



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

August 2018

Volume 5 Number 8

Commander's Corner

At our August meeting, Barry Isenhour was our speaker. He spoke on "How to Respond" to those who respond to those who inquire as to why we support our Heritage and maintain Confederate Monuments and War Memorials".

At our May meeting the Camp voted to participate in Field Days of the Past on September 20 through September 23. As of our July meeting only 5 members have committed to set up, man the booth, and take down during this event. More members are needed to Participate, We not only offer our items for donations, but have an opportunity to interact with the public and education them on the subject of Confederate History and the importance of maintaining War Memorials. This is also an opportunity to recruit. Consider volunteering for this event!

I have received a report from Camp Adjutant Walter Smith on membership renewal. Many of you have yet to send in your dues. Please do so soon.

Hope to see you at the September 5 meeting.

Joe Wright, Commander



Mark Your Calendar

09/05/2018

ERFE Meeting

09/10/2018

OCR Meeting

09/21-23/2018

Field Days of the
Past - Fundraiser

December 2018

Mechanicsville
Christmas Parade

1st Lt. Commander's Report

Hello everyone, summer is coming to an end and fall is just around the corner. I know I'm ready for a change of seasons.

This past meeting we had Barry Isenhour as our speaker. If you weren't there you miss an incredible topic which gave us Southerners the info and sources to converse with the public. This helps us to be able to speak with authority so that the general public understands that we have the facts on our side.

The way things have been going there is a genuine threat to us all. We must be ready to engage others with facts and not rhetoric with out any facts to back it up. Silent Sam has been removed by socialist vandals and they very likely will come for our monuments as well.

Our speaker for September is Bo Traywick I'm sure he will have a great topic.

Again I want to remind everyone about our next event, which is Field Days of the Past which is on September 21st -23rd .We all the help we can get. Please come and help. It's a chance to sell ourselves and our message to the public.

Tim Tuck
1st Lt. Commander

Social Media Report:

Our public page on Facebook currently has 1316 likes.

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

EdmundRuffin
FireEaters.org

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!

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

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

Upcoming Color Guard Events

Color Guard Report

Our Color Guard will be providing the Colors for the Iron Cross Ceremony on Friday, September 14 at 11 AM. This is be held at Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, VA. This ceremony is be held by the 13th Virginia Regiment UDC Chapter for Col. Jabez Lamar Monroe Curry.

We have been asked to provide a Color Guard for a dedication of Headstones for two Confederate Veterans in Ferrum, VA – this will probably be held in September or October. As I get more information on this event I will pass it on to you.

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

Upcoming Color Guard Events

Monday, August 20, 2018

Back from vacation, doing what we can for our Confederate veterans. West point: your Graves & Monuments Committee volunteers, replaced some grave site flags, probed to locate the headstones of 4 Confederate veterans. (Not a one was located) Will make inquires at Town clerks office, funeral homes, and churches in the area. No man left behind!

Sunday, August 26, 2018

Judge Advocate, J. Walter Smith and Graves & Monuments Committee Volunteers Chairman Jim Tingle worked at a West point cemetery mapping the graves of Confederate Veterans, cleaned a headstone, trimmed a shurb at a grave site and replaced six grave site flags.

G&MCV Chairman
Jim Tingle

RESTORATION of the Riverview Ladies Memorial Pyramid

RIVERVIEW CEMETERY, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

In the mid 1920's a plot of land located in Riverview Cemetery, was donated to the Richmond Chapter #158 UDC by the R.E. Lee Camp Soldier's Home to provide burial sites for the ladies of the Confederate Home for Women.

These ladies (daughters, widows and granddaughters of Confederate Veterans) had resided at the Confederate Home for Women (previously know as the Confederate Home for Needy Ladies) on North Sheppard Street, Richmond, Virginia.

At some time after the 1920s, the pyramid was erected as a monument to the ladies.

There are approximately 120 ladies buried in this plot, their graves dating from the mid 1920's to the late 1990's.

Time and weather has taken its toll on the pyramid, concrete work and headstones. The mortar holding the pyramid



stones together has begun to crumble with age and fall out, leaving the internal structure exposed to the elements, particularly water when freezing and thawing can cause the stones to crack. Likewise the concrete work around the plot has

suffered as well. The sidewalk and surrounding curbing of the plot are in disrepair. A portion of the curbing has been completely broken apart and the step and "name plate" of the site is beginning to crumble. The headstones need to be reset and leveled to prevent damage from lawn care equipment.

These ladies were devoted to our Confederate Veterans and many were the steel magnolias that kept the South together during reconstruction and beyond.

It is only fitting for their final resting place to be maintained and cared for.

It is our goal to raise \$3,600 to make repairs to the pyramid, concrete work and for the resetting of the headstones.

Let's all get behind this!!

We would love to begin work this spring. If we all pitch in, we can make it happen!

To Donate: make checks payable to:

Richmond-Stonewall Jackson Chapter #1705
(Please note "Riverview Project" on the memo line)

PLEASE NOTE: Any funds received beyond our goal amount, will be earmarked for future work at the Riverview site, such as flags and additional grave markers.

Mail to:

Richmond-Stonewall Jackson Chapter #1705
Attn: Sandy Wright, Chapter President
16463 Horseshoe Lane
Beaver Dam, VA 23015



PYRAMID RESTORATION

As you can see from the images, the mortar between the stone blocks has begun to crumble and fall out.

1. front view of pyramid
2. front below plaque area - no mortar is in some areas
3. front above plaque area - mortar loose and missing.
4. at the upper part of the fringe is a previous attempt at repairs that has also begun to deteriorate.



CONCRETE RESTORATION

The concrete around the Confederate Women's plot is in bad shape.

Here are a few of the issues:

5. view of sidewalk leading to pyramid.
6. edge of step top layer of concrete crumbling off
7. outer curbing broken
8. sidewalk - cracked and crumbling
9. outer curbing tilting outward.



HEADSTONES

In image 10, the headstones are tilted and in disarray. These are to be straightened and leveled to prevent further damage by lawn care equipment.

SAVE

**YOU
CAN
HELP**



MONUMENT AVENUE