

Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569
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Honoring the Gray

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Commander's Comments

A New Year is upon us, and the Brigadier General Micah Jenkins Camp will be gearing up for 2013.

First off the South Carolina Division Leadership Conference will be held again this year in Irmo, SC at Saluda Shoals Park at the River Center on February 9th. The event will begin at 8:00am and last until 4:00pm. Several members of the camp are planning to attend including myself. If anyone would like to come we are making plans to carpool to the event, all are welcome.

Secondly we are currently looking for a location for a cemetery "clean up" project for either late February or early March. The executive council will be bringing recommendations so we can discuss them at our February meeting.

Lastly, please remember your compatriots who are currently experiencing some health problems. Consider taking time and giving them a call or drop by for a visit to check on them and express to them how much they are missed.

Your Humble & Obedient Servant
Brad Blackmon, Commander

Compatriots of the SC Division

It is time to mark your calendars for the annual SC Division Leadership Conference. The 2013 Conference will be held in Irmo, SC at Saluda Shoals Park at the River Center (same location as last year). The dates for this coming years Conference will be on the 9th of February. The event will begin at 8:00am and last until 4:00pm. Dinner will be served mid-day and the event is at no cost to current SC Division members. Plan to join us for a day of leadership building and camaraderie.

Please click on this link for the registration form.
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHk3Vl9sZTY3Q2F6TXc4ODAyUVpTMVE6MA#gid=0>

Camp Meeting

Tuesday, February 12th 2013

Regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 PM at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant at 2124 Celanese Rd, Rock Hill, SC
 Come early join the fellowship and eat.

Our speaker for February will be, Daryl Hardwick. His subject will be "Female Spies of the CSA".

1st Lt Commander's Comments

Patriotism and Things that go Bump in the Night

The word *patriotism* is a word that unfortunately is seldom used in this modern day and age. This word came about in the early 1700's when America was in its earliest stages. '*Patriotism*' means; love for or devotion to one's country.

Patrick Henry, a true American patriot, proclaimed his timeless cry "Give me liberty or give me death," and faced losing his freedom. Without reservation or fear Patrick Henry would rather be put to death than not live free in his beloved America.

Wouldn't you think that a Rock Hill store owner who makes his living selling patriotic memorabilia would know the definition of the word '*patriotism*' and want to live up to the standards of those who used the very same materials that he is now selling?

Throughout the centuries patriotism remained strong in America as its people united with their commander in chief through America's many trials and wars such as our own War of Northern Aggression. Just as Americans stood strong during the Revolutionary War, World War I and World War II, Southerners banded together and stood strong in unity and in their love for their country.

We have come to a time and place in history where it is no longer politically correct to be patriotic and to acknowledge our brave, patriotic comrades who fought a tyrannical government. As living proof of this, how easily this Rock Hill store owner cowered down, relented, and shied away from history and patriotism simply because one of the 'politically correct newspapers' supposedly threatened. And all this happened simply because he used the banner of the Confederacy in his advertisement.

Patriotism is slipping away, my fellow compatriots, it is slipping away before our very eyes. And it is being replaced by cowardice and national socialism. And who is making that replacement happen? A band of people whose sole purpose is to enslave you and me.

Bucky Sutton
1st Lt Commander

Honoring the Gray

Do you have an article you would like to see in the the newsletter?

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at jenkinsscv@yahoo.com or call Jerry at 803-327-2834. Articles may be funny or serious as long as it reflects the ideals and purpose of the SCV. Please limit the size of articles for mailing purposes.



Prayer Closet

- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders - they seem to have lost all concern for the people. Continue to pray for our country. We are in very troubling times.
- Please keep Mike Short on your prayer list. Mike has had some medical problems and his dad Charlie recently passed away.
- Please keep Vernon Terry on your prayer list.
- Please keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah to your prayer list. She has been in the hospital.
- Please continue to keep Laddie's mother (Clara Parrish) on your prayer list.
- Please keep Dan Sipe on your prayer list. Dan is still having problems from back surgery.
- Please keep Ray Baker on your prayer list. Ray continues to have medical problems with his heart and back.
- Please keep Wayne Conner to your list. Wayne recently had knee replacement surgery.
- Please continue to pray for the SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

Camp Chaplain,
Larry Gregory

From the Chaplain

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Larry Gregory. Larry can be contacted by phone (803-324-7438) or by email (poppyg@comporium.net).

Time Line February 1863

Feb 1st - Naval assault on Ft. McAllister, Georgia

Feb 3rd - The French offer to mediate the War. The Union ram Queen of the West sails past Vicksburg to disrupt Confederate shipping. After being hit 12 times by artillery, she rams the Confederate ship City of Vicksburg.

Feb 5th - Federal General Joseph Hooker reorganizes the Army of the Potomac appointing J. F. Reynolds, Darius Couch, Dan Sickles, George Meade, John Sedgwick, W. F. Smith, Franz Sigel and Henry Slocum in command of individual corps. George Stoneman is named his cavalry chief. Smith's Ninth Corps is assigned to Newport News to increase pressure on Richmond

Feb 6th - William Seward informs Minister Mecier that the French offer to mediate the Civil War had been rejected by the United States

Feb 12th - West Virginia's constitutional convention reconvenes following Congress's request that certain wording (about slaves) be modified. Federal ships including the Queen of the West take more than \$2 million in cargo in a single day on the Mississippi, Red, and White Rivers and the clipper ship Jacob Bell in the Caribbean

Feb 14th - Queen of the West runs aground on the Red River. It is abandoned.

Feb 16th - U. S. Senate passes the Conscription Act
Feb 17th - General Grant rescinds the order halting publication of the Chicago Times as a "copperhead" paper

Feb 18th - A Democrat Convention in Richmond, Kentucky, is broken up by federal authorities because some members were pro-Confederate

Feb 25th - Major General Daniel Harvey Hill assumes command of all North Carolina forces

Feb 26th - The National Currency Act was signed into law by President Lincoln, creating a national banking system, a Currency Bureau and the office of Comptroller of the Currency. The act's goal was to establish a single currency. The Cherokee Nation rescinds its declaration of secession and abolished slavery, reversing its earlier course.

Feb 28th - At Ft. McAllister, federal gunships including the ironclad U. S. S. Montauk moved up the Ogeechee River to destroy the Rattlesnake, a Confederate privateer also known as the Nashville before it was decommissioned.

<http://bgmicahjenkins.org/>

If you haven't checked out the Micah Jenkins Camp web site recently, now is a good time. Our Web Master, Chris Brown, has done a great job and redesigned it. It is still a work in process and will always be to keep it updated.

Spring is Around the Corner

Winter isn't done yet, but it will soon be warm again and we will all come out of hibernation. A cemetery cleanup project is being scheduled. It's time to renew our commitment to honor our ancestors.

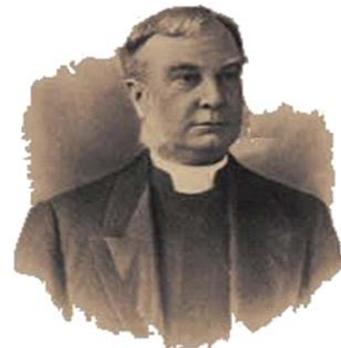
I know it's early yet, but before we know it, Confederate Memorial Day will be here. We need to start planning on how we can make this our best year yet. And let us not forget, Confederate Memorial Day in Columbia in May. It would be good to have more members join in the march from the cemetery to the capitol.

We need more members to be more active in the Camp. How can you step-up and do more to honor your ancestor?

*Jerry Brown
2nd Lt Commander*

Famous Quotes

"We must forevermore do honor to our heroic dead. We must forevermore cherish the sacred memories of those four terrible but glorious years of unequal strife. We must forevermore consecrate in our hearts our old battle flag of the Southern Cross – not now as a political symbol, but as the consecrated emblem of an heroic epoch. The people that forgets its heroic dead is already dying at the heart, and we believe we shall be truer and better citizens of the United States if we are true to our past."-Rev. Randolph Harrison McKim (Confederate Veteran)



Stonewall Jackson Oversees a Great Battle...

Two back-to-back snowstorms in February of 1863 provided the ammunition for a friendly snowball battle amongst rival divisions of Confederate troops near Fredericksburg, Virginia. On February 19, eight inches of snow fell on the region. Two days later, nine inches of snow fell. On February 25, sunny skies and mild temperatures softened the deep snow cover, providing ideal conditions for making snowballs.

Friendly rivalries between the Confederate brigades and regiments helped spark a huge snowball battle near Rappahannock Academy in which approximately 10,000 Confederate soldiers participated. One soldier who participated in the snowball battle described it as one of the most memorable combats of the war.”

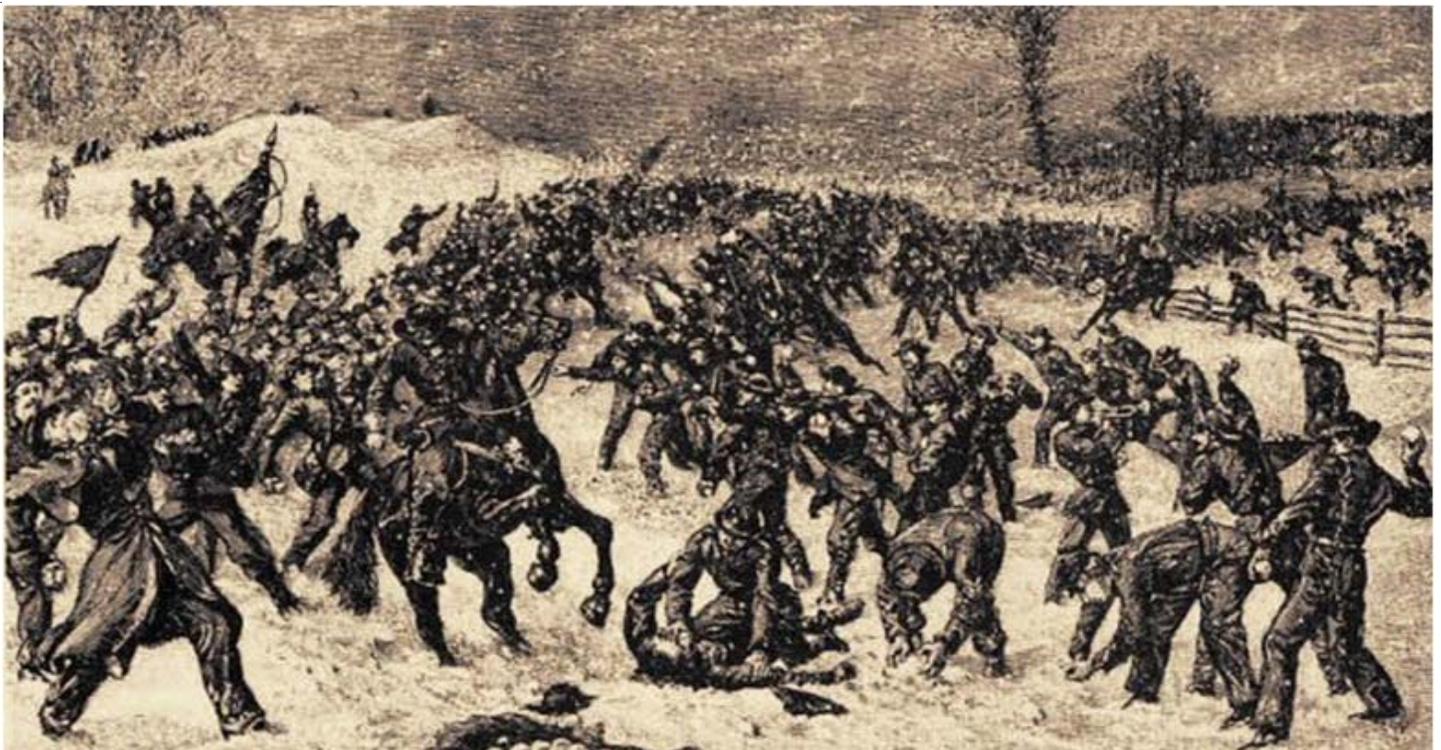
The battle started on the morning of February 25, 1863, when General Hoke’s North Carolina soldiers marched towards Colonel Stiles’ camp of Georgians, with the intent of capturing the camp using only snowballs. The attacking force, composed of infantry, cavalry and skirmishers, moved in swiftly. Battle lines formed and the fight began with “severe pelting” of snowballs. Reinforcements arrived from all sides to assist the brigade under attack. Even the employees of the commissary joined the snowball battle. Soon, the attacking soldiers were pushed back.

Colonel Stiles then held a Council of War on how best to attack the retreating force. He decided to organize his men and march directly into their camp, with snowballs in hand. When Stile’s forces finally arrived in Hoke’s camp, they were quite surprised to find that their adversaries had rallied and filled their haversacks to the top with snowballs. This allowed Hoke’s soldiers to provide an endless barrage of snowballs “without the need to reload.”

The attacking force was quickly overwhelmed and many of their soldiers were captured and “white-washed” with snow. The snowball battle came to an end and both brigades settled back into their respective camps. The captured prisoners were quickly paroled and returned to their camp, to much heckling from fellow soldiers. It was noted that General Stonewall Jackson had witnessed the snowball battle. One soldier remarked that he had wished Jackson and staff had joined the fight so he could have thrown a snowball at “the old faded uniforms.”

The weather turned mild and rainy in the following days. Other snowball battles were documented during the Civil War – including a snowball fight at Dalton, Georgia – but The Snowball Battle of Rappahannock Academy was unique in size, strategy and ample snow cover. The depth of the snow cover on the day of the battle was documented in a soldier’s diary to be 12 inches.

Source: This is an excerpt from the book Washington Weather



Conscription (Military Draft) In The Civil War

There was no general military draft in America until the Civil War. The Confederacy passed its first of 3 conscription acts 16 April 1862, and scarcely a year later the Union began conscripting men. Government officials plagued with manpower shortages regarded drafting as the only means of sustaining an effective army and hoped it would spur voluntary enlistments.

But compulsory service embittered the public, who considered it an infringement on individual free will and personal liberty and feared it would concentrate arbitrary power in the military. Believing with some justification that unwilling soldiers made poor fighting men, volunteer soldiers despised conscripts. Conscription also undercut morale, as soldiers complained that it compromised voluntary enlistments and appeared as an act of desperation in the face of repeated military defeats.

Conscription nurtured substitutes, bounty-jumping, and desertion. Charges of class discrimination were leveled against both Confederate and Union draft laws since exemption and commutation clauses allowed propertied men to avoid service, thus laying the burden on immigrants and men with few resources. Occupational, only-son, and medical exemptions created many loopholes in the laws. Doctors certified healthy men unfit for duty, while some physically or mentally deficient conscripts went to the front after sham examinations. Enforcement presented obstacles of its own; many conscripts simply failed to report for duty. Several states challenged the draft's legality, trying to block it and arguing over the quota system. Unpopular, unwieldy, and unfair, conscription raised more discontent than soldiers.

Under the Union draft act men faced the possibility of conscription in July 1863 and in Mar., July, and Dec. 1864. Draft riots ensued, notably in New York in 1863. Of the 249,259 18-to-35-year-old men whose names were drawn, only about 6% served, the rest paying commutation or hiring a substitute.

The first Confederate conscription law also applied to men between 18 and 35, providing for substitution (repealed Dec. 1863) and exemptions. A revision, approved 27 Sept. 1862, raised the age to 45; 5 days later the legislators passed the expanded Exemption Act. The Conscription Act of Feb. 1864 called all men between 17 and 50. Conscripts accounted for one-fourth to one-third of the Confederate armies east of the Mississippi between Apr. 1864 and early 1865.

Source: "Historical Times Encyclopedia of the Civil War" Edited by Patricia L. Faust

Blacks Who Fought For the South

Most historical accounts portray Southern blacks as anxiously awaiting President Abraham Lincoln's "liberty-dispensing troops" marching south in the War Between the States. But there's more to the story; let's look at it.

Black Confederate military units, both as freemen and slaves, fought federal troops. Louisiana free blacks gave their reason for fighting in a letter written to New Orleans' Daily Delta: "The free colored population love their home, their property, their own slaves and recognize no other country than Louisiana, and are ready to shed their blood for her defense. They have no sympathy for Abolitionism; no love for the North, but they have plenty for Louisiana. They will fight for her in 1861 as they fought in 1814-15." As to bravery, one black scolded the commanding general of the state militia, saying, "Pardon me, general, but the only cowardly blood we have got in our veins is the white blood."

Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest had slaves and freemen serving in units under his command. After the war, Forrest said of the black men who served under him, "These boys stayed with me.. - and better Confederates did not live." Articles in "Black Southerners in Gray," edited by Richard Rollins, gives numerous accounts of blacks serving as fighting men or servants in every battle from Gettysburg to Vicksburg.

Professor Ed Smith, director of American Studies at American University, says Stonewall Jackson had 3,000 fully equipped black troops scattered throughout his corps at Antietam - the war's bloodiest battle. Mr. Smith calculates that between 60,000 and 93,000 blacks served the Confederacy in some capacity. They fought for the same reason they fought in previous wars and wars afterward: "to position themselves. They had to prove they were patriots in the hope the future would be better ... they hoped to be rewarded."

Many knew Lincoln had little love for enslaved blacks and didn't wage war against the South for their benefit. Lincoln made that plain, saying, "I will say, then, that I am not, nor have ever been in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races ... I am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race." The very words of his 1863 Emancipation Proclamation revealed his deceit and cunning; it freed those slaves held "within any State or designated part of a State the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States." It didn't apply to slaves in West Virginia and areas and states not in rebellion. Like Gen. Ulysses Grant's slaves, they had to wait for the 13th Amendment, Grant explained why he didn't free his slaves earlier, saying, "Good help is so hard to come by these days."

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Edmund Kirby Smith (May 16, 1824 – March 28, 1893)

Edmund Smith was a career United States Army officer and educator. He served as a general in the Confederate States Army during the War, notable for his command of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederacy after the fall of Vicksburg.

Smith was born in St. Augustine, Florida, to Joseph Lee Smith and Frances Kirby Smith. Both his parents were natives of Connecticut, and moved to Florida in 1821 shortly before the elder Smith was named a U.S. District Judge there. In 1836, his parents sent him to a military boarding school in Virginia. On July 1, 1841, Smith entered West Point and graduated four years later, standing 25th out of 41 cadets. While there he was nicknamed "Seminole" after his native state, and brevetted a second lieutenant in the 5th U.S. Infantry on July 1, 1845. He was promoted to second lieutenant on August 22, 1846, now serving in the 7th U.S. Infantry.

In the Mexican-American War he served under General Zachary Taylor at the Battle of Palo Alto and the Battle of Resaca de la Palma. He served under General Winfield Scott later, and received brevet promotions to first lieutenant for Cerro Gordo and to captain for Contreras and Churubusco. His older brother, Ephraim Kirby Smith, a captain in the regular army, served with him in the 5th U.S. Infantry in both the campaign with Taylor and Scott, until he died from wounds suffered at the Battle of Molino del Rey in 1847.

After that war, he served as a captain (from 1855) in the 2nd U.S. Cavalry, primarily in Texas, but he also taught mathematics at West Point and was wounded in his thigh on May 13, 1859, fighting Indians in the Nescutung Valley of Texas. When Texas seceded, Smith, now a major, refused to surrender his command at Camp Colorado in what is now Coleman, Texas, to the Texas State forces under Col. Benjamin McCulloch and expressed his willingness to fight to hold it. On January 31, 1861, Smith was promoted to major, but resigned his commission in the U.S. Army on April 6 to join the Confederacy.

On March 16, 1861, Smith entered the Confederate forces as a major in the regular artillery, and was transferred to the regular cavalry that same day with the rank of lieutenant colonel. After serving briefly as Brig. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's assistant adjutant general in the Shenandoah Valley, Smith was promoted to brigadier general on June 17, 1861, and given command of a brigade in the Army of the Shenandoah, which he led at the First Battle of Bull Run on July 21. Wounded severely in the neck and shoulder, he recuperated while commanding the Department of Middle and East Florida. He returned to duty on October 11 as a major general and division commander in the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia, operating in northern Virginia.

In February 1862, Smith was sent west to command the Army of East Tennessee. Cooperating with Gen. Braxton Bragg in the invasion of Kentucky, he scored a victory at the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky on August 30, 1862, and was named on October 9 to the newly created grade of lieutenant general, becoming a corps commander in the Army of Tennessee. Smith would also receive the Confederate "Thanks of Congress" on February 17, 1864, for his actions at Richmond.

On January 14, 1863, Smith was transferred to command the Trans-Mississippi Department (primarily Arkansas, Western Louisiana, and Texas) and he remained west of the Mississippi River for the balance of the war, based part of this time in Shreveport, Louisiana. As forces under Union Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant tightened their grip on the river, Smith attempted to intervene. However, his department never had more than 30,000 men stationed over an immense area and he was not able to concentrate forces adequately to challenge Grant nor the Union Navy on the river.

Following the Union capture of the remaining strongholds at Vicksburg and Port Hudson and the closing of the Mississippi, he was virtually cut off from the Confederate capital at Richmond and was confronted with the command of a virtually independent area of the Confederacy, with all of its inherent administrative problems. The area became known in the Confederacy as "Kirby Smithdom".

Kirby Smith resided in Shreveport during the Red River Campaign of 1864. In the spring of 1864, Lt. Gen. Richard Taylor, directly under Smith's command, soundly defeated Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks at the Battle of Mansfield in the Red River Campaign on April 8, 1864. After the Battle of Pleasant Hill on April 9, Smith joined Taylor and dispatched half of Taylor's Army, Walker's Greyhounds, under the command of Maj. Gen. John George Walker northward to defeat Union Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele's incursion into Arkansas. This decision, strongly opposed by Taylor, caused great enmity between the two men.

With the pressure relieved, Smith attempted to send reinforcements east of the Mississippi but, as in the case of his earlier attempts to relieve Vicksburg, it proved impracticable because of Union naval control of the river. Instead he dispatched Maj. Gen. Sterling Price, with all available cavalry, on an unsuccessful invasion of Missouri. Thereafter the war west of the river was principally one of small raids and guerrilla activity. By now a full general (as of February 19, 1864, one of only seven such men in the Confederacy), he negotiated the surrender of his department—the only significant Confederate field army left—on May 26, 1865, and signed the terms of

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Edmund Kirby Smith (continued)

surrender in Galveston, Texas, on June 2, whence he fled to Mexico and then to Cuba to escape potential prosecution for treason. He returned to take an oath of amnesty at Lynchburg, Virginia, on November 14, 1865.

In August 1861, Kirby Smith met Cassie Selden (1836-1905), the daughter of Samuel S. Selden of Lynchburg, Virginia. Kirby Smith was recovering from being wounded at the First Battle of Manassas, but still found time for wooing - they were married on September 24. Cassie wrote on October 10, 1862 from Lynchburg, Virginia asking what to name their first child. Cassie suggested "something uncommon as I consider her an uncommon baby." The new baby was later named Caroline.

The couple briefly reunited when Cassie followed her husband to Shreveport February 1863. In the spring of 1864 she moved to Hempstead, Texas where she was to remain for the duration of the war. After the war's end, Cassie traveled to Washington to secure permission for her husband's return to the United States. In Sewanee, Tennessee, the Kirby Smiths lived happily. They had five sons and six daughters, Caroline, Frances, Edmund, Lydia, Nina, Elizabeth, Reynold, William, Josephine, Joseph, and Ephraim.

After the war, Kirby Smith was active in the telegraph business and education. From 1866 to 1868, he was president of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company. When that effort ended in failure, he started a preparatory school in New Castle, Kentucky. In 1870, he combined efforts with former Confederate general officer Bushrod Johnson and became president of the University of Nashville. In 1875, he left that post to become professor of mathematics at the University of the South at Sewanee from 1875 to 1893, when he died of pneumonia. At the time of his death in Sewanee,

he was the last surviving man who had been a full general in the war. He is buried in the University Cemetery at Sewanee.

A dormitory building on the campus of LSU in Baton Rouge is named Kirby-Smith Hall. The state of Florida erected a statue honoring General Smith in the National Statuary Hall Collection of the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. He is memorialized (as Edmund Kirby-Smith) at Sewanee by the Kirby-Smith Memorial on University Avenue, by Kirby-Smith Point on the edge of the South Cumberland Mountains on the University Domain, and in the naming of the Kirby-Smith Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy at Sewanee, and in the naming of the Kirby-Smith Camp 1209, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Kirby Smith Middle School, both in Jacksonville, Florida. The Alachua County Public Schools administrative building, which was built in 1903, is named for Kirby-Smith.

He is memorialized with a tablet and in a stained-glass window at the university's All Saints Chapel, and in a painting in the university's Jessie Ball du Pont Library and in a painting in the Chapter Room of the Tennessee Omega Chapter of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity House. During World War II the 422-foot Liberty Ship SS E. Kirby Smith was built in Panama City, Florida, in 1943, named in his honor.

Alexander H. Darnes (1840 - February 11, 1894) was an African American born into slavery in the same home as Smith in St. Augustine, Florida. Darnes was the son of Violent Pinkney, a black slave owned by Smith's parents. He served as Smith's personal valet starting from 1855 and continuing throughout the War after which he would go on to medical school and became one of the first black physicians in the state of Florida.

Blacks Who Fought For the South (continued from page 5)

Lincoln waged war to "preserve the Union". The 1783 peace agreement with England (Treaty of Paris) left 13 sovereign nations. They came together in 1787, as principals, to create a federal government, as their agent, giving it specific delegated authority - specified in our Constitution. Principals always retain the right to fire their agent. The South acted on that right when it seceded. Its firing on Fort Sumter, federal property, gave Lincoln the pretext needed for the war.

The War Between the States, through force of arms, settled the question of secession, enabling the federal government to run roughshod over states'

rights specified by the Constitution's 10th Amendment.

Sons of Confederate Veterans is a group dedicated to giving a truer account of the War Between the States. I'd like to see it erect on Richmond's Monument Avenue a statue of one of the thousands of black Confederate soldiers.

Source: This article appeared in the Washington Times some years back. It was written by Walter Williams, an economics professor at George Mason University, a nationally syndicated columnist, an African-American.

Article from civilwarhome.com web site.



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Edmund Kirby Smith (May 16, 1824 – March 28, 1893)