



Fighting Joe Wheeler
Camp 1372

The Fighting **Joe Wheeler** Dispatch

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The Next Camp Meeting will be at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, March 10, 2009
at the New Merkel House

This Month's Speaker: To Be Announced

Words of Wisdom

"The future inhabitants of [both] the Atlantic and Mississippi states will be our sons. We think we see their happiness in their union, and we wish it. Events may prove otherwise; and if they see their interest in separating why should we take sides? God bless them both, and keep them in union if it be for their good, but separate them if it be better."

Thomas Jefferson

"Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people, who have a right, from the frame of their nature, to knowledge, as their great Creator, who does nothing in vain, has given them understandings, and a desire to know; but besides this, they have a right, an indisputable, unalienable, indefeasible, divine right to that most dreaded and envied kind of knowledge; I mean, of the characters and conduct of their rulers." **John Adams** (Dissertation on Canon and Feudal Law, 1765)

"It is the duty of every man to render to the Creator such homage, and such only, as he believes to be acceptable to him. This duty is precedent both in order of time and degree of obligation, to the claims of Civil Society. Before any man can be considered as a member of Civil Society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe." **James Madison** (A Memorial and Remonstrance, 1785)

"The war has been a godsend for newspaperdom. The more extraordinary were the stories that were told by the venal and corrupt newspapers, the more greedily were they devoured by the craving and prurient multitude...without the least regard for the truth...Such is the stuff of which a good deal of Yankee histories of the late war will be made"

Admiral Raphael Semmes, CSS Alabama

"Those who submit to such consequence without resistance are not worthy the liberties and rights to which they were born, and deserve to be made slaves. Such must be the verdict of mankind." **Pres. Jefferson Davis**

**Sign up for the Wheeler Camp Message Board and receive
"The Dispatch" by e-mail.**

Contact Compatriot Mike Little at cdr_mike_little@bellsouth.net

Alabama: We Dare Defend Our Rights

"The principal for which we contended is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form."

Jefferson Davis, May 1865

Commander's Report

Compatriots,

Looking back at the recent activities, I am pleased to report on the AOT meeting held 2-21-'09 at the New Merkle House and hosted by The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp 1372. A very good presentation was made by the camp. The members that showed up to serve the cause did an outstanding job. The house was cleaned and prepared for the meeting, the food was provided by the camp, clean up after the event was taken care of, and a show of professional and caring hospitality was displayed by the camp members. All comments were favorable and I can say we made Robert Reames and ourselves proud. We had folks from all over the Confederation and beyond attend, from the deep south to Indiana and the Carolina's. Thanks to all that put in the long hours to support this effort. Good job!

We have the upcoming Confederate Memorial Day Service at Elmwood on April 26th. This is the largest and most prominent event the camp puts on during the year. We need to have a clean up day on Saturday, 4-18, and a bad weather follow-up date on the 25th. Clean up means; weed eat, trim, clean headstones, spread marble chips, cut grass and pick up trash. We need all camp members to support this effort. We get a lot of publicity from this event and want it to be positive. Please sign up at the next meeting to help clean up, and attend the event to honor those that served before us.

We have done a good job of following up on lost camp members and have added new members. We need to get back to where the Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp has been in the past in membership numbers. The quality of the current camp members is outstanding. Please bring a friend to a camp meeting and spread the word on what Camp 1372 is all about.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the next camp meeting on 3-10-09. Please remember your Confederate heritage, and the memory of our ancestors.

Thank you,
Hank Arnold
Commander



Cadet Membership Program

The Fighting Joe Wheeler Camp is now accepting new recruits, ages 0-12, into our ranks as Cadets.

This is an excellent way to get young men interested in the SCV, and more importantly, their Heritage.

The cost is \$10.00 Annually.

With their membership they will receive a Certificate of membership bearing their ancestors' name, and their own newsletter.

See 1st Lt. Commander Carl Jones for membership applications at the next meeting, or you can download them from the SCV website at www.SCV.org.

Lt. General Joseph Wheeler Scholarship Program

The Alabama Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans has voted to approve three \$1,500.00 college scholarships per year.

This is a great way to help offset the cost of sending your son or daughter to college.

Details of the program can be found on the Division website at www.aladivscv.com

Other Programs of Interest in the Alabama Division

- Alabama Guardian Program
- Alabama Division Reunion Planning Guide
- I-65 Retired Flag Program
- Stonewall Jackson Memorial fund
- Sam Davis Youth Camp

Information concerning all of these programs can be found at the Alabama Division Website:
www.aladivscv.com

Saturday, February 7, 2009

SCV Car in Daytona Race

James Hylton, 74, gives Daytona 500 a final go

Steven Cole Smith
February 6, 2009

James Hylton was driving more than 174 mph at Daytona International Speedway, which, you would think, isn't bad for a 74-year-old. You'd be wrong. "We've got to pick it up some," Hylton said. "I think I can go a lot faster than that."

This afternoon, Hylton will try to qualify for Saturday's Lucas Oil Slick Mist 200, the ARCA season opener. But it is just a warm-up for Hylton, who will be back next week to try and qualify for the Daytona 500.

Hylton has run 601 NASCAR Sprint Cup races, and he hopes to make that 602 if his EM Motorsports team can get him in the Daytona 500. He nearly qualified in 2007, sat it out in 2008, and he's back for one more try. Hylton is celebrating his 50th year in NASCAR, starting out in 1959 as a mechanic for Rex White.

In December, Hylton brought a 2005 Ford Taurus to ARCA practice at Daytona, "and I kind of wish I had that car here," he said. "But this one will be fine." He wasn't expecting to drive in the ARCA race — at the December practice, his driver was Leilani Munter, 32-year-old racer and model and former Indy Pro Series driver. "But she wasn't able to get a sponsor," Hylton said, "so here I am."

Hylton's ARCA car is sponsored by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a Tennessee-based group made up of "male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces," according to the organization's rules

SCV Telegraph
News for SCV members

CRITIQUE ON SCV AND PBS LOOKING FOR LINCOLN

By J. A. Davis, Chairman, SCV Public Relations and Media Committee
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After purposely waiting a couple of days for reports and reactions to the initial showing of "Looking For Lincoln" on PBS, we have now been able to put a critique together.

Much of what is incorporated herein results from a combination of comments received from friends and SCV members, as well as pouring over more than a hundred newspapers and broadcast operations. These include major market high circulation dailies such as stories in the New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, The Denver Post, and the Associated Press.

All of these media sources referred to the Sons of Confederate Veterans in a positive way.

Perhaps the SCV participation is best summed up by the venerable retired magazine editor and author of The South Under Siege, Frank Conner. In his message to me, he said:

"I watched the show last night, and was surprised and impressed. I thought the flavor of the show's presentation of the SCV was spot-on. I can't remember ever seeing anything else on TV that presented the organization in such a favorable light."

Here is a summary of some of the important milestones we reached in our quest to build the best public image of the SCV possible.

We not only appeared on our first nationwide network style documentary, we participated in the planning of the overall project beginning almost a year ago.

Complete audience ratings are not in yet however, it is safe to say it is in the millions.

The newspaper, radio and TV coverage was nationwide, covering many millions of readers and viewers. Far more by many times than any project in our history. For the first time in memory, almost all the coverage was positive. In the rare worst case it was neutral and not negative.

Our flags and symbols were prominent. If every one of us went out flagging for a whole day we couldn't have nearly shown our colors to as many as the millions watching. Our people were shown well dressed, with attractive personalities and articulate messages including delegates in the scenes at the reunion.

The program was originally scheduled for four hours in two parts. Because of the economy it was scaled back to two hours. Our original plans were based on much longer segments with adequate time to develop positions. We shot our interviews for about five hours, realizing they would be edited. Note that Dr. Skip Gates, the host-producer, kept his agreement with us to let our spokes people go without a lot of interruption or argument.

When we added the coverage of the presentation to the Weary Clyburn family at the reunion, which cut further into our interview time, meaning for one meaningful feature we sacrificed some great commentary by Jim Dean, Brag Bowling and Don Shelton. Still, they did well though editing for the time squeeze negated some of their best lines.

Another important element of this event is the possibility that other producers will now realize the Sons of Confederate Veterans have an important place in public discussion. A brick wall of quasi censorship may have been cracked. For those who might believe we didn't get enough interview time, you may have a point. Keep in mind, this was not an exclusive SCV program and we were there on a shared time basis with many others.

One other point to consider is that during our interview time, we got in some good licks. If you think about it, some of the best quotes of all time are about ten seconds. This is very true of television. Think also what the cost of a 30 second spot to a premiere national audience would be.

By proper planning and coordination the SCV, developed certain understandings that were faithfully observed by the producers, Ark Productions of Brooklyn, NY. This resulted in a spirit of cooperative management of who, what, when, where and how we would be included.

The bottom line is the program attacked the Lincoln myth and presented so many of the negatives in Lincoln's life that have been avoided by historians for years. This includes some who appeared on the program and now exposed by having to admit there is a Lincoln "myth".

They also chide each other for not viewing history in light of the times, rather than viewing it, as they often do, as if the events were today.

The program further gives us an opportunity to see to it that it is and used by schools throughout the country to help overcome the problem of children being misled on the life of Lincoln and the causes of the War Between the States. It also serves as an introduction to the Sons of Confederate Veterans by the SCV being portrayed in a favorable light. Dr. Gates has assured me he wholeheartedly endorses this idea. In his case, he has convinced me he is interested in the truth as defined in the program, though he continues as a devoted Lincoln fan, blemishes and all.

Who would have believed that the SCV would have so advanced The Charge on the occasion of Lincoln's 200th birthday? I think General S. D. Lee would be proud of us.

Who would believe that our entire budget was zero?

Finally, our committee would like to thank the SCV executive leadership covering two administrations for the constant support and encouragement we have been given.

We continue to welcome the input our compatriots.

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