



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

May 2017

Volume 4 Number 5

BREAKING NEWS: NEW MEETING LOCATION BEGINNING JUNE 7th BASS PRO SHOP MEETING ROOM

Commander’s Corner

One of the most rewarding duties of a Camp Commander is to recognize members and supports of the Camp. I had the pleasure of presenting Meritorious Service Awards at our May 3rd meeting.

The Camp voted to participate in the Hanover Tomato Festival that will take place on July 8th. Members will be needed to set up the Camp tent, man it for the event, and pack it away for the next event. This will be not only be an opportunity raise money for the Camp and its projects but to contact and influence opinions about the Confederate soldier and also to recruit new members. Will you be one of those that will support the Camp at this event?

Now that we are well into Spring, there are many events to attend and participate in. Recently the Camp has been represented at the Gen. Robert E. Lee Camp 1589 Head Stone Dedication in Hollywood, at the Richmond-Stonewall Jackson Chapter 1705, UDC Yellow Tavern Event, the Virginia Flaggers Memorial Ceremony at the Confederate section of Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond, and several members attended



Commander Joe Wright, Laying the camp wreath at the Confederate Memorial Day Service, Oakwood Cemetery.

Mark Your Calendar

06/03/2017

Jefferson Davis
Birthday Service -
Hollywood Cemetery
9:00 am

06/04/2017

Marker Dedications,
Shockoe Hill
Cemetery - 2:00 pm

6/7/2017

FireEater Meeting

6/10/2017

100th Anniversary
Virginia Monument,
Gettysburg

6/12/2017

OCR Meeting

the Historical Afternoon and Bestowal of Military service Awards Ceremony at the Confederate Memorial Chapel in Richmond where 1st Lt. Cmdr. Howard received one of the medals bestowed. The Camp will also be represented at the upcoming Jefferson Davis at Hollywood Cemetery on June 3rd.

To be successful, Camps need to evolve. What new activities or changes do you as a member want to see initiated?

Lastly, I would like to write about the SCV Chaplains Conference that was held at the Providence Baptist Church in Harrisonburg, VA on May 18th and 19th. This Conference was very inspiring with many part Chaplains-In-Chief attended and lending their speaking and preaching to this Conference. Many wonderful Southern sermons were given. This Conference is open to all and you do not need to be a Chaplain to benefit from it. I would highly recommend the Conference next year if you are at all able.

Joe Wright
Commander

1st Lt. Commander's Report

Dear Fire Eaters, Friends, Ladies, Associates, Compatriots:

I know you may be anxiously awaiting a weird meeting reminder, with my usual shenanigans, jokes and making a fool of myself, which I thoroughly enjoy doing, even if no one else enjoys such jocular missives.

However, this month, I need to make sure that everyone knows about our **new meeting location starting with the June 7, 2017 meeting**. This is being done so that no one shows up at the wrong location, and also to demonstrate that I am "semi compos mentis", which is a polite way of saying "only half crazy".

HERE IS THE BIG NEWS, WHICH SHOULD ALSO APPEAR IN THE NEWSLETTER FROM OUR COMMANDER:

THE EDMUND RUFFIN FIRE EATERS CAMP #3000 SCV. WILL HOLD THE MONTHLY CAMP MEETINGS AT BASS PRO SHOP at 11550 LAKERIDGE PARKWAY, OFF LEWISTOWN ROAD, (EXIT 89 ON I-95) SOUTH OF ASHLAND, STARTING WITH THE UPCOMING JUNE 7, 2017 MEETING.

If you have any questions about the new meeting site or this abrupt change, contact Commander Joe Wright, Adjutant Walter Smith, 2nd Lt. Commander Willie Wells, 1st Lt. Commander Joe Howard, or Matron of Honor Judy Smith, who are all knowledgeable about this shift in location.

Save The Date

July 8, 2017

Hanover Tomato
Festival

July 2017

SCV Reunion,
Memphis, TN

September 15-17, 2017

Field Days of the
Past

CAMP OFFICERS

Edmund Ruffin
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Camp #3000

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Vacant
Quartermaster

J. Walter Smith
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Social Media Report:

Our public page on Facebook currently has 1104 likes. Up 24 since last month

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

EdmundRuffin
FireEaters.org

My compliments to Commander Joe Wright for his strong leadership efforts to secure a new meeting venue for our Camp on short notice. The fact of the matter is that Anna's Italian Restaurant advised us that due to low attendance at the Fire Eaters meetings this year, they are booking larger parties in the meeting room, and that we needed to vacate beginning with the June meeting (they have already booked a 75 person group on June 7 to attend a party in the meeting room). As a result, Commander Wright promptly searched for an alternate site, requesting input from the Executive Committee.

Those members who have been with the Camp for a while will remember that we used to meet at the Bass Pro Shops, until we started getting too large for their meeting room to accommodate us. There is a decent restaurant at this location, where we can dine and enjoy fellowship and socializing.

I hope this information is not confusing for anyone. The situation is that we can no longer meet at Anna's Italian Restaurant, but will now go back to meeting at the Bass Pro Shops (which you can see from I-95), which have everything we need to continue our members, guests, Friends, Associates, the Ladies and visitors.

So if you have your car computer or GPS programmed to take you to Anna's, you need to override the infallible computer and make a U Turn to head over to the Bass Pro Shops, where we are fortunate to have a restaurant as well as a good private meeting room.

See y'all joining me in circling around Hanover County looking for the Camp #3000 meeting! Not!!! See you at the Bass Pro Shops on June 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. for dinner, and 7:00 p.m. for the formal meeting.

Joe Howard
1st Lt. Commander

Upcoming Color Guard Events

Color Guard Report – May 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.

On May 11, the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters posted the Colors for the Richmond-Stonewall Jackson Chapter 1705, UDC's annual ceremony at Yellow Tavern to honor J. E. B. Stuart at the site where he was mortally wounded.

May 13th, the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Color Guard supported by members of several Camps provided a Color Guard at the Confederate

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and BE SURE TO LIKE US!**

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

Section of Oakwood Cemetery for the Fifth Annual Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony honoring those buried there sponsored by the Virginia Flaggers. It is hoped that this ceremony will continue for years to come in the spirit of the Ladies Memorial Association. Army of Northern Virginia SCV Commander Ronnie Roach gave an inspiring talk on the SCV Charge, its meaning, and what that should mean to us today. I would like to thank those members from several Camps for participating in this event.

Upcoming Event:

June 4 Sunday 2 PM. We will be providing the Colors at Shockoe Hills Cemetery at a Head stone dedication. For 35 Confederate, 8 Revolutionary War, and 3 War of 1812 Veterans. The address is 300 E. Bates Street, Richmond, VA.

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



Commander Joe Wright, Laying the camp wreath at the Hollywood Cemetery monument dedication service.



CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY



Sons of Confederate Veterans

Private John Wesley Culp Memorial Camp #1961



June 8th 1917 – June 10th 2017

100 year Anniversary of the Dedication of the

Virginia Monument

AT GETTYSBURG



Rededication Ceremony

Saturday June 10th 2017 – 11AM

West Confederate Avenue at the Monument



Keynote Speaker - Susan Hathaway – Virginia Flaggers

Color Guard - Maryland SCV

Honor Guard – 2nd Maryland Inf. Co. D



Pvt. John Wesley Culp Memorial Camp #1961

Po Box 3592 Gettysburg, Pa. 17325

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