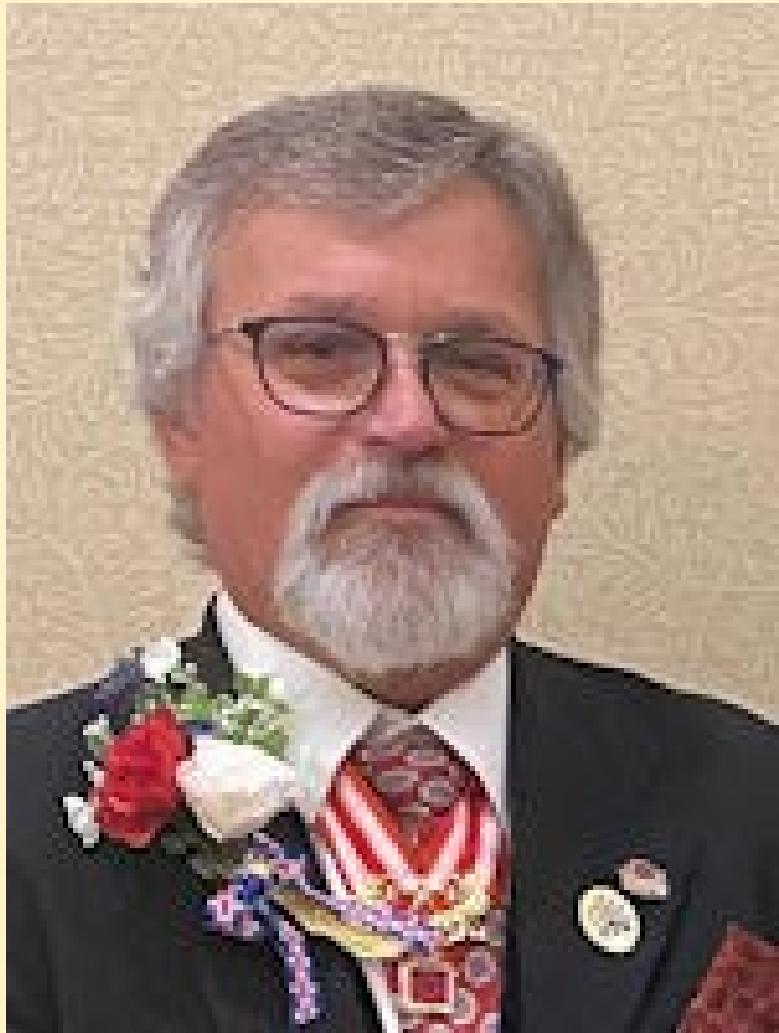


The Delta General

Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



77th Past Commander-in-Chief Jason Boshers
Guest Speaker for the Camp's Lee/Jackson Banquet
January 17, 2026

Social Begins at 6:00 PM Dinner at 7:00 PM

Happy New Year!

January 2026, Volume 29, Issue 1

Dedicated to the Memory of Brigadier General Benjamin G. Humphreys

Commander's Comments — Michael Anthony

Greetings men and ladies of the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp, the Brigadier General Charles Clark Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, the Ella Palmer Chapter of the Order of the Confederate Rose, and our friends and followers who read this newsletter. Welcome to 2026; and may this year be a great one for you and your family. Just like we do every year, and as our noble ancestors did in those very difficult years of the War, we look to the new year with hope and excitement. We hope for a better year in whatever way we need it to be and we are excited at what the future brings for us.

This year promises to bring great things to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Mississippi Division, and the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp. If you spent any time around the Division this year, you know there is undeniable excitement and growth. More people are willing to speak out about the importance of Confederate Heritage and History and support the vindication of the good name of the Confederate soldier. The hysteria of all things Confederate seems to have subsided, and people of sound mind recognize that Confederate monuments do not cause social problems, and removing these monuments does nothing to address or resolve community or social problems. The membership of the Mississippi Division is growing, and the work of the Organization is showing real results. We are fighting to preserve Confederate monuments, clean and catalogue Confederate headstones, begin the Division cadet program which will allow boys to get their start in the SCV before they can become eligible for official membership, and being more visible at community events and activities.

All this success vindicating the good name and honor of the Confederate soldier came from hard work, and like the Confederate soldier would tell you if he could, you can not rest on your success, but must keep fighting because the Cause is greater than yourself. In the new year, there will be many challenges in our way, but we must continue with what has worked, revise or eliminate efforts that are not successful, and be willing to try new, and sometimes different, ways to promote Confederate history and heritage and vindicate the good name and honor of the Confederate soldier. But this starts with you. Do you resolve in the coming year to Live the Charge? Do you resolve to defend and uphold the honor and good name of the Confederate soldier? Will you donate your time, your special talents, or your money to further the Cause? Will you attend Camp meetings, and maybe even bring a friend to these meetings? Will you talk about the SCV to your friends who might be interested in joining? Will you write to your lawmakers at the local, state, and national level informing them that Confederate history is American history and when history is erased or rewritten, every American loses? There are so many things each of us can do to vindicate the Confederate soldier and honor his good name.

May God bless the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp, the Mississippi Division, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the memory and honor of the Confederate soldier, the Cause for which he fought, and the United States of America. And may God bless you in 2026 with a year of peace, prosperity, safety, serenity, success, health, and happiness.

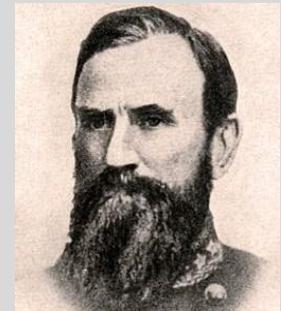
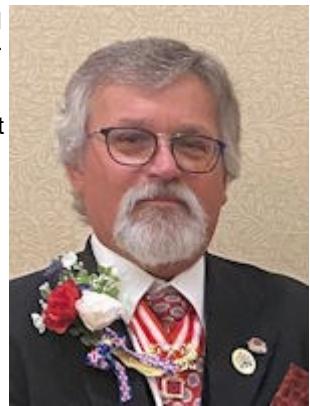
Deo Vindice,

Michael

Guest Speaker for Lee/Jackson Banquet—January 17, 2026

Our guest speaker will be Past Commander-in-Chief Jason Boshers. He will be speaking on the Forrest-Gould Affair in which General Forrest was almost murdered by one of his Lieutenants. Social hour begins at 5:00 pm and Dinner at 6:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Entrée's provided by the Camp is Spiral Ham and a baked Turkey. Also that night new Camp officers will be inducted:

Camp Commander — Michael Anthony
 Lt. Commander — David Floyed
 Adjutant — Dan McCaskill
 Color Sgt. — Earl Allen
 Camp Chaplin — Earl McCown



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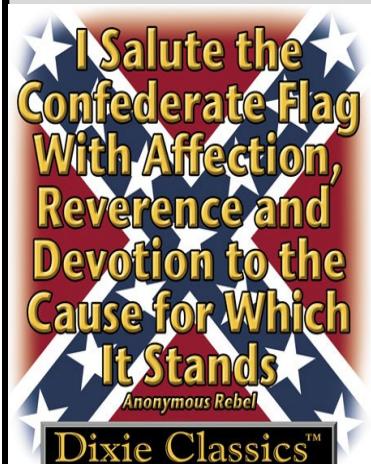
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Larry McCluney, Editor:
 Confederate @suddenlink.net

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Adjutant's Report—Dan McCaskill

No meeting in December

The Chaplain's Pen — Earl McCown

"Happy New Year" ... and congratulations!

Your vehicle just depreciated at least another \$1,000. Your new clothes are now your old clothes, you're going to have another birthday. (By the way, isn't amazing...everyone reading this had a birthday this past year.) Your roof, heating and cooling unit are one year closer to having to be replaced. You have to start gathering information and begin preparing your Federal Income Tax returns. This past year you paid a whole lot of interest on a debt while reducing the principle very little. You are one year nearer to eternity!



What a terrible, depressing introduction to a message. But isn't that the way many people are thinking about the New Year? They welcome the New Year with negativity and a sense of defeatism rather than seeing the New Year as a year of grace. This is a Gift from God, not everyone lives to see the New Year. We have survived another 365 day battle in life and God has rewarded us with a New Year.

A New Year for new beginnings, for new challenges, for new opportunities, new potentials and new friendships. An opportunity for expansion to your life, for new changes you've been wanting to make, new adventures you have long desired. You can realize new accomplishments that will contribute to a fuller and more meaningful life. There will be new things you can accomplish for the Lord.

A totally New Year full of possibilities and opportunities. 12 months; 52 weeks; 365 days; 8,760 hours; 525,600 minutes; and 31,536,000 seconds... What will you do with all that time?

I find that the Apostle Paul always has something useful to say on any subject. He is speaking in Philippians 3:12-14: *"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. (13) Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; not one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, (14) I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

Paul said that his goal was to know Christ; to be like Christ, and to be all Christ had in mind for him. He devoted all his energies to accomplishing that...And so should we!

Many people make resolutions for the New Year. Resolutions are easy to make...and are much harder to keep. Each New Year's resolution is in itself a challenge. A challenge for change; a challenge for improvement; a challenge for a higher level of success; a challenge for more effort and determination and a challenge for accomplishment. And there is nothing wrong with these!

I give each of you three great challenges for the New Year:

Be a disciple of Jesus. (a disciple is a learner...an apprentice, if you please). Discipleship means more than being saved from past sins. It involves conforming one's life into the image of Jesus Christ. God purposed that His people would serve and honor Him. Faithful disciples do just that, they serve and Honor Him.

Be a peacemaker for Jesus. *"Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God."* (Matthew 5:9). There has always been a need for peacemakers and there always will be.

Be a servant of Jesus. Do you sometimes feel you deserve extra

credit for serving God? Obedience is not something "extra" we do...it's our duty. Faithfulness is not something "extra" we do...it's our duty. (What not to expect as a servant: Popularity, Power, Respect, Ego, or Thanks.) Things you should expect as a servant: An opportunity to develop Christ-likeness; and opportunity to leave a godly heritage for one's family; An opportunity for rewards in Heaven; An opportunity to influence others in service for Christ; and an opportunity to please God as never before. Servants serve. When servants serve others are helped and God is glorified!

HAPPY NEW YEAR — May God bless you greatly in 2026.



M and Th nights at 7:00 PM CT on Facebook.

BEAUVIOR

Beauvoir, the historic post-war home of President Jefferson Davis, is owned and operated by the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. There are several ways that you can participate in the continued preservation of this beloved landmark located in Biloxi, Mississippi.



Beauvoir - Post-war home of Jefferson Davis.

Biloxi, Mississippi

Commander General's Message | Thomas B. Rhodes III



Commander General
Thomas B. Rhodes III, DCS
2024—2026

Greetings my Compatriots:

I sincerely hope all of you had a nice Thanksgiving Holiday and enjoyed being with your family and friends. I also hope you didn't overeat too much as many of us are prone to do. We need to pace ourselves as we prepare to go into the Christmas Holiday Season.

A report on the 50th Anniversary of the Captain Henry Wirz Memorial Service in Andersonville, GA on November 8, 2025. Honorary Commander General James Gaston of the General Paul Jones Semmes Chapter #104 in Columbus, GA coordinated the event. He has been in charge of the annual memorial service for many years and once again did a fantastic job with this 50th Anniversary Service.

I was pleased to be joined with multiple MOS&B dignitaries at the event: Past Commander General Troy Massey, Army of Tennessee Commander Chris Heuer, Alabama Society Commander Carl Black, Tennessee Society Commander Jason Boshers, Georgia Society Commander Scott Gilbert and Army of Tennessee Counselor Steve Barbaree. Also in attendance was the United Daughters of the Confederacy President General Julie Hardaway and Sons of Confederate Veterans Commander-in-Chief Don Kennedy. There were also MOS&B members from Georgia that I enjoyed meeting.

This past year has been a wonderful experience and a learning year for me. I have had the opportunity to spend time with many leaders from various historical and lineage organizations. Often the conversation led to the need to devise new methods, develop new plans, or reorganize to advance and grow our organizations.

When I visited Society Commanders at conventions these same points came up. However, when I visited successful and growing Chapters what I saw was not continual change but men working on our fundamental goals. Successful Chapters were not producing innovative programs but letting members follow their own interest. Men in these chapters were free to dedicate their time to preserve Southern history by working with their local historical society. Some participated in finding and preserving gravesites of forgotten confederate soldiers. Still others, working on preserving genealogical records, family histories, and artifacts.

This is just a small sampling of these men's efforts. The point is the Chapter served as a support group for these basic interests of the membership. The Chapter help raise money for these endeavors and worked as central clearing house for member projects. The Chapter was not the force of direction from the leadership, but the members were the focus for direction. Chapter members participated in the activities that most fitted their own interest with the support of the chapter.

After reviewing chapter annual reports, these chapters were growing and retaining membership better than other chapters. Bottom line men are our method. An active member pursuing his interest and sharing it with his chapter is our strongest asset.

Do we need new programs, develop a new focus, or reorganize to grow or do we need to focus on our members that have answered the call of our organizational goals outlined in our Constitution? That is a good question.

Wirz 50th Anniversary Memorial Service



Three Confederate Leaders at the 50th Anniversary Memorial Service for Major Henry Wirz, Confederate States of America, in Andersonville, Georgia on 8 November 2025

Tommy Rhodes- Commander General, Military Order of the Stars and Bars

Julie Hardaway- President General, United Daughters of the Confederacy

Don Kennedy- Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Confederate Veterans November 2025

National News

Announcement for Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Confederate Veterans

Compatriots,

It has been my honor to serve our great organization as your Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief. After much thought and prayer, I am announcing my candidacy for Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

My years of service at the Camp, Division and National level, have deepened my commitment to the Cause we all hold dear. I have seen firsthand the strength, dedication, and brotherhood that make the SCV unique.

If entrusted with the leadership of our organization, my focus will remain clear: Recruiting and Retention will always be a priority, ensuring that our camps grow stronger and that every member feels valued and connected. We will continue the Defense of our Heritage—standing firm against those who would erase or distort our history. We will also continue the vigorous promotion of our Cause and mission in adherence to the Charge.

Equally important, I will continue to improve communications and our social media presence, so that our message of honor, history, and brotherhood reaches a wider audience and engages the next generation of Compatriots.

Together, we will preserve the memory of our ancestors, strengthen our fellowship, and carry the banner of the SCV proudly into the future.

I humbly ask for your support and your prayers as we continue this journey together.

Yours in the Cause,
Anthony M. "Tony" Griffin

Lt. Commander-in-Chief
& Candidate for Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans



Lt Commander-in-Chief Candidacy Announcement Roy P. Hudson

It is with immense pride and a deep sense of purpose that I announce my intent to run for the esteemed office of Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief of The Sons of Confederate Veterans in 2026. My journey as your AOT Councilman has allowed me the privilege of traveling extensively throughout our Confederation, meeting so many of you and, most importantly, truly listening to your concerns. I am now ready, more than ever, to act decisively on those insights.

This decision to seek higher office was affirmed by the unwavering encouragement of compatriots from all three armies. I eagerly anticipate making formal announcements at our reunion in Houston, where I look forward to engaging in meaningful conversations with many of you.

We are part of a truly great organization, and I firmly believe we possess the potential not just to survive, but to truly thrive and grow even stronger! It's time for the SCV to boldly go on the offensive to attract new members and expand our reach, and I have a clear plan to accomplish just that. My vision for our future is rooted in a fundamental truth: the undeniable strength and vitality of the SCV lie within our local Camps. Therefore, I commit to dedicating every ounce of my authority and effort at the National Level to ensuring that all our actions and initiatives are squarely focused on empowering and supporting our Camps, providing them with the resources and guidance they need to succeed and flourish.

With your steadfast support and the help of God, I am confident that we will achieve remarkable success together.

I invite you to reach out to me directly at scvroyhudson@gmail.com with any questions or thoughts you may have. I look forward to hearing from you!

Deo Vindice
Roy P. Hudson

Candidate Announcement - Charles Lauret for Lt. CiC, 2026

"I, Charles E. Lauret, am officially announcing my candidacy for the position of Lieutenant Commander in Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the 131st Annual Reunion which will be held next year in Lexington, Kentucky. I am excited at the prospect of serving you and the Charge on the SCV national level and at a time when the man in charge of recruiting and retention is so vitally important in the face of dwindling numbers. Stepping up to take charge in these times when many historical and genealogical organizations are suffering similar membership issues is no small task. I am eager and excited to take on this challenge. I am asking you to put my experience and knowledge to work toward this goal as your Lt. CiC. I feel confident that with the men and talent we have, that working together we can not only stop this trend, but grow instead.



I am married to my wife of 33 years, Amy and we have three grown children and two grandchildren. I am a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and serve as Deputy Grand Knight in our Knights of Columbus Council. I am a Marine Corps Veteran, a retired law enforcement officer with over 28 years of service. I am a 2009 graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, having obtained a B.S. degree in Behavioral Science.

I have been a member of the SCV since 2000 and have since become a life member of both the SCV and the Louisiana Division. I originally joined as a member of the Bernard Eble HQ Camp in Louisiana and went straight to work helping to form the Gen. Alfred Mouton Camp #778 of Opelousas, La. Upon chartering, I served as 1st Lt. Commander and subsequently Commander, an office which I am currently acting in until elections in the fall. In addition to serving my Camp, I have also served the Louisiana Division. I have served as Commander of the Southwest Brigade, 1st Lt. Commander and then Commander 2008 to 2010. In 2010, I was appointed Chief Aide de Camp serving on CiC Givens's staff. From 2012 to 2016, I served as Councilman and Commander of the Army of Trans Mississippi. From 2016 to 2020, I had the distinct honor and privilege to serve in the appointed position of National Chief of Staff for Commanders in Chief Tom Strain and Paul Gramling. I also served as Chief of Staff of the Louisiana Division from 2018 to 2022. I served again as ATM Councilman from 2022 to 2024. My previous service on the General Executive Council for ten years was enriching and provided me with vast experience in the operation of our organization. I am proud to say that during my tenures in all of the aforementioned positions, I have cultivated and always had positive working relationships with fellow GEC members and members across the Confederation.



In choosing to run, I want to bring to the table a positive solutions-based approach to challenges we face, develop plans to continue the making of a larger footprint in the digital landscape, improve upon the efforts that increase visibility and fundraising for the Southern Heritage Center and all of its facilities. I have some great ideas that I look forward to sharing with you in the coming months. Just remember, the Lt. CiC is one person and one person cannot and should not fight this fight alone. It's going to take all of us and I want to be the man in that position to work with you and for you to capitalize on the promotional successes and programs we have seen over the last few years and to implement new and more successful ones. If you want someone with the success of the SCV and its future in mind, someone with a proven resume of dedication to service on all levels and someone ever mindful that all we do is for the honor of our illustrious Ancestors, I ask for your support in electing me as Lt. Commander in Chief in 2026." Charles Lauret Website: www.LAURET4DIXIE.com Contact: clauret.scv@gmail.com Facebook: Charles "SCV" Lauret/Instagram: [@Lauret4Dixie](https://www.instagram.com/@LAURET4DIXIE/X)

Monday and Thursday Nights @7:00 PM CT. Go to Facebook and look it up.

SOUVENIR 2026 KENTUCKY CAMPAIGN

131st Sons of Confederate Veterans

National Reunion

131scv.org



HOSTED BY THE KENTUCKY DIVISION BLUEGRASS BRIGADE



TO ALL SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, WHERESOEVER DISPERSED THROUGHOUT THIS BROAD LAND, AND GIVE YOU GREETING, FRATERNAL, AND KENTUCKY WELCOME TO OUR METROPOLIS OF THE SOUTH.

FOR FULL REUNION DETAILS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS, AND REUNION INFORMATION:

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JUST MINUTES FROM THE LEXINGTON AIRPORT!

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Griffin Gate Marriot

See the Marriot

Lexington, Kentucky - the heart of the Bluegrass!

We have reserved a select number of rooms - Monday & Tuesday nights are already near capacity. Consider staying at [The Beaumont Inn](#) in Harrodsburg, Kentucky (same group rates) and touring the nearby Perryville Battlefield early in the week.

Still plenty of available rooms - Thursday thru Saturday, but they are filling quickly. Reserve your rooms early.

If the hotel site will not easily accept your reservation - call 502-229-2925 and we will increase the number of available rooms.

131st Sons of Confederate Veterans National Reunion
Griffin Gate Resort and Conference Center Lexington, Kentucky
July 15-19, 2026



REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

SVC Camp Name _____ Camp # _____ State _____

Your Rank, Title or Position _____

Spouse Name (for name badge) _____

DATE:	TIME:	EVENT:	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
ALL		SCV Only Reunion Registration includes 1 Medal (All SCV Members must pay for Registration.) Early Registration at: Houston \$90/After Houston \$110) Registration Ends June 20, 2026	\$90.		
Sat July 11, 2026	5:00 pm	"Welcome to Kentucky!" BBQ No Charge . Please check for attending/how many			
Tues July 14, 2026	6:00 pm	Dinner- Battle of Richmond - Phil Seyfrit	\$85.		
Wed July 15, 2026	9am-5pm	Richmond Battlefield Tour - Lunch included	\$90.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	6:45-7:45	Chaplain's Breakfast	\$55.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	12:30-1:30	Heritage Luncheon	\$65.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	1:45-6 pm	Kentucky Military Museum Tour and Bourbon Tour	\$85.		
Fri July 17, 2026	6:45-7:45	History Breakfast	\$55.		
Fri July 17, 2026	12:15-1:30	SCV Awards Luncheon	\$65.		
Fri July 17, 2026	6:45-7:45	Mechanized Cavalry Breakfast	\$55.		
Sat July 18, 2026	6-7 pm	SCV Awards Banquet and Ball	\$130.		
		EXTRA Ancestor Memorial Ad (1 free with registration) to submit extra ancestor use the back of this form or separate sheet	\$10.		
		EXTRA Reunion Medal (note: 1 medal is included with registration)	\$35.		
		2026 Numbered (1-25) Reunion Medal (<i>This medal is NOT included with registration</i>)	\$110.		
		FINAL TOTAL - Registration Only _____ PAID _____ CHECK _____			
<i>Prices for Tours and Meals will be determined at a later date.</i>					

Make Check Payable to : 2026 SCV Reunion
 Mail to: Kentucky Bluegrass 2026 / Kris Hawkins
 P.O. Box 122 Harrodsburg, KY 40330

Fortunes of War



While deemed worthless by the end of the war, Confederate currency is much sought after these days. This is remarkable when compared to the days when bundles were put through guillotines and burnt in bonfires. Today, the phoenix has risen from the ashes and the Confederate dollar is now worth many times its original value. The problem is there are numerous fakes on the market and it's certainly a case of "buyer beware." Not only are the original notes much desired but even counterfeits, produced in the Union to destroy the Southern economy, are much desired by today's collectors. After all they passed through the hands of Southerners during the war and are a direct link with the past, plus there is the curiosity associated with their unique function. One authority says, "These fake notes, produced during the war, are easily distinguished due to the precise nature of their manufacture, altogether too neat and sharp with high quality paper and printing."

There are numerous good and bad fakes on the market of more modern production, highly illegal and while nice to look at are totally worthless. In America the Hobby Protection Act 1998 states, "An imitation numismatic item manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. for introduction into or distribution into commerce, shall be plainly and permanently marked 'Copy'." Unfortunately many facsimiles, notes and coins, do not comply with the Hobby Protection Act and most of these were printed in the 1950's and 1960's. On top of this issue is the blinkered effect of U.S. governance; to this day Confederate currency is considered as foreign currency. The worst example of the paper copies was printed by the Historical Document Company of Philadelphia. They also produce numerous fake posters such as the Billy the Kid Wanted notice printed on the same crisp brown parchment paper along with many civil war recruitment posters. The rule of thumb...if it's made from parchment paper it's a fake. I am not aware of any similar act in Australian or New Zealand law although I am sure it exists.

Sometimes the uninitiated buyer is hoodwinked into paying big dollars for what, on the surface, looks genuine. If it looks too good to be true it probably is. The experts report three significant ways to determine duds from true items and I will itemise them here. Collecting civil war currency, North or South, can be profitable and pleasurable, mainly because of nostalgia attached to this

period in history. Because of extreme rarity, Confederate currency is even more highly prized and some of the notes are handsomely engraved with delightful pastoral settings showing field hands working the cotton. They display the African American with dignity and pride and as much an inclusive representative of their Southern culture as leading political figures and Southern identities, like General Stonewall Jackson on the 500 dollar note. This denomination in itself is an interesting facet of the

times reflecting, as it does, roaring inflation, diminishing value of the currency and suffering economy of the South during the war. What we should ask is why did the South so often include the images of slaves on their banknotes? This does not fit the common misnomer of the South hating blacks. It appears the African American was indeed recognized for the significant role they played in building and sustaining the Southern economy.

With authenticity, confusion sometimes springs from innocent mistakes, such as those facsimiles never intended to be confused with the real thing. During the 1960's, numerous copies produced on crispy brown parchment paper were issued as a marketing tool to promote and mark the centenary and were obviously not intended to be passed off as real notes. Some were produced as chewing gum or breakfast cereal tokens, yet some ill-informed people think they are real, this displays a very poor knowledge of the era and is reflective of the general standard of history education in America today. However forgers are out there with criminal intent printing sometimes very shoddy forgeries and sometimes incredibly realistic. Recognizing these duds is essential if you intend spending good money on them.

1-First look at the cut of the note. The South was gold rich but cash strapped and could not access the necessary machinery to properly cut paper money in bulk or in a uniform shape and size. They resorted to hand cutting with scissors from a sheet of printed notes. Numbers and authority were signed individually by hand in ink later. This makes my \$50.00 banknote, signed by President Jeff Davis, very exciting but is it a fake? My daughter notes. Numbers and authority were signed individually by hand in ink later. This makes my \$50.00 banknote, signed by President Jeff Davis, very exciting but is it a fake? My daughter Lydia and son Rob bought it for me while we were visiting the Vicksburg Court House Museum. I have been able to cross check it with all available data and it comes through with shining colours. The same batch was later signed by someone else but it seems Davis signed a few of the first to come off the line. While the note is in very poor condition and has been burnt on its edges and sliced through on the left it stacks up in all the points set out here. The serial number is not amongst noted fake copies and the writing, while faded, has leaked through the paper. So eat your heart out brothers and sisters, I have the signature of Jeff Davis on my original, much weathered, Confederate bank note. (See signature above bottom right "For Treasurer.")



The result of hand cutting means that all true Confederate money should not have perfectly cut edges as you find in modern currency. Southern stamps were cut in the same fashion, like coupons. The above note is too neat to be original but I believe it is. Above (top) is a note in the Editor's collection that features President Jeff Davis' signature, "For The Treasurer" (Feb.1864.) Number stamped 21534. I have reproduced a similar note in pristine condition (Sept.1861) and you will notice the signature For Register varies from the other note in that it is less flamboyant. Also the 1861 note is numbered by hand 7107. It's difficult to ascertain whether the second note is genuine but the ink is the right colour in both examples. However the engraving is different in many aspects and is made from a different plate. Apart from the colour of the paper there are additional green stampings overlaying the words States of America (Fifty) (Dollars). This green colour is unusual and would make it difficult to forge. As it is an earlier note, perhaps by 1864 they lacked the resources to maintain that standard. Note the additional use of words in the left and right fly edge of the 1861 note they read "Fundable in 8 percent Stock or Bonds." "Of the Confederate States of America."

2-The type of paper is another indication of authenticity. Confederates were forced to use cheaper paper instead of the sturdier material used by the North. They used rice paper which is flimsy and thinner than modern currency. Some States, such as Texas, printed on papyrus during the war, so it's possible to find notes made of other bizarre materials but mostly the South used rice paper. Each State printed its own currency.

3-Now let's consider the ink used. The printed part of the note is a uniform black ink, real Confederate notes have hand written signatures and numbers as seen above. Some used a stamp for the numbers and some even used red ink. Usually the Treasurer had to

painstakingly sign each individual note so the signature should vary slightly on each note. The ink used was what is called 'iron gall ink' that isn't black like most of the fake notes that reveal a uniform ink colour over the entire note. It should be seen as a faded dark- brown as it does in both notes above. It started out as a dark blue/black but iron oxide results in the ink turning brown and bleeding through the note to become slightly visible on the reverse. Some notes stood the test of time well because of storage and may have resisted bleed through so this test is not absolute, however you should still be able to see bleed through on most legitimate notes with the aid of a magnifying glass.

One of many counterfeiters active during the war was American journalist, lyricist, merchant, bookkeeper, clerk, navy officer, prospector, and counterfeiter, during the late part of the 19th century, sometimes, known as "Honest Sam Upham." Sam is without doubt one of the most notorious of the counterfeiters and even ranks a posting on the FBI site but was never convicted of a crime. Sam Upham was a Philadelphia businessman who began at the start of the war by producing stationary such as writing paper and envelopes and various patriotic items to support the Union. Among his novelty items mocking the Confederacy were cards depicting the head of President Jefferson

Davis on the body of a donkey. In February 1862, he acquired a sample Confederate note and quickly started producing his own counterfeit notes and postage stamps.

His first printing consisted of 3,000 five-dollar notes, each

A founding father of crime, "Honest Sam Upham." He made fake notes that wrecked the Southern economy. Samuel Curtis Upham went on to compose a number of hymns and odes-Editor.

stamped at the bottom with the words, "Facsimile Confederate Note - Sold wholesale

and retail by S.C. Upham 403 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia." He sold his first batch for a penny per copy, then as they proved popular for 5 cents or 15 dollars a thousand. Cotton smugglers in the south quickly began buying Upham's novelty notes, trimming off the notice at the bottom and flooding the Confederate economy with the bogus bills. When Sam Upham discovered his notes were being used by profiteers as real notes he decided to cash in. Late in 1862 he began printing notes without his name and address and raised the price considerably. Eventually his actions were to virtually make Confederate money worthless and play a part in destroying the Southern economy and the progress of the war. He even produced a bill to the value of 20 thousand dollars and sold it for 5 dollars U.S. Years after the war Sam Upham claimed he had printed 1 ½ million bogus notes between 1862 and 1863. The impact on the Southern economy was catastrophic but greatly enriched Upham's coffers. He also bragged that President Jefferson Davis had offered a reward in gold for his capture, dead or alive. Upham's notes today, while fake, are worth as much as the authentic notes and in some cases much more.





Samuel Curtis Upham's first counterfeit note over printed in red ink. His name and address are seen along the bottom of the note. From small acorns big oak trees grow, he would end up producing 20 thousand dollar notes-Editor.

In later years Upham wrote lyrics for a number of hymns. He penned the words to Centennial ode. Song and chorus (1875), Columbia's centennial greeting, A cantata (1876), and The Old School House down by the Mill (1877). When Upham died of stomach cancer in 1885 a minor mystery ensued over the whereabouts of his wealth. He claimed to have sold upwards of \$50,000 worth of counterfeit notes during the war. The proceeds of his counterfeiting operation have never been found.

As a matter of contrast the first US legal tender ten dollar bills, known as "Greenbacks," looked exactly like demand notes or tokens that were in popular use at the time. While these early U.S. notes aren't as appealing as later issues, they are still popular among collectors, they will always command more money because President Abraham Lincoln is shown on the note. It can be from either 1862 or 1863.

Early American currency went through several stages of development in the Colonial, post-Revolutionary and War Between the States history of North America. Because few coins were minted in the 13 American Colonies in 1776, foreign coins, such as Spanish dollars, were widely used. Some Colonial governments issued paper money to facilitate economic activities but this was strictly regulated and controlled by Britain's Parliament that passed the Currency Acts in 1751, 1764 and 1773.

During and after the revolution, as Colonies became Independent States, they also revolted against British monetary regulations and issued enormous quantities of paper money to pay immediate military expenses. Continental Congress also issued paper money during the revolution, known as "Continental Currency," to fund the war effort, however both State and Continental currency quickly lost value and was practically worthless by the end of war. This depreciation was caused largely by the new American government over-printing in order to meet the demands of war but the money had no real value other than the paper it was printed on. These notes were known then as "Bills of Credit," they couldn't be exchanged for gold or silver coins. Usually issued to pay debts, they would then accept the same currency to pay taxes and in so doing remove them from circulation. Like the later Con-

the means, to remove the bills from circulation through taxation or the sale of bonds, the market was ultimately flooded.

Another problem was that British, like the later Union during the so called civil war, successfully waged economic warfare by counterfeiting Continentals on a large scale. Benjamin Franklin said later, "The artists they employed performed so well that immense quantities of these counterfeits issued from the British government in New York, were circulated among the inhabitants of all the states before the fraud was detected. This operated significantly in depreciating the whole mass." By May 1781, Continentals had become so worthless that they ceased to circulate as money. Franklin noted that the depreciation of the currency had in effect, acted as a tax to pay for the war. For this reason, Quakers, whose pacifism wouldn't permit them to pay war taxes, refused to use Continentals and at least one "Yearly Meeting" formally forbade its members from using the notes. In the 1790s, after the ratification of the United States Constitution, Continentals could be exchanged for Treasury Bonds at only 1% of face value.

The painful experience of runaway inflation and collapse of the Continental dollar prompted delegates to the Constitutional Convention to include a gold and silver clause in the Constitution so that individual States couldn't issue bills of credit for anything but gold or silver coin to pay debts. This restriction of bills of credit was extended to the Federal government, the power to "emit bills" from the Articles of Confederation was abolished, leaving Congress with the sole power "to borrow money on credit." Congress appointed Robert Morris "Superintendent of Finance of the United States," in 1782. Morris advocated the creation of the first financial institution chartered by the United States, the Bank of North America, funded in part by 'specie' loaned to the United States by France. Morris helped finance the final stages of the Revolutionary war by issuing notes in his name, backed by his own money. The Bank of North America also issued notes convertible into specie. It was Morris who also presided over the creation of the first mint that struck its first coins, the Nova Constellatio patterns of 1783 with its all seeing eye. You would want to have one of these in your collection. There are excellent copies available on the market.



Then came the War Between the States and "Greenbacks" appeared, they were paper currency printed in green ink on the back, first issued by the U.S. during the War Between the States. They were in two forms: Demand Notes, issued 1861–1862, and United States Notes issued 1862–1865. They were legal tender in law but not backed by gold or silver, United States was gold or silver coins and only such coins ("known as specie") were legal tender; that is, payment in that form had to be accepted. Paper currency in the form of banknotes was issued by privately owned banks; redeemable for 'specie' at the bank's office but they were not legal tender. Such notes had value only if the bank could be

counted on to redeem them. If the bank failed its banknotes failed and became worthless. National governments had in the past issued paper money and made it legal tender, but usually with at least the pretense that the notes would be redeemable for specie at some time. During the early 1800s, the U.S. issued interest-bearing Treasury Notes in various denominations. These were not legal tender, but could be used to pay customs duties.

When President Lincoln assumed office, he understood the importance of money for his war effort, with this in mind, he appointed Salmon P. Chase Secretary of the Treasury. Chase alone was authorized to act on all matters pertaining to the country's finances, yet like almost everyone at the time he underestimated the duration and cost of the war. Within a few months it was clear the war would run far beyond the government's limited income from tariffs and excises. So like the Revolutionary Government of Washington's time, the Lincoln Administration sought loans from major banks, mostly in New York of course. The banks demanded high interest rates of 24 to 36 percent; Lincoln refused to borrow on such terms and called for other cheaper solutions. When it came, the solution was in the



Salmon Portland Chase. He was competition for Republican nomination against Lincoln in 1860. Appointed Secretary of the Treasury, he put Lincoln on the Ten Dollar note but had his own image printed on the first One Dollar bill in 1862. A politician and jurist he became the 23rd Governor of his State Ohio-Editor.

Issuing paper money with no guarantee was not favoured by Lincoln but soon there was mounting pressure in Congress to do something. The government could either print its own money or go into deep perpetual debt to foreign creditors, so the President quickly endorsed Taylor's proposal. On 25 February 1862, Congress passed the first Legal Tender Act that authorized issuance of \$150 million in unbacked paper money. The face of the One Dollar note featured a portrait of the Treasurer and on the ten dollar note was Abraham Lincoln. The reverse of the notes were printed with green ink, and were thus called "Greenbacks" by the public, being considered equivalent to Demand Notes already known as such, issued by the United States to pay for labour and goods. Earlier, Secretary Chase had the slogan, "In God We Trust" engraved on U.S. coins. During a cabinet meeting there was discussion about also adding the slogan to U.S. notes. However Lincoln remarked, "If you are going to put a legend on the 'greenbacks,' I would suggest that of Peter and Paul, 'Silver and gold I have none, but such as I have I give to thee.'" This was poignant considering the dollar was not backed by gold or God, just the two people who adorned them.

California and Oregon defied the Legal Tender Act. Gold was more available on the West Coast and merchants in those States did not want to accept Greenbacks at face value and blacklisted people who tried to use them. California banks wouldn't accept Greenbacks for deposit and the State, desperate to become a Republic, would not accept them for payment of taxes. Both States ruled that Greenbacks were a violation of their State constitutions.

The U.S. government did what all governments do, they flooded the market and issued hundreds of millions in Greenbacks resulting in the decline of whatever value it had against gold. However substantial was the decline, it came nowhere near the destruction suffered by the Continental dollar which by this stage had given rise to the expression, "I wouldn't give a Continental", meaning, "I don't care, or I wouldn't pay a cent." In 1862, the Greenback reflected the 'fortunes of war' and had so rapidly declined against gold that by December gold was at a 29% premium. By spring of 1863 the Greenback declined even further, 152 against 100 dollars in gold. However, after the resounding victory at Gettysburg, the Yankee Greenback recovered to 131 dollars to 100 in gold. As Grant was making little progress against Lee in 1864 the dollar declined again because Lee was holding onto Richmond throughout most of the war. The Greenback's low point came in July of that year: 258 Greenbacks equalled 100 in gold. When the war ended in April 1865 the Greenback made another remarkable recovery to 150. To this day Americans still like their Greenbacks and are reluctant to have the smaller denomination issued in coins. Commemoration coins were issued but general currency still favours the folding One Dollar note perhaps because of the tipping regime-Editor R. Taylor.

Sources:

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NB: For a detailed account of known fake notes and serial numbers please see the ACWRTQ Bugle International Dropbox. More on Confederate currency visit Dropbox for Bugle12 page 5, Bugle 13 page 4, Bugle 16 page 2, Bugle22 page 7, Bugle 25 page 12. Also see website <http://www.csanotes.co>



THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS

The truth about the South's struggle to form a new nation is under attack as never before. The National Battlefield Parks have been taken over by the "it's all about slavery" provocateurs. Museums have changed their collections and interpretations to present what they call the cultural history of the War for Southern Independence. In reality this new perspective is nothing more than South bashing. The forces of political correctness have gone into high gear. They attempt to ban any and all things Confederate through their ideological fascism.

There needs to be at least one place where the people of the South and others can go to learn an accurate account of why so many struggled so long in their attempt to reassert government by the consent of the governed in America!

The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. At the SCV Reunion in July of 2009 the GEC set up a building fund for this purpose. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media.

These plans have now become a reality. The ground breaking has taken place and the museum is now open.

Take this journey with us and support the museum as a donor or join the Friends of the Museum today!

Send Donations to:
 Sons of Confederate Veterans
 Attn: National Confederate Museum
 P.O. Box 59
 Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.

www.theconfederatemuseum.com

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Nevertheless, detractors of the South are too quick to issue blanket condemnations of the Civil War era southern people. Most people in that day did not step outside of their respective situation to objectively evaluate the issues like 21st century armchair quarterbacks can do. What most southern families were focused on were

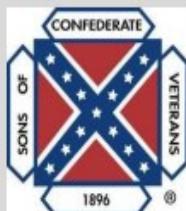
the Union armies moving through their lands.

It's time for us to recognize that the South was wrong, but to also recognize that the southern people of that day paid dearly for being wrong. And, as Lincoln pointed out, the North paid a high price too. Why? Because the North was far from innocent in the nation's culpability with slavery.

Perhaps the best lesson or call to action that Americans today can take from the Civil War is found in the words of the Confederacy's leading hero. Following the surrender of his army, General Robert E. Lee said: "I believe it to be the duty of everyone to unite in the restoration of the country and the reestablishment of peace and harmony."

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

"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."



LT. GENERAL STEPHEN DILL LEE, COMMANDER GENERAL,
UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 25, 1906.