasurer/Judge Advocate

NOTICE:

Due to changes in the SCV Dues Payment system at headquarters, the date for dues to be submitted without penalty has been extended to **November 30, 2016**. To ensure that none of our camp members are penalized a late fee. Please make sure that your dues have been submitted or mailed to me prior to **November 15, 2016**. If you have already submitted your due and the check has NOT cleared please contact me at 804.513.4394 or contact me via email at JudgeAdvocate@

Social Media Report:

Our public page on Facebook currently has **1086 likes**. Up 1 since last month.

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

EdmundRuffin
FireEaters.org

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

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

EdmundRuffinFireEaters.org.

Mail Dues to:

J. Walter Smith
4900 Fordham Road
North Chesterfield, VA 23236

Upcoming Color Guard Events

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 .

Our October 1 event at Shockoe Hill Cemetery was canceled due to weather predictions. It was rescheduled for a later date.

We plan to attend the Annual Mechanicsville Parade on Sunday, December 4 at 2 PM.

We would like to recruit additional members for the Color Guard. If you are a SCV member that would like to participate in monument, headstone, and Iron Cross dedication ceremonies, contact me for information and to be included in our email contact list for future events.

Joe Wright
Color Sergeant

OCR FUNDRAISER

Don't forget to support our Order of the Confederate Rose chapter.

Their fund raiser, The Men of the OCR calendar, is being used to raise funds for their Tombstone Project which will be marking the graves of the young ladies who died as a result of the Brown's Island Explosion.

See any of our Roses to purchase yours today. They would make a great gift for Christmas.



THE MEN OF THE OCR 2017 CALENDAR