



## 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

January 2018

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## Commander’s Corner

Although the weather was threatening and cold and the attendance was smaller than normal at our January meeting, it was well worth attending.

The presentation by Annette Elam Wetzel about “Little Sorrel” was very interesting and brought many chuckles. General Jackson’s horse had a long and interesting life residing at VMI and the Soldiers Home until his death in 1886. Many interesting facts were disclosed.

As the Officers that were elected at the November meeting had not yet been sworn in, Mrs. Wetzel (who is the Honorary President of General) stepped in and did the honors.

Judy Smith has been re-appointed as Matron of Honor.

The Camp now has a new item for its Camp Store. We have lapel pins with the likeness of Edmund Ruffin on them. The cost is only \$10.00 and I will be turning these over to Chairman Willie Wells at the February meeting.

We still need a member to step up to fill the position of 2nd Lt. Commander. At the February meeting, we will address the Committees the Camp has established over the years. We will need Chairmen for these positions or must consider eliminating the Committees.

Again, I ask you to please make sure you keep your contact information current with the Camp Adjutant (email, phone, mailing address).

Joe Wright, Commander

## 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander’s Report

Hope this report finds everyone doing well. A new year is here and I’m sure that you made some great resolutions. Our meeting in January was held right before the snow storm. As a result, there were not many attendees. We had a wonderful guest speaker (Annette Wetzel) who gave us a great talk on General Stonewall Jackson’s horse Little Sorrel. The new officers for 2018 were sworn in by Annette Wetzel during the meeting.

Looks like the parade in Lexington was a success, however there was a report of Washington & Lee University not allowing anyone with a Confederate uniform in the Chapel. This is disturbing!

This coming meeting will feature Les Updike, I’m looking forward to hearing him speak. As you probably know by now there is legislation

## Mark Your Calendar

**02/07/2018**

ERFE Meeting

**01/12/2018**

OCR Meeting

being introduced in Virginia trying to change the law on protecting the monuments. I hope everyone will contact your state representative to express your thoughts on this. We must stay forever vigilant as SCV members to save our heritage.

Thanks,

Tim Tuck

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander's Report

We want all of our members to attend our meetings to get the benefit of their membership in the Camp, to learn important information from our Guest Speakers, and to enjoy socializing with other Southerners.

Please put our meeting date on you calendars, starting right now. It is really easy. Take out your new 2018 Sports Illustrated Swimsuit calendar and mark the first Wednesday of every month to attend the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters Camp #3000 meeting at the Bass Pro Shops south of Ashland. You can cover all of the remaining 11 months in just a couple of minutes, unless you pause to review the important and newsworthy monthly photographic exhibit. Let's get started. You can do it as long as you can read and count to 7. Someone may need to help Jim Tingle, but everyone else should be good to go.

**MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT:** Attend this meeting and find out how you can qualify for the new cash incentive for attending Camp meetings. You have to be there to learn about the BAR. No, not the Browning Automatic Rifle you weapons geeks are familiar with. This is the new Camp BAR, which stands for *Bonus Attendance Raffle*.

Attend and find out during our business meeting, assuming that this wild idea is not illegal, or even it is, who cares?

See you on February 7 at the Bass Pro Shops on Lakeridge Parkway at 7:00 p.m.

Joe Howard

## Social Media Report:

Our public page on Facebook currently has **1166 likes**.

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

EdmundRuffin  
FireEaters.org

## Chaplin's Report

Please let me know if you, a family member or close friend is ill or in distress, so that the person or family can be added to our Fire Eater Prayer List.

We all know that prayer works, and if we can all join together in prayer on behalf of our members, associates, friends, and family members, it will undoubtedly make a difference in their lives.

Joe Howard

# GRAVES & MONUMENTS COMMITTEE



## ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

We will be cleaning up our part of Cold Harbor Road from the 360 bypass to Beaverdam Creek.

Tools: a pick stick, work gloves, safety vest and trash bags will be issued at the gathering point (to be announced at the meeting on February 7, 2018) This is an on going camp project the more volunteers that participate the sooner we can get it done.

To volunteer please call Jim (804) 292 - 5457

Jim Tingle

## OAKWOOD

January 27, 2018

Members of the Edmund Ruffin Fire Eaters , Walter Smith and Jim Tingle continued the work at Oakwood Cemetery Richmond , VA.

Here you can see their effort as they continue to the extensive work of resetting the markers.

Jim Tingle Chairman,  
Graves and Monuments Committee



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

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

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

**\$1<sup>00</sup>**

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!**

## Upcoming Color Guard Events

### Color Guard Report

Saturday, January 13, we were to participate in the Lee-Jackson Ceremony and Parade held in Lexington, VA. Unfortunately due to a lack of response, our participation was canceled.

Sunday, January 14 at 2 PM, I posted of Colors for the Culpeper Chapter 73, UDC Lee - Jackson Ceremony. It was held at the Brandy Station Fire House. These ladies presented about three dozen awards to school children participating in the Essay competition on Confederate topics. They had received 109 applications. There was a large crowd to enjoy this ceremony. The Virginia Division President attended along with her Vice President who discussed the pending legislation on our Monuments.

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. You will need an enlisted Confederate uniform to join us.

Color Sergeant Joe Wright

**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)**



# SAVE



**YOU  
CAN  
HELP**

# MONUMENT AVENUE