

The Delta General

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Sons of Confederate Veterans

Brig.-Gen. Charles Clark Chapter #253

Military Order of the Stars & Bars

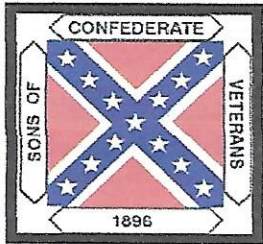
Ella Palmer Chapter #9 - Order of the Confederate Rose

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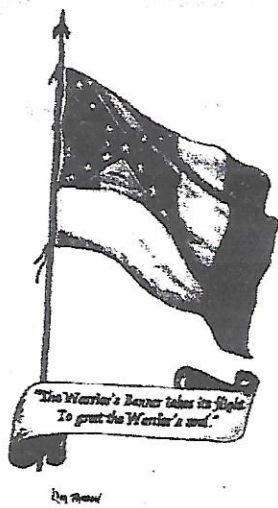
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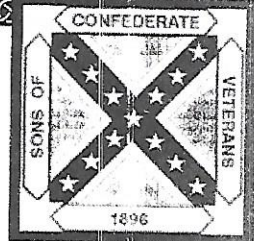
The New In Color Edition

THE DELTA GENERAL
P.O. Box 63
Webb, Ms ... 38966



"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's Note: Earl McCown Jr.



Greetings Compatriots;

The Lee/Jackson Banquet was tremendous. A great time was had by all. It just gets better and better. Thanks to each of you for this. For those of you that have not paid your membership dues, you are late and as such you will be charged a late fee. We need each and every member to renew their dues and be a part of this great organization, the Sons of Confederate Veterans. We are facing many trials and tribulations and we must have your support in order to stand. Alone we cannot do the job, but with unity of each and every member we can over come. Please renew your dues and stand with us. If there is a reason that you feel you can't stand with us, please let me know what that reason is, and lets talk about it. Let me know why you are dropping out. If we need to make some changes, we'll consider making them.

On the 15th of this month, we will have our regular meeting. I would like to see all of you there. It is great to see so many members, guests and family members at our meetings.

The Brigadier General Charles Clark Chapter 253, Military Order of the Stars and Bars is looking for new members. If your ancestor(s) were Confederate Officers or Confederate Politicians you are eligible for membership. If you are interested, please contact me.

Until our meeting,
I remain your Obedient Servant
Earl M. McCown Jr., Commander

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Recap Of the January Lee/Jackson Banquet, Our Next Meeting will be on 15 February 2001

For those of you who missed the Lee/Jackson Banquet, you really missed an eventful night. The entire Color-Guard was present for the night and honored Oliver and Dan McCaskill with medals, the Southern Cross of Honor (if their was an equivalence to the U.S. Medal of Honor, this would be it) for their self-less devotion as defenders of the Cause. We were also fortunate to have Marcus Daniels, a Black Confederate, to form up with us in the unit for the night.

Once again, the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter #9, OCR, out did themselves with the decorations and arranging the room. They had to work and plan real hard to accommodate the 90 people we had in attendance that night. They also laid out a great appetizer's table as well. We owe you ladies a great big REBEL YELL for you will always be an intricate part to the success of our Camp.

Our speaker, Anthony Hervey, once again spoke with such passion that he had everyone hinging on every word. He confided with us about the death threats that he has recently received and with a tearful expression on his face told us that he has not seen his family in some time because of these threats. He warned us of the many cowards that wave the Confederate Flag but when it comes down to making a stand when the flag is assailed they run coward. He also said that now is the time we need the "Robert E. Lees" and "Nathan Bedford Forrests" to step forward for we need strong leaders for the task at hand.

Hervey also encouraged the Camp to avoid feeling guilt for our heritage. "We have nothing to be ashamed of," Hervey said. "Liberal whites are the true racists. Guilt is the most deadly weapon that you can use," he said. He told of stories about Confederate graves being desecrated and no one stopping such deprecations. He also chastised those whites for allowing guilt to run rampant in our communities. Hervey also encouraged our Camp to continue recruiting members but be weary for we want quality members not just quantity.

The night ended with a raffle, door prizes, and an auction of a Mort Kunstler print that Mrs. Prather won and donated to Anthony Hervey. Donations were taken as a love offering for Anthony as well. Then came the Candle Light Memorial service as each member lighted a candle and named their ancestor, closing with the singing of Dixie.

Our February meeting will be a get to know your ancestor night. Bring artifacts and be prepared to tell about your ancestor as we get to know these men, their deeds, and their sacrifices for a just Cause.



Images From the Lee/Jackson Banquet 2001



Co. C, CSMC Color-Guard ready for action accompanied by Marcus Daniels and Anthony Hervey

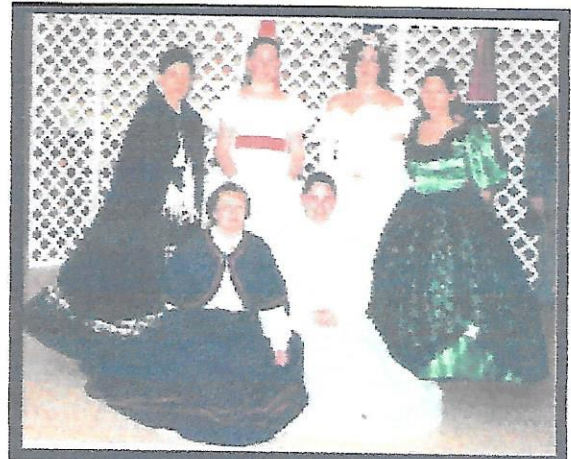


The traditional Candle Light Ancestral Memorial Service (Above and Below)



Cpl. Andrew McCaskill and Pvt. Thomas Lafoe above taking time out.

To the right, Southern Belles of the OCR in their finery.



Ella Palmer Chapter #9: OCR President's Note: Annette McCluney

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Ladies of the South,

I am glad to see such a great turn out on our Chapter during the Lee/Jackson Banquet. It was a successful night for us since we picked up two new members and potentially one more. We seem to be growing in leaps and bounds. Our next meeting is 15 February and the men have planned a "Get to Know Your Ancestor Night." This is like the one last year in which everyone was given the opportunity to tell stories about their ancestors and show off artifacts of their ancestor's. We also want to keep Susan Williams, Michelle Spell, and Jeanette McCaskill in our prayers. I will soon have the new *Mississippi Belle*, our Society Newsletter out soon. I have been swamped with stuff and it has been hard to work every thing into my schedule.

Lets all bring something for the night to have a fun night with the men. Remember to bring a friend with you that night. See you then.

God Save Our Southland,
Annette McCluney

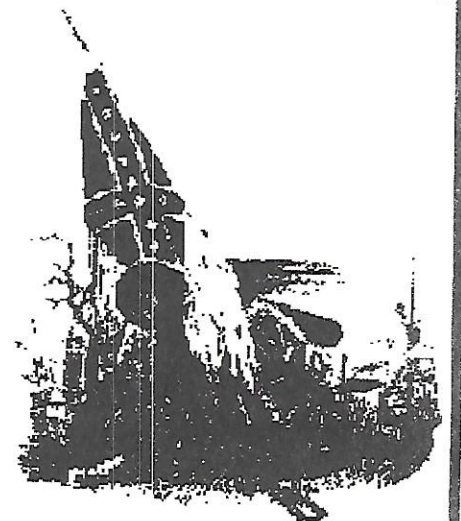
Members to be Kept in Our Prayers

Susan Williams recently had surgery
Michelle Spell's Grandmother is in the Hospital
Stan Spell's Father is in the Hospital
Michelle Spell has been sick

The Last Roll Call: Oliver McCaskill

It is with deep regret that this writer must announce the death of Oliver McCaskill, Tuesday at 5:30, 23 January 2001, after a struggle with pneumonia. Oliver was a charter member of the Brig.-General Benjamin G. Humphrey's Camp and since its establishment was the Color-Sergeant for the Camp. Last year he was honored with Sergeant stripes as an honorary member of the Color-Guard. It was recently he gave up the position of the Camp Color-Sergeant because of health reasons.

It was an honor for the Color-Guard to present colors and present the flag to his family at Oliver's funeral. Oliver was a true Southerner and defender of the Cause. We will surely miss him.



Should flag change? 55 percent say no

By Jerry Mitchell
Clarion-Ledger Staff Writer

Mississippi voters strongly favor keeping the 1894 state flag over adopting a new flag, a statewide *Clarion-Ledger* survey shows. Fifty-five percent of voters polled said they would choose to keep the flag, which bears the controversial Confederate battle emblem, while only 34 percent said they would choose a proposed new flag, according to a survey conducted by Zogby International. The telephone poll of 886 voters, conducted Jan. 25-Feb. 2, has an error margin of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

"We've seen people get involved with us who were never involved in politics before," said Greg Stewart, commander of the University Greys of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, who has pushed for Mississippi to keep the old flag. Those pushing for a new flag in an April 17 statewide referendum are fighting an uphill battle, he said. "It looks to me like they've got 10 weeks to change a lot of minds."

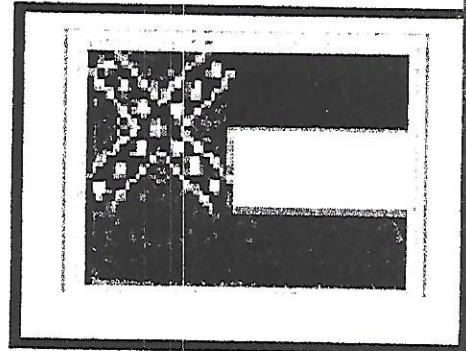
Former Gov. William Winter, who headed a commission that endorsed a new flag design, said he believes voters will pick the new flag, with 20 stars symbolizing the state's history instead of the Confederate emblem. "Those numbers are close to where they were when we did preliminary polling, and there's been no campaign," he said. "I think it's winnable."

The survey included only people who said they were familiar with the referendum. Opinion breaks sharply along racial lines. Seventy-three percent of white voters said they would vote to keep the flag while 65 percent of black voters said they would vote to replace it. "I don't see any reason why we should change it," said Milton McCormick, a 53-year-old white construction worker from Winona who participated in the poll and agreed to be interviewed. "I don't see where it should offend anyone."

History and heritage are the main reasons cited by those who would vote to keep the flag. Other reasons included seeing no reason to change, seeing the old flag as harmless and disliking the design of the proposed new flag.

Among those who favor a new flag, most said they want to replace the old flag because it represents images of slavery and the Ku Klux Klan, that they want to put the past behind them, and that it divides the people of Mississippi. Mississippi lawmakers put the flag issue on the ballot after a state Supreme Court ruling last year put the 1894 flag in legal limbo. Gov. Ronnie Musgrove created a 17-member commission which recommended a new flag.

In the survey, voters were asked to choose which of two statements comes closest to their view of the 1894 flag, one describing history and tradition and another mentioning the notion that the flag is offensive and divisive. Fifty-eight percent of Mississippians said they are more likely to agree with the statement: "The Confederate battle symbol is part of the state's proud history and traditions, and therefore should not be removed from the state flag." Seventy-six percent of white voters and 19 percent of black voters said that statement was more likely to reflect their view. "I like the flag as it is," said George Harris, a 43-year-old white Mississippian from Charleston. "It's our heritage. They need to leave that flag alone. It's a part of history."



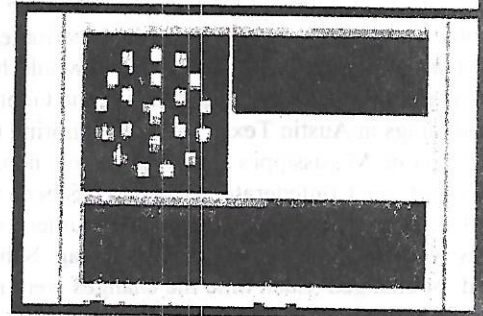
Continued on page 7 . . .

He rejects talk the flag represents the Klan because "that flag was there way before the Klan came along. The flag represents the Civil War and the people that died in that war, black and white. It needs to stay that way." Twenty-nine percent said they were more likely to agree with the statement: "The Confederate battle symbol is offensive and divisive to some groups and should be removed." Eleven percent of white voters and 69 percent of black voters said the statement comes closer to their views.

J.D. Jones, an 80-year-old African-American retiree in Gulfport, said the 1894 flag reminds him of the flag the Klan once waved on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. "It symbolizes hatred to me, especially the way I was treated," he said. As an Army veteran in World War II, he aided the battle against the Nazis only to return to Mississippi and fight racism all over again. "That made me so mad," he said. "If I'd been God, I would have burned the world up. I hope that's all behind us now."

Mississippians' opinions on the flag appear to have shifted somewhat since 1994, when a Mississippi State University poll found 80 percent of residents supported the traditional flag for its heritage and 14 percent wanted to change it because it was offensive.

The biggest supporters of the current flag are among those who have lived in Mississippi for at least 25 years (58 percent), among senior citizens (61 percent) and among Republicans (72 percent). Supporters of the proposed new flag can be found among those who have lived in Mississippi fewer than four years (49 percent for the new flag compared with 45 percent for the old) and Democrats (52 percent). One ray of hope for new flag supporters is in the area of education. Mississippians with college degrees back changing the flag, 47 percent to 42 percent. Voters at every other level of education prefer not to change. It's a dead heat as to whether voters like the new flag proposed by the commission and modified by the Legislature for consideration on the April 17 ballot. Thirty-four percent like the new proposal, and 35 percent don't.



Among college-educated Mississippians — the lone educational group to support the new flag — more disliked the new design than liked it by a margin of 39 percent to 34 percent. Nor did the design inspire many black Mississippians, less than half of whom said they liked the new design. Verena Spivey, a 47-year-old African-American nurse who lives in Carthage, said the new flag design reminds her too much of the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy. "I'm still going to vote for it," she said. "I think it's the lesser of two evils."

Editor's Note: As you know, the last week of January, the Georgia Legislature approved the changing of the Georgia State Flag. All eyes are now focused on Mississippi. Will we be the last to cower down to this liberal attack upon our heritage and fall into line with the other states that have coward down? Now is the time to make you decision where you stand and what can you do to help. Our ancestors are calling upon all TRUE Mississippians to pick up the banner of the right and make a stand. It is the least we can do.

Enough is Enough!

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

I beg you to please take the time to read this, and then give the entire message some deep thought. If, when finished, you discover that you agree with the content, please take the time to share this with anyone and everyone you may be able to reach. The importance of this message cannot be overstated. Either make copies and distribute as flyers, hand them to folks you meet on the street or in your neighborhoods, e-mail them to friends, politicians, and especially to those whom you suspect may be apathetic, or unaware of this situation. However you choose to spread this message, do so with kindness, dignity, and respect for the person to whom you deliver it.

The content of the message regards heritage. The heritage that all people at some point in their lives have looked to as an inspiration for a better way of life. The heritage that defines and gives root and strength to family, community, and nation. As Americans, we are a relatively young nation compared to many European countries, but nonetheless, our heritage, our history, is a proud one, and many of the world's nations look to us as leaders and examples of "how-to-get-it-right." Our strength and determination as a nation and a people is unsurpassed, yet in spite of all that we have in common, most of us tend to look for the things that make us all different from each other. Male and female, black and white, rich and poor, north and south, the lines of division are easily and too readily drawn. It is easier to assume that "the other side is wrong," than to make the effort to understand and educate ourselves about how the other side feels, and what they deem significant..... What makes them proud of their heritage. Apathy and lack of education breed divisiveness. The longer our nation accepts these diseases, the harder a cure is to find.

In the past year, more so than at any other time before, a movement has swept across the country which, if left unchecked, will force some Americans to either deny their heritage, or at least no longer be allowed to freely honor the men and women from whence they came. I refer to the folks who would force this injustice upon us Americans as the "selectively offended." In the past six months, major changes have been made in the Georgia State flag, plaques honoring Confederate veterans, have been removed from public buildings in Austin Texas, statues honoring Confederate leaders have been removed from the campus of the University of Texas in Austin, Mississippi's state flag, which incorporates the Confederate battle emblem, has been attacked, though unsuccessfully as of yet, the Confederate battle flag has been removed from its forty year old position atop the state house in South Carolina, and the list goes on and on. Teenagers in southern states have been attacked, and even one young man slain, for no other reason than they were displaying the Confederate flag. Schools and universities have had their mascots, team names and school emblems removed or changed. Each time the changes were made, the reasoning behind the decision and the complaint to have them changed was that "IT REMINDS ME OF SLAVERY!"

Now, let me state emphatically that slavery was wrong and never should have been allowed within this great nation. Our founding fathers, for some reason, saw fit to allow the institution to not only exist, but expand, and indeed supported it. The trouble is that the condemnation of the symbols of slavery seem to be confined to only those also associated with the former Confederate States of America. If some reminders of that hideous injustice are offensive, than should not all possible reminders be judged alike? The fact is, at least two of our former presidents were slave owners, and yet monuments, schools, bridges, buildings, and yes even our currency honoring or bearing the likenesses of those gentlemen are not noted as being offensive. I speak of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Even more horrifying is the fact that our beloved Stars and Stripes flew over a nation that tolerated, perpetuated, and profited from slavery for over ninety years prior to the first Confederate flag ever being flown, yet no one condemns it as being an offensive symbol. I ask you simply, why not?

The unnoticed facts that would force blame for the institution of slavery to be spread evenly over the entire nation are, for the most part, obscure but recorded nonetheless. Recently, the mass graves of tens of thousands of slaves were discovered in the State of New York. I don't recall New York being represented by one of the thirteen stars on a Confederate battle flag. The Confederate constitution in fact banned the import of slaves through its own ports and harbors, while slave ships continued to traverse the Atlantic bearing their captive cargo under the US flag even after the start of the war in 1861. They merely changed their port of destination and went to South America instead. The newly elected president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, once said in a speech, "If I could preserve the Union without freeing one slave, I would do that." If I could preserve it by freeing all the slaves, I would do that also." His intent at the outset of the war was clearly not to abolish slavery, but to preserve the union of states! His own top commander and later president as well, U.S. Grant, had to be approached personally by Lincoln himself and told to release the "house servants" that actually belonged to Grant's wife. This after the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect in 1863. It is a fact, according to census records of the period, that only two percent of the population in the Confederate States of America owned any slaves at all, and not all slaves were black, nor were all slave owners white. Is it logical that an army of approximately one million men went to war to preserve the rights of only two percent of the population of the thirteen seceding states? I think not!

Continued on the next page . . .

The point of the matter is this. Slavery was wrong. It existed in this country, and all over the world through the ages. It is not pretty, but it is our history, and part of our heritage. To rise above it, we must educate ourselves and lay blame, if it is to be done, at the feet of all who were responsible. Enough is Enough! A nation that existed for only four years cannot possibly be the only responsible party in an institution that had existed for almost a hundred years prior. Either remove all the offensive symbols of slavery or leave them all alone. At least ninety-eight percent of the men who fought under the Confederate flag owned no slaves, nor did they fight for the rights of the two percent who did. They were Americans who fought and died for their homes and families. Southern people have a right to honor their ancestors and the sacrifices they made, and as long as that Confederate flag is being displayed with dignity and to honor that Confederate ancestor's memory, let it fly.

The hate groups who abuse and misuse the Confederate flag are no better in my eyes than the thugs and hoodlums who operated Hitler's death camps, and I denounce them all with a vengeance! They are not fit to shine the shoes of the men who bore that flag in 1861. Understand them for the misguided, uneducated fools that they are, and realize that they, like the two percent, do not represent the feelings of all who fly the Confederate flag. Pity their ignorance, and pray for their souls, for they are condemned to hell as sure as God created this world we live in.

If you believe that this message holds logic and merit, pass it on to someone else from hand to hand, mail it, e-mail it, so long as you spread it. Send it to your legislators. If for some reason you still feel apathy, or perceive this message as having no truth, then at least leave it where others may find it. That takes no energy at all. History and heritage are what this nation has to be proud of, and we, as a nation, must protect the rights of ourselves and of our children to honor that heritage if we so choose, whatever it may be. Apathy will become an eraser to your Grandfather's memory. Are you comfortable with that? Are you comfortable in the knowledge that your grandchildren may someday have their right to freely honor your memory taken away by the "selectively offended?"

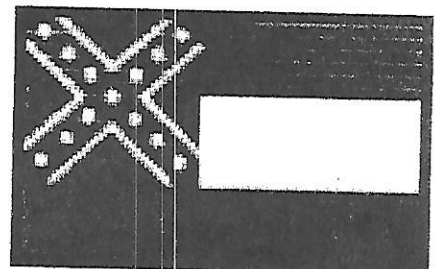
God bless you for taking the time to read this message and from myself, thank you.

Coalition to Save the Flag: A Message from Greg Stewart "The Proper Role of the Church in Our Flag Debate"

DATE: January 29, 2001

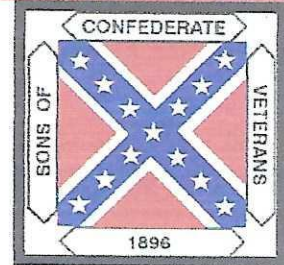
We are planning a press conference to feature ministers of the major congregations who are opposed to the unwelcome and unprecedented involvement of the Bishops into the flag referendum. If you are interested in participating or attending this, please call me ASAP at my office **662.363.1161**, in my car at **662.363.5365**, or **662.234.6912**.

Is the phrase "religious left" an oxymoron? We think so. The timing of this is critical for success. If the outspoken Bishops have gone too far when they might have weighed in on the prayer at the football games only 5 months ago, then this needs to be said. Do the congregations really support the Bishop's position? Is a flag issue a part of the gospel? If you know of a minister who thinks like we do on these questions, please have him call.





Welcome New Members OCR, SCV, & MOS&B



Ernest Calvin Lowery
Ancestor: Great, Great, Great Granfather
Joseph T. Lowery, Pvt.
Co. I, 15th Mississippi Infantry

Terry Mark Henderson
Ancestor: Great, Great, Grandfather Nicholas D. Jacks, Pvt.
Co. K, 24th Mississippi Infantry

Jessica Evans and Julie Evans

A Word of Thanks From the McCaskill Family

Compatriots,

On behalf of the McCaskill Family, I would like to thank all of you for your prayers and support during our time of loss. We would like to especially thank the members of the CS Marine Color Guard for performing the Military Honors during the funeral service. I know Daddy was smiling down from Heaven. Oliver was a true Southern Gentleman and loved his Southland and Country. When he passed, a small bit of history passed with him. We will no longer hear of his experiences over the skies of Europe during WWII or the experiments he conducted to further the cotton industry. Daddy lived a full life and we have a life time of memories to remember him. So again, from all the McCaskills, thanks for all the aid and comfort you have given us during the most trying time coming so close to Jeffrey's death.

Sincerely,

Dan, Ann, & Andrew